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**CODIFICATION OF A CRISIS FORETOLD: THE DEFINITE FORMS
OF MASCULINE NOUNS – PAST, PRESENT, PROSPECTS**

NADKA NIKOLOVA

KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKY UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN

nikolova55@gmail.com

This report deals with the serious problem of codification: the written representation of the articles in singular masculine nouns. In order to clarify the logic of codification, the history of its creation in the grammar works of the Revival period is traced, and an attempt is made to establish the reasons for the choice of two forms – long and short. Its post-Revival development has been observed since the first Bulgarian spelling project in 1892 till present. It reflects on the possible solutions for updating the written fixation of the articles in accordance with the traditions and the principles for codification of the written norms in the Bulgarian literary language.

Keywords: articles of singular masculine nouns, case, long and short article, case rule, syntax rule

✉ *Prof. Nadka Nikolova, PhD, Bulgarian Studies Department*
Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen
115 Universitetska Street, Shumen 9712, Bulgaria

Published: 30 June 2018