

Scientific Report
Regarding the Implementation of the Project during the period
January 2012 – December 2013
- synopsis -

The Beginning of the Modernization of the Romanian Culture and its Connection to
Western Europe through Translations
PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0722

The actions foreseen within the established objectives were carried out according to the approved project proposal during the reporting period

1. Organisational Framework

a) Identification of general and specific literature (philology); identification of location and acquisition (by scanning, photocopying etc.)

General and specific bibliography for philology issues has been identified in Iasi and Bucharest libraries and the elements relevant to the project team have been scanned/photographed (e.g. Catalogul manuscriselor românești) or photocopied (philology articles) so as to be always at hand.

European libraries online catalogues have also been consulted in order to identify the immediate and long-term documentation necessities.

b) Building of the documentation database

The first step in building the database was the introduction of general bibliography titles in an Excel table to have a picture as complete as possible of the required fields. Later this table was inserted into Access specific database program, where it was split into linked sub-tables and queries were created. Data entry forms have been also designed.

2. Research Dimensioning

a) Analysis of the possibilities offered by the identified bibliography

The participants to the project have analysed a large number of histories of the language and literature, studies, catalogues containing old book and manuscript inventories, history and philology literature from Romania and abroad (catalogues, old book bibliographies, philology volumes).

After the browsing of catalogues and specialised papers, we have obtained a number of over **2.500** sheets, on which basis the dimension of the research was established: **234** translations were retained, most of them in Cyrillic manuscripts. As number of pages, the selected texts include over 50.000 pages of Cyrillic manuscript and aprox. 1.500 pages of printed text.

3. Documentarea și sistematizarea materialului

a) *Completion of the data base*

In order to store the data obtained in the bibliographical activity research, we have begun to fill in the Microsoft Access database, operation that will continue for the whole duration of the project.

b) *Documentation stages in Romania and abroad*

Several documentation mobilities have been carried out abroad, in order to identify publications from the 17th and the 18th centuries relevant to the current project and to obtain copies (scanned copies, photocopies, photographs) of rare old books that represented the originals, several cities were taken into account:

c) *Establishment of the relevance of the bibliographic material*

Browsing the manuscript catalogues we intended to obtain an inventory as complete as possible of the translated texts, as this project offers the opportunity of such investigation that comes to fill in a gap in the Romanian culture that still lacks a systematic listing and description of the texts translated in the 18th century. The catalogue information has been completed with notes and comments from previous philological works that were studied.

4. Transcription or reading of Cyrillics

a) *Norms of interpretation of the Cyrillic script*

We established the criteria for the interpretation of the Cyrillic script on the basis of the Romanian philology bibliography (Iorgu Iordan, *Despre edițiile de texte*, in *Studii de limbă literară și filologie*, I, Ed. Academiei R. S. R., p. 263, 1961. Strugaru, D., *Contribuții la interpretarea grafiei chirilice. Problema dispariției lui i final în limba română*, în LR, X, 1961, p. 606-610. *idem*, *Contribuții la interpretarea grafiei chirilice. Problema dispariției lui u final în limba română*, în LR, XI, 1962, pp. 582-594. Avram, Mioara/ Dimitrescu, Florica, *Principii de transcriere a textelor românești vechi*, in LR, XI, nr. 6, 1962, p. 653-660. Kelemen, B., *Cu privire la valoarea fonologică a literelor chirilice*, in CL, IX, 1964, p. 183-186. Avram, Andrei, *Contribuții la interpretarea grafiei chirilice a primelor texte românești*, in SCL, XV, 1964, no. 1-5. Vârtosu, Emil, *Paleografia româno-chirilică*, București, 1968. Ursu, N.A. *Problema interpretării grafiei chirilice românești din jurul anului 1800*, în LR, IX, 1960, no. 3, pp. 33-46. *idem*, *Contribuția Academiei Române în domeniul editării critice a textelor vechi românești*, în LR, XV, 1966, no. 5, pp. 531-547. *idem*, *Din nou despre interpretarea grafiei chirilice românești*,

in LR, XXV, 1976, no. 5, pp. 475-489. Gheție, Ion, *Interpretare și transliterare*, in SCL, XXX, 1979, no. 4, pp. 377-378.

b) Learning to read Cyrillic texts

To effectively participate to the investigation of the Romanian translations from the 18th century, Gabriela Eugenia Dima and Alexandra Chiriac learned or perfected their knowledge of Cyrillic palaeography under careful guidance.

