

**Lina Inčiuraitė**

Vilnius University

Department of Baltic Linguistics

Universiteto g. 5, LT-01513 Vilnius, Lithuania

Tel. +370 5 268 72 11

E-mail: linciuraite@yahoo.com

Research interests: morphology, word formation, semantics, cognitive linguistics

---

## ON THE QUESTION OF NEOCLASSICAL COMPOUNDS IN LITHUANIAN

---

*In Lithuanian, word formation processes have been given detailed consideration with regard to their morphological properties. However, neoclassical compounds have received exiguous attention. They are described as formations consisting of Greek and Latin bound stems. This article aims at examining the structure of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian. It is neither simple nor straightforward to determine the morphological status of the constituent items of neoclassical compounds and to differentiate them from prefixes, initial combining forms, final combining forms, constituents or affixoids. Due to their heterogeneous nature, linguists treat them differently as no strict criteria have been applied for their delimitation. When words with neoclassical elements appear in the Lithuanian language, they usually adapt to this language's phonological and morphological system. The analysis of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian shows that not all neoclassical elements have the same positional constraints. Some of them can appear both in initial or final position, some only in initial position, while others only in final position. Furthermore, neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian consist of two or more bound stems which give rise to new neoclassical compounds. As far as the combinability properties of neoclassical elements are concerned, they appear in combinations with one another, with words of English origin as well as with Lithuanian native forms. Neoclassical formations can also contain international or Lithuanian suffixes. Such formations constitute endocentric structures in particular.*

**KEY WORDS:** *bound stems, compounding, endocentric compounds, neoclassical compounds, neoclassical elements*

---

### Introduction

Discussions of Lithuanian word formation embraces a distinct category of neoclassical compounds to deal with formations such as *aerofototopografija* 'aerophototopography', *biologija* 'biology', *kosmonautas* 'cosmonaut', *metafizikas* 'metaphysician', *seismografas* 'seismograph'. Ingo Plag maintains that these formations are of

modern origin as they did not exist in classical languages. That is why they are called *neoclassical* (Plag 2003, p. 74). Many labels are used to refer to the constituents of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian, namely *initial combining forms, final combining forms, constituents, prefixes or affixoids*. Due to their ambiguous nature, linguists treat them differently because no

specific criteria have been established for their delimitation.

The behaviour of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian differs considerably from both affixation and compounding, i.e. neoclassical compounds obey distinct rules and restrictions in contrast to word formation involving Lithuanian native elements. As a result, neoclassical elements in Lithuanian do not occur as independent lexemes, yet they can be used to create new lexemes. When words with neoclassical elements appear in the Lithuanian language, they usually adapt to this language's phonological and morphological system and receive corresponding inflections, e.g. Lithuanian masculine neoclassical compounds possess inflections *-as* (e.g. *dermografas* 'dermograph'), *-is* (e.g. *velomobilis* 'velomobile') or *-us* (e.g. *radionavigatorius* 'radionavigator'), whereas feminine ones have inflections *-a* (e.g. *agrofizika* 'agrophysics') or *-ė* (e.g. *hidronefrozę* 'hydronephrosis'). As Bonifacas Stundžia observes, in Lithuanian, the change of inflection paradigm (IP) is characteristic of the second component of compounds. The linguist provides the following examples: *skait-vard-is* (IP *-is*) 'numeral, lit. number-name' (cf. *vard-as* [IP *-as*] 'name'), *mės-gal-ys* (IP *-ys*) 'a piece of meat' (cf. *mės-à* [IP *-a*] 'meat'), *jūr-lig-ė* (IP *-ė*) 'sea-sickness' (cf. *lig-à* [IP *-a*] 'illness') (Stundžia 2013).

