

Abstract

The presented thesis handles the theme of the addressing in European Portuguese. It is started with the critics of the existing terminology and in order to express the complexity of the current reality in the studied language more clearly, the author introduces the term of the *allocution form* which includes the addressing with pronouns (i.e. *tu* used with 2SG, *você* – 3SG, *vós* – 2PL and *vocês* – 3PL), as well as with the titles (e.g. *o senhor / a senhora* (Mr/Mrs) with variants combined with further titles and name/surname). It is worth to add that the work focuses on the *indirect (or subjective) addressing* (i.e. integrated into the phrase structure).

The starting point of the own research is the theoretical basis comprising both external (Czech manuals, French vision by TEYSSIER 1989) and internal (based on Portuguese Grammars and studies) views of the issue. The research itself is inspired by author's personal language experience and the incertitude of the mother tongue speakers.

The research method was realized by two questionnaires. The first of them (D1) gained 21 respondents coming from the academic ambient of Porto. The 2nd one (D2) covers a significantly larger amount of participants (202) as well as a wider socio-demographic and geographical structure (people of different professions from all Portugal regions).

The main structure and aim of both questionnaires remains the same – the respondents had to express, how they address both known and unknown people (the closeness levels being defined) as well as describe, how they are usually addressed. An important part of the questionnaires is the hierarchization of the *allocution forms* from the most formal till the less one and the adequacy of their use. The questionnaires makes possible to illustrate the difference between the treatment of men and women. The main improvement of the D2 questionnaire consists in the more detailed structuralization of the communication spheres and the social hierarchy (relations at work, in the shop, etc.).

The most remarkable results of the research comprise the following phenomena: a. the use of *tu* (addressing to the closest people and children) generally agrees with the Grammars and provides the same results in both questionnaires, b. the active existence of the *vós* form (almost denied by the Grammars), this form may be ascribed to the 3PL by the speakers, c. the adequacy of the use of different *allocution forms* differs according to the age, d. the wide use of the forms with 3SG, although the choice of the corresponding allocution form

(especially combination of titles and names) is not stabilized, e. the pronoun *você* taking 3SG is regarded as quite informal and even impolite by many respondents which may influence the existence of addressing without any addressing form, f. this connotation of *você* has no influence on the use of its plural form (*vocês*), g. there is a clear difference in adequacy of the use of allocution forms between sexes (women being addressed by title and first name, men preferring to be addressed rather by title and surname).

The contribution of the thesis consists of its attempt to provide a more or less complex overview of the currently used addressing forms based on both actual Grammar studies and the own research. The work presents a living system which has not been stabilized yet and rises several interesting questions worth to be further researched.

Key words: addressing, European Portuguese, contemporary language, direct addressing, non-direct addressing, forms of address, *formas de tratamento*