

The Motion of Slovak Vocabulary As a Reflection of Society Development After Year 1989

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Abstract: Vocabulary belongs to the most flexible part of the language and it often changes and evolves together with the society and nearly immediately reacts on the movement is society system and mirrors its social, community and political relationships. Slovak language as a state language had a function in variety of state establishments. The noticeable changes in these units often had as well an influence on the Slovak language. Since the year 1989 is considered the considerable milestone change in our society, we are concentrating on the vocabulary movement before and after this period. We note the dynamics of the lexical Slovak language in the last decades, in other words the spontaneous processes direct or lead in the retreat of certain lexical units, stylistics review, semantic changes and revitalization of those units as well as the growth of new words and phrases from domestic and foreign languages.

Key words: Slovak vocabulary, vocabulary units, creation of new vocabulary units, revitalization of vocabulary units

Introduction

In general it is accepted that within the timeline language and society are interrelated systems and are interconnected by a variety of links, and therefore any change in the society reflects the changes in the language. These changes occur in social society changes and they are most obvious when it comes to vocabulary.

Vocabulary belongs to the most flexible parts of the language and it often changes and evolves together with the society and nearly immediately reacts on the movement is society system and mirrors its social, community and political relationships. This is reflected by the same lexical units with the emergence of new facts, the development of new technologies and new phenomena in politics, government and in everyday life entering the vocabulary as new members, for example. In recent decades these words have been added to lexical resources such as: internet, hardware, recycling, insulate etc. Some words on the other hand are having declining tendency when it comes to occurrence. These are, first, the terms that depicts the now non-existent realities and facts, for example: *drab* (beadle), *panské* (manor), etc. and secondly, these are the words that have been replaced by newer terms, although realities that depict them remain in society e.g.: *merba* (geometry), *dejespyt* (History) etc. Some older and decades unused words are revitalized or in other words re-introduced, for example: *starosta* (mayor), *executor* (bailiff).

Materials and Method

Slovak language as a state language had a function in variety of state establishments. The noticeable changes in these units often had as well an influence on the Slovak language. One of the major milestones in the development of our society and, therefore in the language can be seen in November 1989. On this basis, we will provide few examples in the movement of the lexicon in Slovakia after 1989, which it will be based on the excerpted material from the dictionary of Slovak language (SSSJ, 1959 – 1968), three issue Short Dictionary of Slovak Language (KSSJ, 1987, 1997, 2003) and two volumes of the Dictionary of Contemporary Slovak language (SSJ, 2006, 2011). One great advantage of tracking the meaning of words after 1989 is the existence of special kind of dictionaries, such as analyzing ones, processing ones as they consist lexical stock, which overlaps with the period by period in History of Slovak language and it is defined as the current standard Slovak allowing

to achieve, even in principle, synchronous description of the current language and has a certain temporal depth (SSSJ, 2006, p. 13). Another advantage is that the dictionaries are existing in electronic form, as well as the fact that one of the sources of the third and fourth output Short Dictionary of Slovak Language has been computerized in texts (containing material from the period of the nineties of the 20th century) and Dictionary of Contemporary Slovak language is virtually from the beginning processed as a work computer lexicography. The authors of the Dictionary are using electronic information resources from Slovak National Corpus plus they are using electronic versions of basic lexicographical works, with the help of search on the internet and Slovak websites.

Results

In the observed Glossary of the Slovak language, the radical political and social changes after 1989 are mainly reflecting the re-evaluation of lexical items which somehow reflect the ideology of the previous regime. Such examples in the lexical units after 1948 are relegated to passive vocabulary, as they were nearly fifty years not been used, but in November 1989 they got into the active vocabulary that means they were revitalized. Concrete reflection of these facts is to change the time of inclusion of these words and phrases in the interpretation of meanings and in the explanatory notes.

