

## ELEVENTH FORUM ON BULGARIAN GRAMMAR

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On 21 and 22 October 2024, the Eleventh Forum on Bulgarian Grammar was held in Sofia, focusing on **Morphological Inflection in Bulgarian: Development and Current State**. The forum was organised by the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Bulgarian Language Department at South-West University Neofit Rilski. It was dedicated to Prof. Dr. Ivan Kochev on the occasion of his 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025.

Welcoming addresses were delivered by Prof. Dr. Reneta Bozhankova (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski), Prof. Dr. Maria Ilieva (St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo), Prof. DSc. Konstanin Kutsarov (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev (South-West University Neofit Rilski) and Prof. Dr. Luchia Antonova-Vasileva (Director of the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences).

The topic **Morphological Inflection in Bulgarian: Development and Current State** covers a wide array of theoretical and practical issues, including various aspects of morphology; codification and complex spelling cases; the lexical and grammatical characteristics of dialects, colloquial speech, neologisms, terms and phraseologisms; language in the media and social media; issues related to morphological inflection and the definition of inflectional types for simple and compound lexical units. Other key areas addressed during the forum included homonymy, homophony and homography, as well as (old and emerging) trends in morphological inflection, the transitive-intransitive shift in verbs and the merging of count and plural forms, among others.

The discussion focused on the following areas: major trends in the development of colloquial and standard Bulgarian in terms of the inflectional specifics of word classes and individual members of these classes; the characteristics of language used in the media and colloquial speech on the Internet and their influence on the trends in colloquial and standard language. The aim was not (only) to provide definitive answers, but to encourage the exchange of opinions, put forward hypotheses and, continuing the tradition of previous meetings, create a space for lively discussion.

The 2025 Supplement of the journal features the full-length versions of 31 of the talks delivered at the forum.

The programme on the first day was organised into four sessions. Two plenary talks were presented. The first one, delivered by Krasimira Aleksova (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski), was dedicated to *Grammatical Form Variation within the Paradigm of the Bulgarian Verb*, and is published in this Supplement. Borislav Popov (South-West University Neofit Rilski) gave a plenary talk titled *The Third Element in Binary Phonological Oppositions in Bulgarian (Synchronic and Diachronic Patterns)*, which will be published elsewhere. The 2025 Supplement of the journal also features talks delivered by Krasimira Chakarova (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv), Petya Osenova (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski), Desislava Dimitrova (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv), Svetla Koeva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Svetlozara Leseva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Kristiyana Simeonova (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Elena Ivanova (St. Petersburg State University, Russia) and Ivelina Stoyanova (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Dilyana Dencheva (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski), Ruska Stancheva, Zhaneta Zlateva and Alesander Georgiev (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Verka Ivanova (St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo), Krasimira Hadzhieva (South-West University Neofit Rilski), Lora Zheleva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) and Iliana Stoilova (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences).

The second day began with a plenary talk by Vyara Maldzhieva (Nicolaus Copernicus University of Toruń, Poland) and Ruska Stancheva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) titled *Analytic Verb Forms or Syntactic Constructions*. The morning session featured talks by Tatyana Aleksandrova (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy

of Sciences), Malina Stoycheva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Lachezar Perchekliyski (South-West University Neofit Rilski), Lora Zheleva, Milen Tomov and Iliyana Kuneva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Vasil Stamenov (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv), Radostina Koleva (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv). The next two sessions included talks by Bistra Andreeva and Mitko Sabev (University of Saarland, Germany), Natalia Długosz (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland), Irena Ruseva (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv), Luchia Antonova-Vasileva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Mikhail Kondratenko (Institute of Linguistic Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences), Elena Kanevska-Nikolova (Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv), Radoslav Tsonev (South-West University Neofit Rilski), Iliyana Garavalova (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Ana Kocheva (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences).

The Eleventh Forum on Bulgarian Grammar was dedicated to Prof. Dr. Ivan Kochev. During the Special Session in his honour, Kiril Kirilov (Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) and Lachezar Perchekliyski (South-West University Neofit Rilski) paid tribute to the distinguished Bulgarian linguist by recalling biographical details, highlighting his contributions and works, and sharing personal memories and reflections.

A concise chronology of the previous editions of the forum is provided below.

**First Forum** *Meaning and Structure in Language: Means of Representation* organised by the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 27 November 2014.

**Second Forum** *Grammar and Pragmatics* organised by the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 19 November 2015.

**Third Forum** *Functional Grammar – Achievements and Prospects* organised by the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv and the Institute for Bulgarian Language at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 20 October 2016.

**Fourth Forum** *Interdisciplinary Studies in Bulgarian* organised by Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski and the Institute for Bulgarian Language

Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 26 October 2017.

**Fifth Forum** *The Dynamics of Ideas in Syntax at the Turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* organised by the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 18 October 2018.

**Sixth Forum** *Grammatical Systems in Synchrony and Diachrony* organised by the South-West University Neofit Rilski and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 17 October 2019.

**Seventh Forum** *Innovation Processes in the Grammar of Contemporary Bulgarian* organised by the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 22 October 2020.

**Eighth Forum** *Predication, Predicates, Predicatives* organised by Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 21 and 22 October 2021.

**Ninth Forum** *The Theory of Parts of Speech – Tradition and Prospects* organised by the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 20 and 21 October 2022.

**Tenth Forum** *The Spoken Language Phenomenon* organised by the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 20 and 21 October 2023.

The Eleventh Forum titled *Morphological Inflection in Bulgarian: Development and Current State* brought together over 100 scholars from the Institute for Bulgarian Language at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, South-West University Neofit Rilski, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv and the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo. Seven scholars from abroad also took part in the forum, including speakers from the Nicolaus Copernicus University of Toruń, Poland; Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland; Saarland University,

Germany; the Institute of Linguistic Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia; St. Petersburg State University, Russia.

The recordings of the talks presented at the forum are available on the YouTube channel of the Institute for Bulgarian Language *The Written Word Remains: Write Correctly!*

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