

### **Hauke Bartels: The Lower Sorbian Global Corpus as the Goal of a Comprehensive Concept for Creating Text Corpora**

The Sorbian Institute has long been working on assembling and processing electronic text corpora, which have particular significance for research into Sorbian. Using Lower Sorbian as an example, but at the same time keeping the whole of Sorbian writing in mind, a process for creating corpus texts of high quality is being established and presented, which tries to combine different goals and interests systematically with each other: the documentation of writing which has been handed down to us, the creation of a reliable data base for research based on corpus texts, and the provision of this data in a way that allows for the most varied, barrier-free and efficient use possible. At the same time, while taking into account the specific circumstances in the study of Sorbian, a balance between automated and manual procedures is achieved. A further aim of this overall procedure is to grant the least restrictive, convenient access possible to the individual texts as representative examples of writing, leading to their preparation for inclusion in a digital library. In this way, an important part of the Sorbian cultural heritage can be made available as a “store of knowledge”, and as a researchable image of a cultural practice reflected in literature.

**Keywords:** Sorbian, Lower Sorbian, Sorbian studies, corpus linguistics, digital humanities, Global Corpus, digital library, text corpus, digital Sorbian studies

### **Měto Nowak: The Border of the German-Sorbian Area in Brandenburg in the Linguistic Landscape**

In socio-linguistic research of the linguistic landscape, conclusions about social and linguistic situations are drawn from linguistic presence, amongst other things. This approach is methodologically used in this article to investigate the marking of the border between the monolingual German and the bilingual German-Sorbian area in the state of Brandenburg. For this purpose, in 2015 – at a time when the revision of the traditional settlement area of the Sorbs/Wends in the state of Brandenburg was not yet reflected in the signposting – signs marking the location of places and borders were photographed and analysed. The findings were then related to the actual, legally defined area of Sorbian/Wendish settlement, whereby it can be observed that there are deviations in both directions. Constellations of protagonists are studied briefly. It becomes clear that from the sole consideration of the Linguistic Landscape without knowledge of the context it is not possible to draw conclusions about the processes behind it.

**Keywords:** Sorbs, Lower Lusatia, Brandenburg, linguistic landscape, settlement area, border, bilingual signage, place-name signage, train station

### **Walter Wenzel: New Meanings of Old Sorbian Place and Tribe Names**

There are still names in the Old Sorbian linguistic area, for which the explanations up until now have proved unsatisfactory. Amongst these are the six place names and two tribe names discussed in the article, some of which appeared in sources over a thousand years ago, for example *Nessuci*, *Selpoli* and *Chozimi*. They are very important for the study of the history of the Sorbian language, settlement and culture. Thus, the oldest evidence of

the place name of *Leuthen* documents the earliest proof of the Lower Sorbian sound shift from *e* to *o*, cf. Old Lower Sorbian \**Lutoŋe sodlo* ‘site, settlement of L’utom’. The place name *Pautzsch*, Old Sorbian \**Budč* ‘settlement of Budk’ provides proof, together with many other examples, of the immigration of Old West Sorbian tribes from Bohemia and Moravia. The proper name contained in *Nessuci*, Old Sorbian \**Nesudici* ‘People of Nesud or Nesuda’, a defence name, gives us an insight into the beliefs of the Old Slavs. Their interpersonal relationships are illuminated by *Mockzig*, Old Sorbian \**Mokrosuky*, freely translated, ‘village of the sons of dogs’, an uncouth nickname.

**Keywords:** linguistics, onomastics, Old Sorbian, place and tribe names, etymology of names, name formation, meaning of names

### **Walter Koschmal: Changing Reality: Róża Domaścyna’s Path to Poetry**

Around 1990 Róża Domaścyna began writing both documentary and fictional radio plays that were mostly not published. This study analyzes the poet’s literary path by examining her radio plays and prose, including (auto)-biographical texts that deal with Sorbian folklore among other things. Domaścyna moves from texts concerning the everyday world and its truth to the non-representational truth of art. The everyday world is temporary content, not artistic truth. The author shows the truth of reality, of society’s materialistic life and her own very personal, familiar surroundings as ever changing forms of reality. The art going beyond this in her poetry is that of artistic logic and metamorphoses.

**Keywords:** radio play, folklore, traditional costumes, autobiography, truth of art, femininity

### **Dietrich Scholze-Šolta: The Sorbian Poet Benedikt Dyrlich and Poland**

Benedikt Dyrlich (born 1950) who celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in spring 2020, is one of the leading Sorbian writers and journalists of the present day. Especially with his bilingual lyric poetry, he has given a lasting stimulus to the literature of this minority over the past fifty years. He was able to confirm his Slav identity thanks to his early and lasting connections with the history and culture of the neighbouring Polish nation and to realize numerous bilateral activities from the Sorbian side. By the resonance of his work in this well-disposed foreign country, he strengthened his position in the East German literary scene before and after the political changes of 1989.

**Keywords:** Sorbian lyric poetry in the GDR, Sorbian-Polish cultural relations, ethnic identity, literary translation, linguistic assimilation, Pope John Paul II and the Sorbs, Wilhelm Szewczyk, Bolesław Lubosz, Bohdan Urbankowski, Tadeusz Różewicz