

## THEORETICAL BASIS OF THE ANALYSIS OF TERMINOLOGY AND TERMS SYSTEM

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**Abstract:** “The initial motivation for the study of terminology was both spontaneous, like the motivation for technology, and theoretical, like the motivation behind the birth of science. During the simultaneous expansion of knowledge and the growth of technology and communications in the eighteenth century, terminology was seen as a necessary tool for overcoming some of the difficulties associated with these multiple developments. Only in the twentieth century has terminology acquired a scientific orientation while at the same time being recognized as a socially important activity.<sup>1</sup>”

**Key words:** Terminology, terms system, diachronic approach, synchronic approach

**Introduction:** “Terminology, the discipline concerned with the study and compilation of specialized terms is not a new field of study, but only in recent decades has it been systematically developed, with full consideration of its principles, bases and methodology. Its social and political importance has now also been recognized on both the national and the international scale.<sup>2</sup>” Although the first step to take shape of Terminology was taken in 1930s, as an independent field of scientific study it has recently acclaimed, even the initial practical activities to name the concepts in the field date from much earlier with the scientific researches of scholar had operated in scopes not relating to linguistics. In the 18th century research in chemistry by Lavoisier and Berthollet or in botany and zoology by Linné showed much attention to the process of naming various scientific concepts. Due to the buoyant proliferation and internationalization of science a number of scientific works have appeared to meet the growing need for scholars to have at their disposal a set of rules for formulating terms for their respective discipline. Botanists (in 1867), zoologists (in 1889) and chemists (in 1892) expressed this need at their respective international meetings.

<sup>1</sup> Rey, Alain. “Essays on Terminology”. - John Benjamins Publishing Co. Amsterdam, Netherlands. 1995. P. 49

<sup>2</sup> Cabré, M. Teresa. “Terminology: theory, methods and applications”. - John Benjamins Publishing Co. Amsterdam, Netherlands. 1999. P. 1

**Literature review:** In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries scientists were the leader in terminology; in the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries engineers and technicians have become involved. The rapid progress and development of technology required not only the naming of new concepts, but also agreement on the terms used. “The Austrian E. Wüster (1898–1977), considered the founder of modern terminology and the main representative of what is known as the Vienna School, came from the field of engineering, as did the Russian Lotte D. S. (1889–1950), founder of the Soviet School of Terminology. The first international association of standardization, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), was founded in Missouri in 1904.<sup>3</sup>”

During the first half of 20<sup>th</sup> century, neither linguists nor scientists paid special attention to the formulation of new concepts till the middle of century when they began to show any interest. It is interesting fact that linguists were the experts to become less curious about the development of Terminology, instead they have been concerned with developing a theory to account for the principles governing all possible human languages.

For linguistic research of the XX - XXI century special attention was paid not only to general vocabulary, but also to special vocabulary, which constitutes a huge layer of lexical reserve of language. With the development of science and technology, with the emergence of new concepts in professional activities, a number of special lexical units is constantly increasing. As the specific vocabulary grows rapidly, the interest of researchers is also growing.

**Analysis and results:** “Terminology is not a completely new field of study, but rather it has developed out of a basic human need, that of identifying and labelling or naming things. In spite of that, its exact definition is not clearly stated and the views on terminology as a scientific discipline vary considerably.<sup>4</sup>”

As stated above, modern terminology emerged by one of the renowned representative of Vienna school, the Austrian E. Wüster with his dissertational work ("International speech normalization in techniques, especially in electronics") which presented a number of systematizing working methods in Terminology, establishing a set of principles working with terms and methodology processing terminological data. As Rondeau stated E. Wüster was only concerned the practical usage of terms and methodological standards of technical and scientific communication as the scientist considered terminology as a tool should be used as effectively as possible. Later he paid attention to the theory of terminology.

<sup>3</sup> Cabré, M. Teresa. “Terminology: theory, methods and applications”. - John Benjamins Publishing Co. Amsterdam, Netherlands. 1999. P. 2

<sup>4</sup> Protopopescu D. Elements of English terminology: Theories and methods. - Editura Universităţii din Bucureşti, 2013, P.42

“He was Wüster identified the major problematic area of terminological research and outlining their role in other disciplines, as he believed that they had a border between "linguistics, logic, ontology, computer science, and subject matter". He also argued that terminology should be recognized as a separate discipline, as opposed to linguistics, because the terminologist is primarily concerned with the concept that for him the graphic form is more important than the vocal form, and that it affects the language consciously. He also believed that vocabulary was a priority in terminology, not vocabulary. It is worth noting that Wüster approached the terminology problem from a practical point of view, with the task of creating and regulating related systems of terminology. Modern terminological studies are also focused on this.

