

A FEW REMARKS ON UNIVERSALITY AS A SEMANTIC CATEGORY IN THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

*(As Attested in Imperial Chartes from 13th–14th c.)*

*(Summary)*

The aim of the article is to depict the way in which the semantic category of universality (constituting a part of the category definiteness/indefiniteness) was realized in the surface structure of nominal phrases during the Middle Bulgarian period. The material analyzed consists of official imperial documents of 13th and 14th century Bulgaria.

Employing a modern methodology based on semantic criteria in diachronic research it was possible to isolate a number of basic classes of markers used to express the category of universality in the analyzed texts. In phrases of varying degrees of complexity there are, amongst others, indefinite and negative pronouns as well as common nouns with no formal category marker. The formal means expressing universality also include adjectives displaying both short and long inflection, attested with varying frequency depending on the form.

*Agata Kawecka*  
*University of Lodz*