# ABSTRACTS
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**Research Articles**

**THEORY, HISTORY AND LITERARY CRITICISM**

## Restif de la Bretonne et Gérard de Nerval : (auto)biographies excentriques

### Elena Mihaela Andrei

**Restif de la Bretonne and Gérard de Nerval:
Eccentric (Auto)biographies**

**Abstract:**

This present article highlights haw the writer of *Les Illuminés* defies the genre of the biography and of the autobiography, transgresses the constraints of the biographical genre and dissimulates the gap between him and his *biographies*', story of life and work, hence the lack of boundaries between history and fiction, reality and imagination, true and false. The biography of the other, synonymous with disguised autobiography, becomes in Nervalian aesthetic a personal semantic matrix: from the social to the individual, from the knowledge to the experience, from the historic time to the individual time, from the reality to the fiction and vice versa everything is, to the feather of Nerval, moved or off-centered.

**Keywords:** (auto)biography, eccentricity, identification, gap, dissimulation

## The "Elsewhere" as a Personal Semantic Matrix in Vasile Alecsandri's Travel Writings

### Ludmila Branişte

**Abstract:**

A literary and spiritual document, Vasile Alecsandri's travel writings constitute the subject of this paper. Apart from their value in terms of education and pleasure, they reveal the psychological structure of the traveler, his attitude towards life, as well as his capacity to artistically transform the real events he experienced. Moreover, travel writings attract interest from an esthetic point of view; thus, given that the pilgrim Alecsandri maked the genre flourish, it marked an important sector in the literature of the 1848 revolutionary period. The present analytical-interpretative study of its most characteristic aspects highlights descriptions, portraits, the writer's irony, lyricism, his talent and, even more importantly, his constant involvement in the national and social struggle of this agitated epoch – the involvement of a patriot devoted to his country. All the reasons stated above suggest that Alecsandri's prose constitutes a major chapter in his creation, travel memoirs being the most significant part of this prose. Writing about Alecsandri as a prose writer means, first and foremost, considering the interpretations of memoir literature, on the one hand, and the constants of its subject matter, on the other.

# The Ecstatic Poems of Sufism

## Maria-Rodica Iacobescu

**Abstract:**
Sufism is the mystical path of Islam, also known as the Way of the Heart which implies being in love with God, without attachment to anything besides Him. Sufi mystics assert the possibility of knowing God through direct experience, not through reason, which revolves in the orbit of the material plane, unable to know the secrets of the divine world. Trying to put into words their experiences, Sufis have created ecstatic poems designed to express divine love, the proximity to the Loved and Beloved one.
**Keywords:** mystical, Sufism, ecstatic poems, ineffable, knowledge by love

# Seneca's *Medea*.
# A Performance of the Macabre

## Antuza Genescu

**Abstract:**
From a stoical perspective, the Senecan tragedies are the field on which man confronts his destiny in a battle between *ira* and *furor*, on the one hand, and reason on the other. Seneca's plays focus on extreme circumstances and pathological characters. From a visual, macabre viewpoint, Senecan characters belong to the category of the monstrous. They are actors in a lugubrious performance and should be analysed not based on the criteria of sanity, but those of insanity that goes beyond the limits of a troubled human mind. Seneca creates an astounding aesthetic category of diabolical male and female prototypes. His characters gradually give up their human features and culminate in a terrifying demonic representation for which both the playwright and his audience had a peculiar kind of admiration.

The shocking macabre side of Seneca's tragedies intensifies the act of killing, the symbol of revenge and the concepts of *dolor*, *ira, furor*, *nefas* and *fatum* with which murder blends naturally and indissolubly and which are embodied in emblematic characters like Medea and Thyestes. The feast of male cruelty follows the fascinating female demonic performance ending with the metamorphosis of the witch. In opposition to the blood that boils in the characters' mind and soul, *sanguis*, the blood that will flow too slowly from Seneca's veins, will become the symbol of death seen not as a tragic end, but moral and spiritual emancipation.
**Keywords:** Senecan tragedies, anger, revenge, good/bad blood

# Subculture *versus* Macro Culture:
# Hipster Language

## Voica Radu

**Abstract:**
New words are the carriers of new realities that circumscribe as many worlds, universes or realities. The word *hipster* (i.e. a relatively popular, familiar youth worldwide), opens a number of issues related to addressing the phenomenon from a linguistic, sociolinguistic, psycholinguistic and economic perspective. Thus, we are faced with a phenomenon, a product of subculture, which makes its presence felt through the macro culture by aspects of lexis, mentalities, attitudes and behaviour. In terms of linguistics, *hipster language* itself may present interest (because it generates a certain mentality), and so do the terms designating *hipster speak*, i.e. loans from English, entering the Romanian language, and other languages, their adaptation to the language system, their productivity and any stylistic values. This *linguistic fashion* indicates a social pattern that requires an analysis of the phenomenon from a cultural, linguistic and, last but not least, an economic point of view.
**Keywords:** langue, parole, lexical borrowing, mentalities, social code, language code