The number of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian is increasing enormously. The same phenomenon emerges in other languages. As Renáta Panocová holds, "neoclassical compounding occurs in many European languages as a productive word formation process in the sense of frequently producing new words, mainly

scientific terms" (Panocová 2012, p. 31). In Lithuanian, neoclassical compounds belong to the vocabulary of scientific or technical fields, namely medicine, biology, chemistry, physics, and technology. It is no surprise that many Latin and Greek elements entered the Lithuanian vocabulary as Latin and Greek were the European lingua francas for many centuries. As words with neoclassical elements hold a dominant position in almost all languages, they deserve assiduous attention in Lithuanian, too. Neoclassical word formation has received scant attention with the exception of a few scholars focusing on this phenomenon, namely Vincas Urbutis (2009), Stasys Keinys (1979, 1999), Aldona Paulauskienė (1994), and Vida Rudaitienė (1978, 1988, 2003). However, in Lithuanian, the perennial problem of neoclassical compounding has not been analyzed yet. Even though some publications on neoclassical formations appeared, no systematic investigations have been conducted.

Therefore, **the object of the article** is neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian. Formations consisting of Greek and Latin elements are taken from the Lithuanian electronic dictionary of international words *Interleksis* (2008).

**The aim of the research** is to examine the structure of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian. This aim could be specified by the following **research tasks**:

- to introduce the concept of neoclassical compounding;
- to discuss the morphological status of the constituent items of neoclassical compounds;
- to analyze the combinability properties of neoclassical elements.

## The concept of neoclassical compounding

In many languages, neoclassical word formation constitutes a subsystem of the lexicon (ten Hacken 2012, p. 78). As Heike Baeskow points out, neoclassical formations in English consist of two or more bound roots of classical origin, e.g. *astronaut*, *fungicide*, *phonoelectrocardioscope* (Baeskow 2004, p. 72). Elisabeth Selkirk (1982) and Sergio Scalise (1986) classify disputable elements that appear in neoclassical word formation as *bound stems*. Laurie Bauer (1983) introduced the terms *initial combining form (ICF)* and *final combining form (FCF)* for Latin and Greek elements that are obligatorily bound. Adrienne Lehrer (2007, p. 124) describes *combining forms* as bound bases that combine with full words or with other combining forms. However, in his later study (1998), Bauer is hesitant about the legitimacy of neoclassical elements. He adopts the view that new words can be created within a three-dimensional space:

- the simplex-derivative-compound dimension;
- the native-foreign dimension;
- the non-abbreviated-abbreviated dimension.

Each of these three dimensions represents a cline which can have some transitional stages. Thus, the scholar comes to a conclusion that “neoclassical compounding acts as some kind of prototype, from which actual formations may diverge in unpredictable ways” (Bauer 1998, p. 409).

In his articles (2005, 2008), Tvrtko Prčić attempts to draw a dividing line not only between prefixes and ICFs, but also between suffixes and FCFs. The scholar establishes an ordered set of distinguishing criteria based

on formal, functional, semantic, pragmatic properties of prefixes and ICFs as well as suffixes and FCFs. However, Dieter Kastovsky proposes to abandon the concept of *combining form* as the modern word-formation theory can well manage without it. The linguist upholds the view that the terms *affix*, *affixoid*, *blending*, *clipping*, *stem* and *word* are sufficient to deal with the neoclassical formations in question. As he aptly summarizes his viewpoint: “Compounding, affixation, clipping and blending should be regarded as prototypical patterns arranged on a scale of progressively less independent constituents ranging from word via stem, affixoids, affix, curtailed word/stem to splinters as constituents of blends, and finally acronyms” (Kastovsky 2009, p. 12).

Meanwhile, in his paper, Pius ten Hacken uses the term *neoclassical formatives (NCFs)* for the elements that have their origin in Ancient Greek and appear only in neoclassical word formation. He points out that the final element of the formations *anthropomorphic*, *hydrophobia*, *mycophagous* is easy to determine as a suffix, whereas the classification of the other two is less straightforward (ten Hacken 2012, p. 78.). As far as the term NCFs is concerned, the scholar might have found it useful, as the above mentioned elements are not easy to classify and they do not belong to words or affixes. Even though they correspond to Ancient Greek stems, they are not considered to be stems in their generally accepted definitions. Therefore, ten Hacken maintains that neoclassical word formation is still a peripheral phenomenon in English and many other languages. Thus, it is worth investigating the morphological status of neoclassical elements in Lithuanian, too.

