

PETRU NEIESCU, *Dicționarul dialectului istroromân* [The dictionary of the Istro-Romanian dialect], București, Editura Academiei Române, vol. I, A–C, 2011, 346 p., vol. II, Ć–K, 2015, 357 p., vol. III, L– Pința, 2016, 358 p.

Over the last seven years, the three first volumes of an impressive dictionary of Istro-Romanian were published by Petru Neiescu. The other volumes are currently in preparation and they will hopefully be released soon.

This dictionary is very important for several reasons. First of all, Istro-Romanian (a historical dialect of Romanian, spoken mainly in Istria, Croatia) is an extremely endangered Romance variety in need of a complete dictionary: before Petru Neiescu's work, as mentioned in the introduction (1st volume, p. VII), the Istro-Romanian vocabulary was only presented in a series of dialectal glossaries accompanying the anthologies of texts, and therefore containing only the words from those texts. In the second place, this dictionary brings together all the sources for the Istro-Romanian vocabulary: the old dictionary of A. Byhan, monographs and anthologies of texts (eventually accompanied by glossaries), linguistics atlases, data collected during fieldwork sessions by Emil Petrovici and by the author himself, and clarification questions addressed to native speakers. In the third place, although the number of Istro-Romanian speakers is currently extremely small, there are dialectal differences between the northern and the southern varieties of this dialect (and, of course, specific features of the variety spoken abroad, especially in the United States), which were recorded in the dictionary; moreover, the dialect is not standardized, therefore the author tried to make explicit certain grammatical and orthographic rules (also providing phonological, lexical, grammatical, and, at times, orthographical variants of the words) and he unified different orthographical systems previously used by linguists who studied this variety. In the fourth place, the work presented here is also an etymological dictionary – the author underlines from the introduction the existence of several etymological layers of the Istro-Romanian vocabulary: old Slavic words, Romanian words which date from the period before the assumed dialectal separation (presumably, the 10th–13th centuries), words created in Istro-Romanian, loanwords from Croatian (standard Croatian and the Ćakavian dialect), from standard Italian and Venetan, and a small amount of German loanwords which entered Istro-Romanian most probably via Slovenian.

A great feature of this dictionary is that each word is illustrated in an extended attested context (selected mainly from the existing Istro-Romanian corpora). For all the examples, the Daco-Romanian counterpart is indicated, therefore the dictionary can also be used as a source of examples for other (semantic, morphological, and syntactic) studies. The grammatical information is very useful in many cases; for example, under *lu* (*lui*), the prenominal genitive-dative case marker (considered a definite article, according to traditional grammars), it is mentioned that it precedes feminine and masculine nouns for both numbers in the villages from the south but only masculine singular nouns in the north (Jeien), where *le* is used for feminine singular nouns. However, considering that *lu* is a preposition (meaning *la* 'to'), in a unique context (*Źel' re miră văca lu băcu când nu re ploŹi* 'They would take the cow to the bull if it didn't rain'), in which both a dative and an *la*-accusative would be possible, seems a rash decision if we also take into account the situation of Daco-Romanian. Unfortunately, the Daco-Romanian pattern influenced too much the grammatical interpretation of certain words; for example, *a* is labeled as an invariable "possessive or genitival article" (similar to the Daco-Romanian m.sg. *al*, f.sg. *a*, m.pl. *ai*, f.pl. *ale*) although it is immediately mentioned that it can precede genitives, but also nouns and pronouns in the dative (in contexts such as *Am aratăt căla a ĉuda putniĉ* 'I have shown the way to many travellers'); since it does not display agreement with the governing head (as Daco-Romanian *al* does), it should be categorized as an oblique case-marking preposition. The grammatical information of certain words is not always

accurate; for example, the indication of transitivity for many verbs is not adequate: the verb *ântrebavă, ntrebavă* ‘ask’ is labeled as intransitive but the Daco-Romanian counterpart and the Istro-Romanian examples clearly show the opposite (*Văjca-ntrebavej-ta nuște* ‘he always asked something’); the same observation can be made for verbs such as *capl’i, capl’j* ‘drip, leak’ (*Băčva capl’j* ‘The barrel leaks’) or *deđeră* ‘to be frost-bitten’ (*Češt’i zăzete dejeru* ‘These fingers are frost-bitten’), labeled as transitive but which are actually intransitive.

