

## ***Forgetting in Slavic languages and beyond – Corpus linguistic contrastive investigations into the interaction of valency patterns and semantics of the Slavic equivalents of English forget***

In the Slavic languages, the equivalents of the English verb *forget* (e.g., Czech *zapomínat/zapomenout*, Russian *забывать/забыть*, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian *zaboravljati/zaboraviti*, etc.) may either govern an accusative (1) or a prepositional argument (2).

- (1) Zapomín-á                      text                      a svým vzhledem pobuřuje okolí.  
forget.IPFV-1SG.PRS           text.ACC  
'He forgets his text and incites the surroundings with his look.'
- (2) Po nějaké době jsem          na          to                      ale          zapomně-l  
   on          this.ACC                      but          forget.PFV-PST.PTCP.M  
a vzpomněl jsem si na to až docela nedávno.  
'After a while I however forgot about it, and I only remembered it a while ago.'

For Czech (and varieties of German in Austria), Kim/Scharf/Šimko (2020) identified syntactic and semantic criteria to explain this variation (for written texts): First, the prepositional argument is almost exclusively restricted to nominal argument realizations; second, the prepositional argument is used in contexts, in which the PATIENT, i.e., the forgotten cognitive content or real object expressed by the argument is still accessible to the AGENT and can be retrieved or reached (2), whereas the accusative argument is restricted to contexts with inaccessible PATIENT (1).

This contribution investigates whether the accusative and prepositional arguments of equivalents of *forget* in other Slavic languages are distributed similar to what has been found for Czech. Additionally, preposition choice in the prepositional argument is considered across the Slavic languages. To this end, manually aligned translations of novels from the parallel corpus InterCorp v15 (Rosen/Vavřín/Zasina 2022) in Belarusian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Ukrainian, and English are compared to their Czech version. The analysis pertains to 159 concordances in each of the 11 investigated languages.

It identifies two independent areal patterns within the Slavic languages: (a) In the west, the prepositional argument is almost exclusively formed with the preposition *na* 'on', while in the east prepositions like Russian *pro*, *o*, *ob* 'about' prevail. (b) A north-west–south-east distribution can be observed regarding the relative frequency of accusative and prepositional arguments. In Czech, Slovak, Polish, and Belarusian prepositional arguments are relatively more frequent than accusative arguments. In the South Slavic languages, the opposite is the case. This leads us to argue that the languages from the first group use the prepositional argument as their default valency pattern of their equivalents of *forget*, and mark inaccessibility by choosing the accusative argument. The second group by default uses the accusative argument and in turn marks inaccessibility with the prepositional argument.

Kim, Agnes / Scharf, Sebastian / Šimko, Ivan (2020): Variation in Case Government of the Equivalent for the Cognitive Verb to forget in German in Austria and Czech. In: Szucsich, Luka / Kim, Agnes / Yazhinova, Uljana: *Areal Convergence in Eastern Central European Languages and Beyond*. Berlin et al.: Peter Lang (= Linguistik International 44) 139–175.

Rosen, Alexandr / Vavřín, Martin / Zasina, Adrian Jan (2022): *Korpus InterCorp – version 15* (11. 11. 2022). Ústav Českého národního korpusu, FF UK, Praha 2022. URL: <https://kontext.korpus.cz/> (31.01.2023).