

## REVIEW

Of Daniela Urbanová, the member of the dissertation council for the dissertation of Elena Vladimirovna Zheltova on the topic: "Latin Morphosyntax in a Typological Perspective: Interaction of Language Dimensions", submitted for the degree of doctor of philological sciences in a scientific speciality 5.9.7.

I read E. Zheltova's habilitation thesis with great interest, curiosity, and pleasure, since it presents a completely new approach to selected Latin grammatical questions. The author applies new analytical methods that correspond to current world trends in linguistics. In her work "Latin Morphosyntax in a Typological Perspective: Interaction of Language Dimensions" she tries to answer selected controversial questions of the Latin grammatical system, which are not taken into account by traditional Latin grammatical handbooks. The author adopts a morphosyntactic approach to Latin and draws on the latest trends and methods of contemporary linguistics, which have begun to be applied to Latin grammar relatively recently – only since the 1990s. The aims of the work are ambitious; the author identifies problematic areas in the field of Latin morphosyntax that have not yet been satisfactorily explored and analyses them using modern linguistic concepts. It thus seeks to update the analytical methods applied to classical languages and expands the conceptual apparatus of Latin grammatical categories by including new phenomena not previously considered in relation to Latin (animacy, irrealis, evidentiality, mirativity).

The thesis begins with a clearly outlined set of questions that are going to be addressed. These are in line with current trends in the field of linguistics. The thesis is divided into six chapters.

Chapter 1 is devoted to the Latin Case System, for which the author proposes new dynamic models of nominal and pronominal case paradigms based on morphemic syncretism.

In Chapter 2, the author investigates the semantics and pragmatics of personal and reflexive pronouns using the methods and approaches of different branches of modern linguistics as well as morphosyntax of the reflexive constructions.

Chapter 3 deals with the problem of Latin gender and the related issue of animacy, that has been largely overlooked for Latin so far, with regard to its function in the case inflection paradigm and the type of declension. In this chapter, the author also analyses the non-standard manifestations of animacy in Latin.

Chapter 4 concentrates on the peculiarities of case marking in the context of role typology. The author demonstrates that surface syntactic structures are the result of the cumulative effect of different linguistic dimensions (semantic-role, deictic-denotative and pragmatic), rather than of semantic roles only.

Chapter 5 focuses on the argument structure of Latin ditransitive and support verb constructions.

I find Chapter 6 particularly interesting, useful, and original, since here the author provides a detailed analysis of the four topics that relate to the expression of subjectivity in language, i.e. anthropocentric elements in Latin grammar. She examines, first, the anomalous paradigms of future tenses in Latin; second, she deals with the semantics of subjunctive in Latin subordinate

clauses. As for the latter, the author polemizes with the proponents of the view that the subjunctive in complex clauses is a mere marker of subordination without a semantic motivation. It also discusses the importance of the covert categories of evidentiality and mirativity as potentially new approaches to the analysis of the grammatical system of Latin. Thus, for Latin, she identifies three strategies used to express direct evidence, five morphological and syntactic means to express inferential evidentiality, and five other ways to express reported evidence. However, some of the means of expressing evidentiality are very closely related to the usual Latin expression of epistemic modality. Latin. Another remarkable part of the thesis is the excursus devoted to the Latin archaic verb form *faxo*, the semantic nuances of which are intended to be addressed by the author in her further research. Finally, last part of Chapter 6 is devoted to the hitherto understudied grammatical category of mirativity that is used to express the emotional evaluation of information not expected by the addressee. The author postulates five mirative strategies for Latin: syntactic structures, verbal tenses and moods, special particles, and conjunctions.

To conclude, the author has demonstrated not only an excellent knowledge of the most recent relevant bibliography on the topics, but also a creative and independent approach to the subject, while demonstrating excellent philological competence. The thesis brings forward original results and is thus important contribution to further research in the field of Latin grammatical system. The bibliography is very rich and, in my opinion, complete. There are only few minor typos in the work which will need to be corrected before publication.

Dissertation of Elena Vladimirovna Zheltova on the topic: "Latin Morphosyntax in a Typological Perspective: Interaction of Language Dimensions" **meets** the basic requirements established by Order No.11181/1 dd. 19.11.2021 "On the procedure for awarding academic degrees at St. Petersburg State University". The applicant Elena Vladimirovna Zheltova **deserves** to be awarded the academic degree of **doctor** of philological sciences in a scientific speciality 5.9.7. No violations of paragraphs 9 and 11 of the specified Order have been detected.

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