It is however without doubt that this dictionary represents a very impressive piece of lexicographic work and, being the first complete dictionary of this historical dialect of Romanian, a necessary instrument for Romanian and Romance linguistics.

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ELLY VAN GELDEREN (ed.), *Cyclical Change Continued*, Amsterdam/Philadelphia, John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2016, viii + 429 pp.¹

Summary. *Cyclical Change Continued* is structured in four parts (“I. Characteristics of cycles”, “II. Macro-cycles”, “III. The negative micro-cycles”, “IV. Pronominal, quantifier, and modal micro-cycles”) which contain 13 chapters, including the introduction to the volume written by the editor, Elly van Gelderen.

The first part of the book (“Characteristics of cycles”) contains two contributions which present a wider interest for issues raised by cyclical change.

Elly van Gelderen’s introductory chapter, entitled *Cyclical change continued: Introduction* (pp. 3–17), is more than a summary of the papers of the volume (the standard practice of introductions to volumes of collected papers). Rather, van Gelderen addresses substantive and definitional issues surrounding ‘the linguistic cycle’: its definition and the history of the hypothesis that certain types of language change take place “in a systematic manner and direction” (p. 3); the reference literature; the typology of language change, where a distinction is made between ‘isolated changes’ (e.g. isolated instances of grammaticalization), ‘micro-cycles’ (e.g. changes affecting subparts of language), and ‘macro-cycles’ (e.g. change applying to the entire language/language types); analyticity and syntheticity, i.a.

The second contribution to the general characterization of cycles is Marianne Mithun’s *What cycles when and why?* (pp. 19–45). Focusing mostly on languages from the Iroquoian family and drawing many cross-linguistic analogies and comparisons, Mithun identifies three causes that set cycles in motion and provides rich illustration for each cause. To begin with, cycles may be set in motion by the processing of complex strings (sequences of morphemes and words) as single chunks; an illustration is provided by the renewal of the reflexive in Mohawk. Secondly, cycles are set in motion by semantic change. The grammaticalization of an anaphoric/discourse demonstrative into an article triggered the renewal of the means of identifying concrete location through a novel demonstrative (reinforced with a locative adverb, a recurring tendency) in Mohawk and Tuscarora; interesting Iroquoian/Romance parallelisms are drawn. Finally, the weakening of pragmatic force may also set in motion cycles. In this respect, Mithun distinguishes three types of cycles depending on their frequency: distributive cycles are rare (renewal of distributive suffixes through compound suffixes, a rarer type of cycle which can be seen in Iroquoian); pronominal cycles are more common

¹ The review was originally published online, on the Linguist List: <https://linguistlist.org/issues/28/28-3125.html>.

(independent pronouns transform into affixes/clitics and ultimately agreement morphemes); negative cycles are pervasive cycles. The final part of the chapter focuses on language contact.

The second part of the book, devoted to “Macro-cycles”, opens up with a challenging paper by John McWhorter, *Is radical analyticity normal? Implications of Niger-Congo and Southeast Asia for typology and diachronic theory* (pp. 49–91). Starting from the premise that “radically analytic languages are diachronically anomalous”, McWhorter sets out to develop a contact account of the radical analyticity characterizing the GYM (Gbe-Yoruboid-Nupoid) African languages and of the languages of Southeast Asia. Building on Trudgill’s (2011) distinction between ‘structural mixture’ and ‘structural abbreviation’ as effects of contact, McWhorter shows that radical analyticity can only result from the second type of effect. Radical analyticity – a rare phenomenon worldwide – is shown to be caused by rapid and untutored non-native adult acquisition of a second language, not by language-internal mechanisms via which grammars lose their inflectional affixation entirely.

