

FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME OF EARLY STAGE RESEARCHER TRAINING¹

1. BASIC DATA

Mentor's name and surname	Natalija Ulčnik	Mentor's register number at ARIS (SICRIS):	29322
Mentor's e-mail:	natalija.ulcnik@um.si	Mentor's tel. no.:	041 953 645
Research programme (RP) leader's name and surname:	Marko Jesenšek	RP leader's register number at ARIS (SICRIS):	11543
Title of research programme:	Slovene linguistics, literature and teaching of Slovene	RP's Register number at ARIS (SICRIS):	P6-0156
Research organisation (RO) of University of Maribor, where training shall be conducted:	Faculty of Arts	RO Register number at ARIS (SICRIS):	2565
Research field according to ARIS classification :	6.05 Linguistics (6.05.01 Languages – research)	Research field according to Ortelius classification (EURAXESS)	25.0 Language sciences (25.1 Languages)

2. DEFINITION OF RESEARCH PROBLEM AND GOALS OF DOCTORAL RESEARCH²

Starting point of research task of the early stage researcher and its position in the research programme, where the mentor is included, work hypothesis, research goals and foreseen result with emphasis on an original contribution to science:

The starting point of the early-stage researcher's research task:

In recent decades, Slovene diachronic linguistics has been systematically studying individual morphological aspects and categories, also in the context of the theory of word-class classification. Among other things, the following have been discussed in more detail: the linguistic developmental characteristics of verbs and verbal aspects, participles, nouns of the i-declension, personal pronouns, prepositions, and particles; research into the category of definiteness in

¹ Term early stage researcher (ESR) is written in male form and used as neutral for women and men.

² Research and study programme of training have to harmonise with contents of the research programme, where the mentor is a member.

adjectives is also planned. However, we do not yet have comprehensive contemporary research on numerals, although it has already been pointed out that the numeral is "an important and complex grammatical and lexicographic question" (Novak 2008: 144; Ahačič 2018; Toporišič 2003: 45; Tafrá 1989). Numerals have been particularly topical in recent times, as in 2021, attention was drawn to the discovery of Slavic numerals in a Latin manuscript from the 12th century, which were later proven to be written in early Slovene (Šekli 2022). The early-stage researcher's research work will focus on studying the properties of numerals (especially main numerals), their development, and transparent use in Slovene from the oldest records to the present day, with particular emphasis on their treatment and description in older and modern language manuals (dictionaries, grammars, orthographies) and analysis of their use in relevant texts in different centuries. The discussion will be related to linguistic dilemmas related to (main) numerals, e.g. word-class determination, method of writing and pronunciation, development of phonetic changes, (un)stability of forms in older Slovene (e.g. variant use) and reflections in the contemporary Slovene language.

Position in the research programme:

The research task and work of the early-stage researcher will be placed in the research programme ARIS Slovene Linguistics, Literature and Teaching of Slovene (P6-0156), led by Acad. Prof. Dr. Marko Jesenšek. Within linguistics, the programme is linked to diachronic and synchronic research of the Slovene language, to analyses of the relationship between the norm and use of the (literary) language, the role and position of the Slovene language, determining the developmental dynamics of Slovene, considering the Central and Eastern Slovene linguistic space and the unification of the Slovene literary norm. The focus of the candidate's research work will be the study of numerals as inflectional words for expressing the quantity of what is counted, their properties, and their use, all concerning the linguistic-historical aspect, which has not yet undergone a more comprehensive scientific consideration.

Work hypothesis:

Numerals are among the less variable words, but phonological and morphological changes are noticeable in the Slovene language (from the earliest beginnings to the present day), which are also a reflection of the dual linguistic development in the Central and Eastern Slovene area.

Research goals:

- Theoretical definition of numerals, individual types of numerals, and relevant concepts (e.g. category of numerosity, number, digit).
- Overview of the development of (main) numerals from Old Church Slavonic (with meaningful insight into the Indo-European proto-language and Proto-Slavic) through Early Slovene to forms in modern Slovene (comparatively also in other Slavic languages).
- Verification of linguistic treatment of (main) numerals in basic older and modern Slovene grammars and their comparison (also with selected grammars of other Slavic languages).
- Verification and analysis of issues related to (main) numerals in Slovene orthographies.
- Verification and analysis of the lexicographical presentation of numerals (e.g. concerning word-class issues, indicating meaning).
- Review of the use of numerals in older manuscript texts (in the Freising Manuscripts and other medieval manuscripts).
- Review of older prints of the Central and Eastern Slovene language area from the perspective of the inclusion of (main) numerals and their relevance for further analysis.

- Analysis of the characteristics of the use of (main) numerals in selected literary texts from different periods; research on numerals in linguistic-historical development and their ongoing comparison with contemporary use.
- Identification of current issues in the contemporary use of numerals.

Foreseen results, original contribution to science:

Numerals have not yet received sufficient research attention in Slovene linguistics and have not yet been discussed in an independent monograph. As part of the research work of the early-stage researcher, the first comprehensive theoretical and empirical historical-developmental discussion of (main) numerals is planned. Basic theoretical definitions of concepts will be given, and grammatical and lexicographic practice of displaying numerals (e.g. existing dictionary explanatory strategies), their orthographic issues, etc. will be examined. Their use in various relevant texts from different periods will be analysed, comparing the Central and Eastern Slovene language areas. Methods for their appropriate lexicological treatment will be identified, and their linguistic development characteristics will be given. The above represents an original contribution to Slovene linguistics.

3. STUDY PROGRAMME

Foreseen study programme, to which early stage researcher shall be enrolled in academic year 2025/2026:

Slovene studies (third cycle, PhD programme)

4. DESCRIPTION OF WORK AND TASKS

Cooperation with the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Maribor: involvement in scientific research and professional work at the Department, involvement in the pedagogical process, participation in project activities, involvement in the organizational activities of the Department (assistance in organizing conferences and other professional events), participation in the Alumni Club of the Department and promotional activities, involvement in the department's publishing activities (journal *Slavia Centralis*, book collection *Zora*).

5. REQUESTED LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Completed master's degree (second Bologna cycle)

6. REQUESTED FIELD OF EDUCATION

Slovene studies, Slovenian language and literature, single or double subject programme, pedagogical or non-pedagogical programme

7. KLASIUS SRV

17003 Master's education (second Bologna cycle)/Master (second Bologna cycle)

8. KLASIUS P

3 0232 Literature and linguistics

3 0114 Teacher training with subject specialisation

3 0188 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving education

9. REQUESTED KNOWLEDGE

Knowledge of the developmental laws of the Slovene language, knowledge of older and modern language manuals, knowledge of language sources and tools, ability to linguistically and stylistically review complex texts, work with corpora, knowledge of alphabets (Bohorič alphabet, Metelko alphabet, Dajnko alphabet).

10. REQUESTED SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

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11. REQUESTED LANGUAGES

Slovenian, English, German, Croatian.

12. REQUESTED WORK EXPERIENCE

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13. FORESEEN POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING

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Mentor's signature:

Natasha Mihal

Research programme leader's signature:

Marko Jamsi

Name and surname of Dean or
authorised person³:

Prof. Dr. Darko Friš

Signature of dean or authorised person:

DM

Place and date:

Maribor

27. 01.
2025

Handwritten initials and date: 27. 1. 2025

Stamp:



³ The training program is signed by the dean of the member where the ESR's employment and training will take place.