## The morphological status of neoclassical elements in Lithuanian

In Lithuanian, the words are divided broadly into three major groups, namely the simplex, e.g. *etiudas* ‘étude’, *diena* ‘day’, the derivatives: *oponentas* ‘opponent’ (*oponentas*: <sup>1</sup>*oponuoti* ‘to be an opponent’), *debiutantas* ‘debutant’ (*debiutantas*: *debiutuoti* ‘to make one’s debut’) and the compounds, e.g. *žemdirbys* ‘farmer’, *tėvavardis* ‘patronymic’. According to Vincas Urbutis, the derivatives fall into the following three subgroups: prefixal, suffixal, and paradigmatic (inflectional) derivatives (Urbutis 2009, p. 333). Consider the simple word of Greek origin *elektra* ‘electricity’ which participates in the formation of derived words, e.g. *elektrikas* ‘electrician’: *elektra* ‘electricity’, *elektrifikacija* ‘electrification’: *elektrifikuoti* ‘electrify’, *elektrizacija* ‘electrization’: *elektrizuoti* ‘electrize’, *elektrokardiografija* ‘electrocardiography’: *elektrokardiografas* ‘electrocardiograph’, *elektrokardioskopija* ‘electrocardioscopy’: *elektrokardioskopas* ‘electrocardioscope’, *elektromagnetizmas* ‘electromagnetism’: *elektromagnetas* ‘electromagnet’, *elektromechanika* ‘electromechanics’: *elektromechanikas* ‘electromechanic’. The above mentioned derivatives (also known as motivated words) are both formally and semantically motivated. They are also considered to be more complex than their motivating words. Words such as *elektrokardiografas*, *elektromagnetas*, *elek-*

*trokardioskopas* and *elektromechanikas* are considered to be neoclassical compounds.

In Lithuanian, neoclassical elements combine productively with each other. From the structural point of view, they can be divided into two wide groups (cf. Table 1).

Neoclassical formations in *Table 1* are grouped according to the presence or absence of a suffix as well as the number of neoclassical elements. These formations are called scientific terms as they have parallels in many languages and are often referred to as *internationalisms*. It is widely believed that these neoclassical formations could be analyzed as borrowings as they have the same meaning and form in other languages. However, sometimes it is almost impossible to determine in which language the word appeared first. In ten Hacken’s opinion, it is not important for the speaker whether the formation *anthropomorphic* is a borrowing from French or a formation in English because it does not change its place in the mental lexicon. “What is important is that it can be analyzed on the basis of rules that are part of the English speaker’s mental lexicon” (ten Hacken 2012, p. 78). Ten Hacken’s claim implies that Lithuanian speakers who have knowledge of Latin or Greek would readily recognize constituents of neoclassical compounds not only in Lithuanian, but also in some other languages as the components of neoclassical compounds in almost all languages are the same. For instance, some Lithuanian speakers can be familiar with the meanings of some neoclassical elements, such as *hydro-* ‘water’, *bio-* ‘life’, *geo-* ‘earth’, *agro-* ‘farming’. In order to check this hypothesis, an experiment with Lithuanian native speakers will be carried out in the future.

<sup>1</sup> The italicized colon shows that the words are derivatives. The noun *oponentas* ‘opponent’ is derived from the verb *oponuoti* ‘to be an opponent’. The derivative *oponentas* is both semantically and formally motivated. If there is no semantic and formal motivation between the derived and the underlying word, the word is considered to be a simple one (Urbutis 2009, p. 81–82).

