

## INTRODUCTION

This special issue of *Linguistica* features a collection of articles dealing with the morphology of South Slavic Languages. The idea behind the volume came from a workshop we organized in the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, in June 2019, which brought to light various intriguing issues relating to the morphology of the South Slavic languages. This, in combination with the fact that there is no other article collection dedicated to South Slavic morphology, makes the current volume a unique contribution to the topic.

The South Slavic languages belong to the Slavic language family and form a dialectal continuum. They are further divided into West (Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian and Slovenian) and East (Bulgarian and Macedonian) subgroups. Some of them are part of the Balkan *sprachbund* and thus share features with non-Slavic languages spoken in the Balkans. The languages discussed in this volume present a variety of issues relating to morphology and its interaction with other domains of grammar such as phonology and syntax.

The six articles in this special issue examine a range of morphological phenomena either in a cross-linguistic manner across the South Slavic languages (Arsenijević; Wumbrandt et al.) or focus on a specific linguistic phenomenon in a single language, such as Bulgarian (Popova/Spencer), Croatian (Petrač) and Slovenian (Simonović; Simonović/Mišmaš). The frameworks used by the authors are diverse and so are their approaches to morphology and its interplay with syntax, semantics and phonology. They either contribute new theoretical insights or provide new descriptive evidence and theoretical argumentation for existing analyses.

The individual contributions are presented in alphabetical order. **Boban Arsenijević's** article deals with *-ie* nominalizations across the South Slavic languages. He proposes a new analysis of the phenomenon, taking into account the prosodic as well as semantic properties of the roots which combine with this suffix. **Marta Petrač** elaborates on the phenomenon of loan affixes in Croatian and provides a diachronic as well as synchronic analysis of the prefix *među-*. Inflectional morphology, and more specifically the expression of volitional mood, is the topic of **Geri Popova's** and **Andrew Spencer's** article; the authors examine the inflectional and analytic forms of expressing volitional mood using the concept of periphrasis, basing their account on data from Bulgarian. **Marko Simonović** proposes a new analysis of stress assignment in Slovenian deadjectival and deverbal nominalizations. He focuses on the suffixes' influence on stress assignment in Slovenian and proposes, within a Distributive Morphology framework, that the affixes involved in these nominalizations should be treated as roots. Similarly, **Marko Simonović** and **Petra Mišmaš** combine Distributive Morphology and Optimality Theory to analyze the suffix *-ov-* in Slovenian, providing a unified account of an affix which has traditionally been considered polysemous. Finally, **Susi Wumbrand, Iva Kovač, Magdalena Lohninger, Caroline Pajančič** and **Neda Todorović** revisit the issue of finiteness in South Slavic complement clauses, a topic which touches upon

morphology, syntax and semantics, and contribute both interesting cross-linguistic data and an innovative analysis.

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