

SCIENCE AND IDEOLOGY

LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE GERMAN-POLISH DISCOURSE ON THE ETHNOGENESIS OF THE SLAVS IN A CONTRASTIVE PERSPECTIVE

The issues of the ethnogenesis of European peoples have always been of interest not only to scientists, but also to broad public opinion. This issue gained a special significance at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries with the emergence of consciousness, identity and a sense of national community in European countries, in particular such as Poland, which had to fight about its national existence. On the basis of archaeological material, scientists developed two main theories on the Slavic ethnogenesis, known as an allochthonous and indigenous approach which started a nearly 100 year old dispute where the Slavs had originally lived before they arrived in the area between the Vistula and Oder and where their original headquarters were. The same archaeological findings were variously interpreted and used not only by researchers, but also politicians to justify the rights of Slavs or Germans to the disputed territories. Representatives of these theories in the field of archeology were, among others, Bolko von Richthofen and Józef Kostrzewski, whose fierce, not only scientifically but also politically grounded polemics, set the tone for Polish and German archeology of the inter-war period. The subject of science here became the arena of political struggle for the rights to the areas east of the Odra River and for the indisputability of the Slavs' stay in this area from the early centuries.

The basis of analysis in this work is the corpus of Polish and German texts consisting of 42 copies by Bolko von Richthofen and Józef Kostrzewski, but also other scientists referring explicitly to the above-mentioned publication. A set of these texts is an example of discourse, i.e. a combination of texts, thematically related, standing in a complex relationship and showing mutual references. The texts function here as communication units (language activities/practices) by means of which the actors of the discourse want to achieve the intended effects. The text corpus covers the period 1918-1937, i.e. the time of the greatest intensity of this polemic, which is related to specific historical events, i.e. the Congress of Vienna in 1918, Hitler's assumption of power in 1933 and the approaching World War II. Its texts constitute a kind of conversation stretched over time, referring to each other through numerous quotes, paraphrases, references in the text and footnotes. The aim of this work is a linguistic analysis of this polemic (controversy) taking place mainly in press releases.

This dissertation consists of three parts: Part I, covering theoretical issues, Part II, which deals with the research method and the corpus, and Part III which is of an analytical nature. As far as theoretical issues are concerned, a lot of space was devoted to the discourse itself, its history, the polysemy of the meaning of the term discourse, as well as the reception of this concept on the basis of German linguistics. The short excursus concerns also the Polish perspective on discourse, which is to some extent different from that emerging from German works. Next, based on the quoted concepts of discourse and the accumulated corpus, a linguistic definition of discourse was developed, which is the basis of the conducted analysis. The theoretical part is supplemented by issues concerning language in science, knowledge and their mutual relations.

The part of the work entitled *Material und Method* presents the methodology that served as the basis for this analysis, as well as a brief outline of the subject of the dispute between Polish and German scientists about the origin of the Slavs. This part outlines also the course of this polemic in the media. At the same time, the profiles of the main actors of the discourse, i.e. Józef Kostrzewski

and Bolko von Richthofen, were presented. These chapters are complemented by a short description of the texts constituting the language of the corpus. In the analytical part (Analytischer Teil) particular levels of discourse analysis were characterized, starting from the transtekstual level, through the actors of discourse, to the level of in-text analysis.

The multi-level model of discourse analysis by Spitzmüller and Warnke was adopted as the analytical database, from which the categories best characterizing the studied discourse were selected for analysis.

This work is a part of the current trend of contemporary linguistics focused on contrastive research on discourse and analysis of media discourses. The submitted dissertation opens up possibilities for further research, and the juxtaposed corpus may be an interesting research field not only for linguists, but also representatives of historical sciences, because it gives insight not only into contemporary discussion patterns, polemics, but also into the history of the discipline and the way of doing science in those times heavily marked by politics.