Minutes of the ATLAS LINGUARUM EUROPAE (ALE) SYMPOSIUM,
THE 48TH EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING,
Sofia, 10–13 June 2015

During 10–13 June 2015 the work reunion of the Editorial Board of *Atlas Linguarum Europae* (ALE) took place in Sofia, Bulgaria. The reunion was organized by the Romanian Academy, “Iorgiu Iordan – Al. Rosetti” Institute of Linguistics, Bucharest (Romania) and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Bulgarian Language, Sofia (Bulgaria).

The reunion held in Sofia was attended by the following people: Nicolae Saramandu, ALE president, Manuela Nevaci and Ionuț Geană, members of the Central Secretariat, and members of the ALE International Committee: Luchia Antonova-Vasileva, Stamatis Beis, Dunja Brozović Rončević, Libuše Cižmárová, Federica Cugno, Przemysław Dębowiak, Natalja Z. Donadze, Iliyana Garavalova, Pilar García Mouton, Manuel González González, Paweł Janczulewicz, Ana Kocheva, Joep Kruijzen, Doris Kyriazis, Daniel Le Bris, Isabel Molina Martos, Lejla Nakaš, Vilja Oja, Sirkka Saarinen, Rafał Szeptyński, Milena Šipková, Jožica Škofić, Agris Timuška, Jadwiga Waniakowa, Seosamh Watson, and Anna Westerberg.
Svetla Koeva, the Director of the Institute for Bulgarian Language, Sofia – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, sent her message through the deputy director of the Institute in the opening session on 11 June. Nicolae Saramandu presented the ALE President’s report. On behalf of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Luchia Antonova-Vasileva, Ph. D., welcomed the participants in the symposium, saying it was an honour for Sofia to host this prestigious reunion. Professor Saramandu gladly announced that ALE I.9 was published at Bucharest University Press, which again places Bucharest in line with the prestigious publishing houses that published previous ALE volumes (van Gorcum, Assen / Maastricht, the Netherlands, and Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato, Rome, Italy).

Nicolae Saramandu, president of ALE, thanked the organisers and warmly welcomed all the participants. Professor Saramandu presented the activity of the ALE Presidency and General Secretariat in Bucharest since the previous meeting in Marburg, Germany (2014). The most important achievement during this period was the publication of ALE I.9, with the main support of the Romanian Academy and the University of Bucharest. It was a great effort, which included the intense activity of an IT engineer, Vlad Donovetsky, and the two members that ensure the General Secretariat, Manuela Nevaci and Ionuț Geană. Manuela Nevaci also thanked the authors of the maps published in ALE I.9.

The Symposium venue was at the Institute for Bulgarian Language in Sofia, Bulgaria. The session opened with the Director’s speech, held by the deputy director. She emphasised the importance of international cooperation in the field of research, in general, with focus on the importance of geolinguistics, dialectology, and of course, on the importance of Atlas Linguarum Europae. After Professor Saramandu presented the two volumes ALE. I.9. Commentaires and Cartes linguistiques européennes, Luchia Antonova-Vasileva went on with a diachronic description of dialectology and geolinguistics in Bulgaria. The perspectives and objectives of Bulgarian dialectology were presented by Ana Kocheva.

In the field of geolinguistics and dialectology, Nicolae Saramandu and Manuela Nevaci presented The Linguistic Atlas of the Aromanian Dialect, focusing on the similarities between Daco-Romanian and Aromanian, both dialects of Romanian, making comparisons with The Regional Romanian Linguistic Atlas. Synthesis. Apart from comparisons between the dialects of Romanian discussed in the Atlas (Daco-Romanian, Aromanian and Megleno-Romanian), The Linguistic Atlas of the Aromanian Dialect also describes the development of the Aromanian dialect in a Balkan context.

During 11–12 June, the following maps were presented and underwent thorough discussions: Daniel Le Bris, Joep Kruijsen: 002 (le soleil) se lève (preliminary version); 003 (le
soleil) se couche (preliminary version); Agris Timuška: 037 épi (preliminary version); 045 feuille (current stage of work); Nicolae Saramandu, Manuela Nevaci, Ionuţ Geană: 084 trèfle (preliminary version); Milena Šipková: 342 abeille (current stage of work); Libuše Cižmárová: 159 dent (current stage of work); Dunja Brozović-Rončević (with Tijmen Pronk): 271 l’aire (current stage of work); Jožica Škofić: 149 tache de rousseur (current stage of work); Lejla Nakaš: 036 épine (preliminary version).

