University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime studies

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: English words in Croatian: an investigation of language processing and associative relationships

FUNDING PROGRAMME: Institutional financing of scientific activities in 2018. (University of Rijeka)

PERSON RESPONSIBLE: Irena Bogunović, Ph. D.

FINANCIAL DATA

Project total cost	Overall funding assigned to PFRI
HRK 14,000.00	HRK 14,000.00

SUMMARY

Throughout its history, the Croatian language has been influenced by many different languages, which is evident on all linguistic levels, especially lexical. Being the lingua franca of the globalized world, English has become the dominant donor language. Thus, it is not surprising that many English words have become a part of informal Croatian communication. However, a difference should be made between anglicisms and English words, as the latter term denotes words which originate from English but, unlike anglicisms, have not adapted to the rules of the Croatian language.

Research has mainly dealt with linguistic and sociolinguistic aspects of lexical borrowing. However, little or no attention has been given to psycholinguistic problems involving lexical processing and associative relationships, as well as frequency with which such words occur in Croatian. The main goal of this research is to investigate these problems by taking an interdisciplinary approach. One of the goals is to explore processing of unadapted English words among L2 speakers with different levels of L2 proficiency in the case of visual and auditory stimuli. Moreover, the study will also investigate the strength of associative relationships between Croatian and unadapted English words. The first part of the research will be investigated experimentally, by measuring reaction time and accuracy of answers with E-Prime 2.0. software, while the second part will include specially designed questionnaires.

Experimental research of this kind is limited because there are no available data on the frequency of unadapted English words. Thus, in the long run, the team aims to obtain these data to facilitate future experimental research. This is planned to be accomplished by analysing the already existing corpus as well as creating a new one using machine learning and computing intelligence techniques.

Start date	End date
18/07/2018	18/07/2019

PARTNERSHIP

Br.	Partner organization	Country	Role
1.	University of Rijeka	Croatia	Lead partner

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