

## Lecture / Talk 2

### Ukrainian dialects, local norms and their corpus representation

*Dmitri Sitchinava (Leipzig University, Helsinki University)*

Ukrainian dialectal zones (Northern (Polissya), Dnieper, and (South-)West) as well as dialectal groups within these larger zones vary along a number of grammatical properties, including the ones presented in the previous talk. A number of grammatical phenomena of Ukrainian dialects have already been described and put on dialectal maps of the Soviet-Era Ukrainian dialectal atlas. Still, many of these phenomena call for a closer look and for inclusion into a wider areal and/or typological context.

Modern standard Ukrainian emerged gradually and at different centers, starting from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Until WWII the major linguistic split was between the East, politically controlled by the Russian Empire and, later, the USSR, and the West which was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and then later of the interwar states, mainly Poland. With the development of Modern Ukrainian press, both fiction and journalism, multiple local standards reflecting local spoken dialects and contact-induced phenomena (mainly due to contacts with Russian, Polish, and German) emerged. There were two major local standards: the Eastern (related to Kyiv/Poltava/Kharkiv) and the Western standard (mainly centered in Lviv). In addition, some other standards played a role too such as Bukovinian (Chernivtsi).

A convergence of different norms started in 1910s and was further petrified by the introduction of a common orthography in 1920s. However, even after WWII, when all the Ukrainian territory had come under the Soviet control, the remnants of the local norms remained transparent in both Soviet and diaspora Ukrainian publications, and continued to exist even in contemporary standard-oriented texts.

Local Ukrainian (standard-oriented) written texts representing different regional norms are included into the General Regionally Annotated Corpus of Ukrainian (GRAC). Morphosyntactic differences between different local norms can be illustrated and statistically described by corpus-based research.

Transcripts of oral speech and private letters with dialectal background are also included into GRAC. A project of a dedicated dialectal corpus of Ukrainian is developed by Achim Rabus (Freiburg University). Special corpora exist of the Russian-Ukrainian mixed language Surzhyk (in Oldenburg University) and of Rusyn varieties, within and outside Ukraine.