Table 1. **Combinability properties of neoclassical elements**

1. a) NE+NE+FL <sup>2</sup>	<i>aero+drom-as</i> ‘aerodrome’, <i>aero+graf-as</i> ‘aerograph’, <i>aero+naut-as</i> ‘aeronaut’, <i>ksero+graf-as</i> ‘xerograph’, <i>logo+graf-as</i> ‘logograph’, <i>poli+graf-as</i> ‘polygraph’, <i>psicho+graf-as</i> ‘psychograph’
b) NE+LW+FL <sup>3</sup>	<i>bio+srov-ė</i> ‘biocurrent’, <i>foto+nuotrauk-a</i> ‘photograph’, <i>hidro+įrengin-ys</i> ‘hydroequipment’, <i>makro+pasaul-is</i> ‘macro-world’, <i>stereo+įraš-as</i> ‘stereorecord’, <i>ultra+gars-as</i> ‘ultrasound’
c) NE+IW+FL <sup>4</sup>	<i>mikro+film-as</i> ‘microfilm’, <i>stereo+film-as</i> ‘stereofilm’, <i>video+film-as</i> ‘videofilm’, <i>aero+klub-as</i> ‘aeroclub’
d) NE+NE+NE+FL <sup>5</sup>	<i>astro+spektro+graf-as</i> ‘astrospectrograph’, <i>foto+helio+graf-as</i> ‘photoheliograph’, <i>radio+meteoro+graf-as</i> ‘radiometeorograph’, <i>fono+kardio+graf-as</i> ‘phonocardiograph’, <i>spektro+helio+graf-as</i> ‘spectroheliograph’
e) NE+NE+LW+FL <sup>6</sup>	<i>aero+foto+nuotrauk-a</i> ‘aerophotograph’, <i>aero+foto+vaizd-as</i> ‘aerophotoview’
2. a) NE+NE+ISU+FL <sup>7</sup>	<i>aero+naut+ik-a</i> ‘aeronautics’, <i>aero+pon+ik-a</i> ‘aeroponics’, <i>balneo+log-ij-a</i> ‘balneology’, <i>bio+graf-ij-a</i> ‘biography’, <i>leksiko+log-ij-a</i> ‘lexicology’, <i>teleo+log-izm-as</i> ‘teleologism’, <i>zoo+morf-izm-as</i> ‘zoomorphism’
b) NE+NE+LSU+FL <sup>8</sup>	<i>seismo+graf-in-is</i> ‘seimographic’, <i>bio+elektr+in-is</i> ‘bioelectric’, <i>hetero+gen-in-is</i> ‘heterogenic’, <i>zoo+morf-in-is</i> ‘zoomorphic’, <i>demo+krat-išk-as</i> ‘democratic’, <i>foto+graf-išk-as</i> ‘photographic’, <i>franko+fon-išk-as</i> ‘francophonic’, <i>mikro+skop-išk-as</i> ‘microscopic’
c) NE+NE+ NE+ISU+FL <sup>9</sup>	<i>aero+jono+terap-ij-a</i> ‘aeroiontherapy’, <i>aero+klimato+log-ij-a</i> ‘aeroclimatology’, <i>gloto+chrono+log-ij-a</i> ‘glotochronology’, <i>mikro+socio+log-ij-a</i> ‘microsociology’, <i>para+psycho+log-ij-a</i> ‘parapsychology’

The formations in the above table are both structurally and semantically transparent. The examples in (1a) clearly illustrate that the words consist of two neoclassical elements and an inflection. Neoclassical

elements resemble affixes because they are bound. Nevertheless, these items differ from affixes in two respects. Firstly, if these neoclassical elements were affixes, it would lead to words formed by affixes only. It is

<sup>2</sup> Neoclassical element + neoclassical element + inflection.

<sup>3</sup> Neoclassical element + Lithuanian word + inflection.

<sup>4</sup> Neoclassical element + international word + inflection.

<sup>5</sup> Neoclassical element + neoclassical element + neoclassical element + inflection.

<sup>6</sup> Neoclassical element + neoclassical element + Lithuanian word + inflection.

<sup>7</sup> Neoclassical element + neoclassical element + international suffix + inflection.

<sup>8</sup> Neoclassical element + neoclassical element + Lithuanian suffix + inflection.

