Croatian Church Slavonic in the Digital Era

Croatian Church Slavonic is based on the first literary language of the Slavs, the Old Church Slavonic language. It is shaped under a strong influence of the Croatian Chakavian vernacular. It was used from the end of the 14th until the 16th century. Unlike Old Church Slavonic, which evolved by translating Greek texts, most of the Croatian Church Slavonic texts were translated from Latin or revised according to Latin source texts. Old Church Slavonic Institute is the central Croatian scientific institution focusing on the research of Croatian Church Slavonic. In this presentation, some ongoing projects of the Old Church Slavonic Institute will be presented. My focus will be on digitization and retrodigitization. The first project which will be presented is the Scientific Center of Excellence for Croatian Glagolitism. The main goal of this project is to develop an interdisciplinary theoretical framework for studying Glagolitic scriptoria. In this project, the manuscripts from a small Istrian village Beram are analyzed from a linguistic, textological, literary-theoretical, paleographical, liturgical and art-historical point of view. As a part of this project, a special digital database is being developed. In this presentation, this database will be presented. The second project which will be mentioned is the compilation of the Dictionary of the Croatian Redaction of Church Slavonic. This project is a long-term project of the Old Church Slavonic Institute. The project started in 1958, and the first fascicle was printed in 1991. So far, 22 fascicles have been published with dictionary entries from A to I, and the new fascicles are compiled in MS Word. The current situation, questions, and problems concerning the retrodigitization of previously published volumes and of the corpus, and plans for the future digital version of the dictionary will be mentioned. At the end of this presentation, some basic information about the project Retro-digitization and interpretation of Croatian grammar books before Illyrism, conducted at the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics, and about the current situation and current problems in the process of compiling digitized versions of Croatian grammar books will be given. Some lexicographic implications of this project will be mentioned. Some aspects of these projects will be compared to the situation in Bulgaria.