In KSSJ (1987) in their interpretation of every denomination holders of traditional crafts in the meaning of "samostatný živnostník" ("independent tradesman") (Pisárčiková, 1984, p. 63), the owner or lessee shall apply note "v minulosti" ("in the past"), for example. *cukrár* (confectioner)... person that makes or sells sweets or chocolates; "v minulosti" i *samostatný živnostník*; *krajčír* (tailor)... clothes maker "v minulosti" i *samostatný živnostník*. The SSJ (1959 – 1968), when these lexemes abbreviated *predsoc.* (pre-socialist concept) or notice *pred znárodnením* (before nationalization), for example *hotelier* (hotelier) ... a person who manages or owns a hotel (*pred znárodnením*), *obchodník* (businessman) ... *predsoc.* a man who works in business. The total change in socio-economic relations after 1989 and especially the emergence of various forms of private property was immediately reflected in the interpretation of these lexical units in the third and fourth editions KSSJ. Those lexical units are supplemented and revised in edition of the Dictionary without explanatory notes "v minulosti" ("in the past"), respectively. *predsoc.* (before nationalization). In the past SSSJ the notes draws attention to the period of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The evaluation notes of the type *v kapitalizme* (of capitalism), *v kapitalistickom zriadení* (the capitalist establishment), *v kapitalistických štátoch* (in capitalist countries), *v kapitalistickom hospodárstve* (in the capitalist economy) and so on. occur at the SSJ at headwords, eg. *bankrot* (bankruptcy), *detektív* (detective), *maklér* (broker). The same remarks also found in KSSJ (1987). Although KSSJ hardly contain elements tendentious interpretations, yet reflects the period in which they arose. In such headwords not the idealized interpretation, but a realistic description of the meaning of words that are not used in the previous period, since the relevant economic phenomena operate differently and otherwise also named by (Pisárčiková, 1996, p. 132). In KSSJ (1987), the abbreviation *kapit.* used in interpretation passwords *bankár* (banker), *bankrot* (bankruptcy), *burza* (burza), *kartel* (cartel), *nezamestnanosť* (unemployment), *producent* (producer). Because these words, given the change in social situation and international relations, returned after 1989 again active vocabulary in KSSJ (1997, 2003) and SSSJ (2006, 2011) are given without qualifier qualifiers or *admin.* (administrative), *fin.* (financial), *ekon.* (economic). Relatively large group of words and phrases in the analyzed dictionaries are forming lexical units from 50th to 80th years of the 20th century. These terms, meanings and phrases could be labeled by qualifier as historicism, as meeting the essential characteristic of historicism that named by the now non-existent realities and facts. After 1989, in connection with the already mentioned social and political changes, namely disappeared many institutions, enterprises, organizations as well as their names, for example: *bezpečnosť* (the police), *káder* (member of the former communist structures, especially in higher positions), *papaláš* (higher public official, especially for socialism), *pionier* (member of the past Pioneer group), *spartakiáda* (mass workout performance), *súdruh* (depiction and also a greeting in the former socialistic establishment), *zväzák* (member of the youth union in the former Czechoslovakia in the years 1949 – 1989). While the SSJ and KSSJ (1987) when these passwords used notes *v socialistickej spoločnosti* (in socialist society), *v socialistickom hospodárstve* (in the socialist economy), etc., in the analysed editions KSSJ running off after 1989 they involve not only a change in the content of the

evaluation notes, but also relieved's notes abbreviations býv. (former), v min. (in the past) or notes v bývalom socialistickom zriadení (in the former socialist establishment), za socializmu (under socialism).

The political changes after 1989 brought the release of various social conventions and allow the opening of many topics that previously were considered as social taboos or somehow circumvented or concealing. This was also reflected in KSSJ third edition (1997). Words were added to the dictionaries which were known even before 1989, but the same ideological reasons were officially not used. These are words of type *eštěbé* (State security for a totalitarian regime); *eštěbák* (member or associate of the State Security for the totalitarian regime); *normalizácia* (restoration of hard-line communism after year. 1968 in the former. Czechoslovakia; the period of the event to r. 1989); *pétépé* (PTP, Auxiliary Technical Battalions; unit for military service in the form of forced labor for politically unreliable citizens in the first half of the 50s), which is in the dictionary "new" as a socio-political Breaking the taboo vocabulary (Šimková, 1999, p. 126.)