The second day of the Symposium was opened by Jožica Škofić, who gave a talk on the Slovene Linguistic Atlas on its way to web interactivity. The author emphasised the need of interactive tools in the processing of dialectal data, which can result in user-friendly interfaces, to best use all available data. Jožica Škofić praised the mostly volunteer work that all members of this project carried out in its accomplishment. The digitalization involves data collection from atlases, dictionaries, scientific works and ethnographic images. All these data are connected to google maps.

Before presenting her map 271 l’aire, Dunja Brozović-Rončević presented some alternative digitalization software the so-called GIS, namely geographic information system, which is aimed to capture, store, manage and analyse all types of spatial and geographical data. The author’s proposal was to use this GIS in the ALE project, since it would render a more accurate image of the network. This proposal is to be considered after the publication of ALE I.11.

At the end of the lectures on notions, on the second day, Nicolae Saramandu, Manuela Nevaci and Ionuţ Geană held a workshop on the ALE digitalisation software, attended by all participants. This software (used for the maps already published in ALE I.8 and ALE I.9 as volunteer work by the Romanian team), which was also presented during our Marburg meeting in 2014, was ‘revisited’; it included step-by-step assistance in map digitalisation, according to changes made following the previous ALE meeting. This software will be used for generating the maps that will be included in ALE I.10 and ALE I.11.

Following the discussions with the attending members, the General Secretariat of ALE decided to send again an e-mail which should include the following information:

- the instructions for the map digitalization software;
- the folder with the countries and the matrix;
- notes for contributors for ALE I.10 and ALE I.11.

The authors of ALE I.10 are found below:

036 épine (author: L. Nakaš)
082 plantain (author: N. Donadze)
The commentaries shall be submitted on **1 November 2016**, at the latest. Subsequently, they will be submitted to the reading committees. The digitalized maps to be published in ALE I.10 shall be submitted by **31 March 2017**.

The software for map digitalization cannot be changed for volumes ALE I.10 and I.11.

The following maps are to be published in ALE I.11: 070 *froment* (Vittorio Dell’Aquila, Dunja Brozović, Tijmen Pronk), 271 *l’aire* (D. Brozović, T. Pronk), 215 *tombeau* (D. Brozović, T. Pronk), 216 *cimetière* D. Brozović, T. Pronk), 229 *fumer* (D. Brozović), 327 *bouc* (R. Caprini, M. Alinei), 345 *marteau* (R. Caprini, V. Dell’Aquila), 480 *conte de fée* (S. Saarinen), 002 *le soleil se lève* (D. Le Bris, J. Kruijsen), 003 *le soleil se couche* (D. Le Bris, J. Kruijsen), 037 *épi* (A. Timuška), 045 *feuille* (A. Timuška), 050 *épicéa* (J. Škofic), 051 *sapin* (D. Brozović), 052 *mélèze* (G. Aamodt), 069 *seigle* (L. Antonova, A. Kocheva, I. Garavalova), 094 *chat* (J. Škofic), 095 *chat male* (L. Čižmárová), 250 *ouvrier* (J. Waniakowa, P. Dębowiak), 485 *il danse* (F. Cugno), 079 *oignon* (J. Škofic).

For ALE I.10, the established maps and commentaries will be presented in their next-to-final version at our Londonderry, Northern Ireland (UK) reunion next year (17–21 June 2016).

During our Sofia reunion, a copy of *ALE I.9 Commentaires* and *ALE I.9 Cartes linguistiques européennes* was given free of charge to each author and National Committee.

In the closing session, discussions were held on: notes for contributors, the contents of the next two volumes (ALE I.10 and I.11). Also, the following committees have been updated: the international committee, the executive committee, the committee of the departments of language groups, the Indo-European committee and the honours committee. Federica Cugno, as part of the Italian national committee, will provide the Italian synthesis for all maps to be published in ALE
I.10 and I.11, if the authors require it; it is necessary to revise the Italian synthesis, because the network has changed as compared to the Italian Linguistic Atlas.

In the end of the ALE meeting the president of ALE, N. Saramandu, gave his warm thanks to the organisers.

The 49th ALE Editorial Board Meeting of 2016 will take place in Ulster University Magee campus, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom, organized by Ailbhe Ó Corráin.

President,

General Secretariat, Nicolae Saramandu
Manuela Nevaci
Ionuț Geană