<sup>9</sup> Neoclassical element + neoclassical element + neoclassical element + international suffix + inflection.

significant to accentuate the fact that an affix cannot combine with another affix to form a new word. This would go against the basic assumptions about the general structure of word formation in Lithuanian and other languages. However, in Lithuanian spoken language, the word *superinis* 'superb' is frequently used. In this word, the Latin prefix *super-* is conjoined with the Lithuanian suffix *-inis*. Secondly, the same neoclassical element cannot be a prefix in words such as *grafospazmas* 'graphospasm', *grafologas* 'graphologist', *grafomanas* 'graphoman' and a suffix in others, e.g. *anemografas* 'anemograph', *heliografas* 'heliograph', *hidrografas* 'hydrograph'. In both cases, the element *graf-* occurs both in the initial and final position and it also contributes to the same meaning in roughly the same way. Furthermore, the element *graf-* can also be a base for suffixation, for instance, *graf-in-is* 'graphic' and *graf-išk-as* 'graphical'. Despite the words look strikingly similar, they carry quite distinct meanings. The former refers to 'drawings and design', whereas the latter is more connected with 'art or computer graphics'. It is also significant to notice that the suffixes *-iškas* and *-inis* are regularly used to make Lithuanian adjectives: *vaikiškas* 'childish', *vyriškas* 'masculine', *beviltiškas* 'hopeless', *abėcėlinis* 'alphabetical', *akmeninis* 'stony', *aliejinis* 'oily'.

Examples in (1d) consist of three neoclassical elements and an inflection, cf. *astro+spektro+graf-as* 'astrospectrograph', *foto+helio+graf-as* 'photoheliograph', *fono+kardio+graf-as* 'phonocardiograph'. These constituents of Greek and Latin origin bear a lexical meaning which characterizes lexemes, e.g. *astro-* is connected with 'stars or outer space', *foto-* means 'light',

*graf-* refers to 'an instrument for writing, drawing, or recording something' (OALD 2013). Even though neoclassical elements resemble morphologically complex words, they sometimes appear in Lithuanian as simplex nouns due to the fact that they do not have any derivational affixes, e.g. *kosmosas* 'cosmos', *choras* 'chorus'. These words consist of a root *kosmos-* and *chor-* to which an inflection *-as* is attached.

Neoclassical elements show idiosyncratic behaviour as they tend to appear not only in combinations with one another as in (1a) and (1d), but also with Lithuanian words. Cf. the following examples in (1b): *foto+nuotrauk-a* 'photograph', *bio+srov-ė* 'biocurrent', *hidro+įrengin-ys* 'hydroequipment'. In (1e), a sequence of neoclassical elements can also combine with Lithuanian words, cf. *aero+foto+nuotrauk-a* 'aerophotograph', *aero+foto+vaizd-as* 'aerophotoview'. In (1b) and (1e), the first members of compounds are indeclinable, whereas the second ones are declinable, since they are Lithuanian nouns which change with the case. Likewise, formations in (1a) and (1d) consist only of Greek and Latin elements, whereas the ones in (1b) and (1e) are considered to be hybrid words formed from a bound stem of classical origin and a Lithuanian word.

Words in (1c) clearly demonstrate that neoclassical elements *micro-*, *stereo-*, *video-*, *aero-* can combine with words of English origin: *mikro+film-as* 'microfilm', *stereo+film-as* 'stereofilm', *video+film-as* 'videofilm'.

Bound elements of Greek and Latin origin give rise to further word formation since they accept the Lithuanian derivational suffixes *-inis* and *-iškas* which are

used for the formation of adjectives, cf. examples in (2b): e.g. *seismo+graf-in-is* ‘seismographic’, *mikro+skop-išk-as* ‘microscopic’. In addition, words in (2a) contain easily recognizable foreign suffixes *-ija*, *-ika* and *-izmas*: e.g. *bio+graf-ij-a* ‘biography’, *aero+naut-ik-a* ‘aeronautics’, *teleo+log-izm-as* ‘teleologism’. Even though the words in (2c) have the same suffix *-ija*, the number of neoclassical elements is different, cf. *gloto+chrono+log-ij-a* ‘glotochronology’, *mikro+socio+log-ij-a* ‘microsociology’, *para+psycho+log-ij-a* ‘parapsychology’. Such formations in English would be called *neoclassical compound derivatives*. To quote Baeskow: “If bound bases such as *biolog-*, *anthropomorph-*, *astrolog-*, *astronom-*, or *reptilivor-* are selected by suffixes, we obtain well-formed sequences like *biolog-y*, *anthropomorph-ic*, *geograp-er*, *astrolog-er*, *astronom-er* or *reptilivor-ous*” (Baeskow 2004, p. 73).