Analysis headwords in dictionaries showed that compared to a spontaneous process that lead to the withdrawal of lexical items from the period 50th to 80th years of the 20th century, standing processes that enrich their vocabulary with new words and phrases. Already in the third edition KSSJ been added "new words, without which the image of contemporary literary language was not true and relatively complete" (KSSJ, 1997, p. 11). In KSSJ (2003) and SSSJ (2006, 2011), the processing of vocabulary updated with additional naming realities of domestic resources from other languages.

Among the new words and phrases as the same topics show:

names related to the field of informatics and new technologies, for example

bajt (byte), *displej* (display), *e-mail*, *hardvér* (hardware), *softvér* (software), *procesor* (processor), *formátovať* (format), *modem*, *scanner/skener*, *server*, *hacker/heker*, *fax*, *telemost* (teleconference session), *odkazovač* (answering machine), *handsfree*, *hi-fi*, *stereo*, *video*, *videokamera* (video camera), *videoprehrávač* (video recorders), *videokazeta* (video cassette), *volkmén/walkman* (walkman), *mikrovlnka* (microwave);

names related to the field of sport, for example.

hetrik (hat-trick), *nohejball* (football), *ragby* (rugby), *skialpinista* (skialpinist), *snoubording* (snowboarding), *snoubordista* (snowboarder), *triatlon* (triathlon), *windsurfista* (windsurfer);

names in music and film, for example.

disco, *metal*, *heavy metal*, *pop*, *pop music*, *rap*, *rock and roll*, *hip-hop*, *punk*, *single* (single), *sci-fi*, *western*, *šéfproducent* (chief producer), *upútavka* (teaser), *happening*, *happyend/happy end*;

expressions characterizing individual garment parts, kinds of textile products, for example.

legínsy (legins), *rifle* (jeans), *slipy* (shorts), *riflovina* (Denim);

expressions characterizing food and drinks, for example.

hamburger, *pizza*, *nealko* (soft drinks), *neska*, *neskáfé*, *preso* (espresso);

names associated with the economy, banking, finance, for example.

audit, *akciovka* (stock company), *bankomat* (ATM), *eseročka* (limited company), *etablovať* (establish), *hedging/hedžing* (hedging), *holding*, *konkurencieschopnosť* (competitiveness), *lizing* (leasing), *manažment* (management), *mikroekonómia* (microeconomics), *privatizácia* (privatization), *portfolio* (portfolio), *rating* (rating);

names associated with the government, the organization of social and economic life, the judiciary, for example.

bezdomovec (homeless), *dissent* (dissent), *dissident* (dissident), *euroskepticizmus* (euroscepticism), *líder* (leader), *lobby*, *lobista* (lobbyist), *mafíán* (mobster), *migrant*, *mimosúdny* (non-judicial), *narkomafia* (drug traffickers), *normalizátor* (normalizer), *ombudsman*, *ponovembrový* (the post-November), *postkomunistický* (postcommunists), *samit/summit*, *samizdat*, *spolitizovať* (politicize), *totalitne* (totalitarianism), *vicepremiér* (Deputy Prime Minister).

In some passwords were added current so called live-link-type *progresívna daň* (progressive tax), *daň z pridanej hodnoty* (value added tax), *čierna diera* (a black hole), *ozónová diera* (the ozone hole), *skleníkový efekt* (the greenhouse effect), *kreditový systém* (the credit system), *tvrdé drogy* (hard drugs), *mobilný telefón* (cell phone), *umelý sneh* (artificial snow), also added some of the latest idioms such as type *to je iba špička ľadovca* (the tip of the iceberg), *mať rovnakú krvnú skupinu* (be on the same page, having same blood line), *robiť niečo na doraz* (be grinding, striving to be the best), *robiť mŕtveho chrobáka* (playing dead rat), *(ne)vedieť, kde je sever* (be out of the mind, be wired to the moon), *to je gól* (something surprising), *slovenská hádzaná* (Slovak handball; drinking alcohol); *nemať ani haka/háka* (be skint); *tým to pre mňa hasne* (it is over for me).

Conclusions

Movement in Slovakia lexicon after 1989 is characterized on one hand with the processes that leads to the withdrawal of certain units associated with the previous regime and semantic change (in increase or decrease of existing meanings of words). On the other hand is the Slovak vocabulary enriched by new words and phrases not only from domestic sources, but also from other languages (especially English) what helps the language to get more updated with new phrases and idioms.

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