By employing usage- and frequency-based means of measuring the degree of analyticity and syntheticity, Benedikt Szmrecsanyi’s contribution, “An analytic-synthetic spiral in the history of English” (pp. 93–112), questions the orthodoxy according to which the grammatical history of English is characterized by a drift from syntheticity to analyticity. On the basis of a 12th to 20th century corpus of English, Szmrecsanyi shows that English did not undergo a steady synthetic to analytic drift, but rather the linguistic development had the shape of a spiral: analyticity constantly grew until the end of Early Modern English, but declined subsequently, with 20th century English displaying almost the same proportion of analyticity-syntheticity like 12th century English. As Szmrecsanyi insists in the concluding section where he identifies the caveats of his approach, this proportion is to be interpreted from a quantitative rather than qualitative perspective: it is the proportion of analytic vs. synthetic structures that is being taken into consideration as a whole, not the actual elements themselves (for example, determiners became an important analytic category to the detriment of pronouns, which have been in decline).

On the basis of an impressive wealth of empirical data, in the last paper devoted to macro-cycles (*The interaction between the French subject and object cycles*, pp. 113–135), Mariana Bahtchevanova and Elly van Gelderen discuss the linguistic phenomena that take place when two cycles involving similar elements (pronouns) are in motion at the same time. Three important insights for the inner workings of linguistic cycles are drawn from the analysis: (i) different pronominal elements can be at different stages in a cycle (i.e. there are differences between first, second person elements and third person elements in the subject cycle, and there are general differences between the subject cycle and the object cycle), (ii) it is possible for some stages to be skipped (i.e. in the object cycle, the agreement marker stage is skipped), and (iii) similar cycles can influence one another (i.e. the pronominal position of both the object pronouns and the subject pronouns causes interference between the two cycles). The results are formally accounted for in the generative framework.

The next consistent part of the book, part III, is devoted to the negative micro-cycles. The first paper, *The negative existential cycle viewed through the lens of comparative data* (pp. 139–187) by Ljuba N. Veselinova, proposes a family-based sample analysis of the evolution of standard negation markers from negative existentials, a path of linguistic change known as the Negative Existential Cycle [NEC] (Croft 1991). Using data from six unrelated language families, it is shown that stages with variation (in either the expression of SN or in the expression of negative existence) are more common, hence more important for this cycle than stages without variation. Importantly, the author also compares NEC with other negative cycles (i.e. the Jespersen Cycle), and highlights the differences between them: in contrast to the Jespersen cycle, NEC rarely comes to full completion, due to the nature of the elements involved in these different cycles.

Johan van der Auwera and Frens Vossen (*Jespersen cycles in the Mayan, Quechuan and Maipurean languages*, pp. 189–218) present a comprehensive analysis of the behaviour of negative cycles in three language families of Central and South America, on the basis of an impressive sample: 530 languages. It is shown that negation strengthening took place twice in Mayan and Quechuan; the most interesting phenomenon encountered in Maipurean is the extension of a pronominal marker to

clausal negation, this being an instance of a reversed Jespersen cycle which proceeds from right to left. Van der Auwera and Vossen also stress the role of asymmetry in the development of the Jespersen cycle, show that there is a relation between irrealis marking and negative cycles, and discuss a rarer type of change encountered in the grammaticalization of negation, i.e. the grammaticalization of nominal privative markers as negators.

The final chapter on negative micro-cycles is Clifton Pye's *Mayan negation cycles* (pp. 219–247). What is characteristic of Mayan is the existence of different types of negation cycles, with only one Mayan language exhibiting the beginning of a classic Jespersen-type negation cycle. In general, in Mayan negation is strengthened by adverbials in clause-external position. Pye takes up the thorny task of reconstructing negation marking in the six main branches of the Mayan languages. The extensive discussion of Mayan negation illustrates three broad types of change: (i) extension (of existential negation); (ii) division; (iii) clitic addition; clitic addition is taken by Pye to be responsible for a short-circuited form of the Jespersen cycle.

In the first contribution to (the more heterogeneous) part IV (*Pronominal, quantifier, and modal micro-cycles*), T. Givón discusses “[t]he diachrony of pronominal agreement. In Ute and maybe elsewhere” (pp. 251–286). The pronoun cycle is a typical cycle (with relatively few exceptions) by which stressed pronouns first turn into clitic pronouns, which subsequently turn into verbal pronominal agreement; the last step is the erosion (i.e. disappearance) of verbal pronominal agreement. Among many other interesting findings on Ute (for example, the fact that this language is in the midst of the change from clitics to verbal suffixes) and on the inner workings of referential (dis)continuity, Givón also advances a very interesting diachronic-typological generalization, namely that “[languages] that currently display obligatory pronominal agreement are either now, or have been in the past, languages with flexible word-order and second-position pronominal clitics” (p. 284). This generalization, formulated mostly on the basis of the analysis of Ute, will have to be substantiated and verified by further research in order to be proved valid (as the author himself acknowledges).