Particular relationships exist between compound constituents. A large number of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian are endocentric, that is, one of the elements, namely the right-hand element, is the head of the complex word. For example, *fotobakterijos* ‘photobacteria’, *mikobakterijos* ‘mycobacteria’, *miksobakterijos* ‘myxobacteria’, *nitrobakterijos* ‘nitrobacteria’ are endocentric compounds. The second element of neoclassical compounds functions as a head, meanwhile the first one acts as a modifier. Moreover, headedness is shown most clearly by hyponymy, i.e. the compound as a whole is a hyponym of its head, e.g. *fotobakterijos* ‘photobacteria’ is a hyponym of *bakterijos* ‘bacteria’, but not a hyponym of *foto* ‘photo’ as well as *hidrochemija* ‘hydrochemistry’ is a hyponym of *chemija* ‘chemistry’, but not a hyponym of *hidro* ‘hydro’.

As far as a type of copulative (or *dvandva*), also known as coordinative, compounds is concerned, none was found in the Lithuanian electronic dictionary of international words *Interleksis* (2008). Neoclassical compounds with bound stems have only a dependency relation. As a result, “items which follow from a derivational process do not usually appear in coordinative compounds” (Ralli 2013, p. 215).

Neoclassical compounds differ enormously from Lithuanian ones due to the fact that the stems are bound. For comparison, compounds in Lithuanian result from the combination of two stems which often coincide with roots. Moreover, if the second word of the Lithuanian compound is a noun, its inflection usually changes, e.g. the compound *geležinkelis* ‘railway’ is made of an adjective *geležinis* ‘iron’ and a noun *kelias* ‘way’. To quote Stundžia: “Neoclassical formations are to be treated separately because of the preservation of original inflection paradigms and different accentual behaviour, cf. *kilo-mètr-as* ‘kilometre’ (← *kilo-* ‘kilo-’ *mètr-as* ‘metre’), but *kiet-mètr-is* ‘solid cubic metre’ (← *kietas*, à ‘solid’, *mètr-as* ‘metre’), *makro-program-à* ‘macroprogramme’ (← *makro-* ‘macro-’, *program-à* ‘programme’), but *pā-program-è* ‘subprogramme’ (← *pa-* ‘sub-’, *program-à* ‘programme’)” (Stundžia 2013).

## Conclusions

The lexicon of Lithuanian contains formations consisting of Greek and Latin bound stems. A preliminary analysis of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian led to the following conclusions:

1. Not all neoclassical elements have the same positional constraints: some of them can appear both in initial or final position, some only in initial

position, while others only in final position.

2. Neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian consist of two or more bound stems which give rise to new neoclassical compounds.
3. Neoclassical elements appear in combinations with one another, with words of English origin as well as with Lithuanian native forms. Both international and Lithuanian suffixes are incorporated into neoclassical formations.

4. A large number of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian are endocentric.

### Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Prof. Habil. Dr. Bonifacas Stundžia (Vilnius University) and Dr. Renáta Panocová (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University) for insightful comments and suggestions which led to some improvements and corrections. All shortcomings and misinterpretations are, of course, mine.

