

OPINION

on the dissertation for the educational and scientific degree of Doctor

Author of the dissertation: Lina Miloshevska

Topic of the dissertation: A Study of Anglicisms in Journalistic Corpora in North Macedonia through Corpus Analysis Tools

Field: 2.1 Philology

Author of the opinion: Prof. Dr. Petya Nacheva Osenova, Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski"

By order No. 3-PK-200/22.05.2026 of Prof. Plamen Doinov, D.Sc., Rector of New Bulgarian University, I have been appointed as a member of the jury for the defense of a dissertation for the award of the ONS "doctor". The submitted set of materials by the candidate includes all necessary documents for the procedure. Lina Miloshevska has fulfilled the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of the ZRASRB. The work is author's and original. I have not found any elements of plagiarism.

In 2000, Lina Miloshevska received a bachelor's degree in English Philology from the University of Aleppo, Syria. In 2013, the doctoral candidate also received a master's degree in Philology from the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, North Macedonia. Lina Miloshevska's extensive scientific, publication and project activities are impressive. She participated in a number of mobility opportunities for the exchange of experience, as well as in associations of translators, English teaching and English language learning. Currently, the doctoral candidate works as a senior lecturer at the University of Information Sciences and Technologies "St. Apostle Paul" in Ohrid. There she teaches academic English, academic writing, technical communication and linguistics. Lina Miloshevska has presented two publications related to the topic of her dissertation, as well as four conference presentations. One of the publications (Miloshevska, L. (2025). Extraction of anglicisms from a corpus of magazine texts. *English Studies at NBU*, 11(1), 141-159) focuses on the methods of extracting anglicisms from a corpus of magazine texts. It is in an edition indexed in Web of Science. The other publication (Miloshevska, L. (2025). What makes anglicisms survive? A corpus-based study of patterns of conventionalization, institutionalization and lexicalization. In: *Sbornik s dokladi, XIX National Philological Readings for Students and Doctoral Candidates in Honor of Saints Cyril*

and Methodius, pp. 85-101. South-West University "Neofit Rilski") as a next step examines the processes of conventionalization, institutionalization and lexicalization of anglicisms in the corpus, which is extremely important for the sciences studying language development.

The thesis abstract in English (42 pages) meets all the requirements of the genre. It is comprehensive and correctly reflects the main points and scientific contributions of the dissertation candidate. Four contributions are indicated, related to: 1. A more comprehensive study of the influence of English on the media language in vocabulary; 2. Use of a reliable framework for working with empirical data; 3. A diachronic view of the invasion of Anglicisms into the media language. 4. Presentation of the results as part of the global trend of dominance of the English language in a number of languages around the world.

The topic of the dissertation is of great importance for the contemporary processes of change in the vocabulary and grammar of various languages - in this case, the media language - under the influence of English. The work does not possess only linguistic, but also sociocultural value. It is important for various applied areas, including teaching English to foreigners; tracking trends in the development of normative grammar in the context of acquainting foreigners with the language; tracking novelties in the language of institutions and the media.

The dissertation (total 171 pages) is presented in English. It consists of 5 chapters. Chapter one presents the context of the work. Chapter two reviews the literature on the topic. Chapter three describes the adopted methodology. Chapter four critically discusses the results of the study. Chapter five presents the conclusions. Then, five appendices and a list of cited publications are added. The literature used includes about 200 titles, which shows the author's extensive knowledge of the dissertation topic.

Before the first chapter, lists of figures and tables are presented, along with references to the pages on which they are located. A list of symbols and abbreviations is given. All this greatly facilitates the understanding of the text. A good impression is made by the fact that each chapter begins with a short introduction, as well as that the limitations of the work are discussed.