“At the opening session of the Infoterm symposium<sup>5</sup> in 1975, Wüster himself named four scholars as the intellectual fathers of terminological theory: A. Schloman from Germany, who was the first to consider the systematic nature of special terms; the Swiss linguist F. de Saussure, who was the first to draw attention to the systematic nature of language; E. Dresen, the Russian who was a pioneer in underscoring the importance of standardization and the principal force behind the isa, and, J. E. Holmstrom, the English scholar who was instrumental in disseminating terminologies on an international scale from UNESCO and who was the first to call for an international organization to deal with the issue.”<sup>6</sup>

Following Auger (1988) we identify four basic periods in the development of modern terminology:

- a. The origins (1930 – 1960)
- b. The structuring of the field (1960 – 1975)
- c. The boom (1975 – 1985)
- d. The expansion (1985 – present)<sup>7</sup>

The first period of development of the study of terminology was characterized by the design of methods for the systematic formation of terms. The first theoretical texts by Wüster and Lotte appeared at this time. When he wrote the dictionary “The Machine Tool”<sup>8</sup> published in 1968, Wüster had the opportunity to check the rationale and suitability of the methods he had presented in his doctoral thesis.

In the second stage of development, advancement in mainframe computers and techniques of documentations bolstered the most significant rise in terminology. At this time the first databanks appeared, and the international coordination of principles

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<sup>5</sup> Wüster, Eugen. 1974. *The Road to Infoterm*. Infoterm Series 1. Pullach/Munich: Verlag Dokumentation Saur K.G

<sup>6</sup> Cabré, M. Teresa. “Terminology: theory, methods and applications”. - John Benjamins Publishing Co. Amsterdam, Netherlands. 1999. P. 5

<sup>7</sup> Auger, Pierre. 1988. “La terminologie au Québec et dans le monde, de la naissance à la maturité”. Actes du sixième colloque OLF-STQ de terminologie. L'ère nouvelle de la terminologie, 27–59. Québec: Gouvernement du Québec.

<sup>8</sup> Wüster, Eugen. 1968. *The Machine Tool: An Interlingual Dictionary of Basic Concepts*. London: Technical Press.

of terminology processing was initiated. During this period the first approaches were made to standardize terminology within a language.

The third stage – boom of terminology between 1975 and 1985 – is marked by the proliferation of language planning and terminology projects; some countries like the former USSR and Israel had begun their language policies earlier. The significance of the role of terminology in the modernization of a language became apparent in this period. The spread of personal computers brought a major change in the conditions for processing terminological data.

In the most recent period of development (1985 – present) some new issues are worth mentioning. Computer science is one of the most important forces behind changes in terminology. Terminologists now have at their disposal tools and resources that are better adapted to their needs, more user-friendly and more effective. At the same time there emerges a new market – that of the language industries – in which terminology occupies a privileged position. International cooperation is broadened and consolidated, an international networks are created to link agencies and countries which share characteristics or are interested in cooperation. Examples of this are the exchange of information and the international cooperation in training terminologists. Finally, the model of terminology inked to language planning, which is necessary for developing countries, is being consolidated at this time.

We can say that terminological theory arose and is even today developed through practical experience that is, in its turn, motivated by the need to provide solutions to language-based problems in communication.

The work carried out in the 1930s, simultaneously but independently by Austrian, Soviet and Czech scholars, is the basis for the beginning of what the Austrians would call terminology science. The three classical schools of terminology – the Austrian, the Soviet, and the Czech schools – all emerge from this work. Looking at the development of these three schools we can identify three different approaches that are not mutually exclusive:

- A first approach that considers terminology to be an interdisciplinary but autonomous subject at the service of scientific and technical disciplines
- A second approach focusing on philosophy, which is primarily interested in the logical classification of concept systems and organization of knowledge
- A third approach focusing on linguistics, which considers terminology a subcomponent of a language's lexicon and special languages as subsystems of general language.

