

Svetlana YANAKIEVA (Sofia)

ΊΣΤΡΟΣ AND THE PALAEO-BALKAN LINGUISTIC SPACE

Abstract: The paper examines the dissemination of several geographic names from the same lexical stems in the Balkan Peninsula, Asia Minor and the Aegean basin, such as Ίστρος/Histria, Άρισβος/ Άρίσβη, Ίλιον/ Ίλιος, Κεβρήνιον/ Κεβρήν, Κρίσος/ Κρίσα, Πέργαμος/ Πέργαμον etc. They are traditionally examined as Thracian in Thrace, pre-Greek in Greece and “indigenous” in Asia Minor. The geographic distribution of the names – from the Danube in Thrace in the north, to Crete in the south, and from Karia in Asia Minor in the east, to the Adriatic Sea in the west – leads to the conclusion that the common lexical stems in the toponymy are a sign of lexical proximity between the languages in the Palaeo-Balkan linguistic space: Thracian, pre-Greek (the so-called Pelasgian), Illyrian and some linguistic idioms in Western Asia Minor, with a probability that it could be due to something more than common Indo-European heritage.

Keywords: Balkans, Asia Minor, Aegeis, toponymy, lexical closeness.

REFERENCES

- Bürchner 1916: Bürchner, L. Istros. – In: *RE* 9, col. 2268, No. 1.
- Detschew 1957: Detschew, D. *Die thrakischen Sprachreste*. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- Inscriptiones Scythiae Minoris Graecae et Latinae*. Vol. I. *Inscriptiones Histriae et viciniae*. (ed. D. Pippidi). Bucharest 1983: Editura Academiei Republicii socialiste România.
- Russu 1969: Russu, I. *Die Sprache der Thrako-Daker*. Bucureşti: Editura Ştiinţifică.
- Tomaschek 1894: Tomaschek, W. *Die alten Thraker. Eine ethnologische Untersuchung. II. Die Sprachreste*. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- Walde & Pokorny 1930: Walde, A. & J. Pokorny. *Vergleichendes Wörterbuch der indogermanischen Sprachen*, I Band. Berlin, Leipzig: Walter de Gruyter & CO.
- Yanakieva 2015: Yanakieva, S. Thracian toponymy until the end of the first millennium BC. – *Orpheus* 22, 5-28.
- Георгиев 1960: Георгиев, В. *Българска етимология и ономастика*. София: Издателство на Българската академия на науките. [Georgiev 1960: Georgiev, V. *Balgarska etimologiya i onomastika*. Sofia: Izdatelstvo na Balgarskata akademiya na naukite.].
- Георгиев 1977: Георгиев, В. *Траките и техният език*. София: Издателство на Българската академия на науките. [Georgiev 1977: Georgiev, V. *Trakite i tehniyat ezik*. Sofia: Izdatelstvo na Balgarskata akademiya na naukite.].

БАЛКАНСКО ЕЗИКОЗНАНИЕ LINGUISTIQUE BALKANIQUE

Vol. 57 (2018), issue 2, pp. 150-154

ISSN: 0324-1653

- Янакиева 2000: Янакиева, С. Предгръцката хидронимия. – *Seminarium Thracicum* 4, 85-118.
[Yanakieva 2000: Yanakieva, S. Predgratskata hidronimiya. – *Seminarium Thracicum* 4, 85-118.].
- Янакиева 2009: Янакиева, С. Тракийската хидронимия. (*Studia Thracica* 12). София: Академично издателство „Проф. Марин Дринов“. [Yanakieva 2009: Yanakieva, S. Trakiyskata hidronimiya. (*Studia Thracica* 12). Sofiya: Akademichno izdatelstvo “Prof. Marin Drinov”].]
- Янакиева 2017: Янакиева, С. Тракийската ономастика и проблемът за семантичната мотивация – *Български език* 64/ 4, 46-52. [Yanakieva 2017: Yanakieva, S. Trakiyskata onomastika i problemat za semantichnata motivatsiya – *Balgarski ezik* 64/4, 46-52.].

ABBREVIATIONS

ISM = *Inscriptiones Scythiae Minoris Graecae et Latinae*

RE = *Realencyclopaedie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft*

Prof. DrPhil Svetlana Yanakieva

Institute for Balkan Studies with Centre of Thracology, BAS

Sofia, Bulgaria

e-mail: s.yanakieva@mail.bg

Published: 10 Dec. 2018