### References

- BAESKOW, H., 2004. *Lexical Properties of Selected Non-Native Morphemes of English*. Tübingen: Verlag Gunter Narr.
- BAUER, L., 1983. *English Word Formation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- BAUER, L., 1998. Is there a class of neoclassical compounds, and if so is it productive? *Linguistics*, 36, 403–422.
- KASTOVSKY, D., 2009. Astronaut, astrology, astrophysics: about combining forms, classical compounds and affixoids. In: R. W. MCCONCHIE, A. HONKAPOHJA, J. TYRKKÖ (eds). *Selected Proceedings of the 2008 Symposium on New Approaches in English Historical Lexis* (HELLEX 2). Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Projects, 1–13.
- KEINYS, S., 1979. Tarptautiniai elementai lietuvių terminologijoje. *Kalbos kultūra*, 37. Vilnius: Mokslas.
- KEINYS, S., 1999. *Bendrinės lietuvių kalbos žodžių daryba*. Šiauliai: Šiaulių universiteto leidykla.
- LEHRER, A., 2007. Blendacious. In: J. MUNAT (ed.). *Lexical Creativity, Texts and Contexts*. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 115–133.
- PANOCOVÁ, R., 2012. Morphological properties of neoclassical formations in English. *Bulletin of the Transilvania University of Brasov: Series IV: Philology, Cultural Studies*, Vol. 5 (54) No. 2, 31–36.
- PAULAUSKIENĖ, A., 1994. *Lietuvių kalbos morfologija. Paskaitos lituanistams*. Vilnius: Mokslo ir enciklopedijų leidykla.
- PLAG, I., 2003. *Word-formation in English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- RALLI, A., 2013. *Compounding in Modern Greek*. Dordrecht: Springer.
- RUDAITIENĖ, V., 1978. Vardažodžiai su tarptautiniais priešdėliais dabartinėje lietuvių kalboje. *MA darbai*, A serija, 135–147.
- RUDAITIENĖ, V., 1988. Lietuvių literatūrinės kalbos sudurtiniai daiktavardžiai su pirmaisiais tarptautiniais dėmenimis. *Lietuvių kalba ir bilingvizmas: Lietuvių kalbotyros klausimai*. T. 27, 180–202.
- RUDAITIENĖ, V., 2003. Skolinių vartojimo tendencijos politiniame diskurse. *Lituanistica* 1(53), 62–74.
- SCALISE, S., 1986. *Generative Morphology*. Dordrecht: Foris.
- SELKIRK, E., 1982. *The Syntax of Words*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- STUNDŽIA, B., 2013 (forthcoming). Word-formation in Lithuanian. In: P. O. MÜLLER, I. OHNHEISER, S. OLSEN and F. RAINER (eds.). *Word-Formation. An International Handbook of the Languages of Europe*, Berlin-New York: de Gruyter.
- TEN HACKEN, P., 2012. Neoclassical word formation in English and the organization of the lexicon. In: Z. GAVRIILIDOU, A. EFTHY-

MIOU, E. THOMADAKI & P. KAMBAKIS-VOUGIOUKLIS (eds.). *Selected Papers of the 10th International Conference of Greek Linguistics*. Komotini/Greece: Democritus University of Thrace, 1090–1099.

TVRTKO, P., 2005. Prefixes vs. initial combining forms in English: a lexicographic perspective. *International Journal of Lexicography*, 18, 313–334.

TVRTKO, P., 2008. Suffixes vs. final combining forms in English: a lexicographic perspective. *International Journal of Lexicography*, 21, 1–22.

URBUTIS, V., 2009. *Žodžių darybos teorija*. Vilnius: Mokslo ir enciklopedijų leidybos institutas.

## Data Sources

KINDERYS, A. (red.), 2008. *Kompiuterinis tarptautinių žodžių žodynas „Interleksis“ CD*. Vilnius: Alma littera.

*OALD (Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary)*, 2013. Oxford University Press. Available from: <http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/> (accessed on July, 2013).

### Lina Inčiuraitė

Vilnius University, Lithuania

*Research interests: morphology, word formation, semantics, cognitive linguistics*

### Lina Inčiuraitė

Vilniaus universitetas, Lietuva

*Moksliniai interesai: morfologija, žodžių daryba, semantika, kognityvinė lingvistika*

## ON THE QUESTION OF NEOCLASSICAL COMPOUNDS IN LITHUANIAN

### Summary

The object of the paper is neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian. These compounds consist of two or more bound stems of classical origin, namely Ancient Greek or Latin. Bound stems are also known commonly as neoclassical elements as combinations of such elements are of modern origin which did not exist in classical languages. The aim of the paper is to examine the structure of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian. In order to achieve the aim, the paper introduces the concept of neoclassical compounding, discusses the morphological status of the constituent items of neoclassical compounds and analyzes the combinability properties of neoclassical elements. Many labels are used to refer to the constituents of neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian, namely initial combining forms, final combining forms, constituents, prefixes or affixoids. Due to their heterogeneous nature, linguists treat them differently as no stringent criteria have been established for their delimitation. The behaviour of neoclassi-