A general theory of terminology is based upon the first approach in which the nature of concepts, conceptual relations, the relationships between terms and concepts and assigning terms to concepts are of prime importance. This focus on moving from

concepts to terms distinguishes the methods used in terminology from those used in lexicography.

A comprehensive study and description of any terminological system should include both synchronous and diachronic aspects, while a comprehensive analysis of the history of the development of terminology allows to determine the general principles of the creation of terms and their operation.

Numerous studies have been devoted to the problem of diachronic study of terminology (Kutina L.L. 1966; Snetova G.P, 1984; Vasileva N.V, 1991) <sup>9</sup>, In which the status of network terminology, sources and methods of term formation are studied.

In diachronic research, “it is possible to determine the time and peculiarities of the birth, emergence and development of terminology, because the terminology that is being formed today largely repeats their stages of development: general trends in terminology development and the factors determining this development tendencies can be identified .<sup>10</sup>”

Thus, terminological diachrony is a specific aspect of research, the essence of which is the study of the historical sequence of development of individual terms and the development of the term system in general. In view of these considerations, the study of the history of the establishment and development of tourism terminology will be a necessary condition for its full description.

“Terminology studies terms which can be defined as linguistics expressions that designate items of knowledge within special subject fields. Terminology considers linguistic units from the point of view of special subject fields or domains (such as chemistry, computer science, cycling, environment or law). The notion of “special subject fields” is defined rather loosely in terminology and often corresponds to a scientific discipline (biology, economics or linguistics) or technology (e.g. internet, imaging or auto-mechanics). Economic sectors can also be considered special subject fields in terminology (recycling, steel machining) as well as schools of thought (cognitive or structural linguistics Even sets of objects have been defined as subject fields).<sup>11</sup>” The delimitation and classification of subjects fields are usually linked to the objectives of those who carry out these delimitations or classifications. The subject field sets boundaries within which terminologists analyze linguistic expressions: only those units that can be connected to a domain are considered relevant.

Important features of terminology are:

- 1) semantic features: specialization, connection to concept, systematization, clarity, motivation, mono-semantic, contextual independence;

<sup>9</sup> Кутина Л.Л. Формирование терминологии физики в России. — Л.: Наука, 1966, С. 287., Снетова Г.П. Русская историческая терминология: Учеб. пос. — Калининград: КГУ, 1984, С. 86., Васильева Н.В. Терминоведение: исторический и диахронический аспект // Терминологические чтения (Цикл 2): Проблемы языков для специальных целей, научной и профессиональной коммуникации. 4.1. — Киев, 1991. -С.19-20.

<sup>10</sup> Гринев С.В. Введение в терминоведение. М.: МГУ им. М.В. Ломоносова, 1993, С. 106

<sup>11</sup> Marie Claude L'Homme, “Lexical semantics for Terminology” John, Benjamins Publishing, 2020, P. 5



- 2) formal features: systematization, invariance, brevity in terms of expression;
- 3) pragmatic features: characterization, established.
- 4) Touristic term is an element of terms systems and a word or word-phrase to express a specific concept in the field.

Terminology is deeply rooted in applications, such as specialized dictionary compilation, specialized translation, document indexing and/or classification, knowledge modeling, language planning and standardization. This means that terminology (its theoretical and methodological principles) aims first and foremost to provide answers to the questions raised by these applications. This firm grounding in applications distinguishes terminology from other branches of linguistics, such as lexicology or lexical semantics that can study words regardless of possible applications. Thus, lexicologist can analyze the words or selected subsets of words without ever thinking of compiling a dictionary. A terminologist, on the other hand, considers terminological data within at least one of the applications mentioned above. We can see that applications in which terminology principles are used are diverse. Knowledge modeling seeks to represent knowledge in a formal manner and aims to label items in knowledge structures unambiguously.

**Conclusion:** Today Terminology has become fashionable in certain linguistic circles. Being bored the attractions of transformational, structural and generative grammar a number of scholars are looking for escape ways out of the blind alley in which they have got trapped and in which they were starting to get exhausted. So they discovered Terminology (as others turned to translation, teaching methodology, the language industry, etc.) as a way out of their theoretical ghetto and to engage in applied linguistics. But these beginners retain their prejudices and fiercely try to convert terminology into a branch of linguistics, depriving it of its cognitive and social dimension which are its foundation stones.

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