

The dynamics of Southern Carpathian dialects – abstract

The aim of this work is to describe the development of Southern Carpathian dialects in two state entities, in northeastern Slovakia and the Transcarpathian region of Ukraine, in the last 70 years. Starting material are recordings of dialectal speech and their transcription obtained in own field research conducted since 2011 within the studied area, especially in villages located close to the Slovak-Ukrainian state border. The focus of this work is a description of the dynamics of the phonetic, morphological and lexical system of the dialects of two villages, Ublya, which was chosen due to the long tradition of dialect research, and Malyi Bereznyi, the nearest neighboring village on the territory of Ukraine. Here until World War II closely related Southern Carpathian dialects had been developing in the same sociolinguistic conditions. After World War II they were separated by the Czechoslovak-Soviet border and came under the influence of different standard languages – Slovak, on the one hand, and Ukrainian and Russian on the other hand. A comparison of older material with the results of our field research enables to observe a dialectal divergence caused by leveling processes oriented to different standard languages. Data obtained in Ublya and Malyi Bereznyi are verified on the material collected during field research in twenty other municipalities in Slovakia and three municipalities in the Transcarpathian region. The current linguistic situation in the studied area and the issue of the adoption of the codified Rusyn language in Slovakia by speakers of Southern Carpathian dialects are also discussed. In connection with these issues development and current state of the national identification of Southern Carpathian dialects' speakers in Slovakia and Ukraine are also mentioned.