

Conceptualisation of the „soul” in the Slavic traditional culture – methods and research perspectives

The main idea of the international ethnolinguistic project is to compare the phenomena of a soul in the Slavic languages – both the ones being in a direct contact (Polish, Czech, Slovak, Ukrainian, Belorussian, Russian) and those staying in a territorial distance (Serbian and Bulgarian). The focus of the investigation is on the texts of culture (such as beliefs, customs, rituals, stereotypes) and their representation in Lexis, phraseology, and semantics. Applying the methods of the so-called cognitive semantics the analysis bases on the image schemata, and their role in the metaphorical mapping across conceptual domains, that constitute the meaning of the soul and the contexts it refers to it. The axiology of the schemata, the relation between the target domain and the relevant source domain are the subject of the analysis.