5. Volume writing

a) Elaboration of norms and models for the linguistic analysis

Dr. Eugenia Dima has gone through several Cyrillic character manuscripts in order to study them from a linguistic and philological viewpoint (aprox. 4.700 pages): Antonio Catiforo, *Vita di Pietro il Grande*, translation by Matei Fărcășanu, *Viața lui Petru*, ms. 2353 BAR, copy of 1755, Charles Rollin, *Histoire ancienne Tom I*, *Istoria veche*, translation by Costandin Cocorăscu, ms. 5846 BAR of 1768, Joseph Delaporte, *Le voyageur française*, translation tome I-IV by Mihai Cantacuzino, *A toată lumea călătorie*, 1780-1786, ms. 1376 BAR, IV-18 BCU Iași, *Imberie și Margaronă*, translation of around 1780 by an unknown scholar, ms. 1817 BAR; translations carried out by Ioan Cantacuzino: Florian, *Numa Pompilius*. ms. 1550BAR, *Baculard D'Arnaud*, *Histoire de Machen*, *Montesquieu*, *Arsace et Ismenie*, J.J. Rousseau, *Narcis*, ms. 3099 BAR and Alexander Pope, *An Essay On Man* ms. 6002 BAR. The result is over 15.200 linguistic excerpts and 610 philological excerpts.

The material obtained from 8 translations of various types (literary and scientific texts) norms of Pornind allowed to establish the presentation norms, according to the model:

1. Phonetics

1a. Phonetic features specific to the old and popular language;

1b. Regional phonetic features;

1c. Innovations:

- Innovations that entered the modern literary language;
- Innovations that have been abandoned.

2. Morphology

2a. Morphologic features specific to the old and popular language;

2b. Regional morphologic features;

2c. Innovations:

- Innovations that entered the modern literary language;
- Innovations that have been abandoned.

3. Vocabulary

3a. Vocabulary specific to the old and popular language.

3b. Regional vocabulary.

3c. Vocabulary loans:

- Loans and derivatives from Greek and Turkish;
- Loans of Latin-Romance origin, of German origin.

4. Syntax problems; text comparisons.

b) Establishment of norms and models for the monographic articles for the collective volume

Writing norms were established depending on the situation of each text. Some analyses were chosen as models: Constandin Cocorăscu and Charles Rollin (one known translator – 1 translation); The first Romanian translations of the „Halima” (one text, more translations); Mihai Cantacuzino, the Romanian translator of Joseph Delaporte (one translator recently discovered – one translation); The chivalry novel „Imberie și Margarona” (translation with translator still unknown); *Oarecare secreturi ale lucrării pământului*, a translation in the agronomy field, one of the first of this kind (unknown original, unknown translator); Iordache Slătineanu, translator of Metastasio and Florian (known translator, some discussions on a paternity, known originals). When all the information on the original of the translation and of the Romanian translator, the following system will be adopted:

Each article will start with the presentation of the title, of the author of the original and with information on the author, the printing place, the source language and/or the intermediary language. In the case of the translation from an intermediary, there will be indications on the translator of the intermediary and data on its work. When the Romanian author of the translation is known, data pertaining to the bibliography related to that age or to the documentation of some members of the team. It will follow the standard presentation of the translation: phonetic, morphologic and vocabulary elements, syntactic analyses, text comparisons and, whenever the case, researches of philological discussions. A characterisation of the Romanian text will be included, mentioning the importance and the contribution of the translation to the evolution of the Romanian language and culture.