## NEOKLASIKINIŲ LIETUVIŲ KALBOS DŪRINIŲ KLAUSIMU

### Santrauka

Straipsnio objektas – neoklasikiniai lietuvių kalbos dūriniai. Šiuos dūrinius sudaro du ar daugiau klasikinės kilmės sietinių kamienų, kilusių iš senovės graikų arba lotynų kalbų. Žodžiai su neoklasikiniais elementais sudaro modernias kombinacijas, kurių nebuvo klasikinėje kalbose. Šiuo darbu siekiama išanalizuoti lietuvių kalbos žodžių su neoklasikiniais elementais struktūrą.

Siekiant užsibrėžto tikslo, straipsnyje supažindinama su neoklasikinės dūrybos principais, aptariamas žodžių su neoklasikiniais elementais sudedamųjų dalių statusas, analizuojamos neoklasikinių elementų junglumo galimybės. Žodžių su neoklasikiniais elementais sandai dėl skirtingos jų kilmės lietuvių kalboje vadinami įvairiai: prepoziciniai bei postpoziciniai elementais, sudurtinių žodžių dėmenimis, prefiksais, afiksoidais. Lietuvių kalbos neoklasikinių dūrinių daryba skiriasi nuo afiksacijos ir dūrybos. Žodžių su neoklasikiniais elementais daryba paklūsta kitoms taisyklėms ir kitokiems ribojimams

cal compounds in Lithuanian differs considerably from both affixation and compounding, namely neoclassical compounds obey distinct rules and restrictions in contrast to word formation involving Lithuanian native elements. When words with neoclassical elements appear in the Lithuanian language, they usually adapt to this language's phonological and morphological system. The findings of the study reveal that not all the neoclassical elements have the same positional constraints. Some of them can appear both in initial or final position, some only in initial position, while others only in final position. Furthermore, neoclassical compounds in Lithuanian consist of two or more bound stems which give rise to new neoclassical compounds. As far as the combinability properties of neoclassical elements are concerned, they appear in combinations with one another as well as with words of English origin. International and Lithuanian suffixes can be attached to classical bound stems. In Lithuanian, there are observable hybrid words that are combinations of Lithuanian words with bound stems of classical origin. Neoclassical compounds constitute mainly endocentric structures.

**KEY WORDS:** bound stems, compounding, endocentric compounds, neoclassical compounds, neoclassical elements

nei lietuvių kalbos žodžių daryba. Integruojamieji žodžiai su neoklasikiniais elementais yra pritaikomi prie lietuvių kalbos fonologinės ir morfologinės sistemos.

Tyrimas atskleidė, kad žodžiai su neoklasikiniais elementais yra poziciškai apriboti. Kai kurie neoklasikiniai elementai galimi tik prepozicijoje, kiti – tik postpozicijoje, o treči – tiek prepozicijoje, tiek postpozicijoje. Žodžiai su neoklasikiniais elementais susideda iš sietinių kamienų, leidžiančių sudaryti naujus žodžius su neoklasikiniais elementais. Tyrimas parodė, kad neoklasikiniai elementai gali jungtis ne tik su elementais, kilusiais iš graikų ar lotynų kalbų, bet ir su žodžiais, kilusiais iš anglų kalbos. Lietuvių kalboje taip pat galima rasti ir žodžių hibridų, kuriuose yra ir savų, ir iš klasikinių kalbų pasiskolintų elementų. Tarptautinių ir lietuvių kalbos žodžių priesagos yra jungiamos prie graikų ir lotynų kalbų sietinių kamienų. Žodžiai su neoklasikiniais elementais daugiausiai sudaro endocentrinis dūrinis.

**REIKŠMINIAI ŽODŽIAI:** sietiniai kamieniai, dūryba, endocentriniai dūriniai, neoklasikiniai dūriniai, neoklasikiniai elementai

Įteikta 2013 m. liepos 15 d.