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UKRAINIAN TOPONYMS IN THE WORKS OF GERMAN-SPEAKING WRITERS

Byjak Natalija

Annotation

The article analyses Ukrainian toponymicon in the novels of German-speaking writers H. Böll, K. E. Franzos, J. Roth. The author considers features of graphic design of the Ukrainian toponyms in German and changes in the traditions of naming of the Ukrainian territories and ethnos from the mid-19th to the mid-20th century. The paper reveals peculiarities of the toponymic vocabulary usage typical for certain authors within the canvas of the novels.

Keywords: Ukrainian toponymy, literary onomastics, toponym, toponymic literary space, historical onomastics.

УКРАЇНСЬКІ ТОПОНІМИ В РОБІТІ НІМЕЦЬКОМОВНИХ ПИСЬМЕННИКІВ

Бияк Наталія

Анотація

У статті проаналізовано український топонімікон романів німецькомовних письменників Г. Белля, К. Е. Францоза, Й Рота. Розглядаються особливості графічного оформлення українських топонімів німецькою мовою та зміни у традиціях іменування українських територій і етносу із середини XIX ст.— до середини XX ст. З'ясовано особливості використання кожним автором топонімної лексики у канві художнього твору.

Ключові слова: українська топонімія, літературно-художня ономастика, топонім, топонімний простір художнього твору, історична ономастика.

1. Formulation of the problem in general

For contemporary onomastics, the research of semantics and onyms used in fiction still stays productive. The well-known scientists, who studied the proper names in the literary texts are L. Beleĭ, Iu. Karpenko, V. Kalinkin, H. Lukash, M. Mel'nyk, V. Mykhaĭlov, T. Nemyrovs'ka, O. Fonjakova etc.

Toponyms are the second most numerous group of proprietary vocabulary; they occupy a special place within the canvas of an the novels because "every event, be it minor or significant one which is more important, takes place ... at a certain point in space". [Fenenko, 1965, p. 6] Like all proper names, toponyms are subordinated to the general laws of fiction context; being expressively and stylistically saturated, they "create a spatial dominant of a literary text". [Nemirovskaia, 1988, p. 114]

Our research is devoted to the Ukrainian toponyms used in the books of famous German writers. However, we will try to consider the Ukrainian toponyms in terms of historical onomastics. Therefore, we would like to focus on the following

- varied semantic meaning of the toponym *Ukraine* and its synonymous names which existed at different times,
- the reasons writers use different categories of toponyms in their works and the form each particular toponym is presented.

2. Sources of research

The research is based on the novels of the German writer Heinrich Böll (1917-1985) Der Zug war pünktlich, Wo warst du, Adam?, Gruppenbild mit Dame and two Austrian writers from Galizien Karl Emil Franzos (1848-1904) Ein Kampf ums Recht. Die Juden von Barnow and J. Roth (1894-1939) Radetzkymarsch. [Böll, 2001; Böll, 1989; Böll, 1976; Franzos 1970, Franzos 2016; Roth 1989]. Both Austrian writers were born in Galicia, grew up in Jewish families, studied at local schools and gymnasia, where they mastered the Ukrainian language. They were familiarized both with general toponymy of this region and with the Ukrainian toponymy in particular. The authors are genuine masters of the word. Joseph Root's Radezkymarsch (1932) is one of the novels our research is based upon. It belongs to top 20 books ever written in German; the list was composed by the famous German literary critic Marcel Reich-Ranicki.

Heinrich Böll is the Nobel Prize winner in literature. During the Second World War, he served in the Wehrmacht on the territory of our country for a long time. Long military marches from west to east and back gave him a chance to get acquainted with the Ukrainian toponymy.

The writers represented different generations and wrote their books during different periods within a certain time interval. Chronologically, *Ein Kampf um Recht* by K. E. Franzos was the first to be published in 1893. Joseph Roth's novel *Radezkymarsch*, was published in 1932, but the plot of the story embraces a very long period — it begins in 1848 and ends together with the collapse of the empire in 1918. H. Böll wrote his works during the postwar period. Inherently, the period described in the analyzed books covers the whole century. During this time, the political map of Europe changed dramatically for several times. Galicia belonged to the Austro-Hungarian Empire until 1918, afterwards it was a part of the Second Polish Republic until 1939, and then Eastern Galicia as part of Ukraine joined the USSR.

