
**A brief overview on the dictionary of Hector
Harizaj regarding the terminology of environment,
as well as the use of the word groups in the
translation process**

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The Albanian language is undergoing a great development, which serves as an immediate and productive response to versatile developments such as social, economical, political, psychological, scientific etc. This development is evident in all the subsystems, but the characteristics that accompany it, characteristics which enrich this development, are present more than anywhere else in the lexical system. However, within this system terminology is disentangled. It is an indisputable fact that the spiritual world of the Albanians as well as the material world during the 20 last years is enriched immensely. There are certain processes, which have taken place in Albania related closely to its encounter to the outside world, especially to the west. In our country there are many novelties being introduced by developed countries, especially those related to advanced technology, technics, equipments, spare parts of these equipments etc. The battle would be lost if in the battlefield were the creative and productive skills of our people towards

the skills, abilities and industrial production that is happening in the western countries. This technical process is linguistically accompanied to the phenomenon called confrontation, clash or linguistic competition. As a consequence we can not prohibit the use of different terms which denote notion or concepts for the new objects, equipments coming from foreign countries. Hence, we notice once again the powerful, creative and reactive strength of the Albanian language. A very essential question comes up: Should the Albanian language accept these concepts or should it apply a selective process? Should it accept every term coming from the other languages, especially from those languages which have a high degree of elaboration, as well as one which contains highly standardized terminological systems, or should it create its own terms?

As it is scientifically known, the Albanian language should accept introduced terms which are international, on the other hand if these terms are not international, it should aim at creating new Albanian terms or words by using different means like, morphological (especially derivative and compound words) syntactical (word group, phrases) semantical (words or meanings terminology which are part of the general lexicon).

Based on relevant facts it is said that during these last 20 years the Albanian language has surmounted successfully these obstacles, by creating even new terminological systems for specific fields, which practically are widely accepted and welcomed by the users. However, a considerable part of these terms due to the high frequency of use and due to the great number of the users, have become part of the everyday lexicon.¹ From this point of view, it is clear that the terminology remains a major source of general vocabulary enrichment².

¹ V. Memisha, Studime për fjalën shqipe, Tiranë, 2011, fq. 162

² For further information see: Gjendja dhe zhvillimi i terminologjisë shqipe- Probleme dhe detyra (konferencë shkencore), Tiranë , 2009

Furthermore in these last 20 years it is seen a great attention being paid to the compilation of terminological, thematic dictionaries with a focus on specific fields such as technology, art, science etc. It is worth mentioning 'English- Albanian Dictionary of Environment', compiled by Hektor Harizaj, which is at the same time the subject of this article.

Firstly, it should be emphasised that eventhough the author is not a linguist, he has done an outstanding work and at the same time has helped in creating a comprehensive terminological system related to the environment, to the sub-systems in the respective fields, or the terms that must be part of this dictionary.

Secondly, one can find the entire spectrum of the terms diversity in this dictionary. What draws our attention is the relation *english term – albanian term*. Recently it can be noticed the influence that the English language terminology (the English language itself regarding the basic terms is relied on the greek and latin terms) is great in all the dictionaries of terminology of the other languages all over the world.

There are around 110 English loans taken into consideration, which are typologically and structurally classified:

a) one word terms, for example: **Aerosol** = Aerosol, **Amalgam** = Amalgamë, **Edaphology** = Edafologji, **Erosion** = Erozion etc,

b) phrase terms, composed by one word term plus one word from the general lexicon, for example: **Plant stomata**, **Domestic waste landfill** = Landfill etc.

In this dictionary, there have been encountered two kinds of term phrases: simple phrase terms made up of two denotative words like : **Environmental monitoring** = *Monitorim mjedisor*, **STAR database** = *Bazë të dhënash (STAR)* and extended phrase terms, made up of more than two words like: **accidental release of organisms** = *Shfaqje të padëshiruara*

organizmash, EC regulation on eco-management and audit = Rregullorja Evropiane (e BE) për administrimin ekologjik dhe dëgjimin e publikut etc.

In the Albanian language, as in the other languages, there are two main approaches of a terminological dictionary. Considering the source, it can be said that the main place is occupied by those terms which derive from words of the same language they belong to and in our case from the albanian language. As it is known the terminological terms words which do not belong to the international terminology, can be replaced easily and faster, furthermore this process happens consciously, when researchers seek to intervene in specific terms. Whereas the second approach includes international terms.³ There is an abundance of the terms related to the environment terminology such as: *aerosol, anizotropi, biodiversitet, koagulum, detergjent, ekoturizëm, galvanizim, landfill, mutacion, radioelement* etj.