Johanna L. Wood's chapter (*The degree cycle*) triggers interest from at least two perspectives: first, because her chapter discusses and analyses ‘a cycle within a word’, and second, because the type of linguistic change under scrutiny is of a rarer type, namely ‘functional-to-functional’ (the most often examined type being from lexical categories to functional categories). Focusing on English “th-” demonstrative forms, the following facts are discussed: (i) the participation of “thus” in the CP-cycle (the change by which lower (VP) adverbs acquire higher (CP) adverbs functions); (ii) the development of demonstrative “this” and “that” into degree adverbs.

Remus Gergel (*Modality and gradation. Comparing the sequel of developments in ‘rather’ and ‘eher’*, pp. 319–350) discusses the interaction of two different ‘spirals’ undergone by comparatives like “rather”: a semantic change from an original temporal-based comparison to modal meanings, and a change from modal ordering to a modificational use. The temporal-to-modal change shows a spiral in which trajectories already seen with earlier items are accessed repeatedly. If we agree that (epistemic) modality is higher in the functional structure than temporality (cf. Cinque 1999 a.o.), we observe that the first spiral discussed by Gergel represents a prototypical instance of grammaticalization, with the changing element undergoing movement upwards on the functional spine (Roberts and Roussou 2003); the repetitive nature of the change allows us to label it as a cycle. The second spiral (the development of the modificational use) is a follow-up of the first spiral – or rather, as Gergel puts it, an independent sequel, as it takes the input of the first development, but not automatically follows from it.

In *All you need is another ‘Need’. On the verbal NPI cycle in the history of German* (pp. 351–394), Łukasz Jędrzejowski examines the NPI cycle in the diachrony of German on the basis of three NPIs: “dürfen”, “bedürfen”, and “brauchen”. Challenging traditional wisdom, Jędrzejowski shows that “dürfen” was not directly replaced by “brauchen”, but rather that “bedürfen” acted as a go-between in this change. The data investigated here strengthen the characterization of the linguistics cycles: as stressed by van Gelderen (2011 and passim), a cycle is uniform as the same general repeated change is observed; however, at the end of the cycle, when the change starts again, its pace and its fine-grained transformations are slightly different from the previous similar developments.

In the last chapter of the book (*The grammaticalization of 要 Yao and the future cycle from Archaic Chinese to Modern Mandarin*, pp. 395–418), Robert Santana LaBarge discusses the grammaticalization of the Chinese word “yāo / yào” and shows that this change is illustrative of the future cycle: “yāo / yào” (whose early semantics is related to Compulsion and Volition) developed new functional meanings (including deontic and future time meanings), and its full verbal usage is currently being ‘renewed’/ ‘reinforced’ by a another lexical item – all these changes being the hallmarks of cyclical change. In contrast to English “will”, Chinese “yāo / yào” still has a dual grammar – full verb on the verge of being renewed and auxiliary – a fact that created controversy among scholars. LaBarge advances an interesting theoretical idea on the grammaticalization of auxiliaries: in V1–V2 structures, the promotion of a full verb to an auxiliary may be the consequence of a labelling conflict of the type discussed by Chomsky (2013).

Evaluation. The book reviewed is impressive from many points of view.

First and foremost, it is impressive from an empirical perspective: the material discussed in the chapters of the book is from a large number of (genealogically unrelated, typologically distinct and geographically diverse) languages, some of which rarely discussed in the literature.

