Esteemed authors, colleagues and readers of “Linguistique balkanique”,

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the editing board of “Linguistique balkanique” decided to dedicate this volume to the jubilee.

The current thematic issue bears the title “The Bulgarian language – historical and contemporary boundaries”. It includes eight previously unpublished scientific articles on a wide range of problems related to the Bulgarian language, both within the country and different places around the world (including the historical Bulgarian diasporas), as well as materials dedicated to the journal’s traditional subject matter.

The starting point is M. A. Yuyukin’s work “Some Place Names of Slavic Origin in the Athonite Actes” devoted to toponyms registered in the archives of the monastery of Vatopedi on Mount Athos. The study includes abundant comparative onomastic material. The work should be considered a contribution to the development of Balkan onomastics. The aforementioned broader treatment in the ongoing issue includes a work by T. Ivanova-Sullivan “Acquisition of Clitics in Heritage Bulgarian in the USA: Initial Variability and Reduction of Optionality” on the challenges presently faced by bilingualism, where she examines in more detail the process of mastering direct object clitics. G. Cychun has dedicated his study “The Rhodopes Archaisms and Innovations and Slavic Balkan Migrations” to archaisms from the Rhodope Mountains. It endeavors to identify the link between separate phenomena from different regions of the Slavic linguistic area. The author logically substantiates his hypotheses on old Slavic migrations in the Balkans. The plentiful and authentic resources of the Slavic Linguistic Atlas facilitate the full systematization and typology of the distribution of archaisms and innovations of the Slavic continuum, thus refuting the so called center and periphery theory. Ana Kocheva submits new data from the European Linguistic Atlas related to the names of nightingales. The article “On How Naming is Reflected in Geolinguistics (Based on Material for the Names of славеи ‘Nightingales’)” adds to the knowledge about Bulgarian dialect terms in a Balkan context and in a comparative plain as well – concerning the dialects of European languages. It has given special attention to the additional Bulgarian linguistic material provided. The subject of P. Penkova’s research is the reception of one of the most
significant theological works of the Early Church Fathers – St. Athanasius of Alexandria’s discourses on the Arian controversies “The Serbian Edition of the Second Slavonic Translation of Athanasius of Alexandria “Orationes Against the Arians” in the Manuscript Collection “Razglagolnik”, Copied in 1734 by Gavriilo Venzlovich Stefanovich”. This work was translated in the 10th century by Constantine of Preslav and did not lose its significance in the following centuries due to the paramount importance of the dogmatic polemics it contains to the preservation of the purity of the Orthodox faith. The author juxtaposes the writings of Epiphanius Slavinecki and Gavriilo Venzlovich held at the archives of the Serb Academy of Sciences and Art, which are previously unpublished and supported by photographic material. In his text “Bulgarian Bodakov and Etymological Cluster with the Root *bod*” V. Shulhach presents his viewpoint on the formation and etymology of a Bulgarian family name – Bodakov. It contains ample comparative materials. M. Henzelmann’s article “Balkanisms in the European Legal Language (with a Focus on Bulgarian and Romanian Languages)” presents a current challenge from the field of legal terminology and shares some observations on Bulgarian and Romanian. He also discusses the inevitable difficulties of the incorporation of national legislation into the European one and vice versa. A. Halil’s study “On the Balkan Character of Naming the Types of Wine in Bulgarian Dialects” is dedicated to wine and its names in the different Bulgarian dialects and it encompasses several wine regions in Bulgaria.

The new issue of “Linguistique balkanique” contains two reviews and two chronicles that pay homage to illustrious Bulgarian linguists.

The following booklet from the 58th Volume will be dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and will also mark the 60th anniversary of the publication of our first issue.

Prof. DSc. Anna Choleva-Dimitrova
Editor-in-Chief