# The Infinitive Built Prepositionally

## Cristina Corla (Hanț)

**Abstract:**
This paper aims at analyzing the role of the preposition when it is used together with non-finite forms of the verb. We will examine the following aspects: the mixed features of the infinitive (substantival and verbal), the types of prepositions which can be combined with the non-finite forms of the verb (lexical, semi-lexical and functional), the ability of the preposition to generate a prepositional syntactic group, the setting/non-setting of a thematic role, the syntactic positions held by the infinitive with preposition. If the rule says that the preposition has a case government, we ask ourselves what happens to it in the presence of non-finite forms of the verb. Therefore, one of the discussed topics is the obstruction of the case government/practising it under the substantival features of the non-finite forms.
**Keywords:** preposition, case, infinitive, prepositional group, thematic role

# Categoriile gramaticale ale intensităţii şi comparaţiei în gramaticile tradiţionale ale limbii române

## Roxana Marcu-Oniga

**The Categories of Comparison and Intensity in Traditional and Contemporary Romanian Grammar**

**Abstract:**
The article approaches a current issue of great interest for both the theoretical and the applied linguistics. It is about the report between the properties expressed by an adjective or adverb during the act of comparison, which report has been seen as unified by traditional grammar and presented therefore undifferentiated. They were called the grammatical category of comparative or simply as comparative degree. Lately, the linguists have added the concept of intensity parallel with the comparative degree. This has led to the identification of two grammatical categories: the comparative degree and the intensity without a clear delineation to be made between them.

My article reflects the current situation in Romanian grammar. The firsts to talk about intensity and in a Romanian grammar were Vladimir Robu and Iorgu Iordan in their *Contemporary Romanian Language*, (Didactic and Pedagogic Publishing House, Bucharest, 1978). The idea was taken up in other grammar books, such as the first and second volume of the *Romanian Grammar*, *The Word* and  *The Statement* (Romanian Academy Publishing House, Bucharest, 2005) and *The Basic Romanian Grammar* (Encyclopedic Universe Publishing, Bucharest, 2010). Both books leaded to a different solution than the one proposed by Vladimir Robu.

The information contained in this article is intended as a database for a wide analysis of an interesting issue in Romanian grammar today.

**Keywords:** grammatical category of intensity, adjective, adverb, contemporary Romanian grammar, traditional Romanian grammar, comparative degree, intensity degree, theoretical linguistics, applied linguistics

# Persuasion in English Philosophy Texts (*CEPhiT*)

## Begoña Crespo, Isabel Moskowich

**Abstract:**
The aim of this paper is to offer a description of the *Corpus of English Philosophy Texts (CEPhiT)* as well as to present a pilot study on persuasion strategies. Although this corpus contains samples from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, only eighteenth-century texts have been selected for this study. Methodologically speaking, some specific linguistic features indicating persuasion and argumentation (Biber, 1988) have been searched for: predictive modals, necessity modals, conditional subordinators and verbs with a suasive meaning. The interpretation of our findings will provide an overview of the author-reader relationship in late Modern English Philosophy writings, especially focusing on variables such as sex or genre.

**Keywords:** scientific English, corpus linguistics, persuasion strategies, late Modern period, philosophy writing, authorial presence

# The Pragmatics of General Ibrahim Babangida's Independence Day Broadcasts, 1985–1993

## Kazeem K. Olaniyan

**Abstract:**

This article examines the pragmatics of General Ibrahim Babangida's Independence Day Broadcasts with particular attention to the speech acts that the speeches are used to perform. It is motivated by the paucity of work on Independence Day speeches most especially in Nigeria and the need to identify the categories of illocutionary acts performed with the broadcasts in order to enhance a better understanding of the broadcasts. Data were collected via the Nigerian national archives and newspaper publications. The data collected were analysed, using insights from the theory of speech acts. Considering the context in which the broadcasts were given and the communicative intention of the speaker, five categories of illocutionary acts namely; representatives, directives, comissives, expressive and declaratives were found to characterize the data. Among these, only the representative and commissive acts were found to be predominant. These could be described as institutional acts associated with Independence Day broadcasts as a genre of political discourse.

The article concludes that reading Independence Day broadcasts from the speech acts lenses has potency of enhancing a better understanding of the broadcasts.