Secondly – and more importantly – the book is impressive from the point of view of its contribution to the concept of ‘linguistic cycle’. Van Gelderen’s and Mithun’s chapters represent an excellent applied discussion of cycles, every general theoretical and methodological aspect concerning this linguistic concept being taken into account in these contributions. The Sapirian ‘drift’ is conceptually undermined by some of the papers, e.g. McWhorter or Szmrecsanyi. The role of the external factors in linguistic change is stressed by McWhorter, who shows that radical analyticity in a few African and Asian languages arose from rapid and untutored non-native adult acquisition of a second language, not from language-internal changes. A (somewhat tacitly assumed) universal directionality of cycles is questioned in van der Auwera and Vossen, who analyse a reversed instance of the Jespersen cycle which proceeds from right to left. Another important recurring idea which is explicitly made prominent by Pye is that linguistic cycles are sensitive to the underlying structure of the language (*We will not know what historical paths that negation takes until we have investigated negation in all languages*, Pye, p. 245). Givón introduces a distinct, but related idea, namely that the universality of a cycle/chain is, to some extent, an illusory epiphenomenon: “local diachronic changes, constrained locally, tend to have global consequences without being necessarily globally constrained” (Givón, p. 253). In her analysis, Wood shows that the cyclic change does not proceed only from lexical-to-functional; rather, functional-to-functional is also a path of change. Finally, more or less explicitly, many of the papers converge on the idea that cycles actually involve repeated instances of grammaticalization.

In conclusion, it goes without saying that the book is illuminating for many categories of scholars: first and foremost, for descriptive and historical linguists, but also for theoreticians of all persuasions (generative grammarians, functionalists, etc.) and typologists.

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CORNELIA ILIE, STEPHANIE SCHNURR (eds), *Challenging Leadership Stereotypes Through Discourse. Power, Management and Gender*, Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd., 2017, 270 p.

The specialised reader encounters a volume that is challenging by means of the topic it addresses and its approach since it provides a global insight into the discourse of leadership, a topic that has been widely tackled during the last two decades of pragmatics and discourse analysis research. As the first chapter *Scrutinising Recurrent Stereotypes in Leadership Discourse Practices*, seen as a *preface* (pp. 1–11) to the volume, announces, “this volume brings together wide-ranging empirical research that goes behind the scenes to unravel discursive leadership practices as they unfold in situ in a wide range of different contexts, including business organisations, the media, as well as political and sports domains” (p. 2). The approach is both cross-cultural and interdisciplinary, making the volume gripping, thus appalling to the specialised readers. There are several distinctions to be made, according to the perspective from which leadership is regarded.

The first part of the book, *Challenging Stereotyping Discourse Practices in Leadership Conceptualisation and Performance*, comprises six chapters which operate with both the concepts of leadership as individual agents or as process. The second part of the book, *Case Studies on Exposing and Problematising Gender Stereotypes in Leadership Discourse Practices*, besides from introducing the *gender* concept, operates with the two concepts of leadership as in the first part and with the concept of leadership from the perspective of different positions within an institution as well. No matter what the perspective is, the main idea is that leadership is attained through discourse. Each chapter in the book stands as an individual research article and yet integrates itself perfectly in the structure of the volume.

The second chapter, *Leadership and Change Management: Examining Gender, Cultural and “Hero Leader” Stereotypes* (pp. 15–43), is a research study by Janet Holmes, who is Emeritus Professor of Linguistics at Victoria University of Wellington. The author challenges leadership stereotypes such as gender or ethnicity and the stereotype of the solo, all-powerful hero leader by means of analysing three different interactions from a larger corpus of more than 2000, involving 700 participants from more than 30 different workplaces in New Zealand (Language in the Workplace Project Corpus), containing recorded interviews and also naturally occurring workplace talk. When analysing interactions focusing on an outside woman leader in a national organisation, on an inside leader in a national organisation and on an outside hero leader in a commercial company, Professor Holmes also identifies other factors, such as the leadership context (status, roles and gender), that contribute to the general mechanism of leadership.

Jonathan Clifton, Professor of business communication at the University of Valenciennes, is the author of the chapter *Taking the (Heroic) Leader Out of Leadership. The In Situ Practice Of Distributed Leadership in Decision-Making Talk* (pp. 45–68), in which he minutiously analyses eight extracts from a naturally occurring decision-making talk that was video-recorded during a management meeting at a language school in France. The analysis reveals the same discovery from the previous research on distributed leadership and it challenges the stereotype according to which the leader embeds the figure of one heroic person or entity. Thus, he talks about the continuum of leadership, which consists of leaders, followers and goals, the identity of the first two being under a permanent shaping (negotiation) and construction. However, the analysis reveals at the same time the fact that resources for fixing management meetings are linked to the superior position within the hierarchy.

