Abstract:

The master thesis deals with theories of temperament from the perspective of their linkages with biological essence of man. In theoretical chapters, it is examined how research of temperament has evolved over time, and there are presented the most important biology-oriented theories, ranging from classical antique temperaments, to Pavlov´s differentiation of personalities according the reactivity of nervous system, and finally to Eysenck's, Gray's and Cloninger's modern theories of temperament.

Empirical research is dedicated to the testing of interdependencies between temperamental questionnaires. 4Elements Inventory test based on an element approach theory and Cloninger's TCI-R test representing biological approach in temperament observation were analyzed on a research sample, and correlation and regression analysis was performed.

If we have to assign the most similar dimensions of both tests to each other according to content analysis, we would expect relationships between the Harm Avoidance and Fire (negative), Novelty Seeking and Air, Reward Dependency and Water and Persistence and Earth. The relationship of Novelty seeking and Air (r = 0.73) and negative relationship of Harm Avoidance and Fire (r = -0.74) were confirmed as the strongest relationships. The correlation between Reward dependency and Water was statistically significant too, but relatively weak (r = 0.32). In Persistence, we have confirmed a significant relationship with Earth, which is moderately strong (r = 0.50).

In addition to these expected relationships have emerged as strong relationship between Harm Avoidance and Water (r = 0.69), negative relationship of Novelty seeking and Earth (r = -0.64) and as moderately strong negative relationship between Harm Avoidance and Air (r = -0.55), relationship of Novelty seeking and Fire (r = 0.51) and relationship between Persistence and Fire (r = 0.45) and negative relationship of Persistence and Water (r = -0.47). A look at these relationships was completed by the TCI-R subscales analysis to better explain the reasons for these correlations, as well as others that have appeared in the research.

The research confirmed the strong interdependence of the temperament dimensions of both tests. TCI-R temperamental dimensions can predict more than 46-67% variance of 4Elements Inventory data. 4Elements Inventory dimensions can explain 47-65% variance of TCI-R temperament dimensions except the Reward dependency dimension, which was predicted only in 19%. At the same time, there is no significant relationship between 4Elements Inventory and TCI-R character scales.