

LEGAL LATINISMS IN MEDIEVAL SOUTH SLAVIC MANUSCRIPTS: THE EXAMPLE OF MATTHEW BLASTARES'S *SYNTAGMA*

MARIYANA TSIBRANSKA-KOSTOVA

INSTITUTE FOR BULGARIAN LANGUAGE, BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
tzibran@ibl.bas.bg

This article examines several groups of Latin-derived terms that shed light on the reception of Roman and Byzantine law in Slavic and Old Bulgarian literary traditions. Matthew Blastares' *Syntagma*, translated among the South Slavs shortly after the publication of its Greek original in 1335, provides a particularly valuable source for the study of legal Latinisms owing to its extensive incorporation of secular legal material. The analysis focuses on several categories of terms, including those denoting legal actions, holders of administrative and judicial offices, titles of legal texts and laws, Roman legal realia, and other legal terminology. The article also highlights the need for a comprehensive database of Latinisms in the form of a glossary. Such a resource would facilitate the study of synonymy among different translation equivalents, both diachronically and synchronically, and would help trace the historical development of legal terminology from Roman law to its modern manifestations in specialised dictionaries and legal textbooks.

Keywords: Matthew Blastares's *Syntagma*; Roman-Byzantine law; Latinisms

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✉ Prof. Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova, DSc
Department of History of Bulgarian Language
Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
52 Shipchenski prohod, Bl. 17, 1113 Sofia, Bulgaria