**Keywords:** Pragmatics, Context, Illocutionary Acts, Independence Day Broadcasts, Ibrahim Babangida

**SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL STUDIES**

# The Inadequacy of Communist Memory: Censorship, Captivity and Confiscation

## Viorella Manolache

**Abstract:**

The present study recommends itself as an endeavor focusing upon Ricœur`s assertions regarding three approaches towards the uses and abuses of memory: *the hindered memory – the manipulated memory – the abusively commended memory.* These three particular attributes, defining the memory of communism, are reinvested with specific inflections which are already found within the division of concepts - *censorship, captivity and confiscation.*

The focus of this study is upon of *communist memory*, which stands in need of being examined by recourse to the above-mentioned analytic approach, which consists in *looking beyond its defensive wall.* We will certainly not avoid *the triple occurrence of the letter "C"*: *captivity*, with reference to *captive* [*thought*] (C. Milosz); *censorship* [*of memory/recollection* (Revel)] or *confiscation* [of a particular, personal destiny].

Our novel contribution, with an acutely subjective-affective tone, can be seen most clearly in the last registry of our research, where it analyzes, clarifies and resonates, with a Ricœurian – Freudian mixture, the fragile balance of *too much vs. too little memory*, by establishing an appropriate frame for the reception of *passive experiences* in relation to the *active exercise of memory.*

**Keywords:** Memory of Communism, Recollections of Communism, Censorship, Captivity, Confiscation

# The Evolution of Law

## Petru Tărchilă

**Abstract:**
The entire community acted according to rules because their disobedience had an influence on the survival of the entire community, as they had a powerful mystical and religious character. Sanction measures evolved along with the evolution of communities and they were applied to individuals who disobeyed and broke these rules. Thus, the first forms of human community used the death penalty (blood revenge) as means of punishment for serious violation of the rules of coexistence. Later on, death penalty was replaced with the individual's expulsion from the community and as communities evolved, material redemption was used instead of expulsion. The first judicial norms (the germs of law) developed among these social cohabitation, organization and behaviour rules. Judicial norms differed from other rules due to their compulsory character and by appeal to the coercive force of the community when they were broken by certain individuals. The change of social, customized norms into judicial norms and the emergence of law as independent entity took place along with the occurrence of state and public power rooted in the Greek – Roman Antiquity. It has been set that law is a social phenomenon incidental to human society; thus, Romans have expressed this statement through the phrase *ubi societas, ibi jus*, namely law occurs along with the society. Law, like society is not a static, immutable entity issued once and for all; it is under constant development and social-historical evolution. As social phenomenon, social law experiences a constant historical evolution, bearing the mark of historical periods and cultural, spiritual and religious features of nations.

**Keywords:** custom, social norm, juridical norm, regulation

# Anecdotal Evidence of Current Cultural Politics in Romania and the Republic of Moldova

## Onoriu Colăcel

**Abstract:**
Current political science, written in English, provides plenty of anecdotal evidence for a change in the cultural politics of both Romania and the Republic of Moldova. The paradigm shift is apparent and proposed by the avowedly Europhile establishment of both countries. In the name of alignment to the West, the reshuffle of national priorities is plain to see in the assertive language of public narratives about development, geopolitics, or security. Competing narratives of identity negotiate notions of weak-states (Moldova) and post-E.U. enlargement (Romania) by the literary means of public storytelling about the past. The (Post-Soviet) Eurasian community, patterns of national identification, and European transnationalism are the fault lines that structure the debate about 21st century Romania and Moldova. Explicitly, they translate into a grand theme of revolution, which is customary in the modern literary culture of Romania. By association, the Romance-speaking indigenous population of Moldova shares in the same tradition. Conclusively, Romanian and Moldovan readers of the 'revolution' motif in contemporary history come together on the meaning they assign to maintenance and forcible substitution of social order.

**Keywords:** Memory studies, cultural politics, revolution, Romania, Moldova

# The 20th century – conformism and dissent in artistic technique, the opposition between tradition and innovation

## Cosmin Paulescu

**Abstract:**

This article presents the rapid changes in art that took place at the beginning of the 20th century due to scientific and technological progress: the electricity, the telegraph, the radio, later on the television, atomic physics, petrochemical products, plastic, computers, and so on. My analysis draws on how fast culture reinvented itself through technology, the conquests of the Industrial Revolution being an important stimulus for artists' imagination that fought against tradition. It is noted, therefore, in the first decades of the twentieth century a new sense of experimentation emphasized in art. The transformations that materials and artistic media undergo are radical, the artistic techniques used so far (painting, sculpture, drawing, architecture) being affected by "loans" coming from the utility area, the non – aesthetic area. This article focuses on the changes of artistic technique and mediums invented by the artists of Cubism, Dada Movement, Surrealism and Constructivism.

**Keywords:** material, technique, Cubism, Dada Movement, Surrealism and Constructivism, ready made, collage, assemblage

# Interface between the Public and the Press

## Carmen Neamţu

**Abstract:**

This article presents the importance of spokesperson as an interface between the institution/ organization and the public, through the press. The article includes the attributes of the press bureau and its role in the economy of the organization it is incorporated in as well as the tactics that any spokesperson must master in order to have an efficient activity in his/her relation with the press and the public.

**Keywords:** press, spokesperson, public, PR