

Title: A 17th Century Russian Translation of Strykowski's Polish *Kronika*

Author: Christine Watson, Uppsala University, Sweden

In the study of early translations from Polish to Russian it is often difficult to identify the translator, and it is known that sometimes different people translated different parts of the same text. One example is Maciej Strykowski's *Kronika Polska, Litewska, Żmódzka i wszystkiej Rusi* (1582), which was translated several times in the late 17th century and has greatly influenced early Russian historiography. The translations have not been published. According to a note in one manuscript (Uppsala University Library, Slav 26), the translation from 1673-79 was the joint work of several translators. The purpose of this paper is to present and discuss some linguistic criteria that may confirm this and identify the work of the different individuals.

The first step was to examine the distribution of different ways of expressing the past throughout the text, whereby it was divided into four large segments: A, B, C and D. In segments A and C, aorist and imperfect tenses dominate, giving the text a more formal character. Segments B and D are written using mainly the less formal *l*-forms.

The next step was to investigate whether these differences in style coincided with other, stylistically unmarked variations. For this purpose, a few sample chapters from each segment were examined using several parameters, two of which are presented here.

The first parameter is the way Latin or Latinized names are transcribed: whether the Latin endings are removed (*Ливий, Тацитъ, Овидий*) or included (isolated instances, such as the plural *Диомедессы, Пандаруссы, Патроклессы*).

The second parameter is the distribution of Russian synonyms or near-synonyms as translations of certain Polish lexemes. Some variations between the segments are stylistically marked, but others can best be explained by the translators' individual preferences.

These criteria reveal differences between the segments, and can, therefore, to some extent confirm that several translators were involved. For a clearer picture of translation practices in the 17th century, they could also be applied to other texts and be used to compare texts to each other.

References:

- Strykowski, Maciej. 1985 [1846]. *Kronika polska, litewska, żmódzka i wszystkiej Rusi*. Warsaw: Wydawnictwa Artystyczne i Filmowe.
- Рогов, А. И. 1966. *Русско-польские культурные связи в эпоху возрождения*. Moscow: Nauka.