In the Albanian language the international terms appear and are accepted as unchanged, whereas the other terms are modified. This leads to a process of great enrichment value.

The author of this dictionary related to the environment terminologies is different from the one issued by the Institute of Language and Literature, because he has given the definitions and the explanations of the terms. If the compilers of the terminological dictionaries have tried to come up with an elaborated standard terminological system by approximating the albanian words with those in English, Italian, French, Russian, and even German, Hektor Harizaj has compiled a dictionary being forced by his work as university lecturer aiming at a specific user, the students. For example: *Alarm = Alarm. Sinjalizimi për të parandaluar dhe penguar rrezikun duke tërhequr vëmendjen për ngjarje ose situata të veçanta. Smog = Smog. Ndotës ajror i përbërë nga tymi dhe mjegulla. Ky*

³ J. Thomai, Leksikologjia e gjuhës shqipe, Tiranë, 2006, fq. 271

*lloj ndotësi krijohet nga veprimi i dritës së diellit me hidrokarbure të padjegura dhe okside azoti, shumica e të cilëve të çliruar nga marmitat e automjeteve. Ajo shfaqet në zona të mëdha industriale dhe banimi dhe mund të shkaktojë ngacmime, vështirësi në frymëmarrje dhe dëmtim të jetës bimore. **Erosion** = Erozion. Prishje e strukturës së sipërfaqes natyrore të tokës. Shoqërohet me humbjen e ndjeshme të florës natyrore, të elementëve të peizazhit, dëmtimin e pjellorisë natyrore të tokës e si pasojë me shkatërrim të ekosistemeve.*

In most of the cases such dictionaries just record and give the respective definition of the words given. What should be aimed at in such dictionaries is the standardization of the terminology so that it be achieved a full correspondence and harmony of the concepts. Hence, through this process we can have a dictionary, in which a term corresponds to a concept and a concept corresponds to only one term⁴.

However, there are some shortcomings in this dictionary. In many cases the terms are not adapted in the Albanian language in the right way. In terminological systems, more than in the other layers of the lexicon, it is evident the voluntary interference in choosing, refining, and systemizing the terms⁵. Hence, the author as well in his work, should have paid more attention in the adaptation of the words and terms from the foreign languages into Albanian. E.g. for the term **BAT (best available technique)** = BAT the translation is **Teknika e Përdorshme më e Mirë**. The term **NIMBY aptitude** is translated **“pranoj, por jo në kopshtin tim”**. On the other hand, the author first of all should have relied on the terminological, lexicographic fund of the Albanian language.

The fact that the author is not a linguist, many of his explanations are encyclopaedic and not linguistic, associating

⁴ International terminology standards- Preparation and layout

⁵ R. Memushaj, Hyrje në gjuhësi, Tiranë, 2008, fq. 139

with them with events or data that are typical for a encyclopaedic dictionary. For example, **Algae** = Alga. *Bimë të thjeshta ujore me ngjyrë jeshile pa rrënjë, kërcell ose gjethe. Ato futen në grupin e organizmave mikroskopike që përbëjnë fillimin e zinxhirit ushqimor. Algat gjenden të zhytura në ujrat detare dhe në ato të ëmbla, por ato mund të gjenden dhe në sipërfaqet e mureve të digave, shkëmbinjve, trungjeve të drurëve ose në tokë. Ato përmbajnë klorofil dhe pigmente të tjerë që janë përgjegjës për procesin e fotosintezës.*

These explanations should be reviewed, the meanings must be more organized, deep, more informative, considering the fact that a dictionary, eventhough it is a terminological one, linguistic and with encyclopaedic elements, must be friendly to the users, efficient, and heuristic.

Nevertheless, the dictionary is functional eventhough there are some flaws in the linguistic aspect. është funksional edhe pse ka mangësi në rrafshin gjuhësor. At first sight this dictionary performs its informative function. There are around 4000 terms in this dictionarythe majority have their equivalent in the Albanian language, as well as their explanation regarding phenomena, events, decision-making, fatalities and accidents, conventions, international agreements and protocols etc.

As a conclusion, it can be emphasised that this dictionary performs its values in systemizing and recording a system as well as some terminological subsystems related to the environment, showing one more time that the Albanian language, which is in a continuous contact with other foreign languages, from which it loans many words and terms, to be an open language, but also with great power and inexhaustible ones towards the term-making. Terminology systems related to the environment, but also to the fields of business, economics, informatics, engineering, electronics, banking, law etc., already known through various means of information by many users

have entered the lexicon of the Albanian language. Thus, becoming part of it.

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