3. Ruthenien - Galizien - die Ukraine

Historically, there was no clear administrative definition of Ukraine's territory for a long period of time. For centuries, Ukraine was a part of different states — the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Russian Empire, the Republic of Poland, Romania, Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary and the Soviet Union. Western Ukraine as a part of the Habsburg Monarchy was called Galicia and Lodomeria; the Transcarpathian territory even did not have its own name. The inhabitants of this region were called the Carpathian Ruthenians or Rusyns [Fenenko, 1965, p. 14-15]. In 1922, Eastern Ukraine became a part of the USSR as a union republic, its names and borders appeared on the world maps. The toponym Ruthenian (from the Latinised name Ruthenia) is preserved in European languages. In Western Europe of the 15th-19th centuries, the name Ruthenian was used to denote Rus, later on it stood for Ukraine. Ruteni is derived from the root of the "Rus"; it was mostly used to refer to the ethnos.

Generally, K. E. Franzos often uses the toponym Ukraine. However, in the novel we analyzed, he gives preference to the ethnonym *Ruthenen* and its derivative *Ruthenien*, which was preferred in Europe: *er spricht ja nicht ruthenisch noch polnisch*.

Der Ruthene der Ebene ... ist ein reinblütiger Slawe, darum ist er fleißig, zäh und geduldig, schwer entflammt, dann jedoch stetig fortlodernd. [Franzos, 1955, p. 26]

A completely opposite situation is with the toponyms *die Ukraine* and *Ruthenien*. In K. E. Franzos's perception, *Ruthenien* is a choronym, that is, the name of the region. He uses it to refer to the Ukrainian territories as a part of Austro-Hungary — Galizien, Bukovina, Pokuttia and other regions.

The concept of Ukraine is much wider for the writer. In his assumption, Ukraine is a macrotoponym. This is the territory that extends from the Don to the Danube.

K. E. Franzos even uses it as a title of his travel essays his collection. [Franzos, 1970] The collection of short stories *Die Juden von Barnow* also contains the toponym *die Ukraine*. In his later works written during the period the writer moved to Berlin, K. E. Franzos uses only the choronym *Ruthenien* and the adjective *ruthenisch*. [Franzos, 2016] It is obvious that such naming was traditional at that time in Germany.

The fact that in the perception of an average Austrian of the late 19th - early 20th centuries, Galizien and Bukovina were *Ruthenien*, and not *die Ukraine*, finds its confirmation in the novel of J. Roth *Radetzkymarsch* written half a century later. The toponym *die Ukraine* in his novel marks a specific part of Ukraine — east of the Zbruch river. The area he describes in the novel *Radetzkymarsch* and in other novels and stories is called *Ruthenien*, though the choronym *Galizien* is even more frequently used. Bat ethnonyms and their adjective derivatives are used in the novel as synonymous: *In Ewigkeit. Amen! wollte er sagen. Es waren die einzigen ruthenischen Worte, die er sprechen konnte.* [Roth, 1989, p. 404].

Im Korridor, vor der Tür, begann eben Onufrij, ein neues Lied auf der Mundharmonika zu blasen, das wohlbekannte Lied. »Oh, unser Kaiser ...« Die ersten **ukrainischen** Worte kannte Trotta nicht mehr: »Oj nasch cisar, cisarewa.« Es war ihm nicht gelungen, die Landessprache zu erlernen. [Roth, 1989, p. 318].

In the story of H. Böll *Der Zug war pünktlich*, the author uses the toponym *die Ukraine*; in the writer's opinion, this territory is within the Soviet Ukraine. This is due to the fact that soldiers mostly begin to get acquainted with the new locality through existing topographical, not historical maps. In the 1940s, given the political situation in Europe, there were quite a sufficient number of them. Ukraine, which turned into an arena of fierce fighting, was featured on all maps as a union republic and became famous not only from official news. The writer has repeatedly named the territory of Western Ukraine Galicia: *Jetzt sind wir bestimmt in Galizien*, so nahe an Lemberg, Lemberg ist doch die Hauptstadt von Galizien. Jetzt bin ich schon ziemlich mitten drin im Zentrum des Netzes, wo ich gefangen werden soll. Es ist nur noch eine Provinz: Galizien, und ich bin in Galizien. [Böll, 2001, p. 80]

The name *Ruthenien* the writer does not use any time. It disappeared also in German-speaking countries including Austria due to the fact that the empire Rutheni belonged to had already ceased to exist on the political map of Europe.

Onomastics of the literary text is secondary, borrowed mostly from the real onomasticon (noun); in fiction, it performs first and foremost a stylistic function. [Karpenko, 1981, 80] Poetic toponyms as means used to implement the author's idea, create their semantic field in relation to the system of actors. They either directly relate to the character and indicate the place of his stay or serve as a guide in the world of marginal persons. [Lukash, 1997, 6]

Literary topos is an individual system the writer. [Lukash, 1994, p 170 Every writer is characterized by special use of toponyms and the style in which he inserts they into the context. [Nemirovskaia, 1988, p 114] The peculiarity of the toponymic picture introduced in K. E. Franzos's novel Ein Kampf ums Recht is the combination of real and fictitious onyms. Typically, in the center of the novel, the core foreground toponyms are fictitious; these are primarily oikonyms like Bossowka, Ridowa, Solince. None of them exists on the map. The background to create reality is the true oikonyms (names of settlements) Czernowitz, Kolomea, Lemberg, Stanislaw, Tschortkiw, Zablotow; oronyms (names of the mountains) Cecina, die Karpaten, Czernahora; hydronyms der Czeremosz, die Czerniawa, die Donau, der Dnestr, der Pruth, der Sereth, der Theiß, etc.

In addition to the fake names of the villages, K. E. Franzos uses one more already well-known fictitious oikonym *Barnow*, which the writer already used in the novel *Die Juden*

von Barnow; the author states that the latter serves as a substitute for his hometown Chortkiv.

In his novel, J. Roth uses an onym rebus or we can rather call it a toponym rebus, i.e. he never mentions Brody, the name of the city the plot of the novel is set in. Er entschied sich für das Jägerbataillon, das nicht weiter als zwei Meilen von der russischen Grenze stationiert war; die letzte östliche Bahnstation der Monarchie [Roth, 1989, p. 158] Ort von zehntausend Einwohnern. Er hatte einen geräumigen Ringplatz, in dessen Mittelpunkt sich seine zwei großen Straßen kreuzten... Die eine führte vom Bahnhof zum Friedhof. Die andere von der Schloßruine zur Dampfmühle. [Roth, 1989, p. 159] Though he provides careful details of many city streets popular among Austrian officers — a train station, a restaurant, distinguished houses: Die Kaserne lag hinter dem Stadtpark. Links neben der Kaserne war das Bezirksgericht, ihr gegenüber die Bezirkshauptmannschaft, hinter deren festlichem und baufälligem Gemäuer lagen zwei Kirchen, eine römische, eine griechische, und rechts ab von der Kaserne erhob sich das Gymnasium. [Roth, 1989, p. 163]

Even villages and towns situated around the place of the plot development have a detailed description: In der Nähe lag das Dorf Burdlaki, die Heimat Onufrijs. The reader will recognize Borduliaky, a village nearby Brody, and a small Ukrainian city Zolochiv with its castle: In dem Dorfe Z., nicht mehr als zehn Meilen von der russischen Grenze entfernt, bereitete man ihm sein Quartier in einem alten Schloß. [Roth, 1989, p. 274].

According to Y. Karpenko, the toponymic system is always a territorial system. [Karpenko, 1967, 4] In almost all of his war novels, H. Bell actively uses the Ukrainian toponymy. What is more, in *Der Zug war pünktlich* novel, which describes the events on the territory of Ukraine, all foreground toponyms (26) are Ukrainian choronyms *Bukowina, Galizien, Krim, Wolhynien;* oikonyms *Czernowitz, Cherson, Kertsch, Kiew, Kolomea, Lubkowitz, Nikolajew, Otschakow, Perekop, Stanislau, Stryj;* oronyms and hydronyms *Karpaten, Ssiwasch.*

In the novel *Gruppenbild mit Dame*, 15 toponyms were used: *Kriwoi Rog, Tarnovka, Uman, Gaisin, Winniza, Schmerinka, Racowo, Proskurow*. In the novel *Wo warst du, Adam?* which describes hostilities in Eastern Europe, we see four Ukrainian background toponyms. Even in the novel *Haus ohne Hüter*, depicting feelings of the woman who lost her husband, the motif of the novel was the phrase about her husband deceased somewhere between Zaporizhzhya and Dnepropetrovsk.

Hence, toponyms "construct the space of the novel as if create a contour map, which then superimposes on the action" [Khreptulov, 1990. p.167]. The toponymic space of each book under analysis is varied both in volume and in types. The most considerable is the toponymic novel-saga *Radezkymarsch*; its plot embraces both a long period of time and different regions of the empire.

The orthography of toponyms fully corresponds the traditions valid for that time. Most oikonyms are presented by means of German orthographical version, i.e. the way they were spelled on German maps: *Czernowitz, Kolomea, Lemberg, Lubkowitz*. Other oikonyms used to name smaller towns and villages have Polish graphic forms, e.g.: *Chorostkow, Tarnopol,* Russian *Gaisin, Nikolajew, Schmerinka, Winniza* or Romanian *Kalinesti*.

It is obvious that onomasticon of a literary work can become an object of research not only of literary but also of historical onomastics. Comparison of the toponyms Ruthenien and die Ukraine used at different periods of time in various books serves as a perfect illustration of how the tradition of naming Ukrainian lands, states and ethnic groups changed in the German language during the century. In each work, the Ukrainian toponyms appear against the background of

toponyms with divergent types and origin; they serve a wonderful background for the plot of the novel.

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