Often there is one important piece of information missing, so that the monographic presentation will be adapted to the particular situation of each translation, as follows:

- When the original is not known, only some personal or bibliography based suppositions can be presented taking into account the linguistic elements that can suggest the source language of the original.
- In the case of an anonymous translator, details on the original translation will be presented as well as considerations based on the linguistic features of the Romanian text and on the philological considerations of the team members or of other researchers (based on the bibliographical information).
- In case no information is available on the author and on the translator, a more important part will be held by the description of the linguistic features in order to support further researches.

The updated philological studies of previous researchers as well as the researchers of the team members will play an important part in the presentation of the data related to each text.

In the case of texts grouped by a certain criterion (for instance, the scientific translations from German), there will be a general presentation of the conditions in the period they were carried out, of the researchers involved and their motivation, followed by an analysis of each text, with details on the source language and original, the characterisation of each text and, finally, the importance of the group of investigated texts.

b) Philological Description of Some Manuscripts

The study of some texts has begun by analysing philological, linguistic or compared literature aspects, representing a starting point for further studies. At the same time, by going through some Cyrillic manuscripts, a number of 16.530 example sheets have been excerpted, containing lexical, phonetic, morphological and syntactic aspects, to be completed with the investigation of other translations, in order to finally complete a documented analysis of the linguistic features in the period of beginning of the modernisation of the Romanian language.

Eugenia Dima has gone through several Cyrillic manuscripts for their linguistic and philological study (cca 4.700 pages of Cyrillic manuscript): Antonio Catiforos, *Vita di Pietro il Grande*, translated by Matei Fărcășanu, *Viața lui Petru*, ms. 2353 BAR, copy from 1755, Charles Rollin, *Histoire encienne Tom I, Istoria veche*, translated by Costandin Cocorăscu, ms. 5846 BAR from 1768, Joseph Delaporte, *Le voyageur française, tom I-IV translated by Mihai Cantacuzino, A toată lumea călătorie*, 1780-1786, ms. 1376 BAR, IV-18 BCU Iași, *Imberie și Margarona*, translated around 1780 by an unknown scholar, ms. 1817 BAR,; translated by Ioan Cantacuzino: Florian, *Numa Pompilius*. ms. 1550 BAR, Baculard D'Arnaud, *Histoire de Machen*, Montesquieu, *Arsace et Ismenie*, J.J. Rousseau, *Narcis*, ms. 3099 BAR and Alexander Pope, *An Esay On Man* ms. 6002 BAR, of which over 15200 linguistic sheets and 610 philological sheets have been excerpted.

Magda Jeanrenaud has collected bibliographic material and exemplifications from the Romanian translations for a paper on *Traductology and the Importance of the Romanian Translations for the Modernisation of the Romanian Culture*.

Ana-Maria Minuț has gathered a group of *scientific, legislative and administrative texts translated from German*, in the second half of the 18th century by the Transylvanian School, performing the following activities: obtaining the reproduction of the texts, searching the originals, establishing the bibliography, partially extracting examples.

Mirela Aioane has started the documentation for the translation of the Spanish picaresque novel entitled *Life of the Gentleman Heruvim de la Ronda*, by A.R. Lesage, translated by Gherasim Putneanu in 1793, ms. 46 BAR.

Gabriela Eugenia Dima has prepared bibliographic and stylistic material for a compared literature work on *Italian Poetic Motifs in the First Romanian Translations from the Western Culture*

Alexandra Chiriac is entrusted with the theme *Life of Bertoldo in the Romanian Culture*. She transliterated in order to edit the Cyrillic printed text (43 pages), whose translation was attributed to Ioan Molnar. She carried out the linguistic and stylistic analysis and obtained, during documentation mobilities, copies of the Italian, French, German and Greek versions.

6. Dissemination of Research Results

The team members have been particularly active, so that they succeeded in taking part in more conferences than initially estimated and the publication of further more papers that regarded:

- a) *Establishing paternities:*
- b) *Presentation of translators and age; traductology and history of the language*
- c) *Interdisciplinary researches on the European framework*
- d) *Researches regarding 18th century personalities and the specificity of the Romanian culture before and after the envisaged period.*

For a complete list of results see the relative entries on the project website