The first chapter "General Background" clearly and specifically presents the theoretical basis, goals and objectives of the work, the object and subject of research, as well as a synopsis of the work itself. I believe that comparing the situation with Anglicisms in two corpora - from 2000 and 2020 - with a distance of 20 years - is very adequate and useful for identifying trends in the development of the language. Also, the work includes interdisciplinary approaches, including

areal linguistics, corpus linguistics and lexicological methods. The goals and objectives are correctly set - using corpus methods to study the distribution, development and features of Anglicisms, and using the mechanisms of areal linguistics and lexicology to describe their adaptability in the target language and the types of semantic changes in the target language. The corpus used is 2 million words, where about 4 thousand single-word Anglicisms have been identified. I believe that the empirical material is sufficient for initial objective observations.

Chapter Two “Literature Review” includes reflections on loanwords in general, on Anglicisms in particular from different perspectives, the relationship of Anglicisms with media texts and corpus studies. In my opinion, the decision to study all lexicalized Anglicisms, regardless of their type and degree of adoption, is well motivated, because in this way it is impossible to miss any significant trend (p. 13). The focus is mainly on the diachronic aspect and the perception of the new words within society. The semantic changes are presented - narrowing, broadening and modification. Very good illustrative examples are given. It is shown that media texts have their own models of perception of Anglicisms and these models can be studied using corpus methods. I think that the sub-parts on media texts and corpora (2.6 and 2.7) can be moved to the next part 3 - especially since in 2.6.1 the choice of corpus is again discussed, as in chapter 3. My opinion is similar for part 2.6.1, which describes the selected magazine “Capital”. For me, it is not very justified to review all the corpora of media language. Corpus linguistics has long been used for observations and only the corpus used can be directly described.

The third chapter “Research Methodology” is fundamental to the dissertation. It describes the choice of the corpus, its processing, the identification of Anglicisms, the software used and the generation of frequency lists. A summary of the methodological procedures is also included. The dissertation raises the question of the diachronic tracking of trends in Anglicisms in corpora from the magazine “Capital” from 2000 and 2020. The reasons for choosing this source are explained in detail, as well as the methods of creating the working corpora. The AntConc software was used with the accompanying tagger TagAnt. The question arises why, for example, a version of the NoSketch engine with registration was not used. I think that only the keyword service might be unavailable in the free version. Moreover, tagging only with part of speech is not enough, thus all grammatical features are needed as well. It is not clear how exactly the lemmatization has been done, as well as what is the accuracy of the tagger and the lemmatizer on the data.

The fourth chapter “Results and Discussion” focuses on the quantitative and qualitative aspects of Anglicisms in both corpora. But it also presents the types of Anglicisms as models of conventionalization, institutionalization and lexicalization. Cases of change in semantics are indicated, as well as the diachronic aspects. As expected, a trend of increase in Anglicisms is observed (582 lemmas of Anglicisms are found in the 2020 corpus alone). Of course, it should be noted that the 2020 corpus has also been greatly influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic. It is helpful that the most common Anglicisms are given in the context of their productivity. It is not clear whether concordances have been made for all Anglicisms in Table 6. If not, to what extent they were covered. The doctoral candidate has only analyzed selected Anglicisms, which is understandable given the size of the corpus. Cases of semantic changes are noted, with semantic narrowing appearing to be the most common mechanism. It would be useful to include an analysis of errors in identification and data extraction. Observations on the diachronically developing patterns of selected Anglicisms common to both corpora are also helpful.

The fifth chapter “Conclusion” provides an overview of the results achieved, among which the most important are the following: tracking the frequency and types of Anglicisms in a diachronic plan using corpus samples from two time periods and studying the degrees of accommodation of these Anglicisms in media language.

The five appendices present lists of the hundred most frequent Anglicisms in the two corpora separately and together, as well as lists of the 40 most frequent Anglicisms in terms of their productivity for the formation of complex words/combinations.

The notes I have made above in relation to various hypotheses and conclusions of the doctoral candidate in no way diminish the value of the presented work. Therefore, based on everything I have said above, I strongly recommend that the Honorable Jury award the educational and scientific degree of "doctor" to Lina Miloshevska in the field 2.1 Philology, for her dissertation work "A Study of Anglicisms in Journalistic Corpora in North Macedonia through Corpus Analysis Tools".

17.08.2026

Author of Opinion:

