

The research into Slovak toponymy (oikonymy, anoikonymy)

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To cite this article: Hladký, Juraj & Závodný, Andrej. 2022. The research into Slovak toponymy (oikonymy, anoikonymy). *Onoma* 57, 105–117. DOI: 10.34158/ONOMA.57/2022/7

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.34158/ONOMA.57/2022/7>

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Article history

Received on 30 April 2022.

Final form accepted on 3 January 2023.

Published online on 31 January 2023.

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Abstract: The contribution focuses on the results of the research of Slovak toponymy. It presents the most significant works on Slovak oikonymy and anoikonymy, although a synthesizing work in this area is still desirable. The works of Slovak onomasticians focus mainly on the etymology of oikonyms and old oronyms and on the analysis of motivational, semantic and non-linguistic aspects of anoikonyms from specific areas of Slovakia. The authors of some works have also attempted to process toponymic lexis synthetically.

The authors also focus on the characteristics of two current projects aimed at the research of anoikonyms from the territory of Slovakia (that is processing hydronymy and anoikonymic lexis). The research and processing of hydronymy in Slovakia is carried out according to individual river basins of large streams within the

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long-term project of the Slovak Onomastic Commission *Hydronymia Slovaciae*. The project is based on the methodological principles of the international project of research on flowing and standing waters *Hydronymia Europaea*. So far, hydronymy from Central Slovakia and most parts of Western and Eastern Slovakia has been comprehensively processed. Other kinds of anoikonyms are being processed within the separate project of the Ľ. Štúr Institute of Linguistics in Bratislava. This project is focused on the creation of a digital monolingual dictionary of Slovak as well as into the Slovak language adapted appellative and proprial lexises, occurring in the territory of Slovakia. The basis of the entry is a lexeme and its occurrence in anoikonyms.

Keywords: Toponym, oikonym, anoikonym, processing of anoikonymic lexis, *Hydronymia Slovaciae*.

La recherche de la toponymie slovaque (oikonymie, anoikonymie)

Résumé : La contribution porte sur la présentation des résultats de la recherche de la toponymie slovaque. Elle présente des ouvrages les plus importants sur l'oikonymie et l'anoikonymie slovaques, alors que le travail synthétisant dans ce domaine soit absent. Les ouvrages des onomastistes slovaques se concentrent surtout sur l'étymologie des oikonymes et de vieux oronymes, l'analyse des aspects motivationnels, sémantiques et non linguistiques des anoikonymes de certaines régions particulières de la Slovaquie. On se réfère aussi à des ouvrages qui ont tenté de traiter le lexique toponymique.

En plus, les auteurs caractérisent deux projets actuels visant recherche de l'anoikonymie du territoire de la Slovaquie (le traitement de l'hydronymie et du lexique des noms de lieu dans le terrain). La recherche et le traitement de l'hydronymie en Slovaquie sont effectués par rapport aux bassins fluviaux individuels des grands cours d'eau dans le cadre du projet à long terme de la Commission onomastique slovaque *Hydronymia Slovaciae*. Le projet repose sur les principes méthodologiques du projet international de la recherche des eaux courantes et stagnantes *Hydronymia Europaea*. Jusqu'à présent on a réussi à décrire l'hydronymie de la Slovaquie centrale et de la plupart de la Slovaquie occidentale et orientale. Les autres types des anoikonymes sont en train d'être traités dans le cadre du projet indépendant de l'Institut linguistique Ľ. Štúr à Bratislava. Ce projet se concentre sur la création d'un dictionnaire numérique monolingue et documentaire du lexique appellatif et des noms propres slovaques ainsi que des unités toponymiques étrangères adaptées que l'on retrouve parmi les anoikonymes du territoire de la Slovaquie.

Mots-clés : Anoikonyme, hydronyme, *Hydronymia Slovaciae*, oikonyme, traitement du lexique anoikonymique, toponyme.

Die Erforschung der slowakischen Toponymie (Oikonymie, Anoikonymie)

Zusammenfassung: Im vorliegenden Beitrag werden die Forschungsergebnisse auf dem Gebiet der slowakischen Toponymie und die wichtigsten Werke zur slowakischen Oikonymie und Anoikonymie vorgestellt. Eine Gesamtsynthese zu dieser Thematik ist bis heute ein Desiderat. Die Beiträge der slowakischen Onomasten sind hauptsächlich auf die etymologische Seite der Oikonyme und der alten Oronyme sowie auf die Analyse der Motivation, Semantik und nichtsprachlichen Seite der Anoikonyme in Teilregionen der Slowakei gerichtet. Einige Arbeiten unternahmen auch den Versuch einer synthetischen Bearbeitung des toponymischen Lexikons.

Außerdem werden im Beitrag zweier aktueller Großprojekte vorgestellt, die sich auf die Erforschung der Anoikonyme auf dem gesamten Gebiet der Slowakei konzentrieren (Bearbeitung der Hydronymie und Lexikon der Flurnamen). Deren erstes, ist der Erforschung und Verarbeitung der Hydronymie gewidmet. Es wird in der Slowakei im Rahmen des Langzeitprojekts der Slowakischen Onomastischen Kommission *Hydronymia Slovaciae* bearbeitet und ist nach den Einzugsgebieten der großen Gewässer gegliedert. Das Projekt basiert auf den methodischen Grundlagen des früheren internationalen Forschungsprojekts zu fließenden und stehenden Gewässern *Hydronymia Europaea*. Bisher wurde die Hydronymie aus der Mittelslowakei komplett, die aus der West- und Ostslowakei zum überwiegenden Teil bearbeitet.

Das zweite Großprojekt wird im Ludovít-Štúr-Institut für Sprachwissenschaft (Jazykovedný ústav Ľ. Štúra) der slowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Bratislava bearbeitet. Es hat die ein digitales Lexikon der Lexik zum Ziel, die in Anoikonymen im Gebiet der Slowakei zu finden ist. Hierbei wird gleichermaßen slowakische und aus anderen Sprachen ins Slowakische adaptierte Lexik berücksichtigt. Die methodische Basis der Bearbeitung ist das Lexem und sein Vorkommen in Anoikonymen. Neben der Semantik wird das Namenmaterial im Lexikon umfassend dokumentiert.

Schlüsselbegriffe: Anoikonym, Hydronym, *Hydronymia Slovaciae*, Oikonym, Verarbeitung des anoikonymischen Lexikons, Toponym.

The research into Slovak toponymy (oikonymy, anoikonymy)

JURAJ HLADKÝ AND ANDREJ ZÁVODNÝ

Current Slovak toponomastics follow up the older works by Šmilauer *Vodopis starého Slovenska* [The hydronymy of Old Slovakia] (1932), Stanislav *Slovenský juh v stredoveku I, II* [Slovak south in the Middle Ages I, II] (1948a, 1948b) and Varsik *Osídlenie Košickej kotliny* [The settlement of the Košická kotlina valley, three-volume monograph] (1964, 1973, 1977) and *Z osídlenia západného a stredného Slovenska v stredoveku* [The settlement of western and Central Slovakia in the middle ages] (1984). Within the last 20–30 years in Slovak onomastic research, it is toponomastic research, which is most progressing, especially systematic hydronomastic research.

1. The research and analysis of Slovak oikonymy

The historical and etymological research of Slovak oikonymy is represented by dozens of studies by Stanislav, Krajčovič, Ondruš, Uhlár, Varsik, Majtán and others. In addition to the two-volume monograph *Slovenský juh v stredoveku I, II* [Slovak south in the Middle Ages 1, 2], Stanislav also published the book *Odkryté mená slovenských miest a dedín* [Revealed names of Slovak cities and villages] (1947), in which he analyzed the origins of some medieval Slovak settlement names. A part of the Slovak oikonymy is treated in the book *Zeměpisná jména Československa* [Geographical names of Czechoslovakia] (1982) by Lutterer & Majtán & Šrámek, which explains the patterns of the names of administrative, economic and cultural centers as well as the names of municipalities, mountains and watercourses. The book contains about a third of the names from the territory of Slovakia.

The works by Krajčovič are focused on the interpretation of the origin of especially oikonyms and appellative motivants of medieval Slovak oikonymy. In addition to a number of studies, and a series of articles in the Slovak popular-scientific linguistic journal *Kultúra slova* [Culture of the word] within the section *Z lexiky stredovekej slovenčiny s výkladmi názvov obcí a miest* [From the lexis of Medieval Slovak with interpretations of the names of villages and towns] (2007–2015), he published the results of his toponomastic research in the monograph *Živé kroniky slovenských dejín skryté v názvoch obcí a miest* [Living chronicles of Slovak history hidden in names of villages and towns] (2005). Some

etymological studies on Slovak toponymy and toponymic lexis by Ondruš were also published in the three-volume monograph called *Odtajnené trezory slov* [Declassified vaults of words] 1 (2000), 2 (2002), 3 (2004).

Historical names of Gemer and Hont counties can be found, for instance, in the Hungarian publications named *Gömör megye* [Gemer county] (Ila 1944–1969) and *Hont vármegye Mohács előtt* [Hont county before Mohács] (Bakács 1971). Slovak oikonymy is also partly treated in the Hungarian two-volume dictionary (toponomasticon) *Földrajzi nevek etimológiai szótára* [Etymological dictionary of geographical names] (1978) by Kiss.

The practical handbook *Názvy obcí na Slovensku za ostatných dvesto rokov* [The names of municipalities in Slovakia during last two hundred years] (1972) and its updated version *Názvy obcí Slovenskej republiky. Vývin v rokoch 1773 – 1997* [The names of the municipalities of the Slovak Republic. Development in the years 1773–1997] (1998) by Majtán have wider social character. It deals with the evolution of official names in the period given, documenting their Hungarization, re-Slovakization, changes of an ideological nature or alterations related to changes in statehood and administrative subdivisions. However, a comprehensive monograph on the development of Slovak oikonymy, its lexical-semantic, structural-typological or word-formation aspects has not been prepared yet.

2. Research, analysis and lexicographic processing of anoikonymy

Classification and complex semantic and structural-motivational analysis of mostly anoikonymic material from the specified area was dealt with in monographs and monographic studies *Karpatoruské pomístní názvy z pol. 19. a z poč. 20. st.* [Carpathian-Russian anoikonyms from the mid-19th and early 20th centuries] (Petrov 1929), *Oravské chotárne názvy* [Orava field names] (Habovštiak 1970), *Z mikrotoponymie Novohradu* [From the microtoponymy of Novohrad] (Matejčík 1976), *Chotárne názvy z Gemera* [Field names from the Gemer region] (Orlovský 1974, 1977), *Onomastika Kysúc* [Onomastics of the Kysuce region] (Choluj 1992), *Toponymia Ondavskej a Toplianskej doliny. Slovensko-rusínske jazykové kontakty v chotárnych názvoch* [Toponymy of the Ondavská and Toplianska dolina valleys. Slovak-Rusyn language contacts in field names] (Blichá 1996), *Terénne názvy z Muránskej doliny* [Anoikonyms from the Muránska dolina valley] (Krško 2001) and *Terénne názvy hornogemerských obcí Rejdová a Vyšná Slaná* [Anoikonyms of the Upper Gemer villages Rejdová and Vyšná Slaná] (Rožai 2017).

Majtán is the author of a significant monograph *Z lexiky slovenskej toponymie* [From the lexis of Slovak toponymy] (1996). In this monograph, individual words and word bases as motivants of anoikonyms, their derivatives, word-forming nests, and semantic groups of Slovak anoikonyms are analyzed. The publication also includes a structural typology of Slovak toponyms and 50 maps showing the areal distribution of words and their variants.

During the collective research of the Slovak minority in Hungary, [Blanár](#) collected not only personal names but also anoikonyms from 32 villages. He analyzed them from the linguistic and semantic points of view in his monograph *Príspevok ku štúdiu slovenských osobných a pomestných mien v Maďarsku* [Contribution to the study of Slovak personal names and minor place names in Hungary] (1950). Anoikonyms from the Hungarian village of Piliscsév, founded by Slovak migrants, was compiled by [Mihalovič](#) in a monograph *Zemepisné mená Čívu* [Geographical names of Piliscsév] (1987). Research on anoikonyms in Slovak language enclaves in Hungary is still ongoing. Following up on the previous research, [I. Valentová](#) has collected and characterized anoikonyms from the municipalities of Vaňarc (*Slovenské terénne názvy vo Vaňarci v Maďarsku* [Slovak anoikonyms/minor place names in Vanyarc/Hungary], 2016) and Tardoš (*Tardošské terénne názvy* [Anoikonyms in Tardos], 2018a).

2.1. Lexicographic processing of Slovak anoikonyms

In 1966–1967, under the direction of M. Majtán, a questionnaire research of Slovak anoikonyms was carried out, combined with their intensive inventory. The collected anoikonymic material from the whole territory of Slovakia was processed into two traditional paper card indexes (ordered alphabetically and also by districts and municipalities).

The way and method of researching, interpreting and processing Slovak anoikonyms has been formed gradually depending on the development of onomastic theory and the development of computer processing possibilities. At present, the lexical and areal processing of Slovak anoikonyms is carried out in the Department of History of Slovak Language, Onomastics and Etymology at the Ľudovít Štúr Institute of Linguistics of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava under the direction of I. Valentová in accordance with the concept of the *Slovník pomístních jmen na Moravě a ve Slezsku* [The dictionary of Moravian and Silesian anoikonyms]. The concept of the dictionary was developed on the basis of modern onomastic theory and the current possibilities of computer processing. The dictionary with interpretation of the anoikonyms and with documentary to them, in both digital and printed form, presents so Slovak as into Slovak adapted foreign-language appellative and proprial lexis, found in minor place names. The first outcome of the project is the monograph *Lexika slovenských terénnych názvov (Konceptia lexikografického spracovania)* [The lexis of Slovak anoikonyms (Conception of lexicographical processing)] (2018b) by [Valentová](#). It contains, along with the principles of the concept, an analysis of the theoretical and methodological problems of the concept with an introduction to the problems of toponymic terminology and an inventory of entries for the letter A. The concept of the lexicon and the abridged and expanded forms of the entries, which have been edited after the editors' comments, are gradually being made available on the website of the Ľ. Štúr Institute of Linguistics of the Slovak Academy of Sciences

within the online portal *Lexika slovenských terénnych názvov* [The lexis of Slovak anoikonoms]. The lexicon does not yet include hydronymic lexis, as research on Slovak hydronymy is being carried out as part of a separate project.

2.2. The *Hydronymia Slovaciae* project

Research and processing of hydronymy in Slovakia is carried out separately according to the individual basins of large watercourses within the long-term project of the Slovak Onomastic Commission *Hydronymia Slovaciae*. Motivationally related names from other onymic classes (anthroponyms, oikonoms, anoikonoms, urbanonyms, etc.) are also analyzed comprehensively within the framework of a unified methodology within the analysis of hydronyms, therefore we devote more space to it.

The hydronymy of Slovakia was not originally studied systemically according to individual river basins – the attention of linguists was focused only on the analysis of the names of the larger watercourses in Slovakia, such as the Váh, the Danube, the Morava, the Hron, etc., which probably have pre-Slavic origins, although some theories deny it. As a pioneering work in the field of Slovak, but also pan-European hydronomastics can be considered only the work by Šmilauer *Vodopis starého Slovenska* [The hydronymy of Old Slovakia] (1932), in which the author presented and used his own methodology. In the 1980s, the *Hydronymia Europaea* project began to form in Germany. The authors of the project were W. P. Schmid, J. Udolph and K. Rymut, who followed up on the originally intended work of H. Krahe. Krahe developed a project entitled the *Hydronymia Germaniae* (1962) to collect the hydronymy of Germany. In 1980, Polish onomastics led by Rymut officially joined this German project (Žigo 1994: 151). The aim of the *Hydronymia Europaea* project is a comprehensive hydronomastic research and processing of the collected material in each European country, from the geographical, historical, linguistic (for example dialectological, etymological), etc. point of view. In Slovakia, the processing of hydronyms began to be considered in 1976. Under the leadership of Majtán, a card catalogue of Slovak hydronyms was created. The concept of the project, based on the international project *Hydronymia Europaea*, was developed and the basic theses of this project were published by Majtán in the studies *Projekt a zásady spracovania Hydronymie Slovenska* [Project and principles of the processing of the hydronymy of Slovakia] (1985) and *Slovenská hydronymia v slovanskom kontexte* [Slovak hydronymy in Slavic context] (1987). The concept of the project and the methodology of designing the hydronomasticon were later made available to researchers by Krško in the manual *Metodické pokyny na spracúvanie projektov Hydronymie Slovaciae* [Methodological guidelines for the processing of the *Hydronymia Slovaciae* projects] (2005).

In 1985, a monograph *Hydronimia dorzecza Orawy* [Hydronymy of the Orava River Basin], a systematically processed hydronomastic work of the

Orava river basin in Slovakia, was published by Majtán & Rymut. The work was based on a well-established methodology for processing hydronyms in Poland. In 1990, Varsík published his monograph entitled *Slovenské (slovenské) názvy riek na Slovensku a ich prevzatie Maďarmi v 10. – 12. storočí* [Slavic (Slovak) names of rivers in Slovakia and their adaptation by the Hungarians in the 10th–12th centuries], with the subtitle *Príspevok k etnogenéze Slovákov* [Contribution to the ethnogenesis of Slovaks].

The book by Majtán & Rymut became an impetus for further processing hydronyms in Slovak river basins. Since the end of the twentieth century several other hydronomasticons have been published: *Hydronymia slovenskej časti povodia Slanej* [Hydronymy of the Slovak part of the Slaná river basin] (Sičáková 1996), *Gewässernamen im Flussgebiet des Dunajec – Hydronymia povodia Dunajca* [Hydronymy of the Dunajec river basin] (Majtán & Rymut 1998), *Hydronymia povodia Ipl'a* [Hydronymy of the Ipeľ river basin] (Majtán & Žigo 1999), *Hydronymia povodia Turca* [Hydronymy of the Turiec river basin] (Krško 2003), *Hydronymia povodia Nitry* [Hydronymy of the Nitra river basin] (Hladký 2004), revised edition of *Hydronymia povodia Oravy* [Hydronymy of the Orava river basin] (Majtán & Rymut 2006), *Hydronymia povodia Hrona* [Hydronymy of the Hron river basin] (Krško 2008), *Hydronymia povodia Dudváhu* [Hydronymy of the Dudváh river basin] (Hladký 2011), *Hydronymia horného povodia Váhu (od povodia Rajčanky po prameň Váhu)* [Hydronymy of the Upper Váh river basin (from the Rajčanka river basin to the source of the Váh)] (Krško 2011), *Hydronymia povodia Kysuce* [Hydronymy of the Kysuca river basin] (Krško & Velička 2011), *Hydronymia slovenskej časti povodia Moravy* [Hydronymy of the Slovak part of the Morava river basin] (Závodný 2012), *Hydronymia slovenskej časti povodia Hornádu* [Hydronymy of the Slovak part of the Hornád river basin] (Goóťšová & Chomová & Krško 2014), *Hydronymia severnej časti povodia Malého Dunaja* [Hydronymy of the northern part of the Little Danube river basin] (Beláková 2014), *Hydronymia Žitný ostrova* [Hydronymy of the Žitný ostrov island] (Hladký & Závodný 2015) and the last published hydronomastic monograph so far is *Hydronymia Malého Dunaja* [Hydronymy of the Little Danube] (Beláková & Hladký & Závodný 2018). However, besides the works mentioned above, many articles on onomastic topics have been published either in linguistic journals or conference proceedings, especially from onomastic conferences.

3. Standardization of geographical names

Applied toponomastic research is also developing in the Commission on Geographical Names of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadaster Authority of the Slovak Republic (its member was in the past, for example M. Majtán, nowadays it is J. Hladký, and the chairwoman I. Valentová). In particular, Majtán contributed actively to the preparation of the four-volume publication *Geografické názvoslovie Základnej mapy ČSSR 1 : 50 000 z územia Slovenskej*

socialistickej republiky [Geographical names of the Basic map of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic 1:50,000 from the territory of the Slovak Socialist Republic] according to regions (1976–1981). Majtán was also involved in the preparation of more than fifty publications with standardized names of *The basic map of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic with a measuring scale of 1:10,000 from the whole territory of Slovakia according to districts (Geografické názvy okresu...* [Geographical names of district of...], 1983–2000), in publications with standardized names of hills, valleys, caves, protected areas, castles and chateaus, cadastral communities, watercourses and water areas (the Bodrog and the Tisza river basins), with standardized older names of municipalities in the territory of the Slovak Republic to the measuring range of the map with a scale of 1:50,000, with conventional Slovak names (exonyms) of rivers and water areas, towns, states and countries of the world, with names of formations of horizontal division of the Earth's surface, with names of extra-terrestrial objects and geographical objects located outside the territory of the Slovak Republic, and last but not least, with instructions for using standardized geographical names *Toponymický návod na používanie geografických názvov z územia ČSSR* [Toponymic guidelines for using geographical names from the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic] (1987) and *Toponymický návod pre vydavateľov kartografických a iných diel* [Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors] (1993, 1999, 2010). The issue of standardization of Slovak geographical names is also described in the popularizing publication by *Hornánský Osudy slovenských geografických názvov* [The history of Slovak geographical names] (2016).

4. Conclusion

The task of Slovak toponomastics is to continue the ongoing projects and, after the completion of the *Hydronymia Slovaciae* project, to synthesize the hydronymic lexis according to the concept of digital lexicographic processing of Slovak anoikonyms. It is inevitable to continue the etymological research of Ondruš and to develop a systematic etymological dictionary of geographical names and, in a special monograph, to process both contemporary and historical oikonymy. There is also a need to develop research in the field of urban toponymy (urbanonymy) and to study the issue of exonyms, especially in the context of practical language policy.

Acknowledgements

The article was written with the kind support of the Slovak Scientific Grant Agency (VEGA; research projects No. 1/0058/20 and No. 2/0019/20).

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