The fourth chapter, *Leaders in Times of Change: Stereotypes and Counter-Stereotypes of Leadership Discourse* (pp. 69–94), is a cross-cultural discourse-analytical and pragma-rhetorical comparative analysis done by Cornelia Ilie, Full Professor of Linguistics and Rhetoric at Malmö University, Sweden. Although leadership is regarded from the perspective of a complex interactive and relational process, which involves both individuals and followers, who have a common goal

towards a successful outcome, yet the main position is occupied by the discourse of the leader itself, a discourse which needs to attract followers and lead to success. From this point of view, the author comparatively analyses leadership discourse stereotypes and counter-stereotypes in letters to employees written by the CEOs of two multinational companies, Nokia (Finland) and Ericsson (Sweden). Both types of discourse are consensus based, but different in their strategy towards dealing with “glocal² challenges and opportunity-creating changes” (p. 7).

The fifth chapter, *Leadership and Culture: When Stereotypes Meet Actual Workplace Practice* (pp. 95–117) is a collective cultural study done by Stephanie Schnurr (Associate Professor at the Centre for Applied Linguistics at the University of Warwick), Angela Chan (Research fellow at City University of Hong Kong), Joelle Loew (Research Associate at Warwick Medical School) and Olga Zayts (Assistant Professor at the School of English at the University of Hong Kong). The authors aim at identifying different cultural leadership discourse stereotypes and critically exploring some of them. They discuss five examples of interactions from two workplaces in Hong Kong, a city with multi-cultural workplaces and although at first they identify clear-cut cultural stereotypes that have perfect discourse functionality, they reach the conclusion that they do not always function within the complex process of leadership, often contributing to its oversimplifying its complexity and dynamics.

Kevin Knight, Associate Professor in the Department of International Communication, Kanda University of International Studies, Chiba, Japan, the author of the sixth chapter, *Exploring Leadership Conceptualisations in Semi-structured Interviews from Multiple Perspectives* (pp. 119–145), analyses how leadership is acknowledged by four U.S. leaders, belonging to domains such as business, law, non-profit organisations and academic environment, by means of semi-structured interviews. He starts from the idea that leadership is a “conceptualisation drawing on a number of positions, experiences, practices and ideologies” (p. 119) and he sets off to identify the conceptualisation process. In the analysed cases, the leadership stereotype was induced and it occurred as the leaders behaved differently when knowing that their discourse was going to be analysed. The author is therefore in favour of a conceptualisation process of leadership provided not only by leaders, but by researchers of leadership dialogue and by society as well.

The last chapter in the first part of the book, *Developing Distributed Leadership: Leadership Emergence in a Sporting Context* (pp. 147–170), is written by Nick Wilson (Lecturer in linguistics at Macquarie University, Sydney) and it deals with leadership from the perspective of a less studied domain: professional sports. The study discusses three extracts (an interview and two interactions recorded during lineout training and in the backs at training time) and it points out that leadership practice is negotiated within a rugby team in the New Zealand. The leadership stereotypes that are challenged in this chapter are: the fact that leaders show up due to their personality traits and the fact that there exists only one leader within a team or organisation. In the author’s view, what accounts for somebody’s becoming a true successful leader is “a process of social learning well described by the communities of practice model” (p. 167).

In the second part of the book, which is centred on leadership and gender stereotypes, Judith Baxter (Emeritus Professor of Applied Linguistics at Aston University, UK) writes about gender stereotypes of women leaders in the UK, analysing newspaper discourse in the chapter *Freeing Women Political Leaders from Their Gender Stereotypes* (pp. 173–194). The author shows how male newspaper discourse negatively depicts women who are leaders in politics, from different parts of Europe: Chancellor Angela Merkel from Germany, Yulia Tymoshenko, former Prime Minister from the Ukraine and Theresa May, Home Secretary from the UK at the time. Using analysis methods based on Feminist Poststructuralist Discourse Analysis when working on articles from *The Daily Mail* and other UK national broadsheet and tabloid newspapers, Professor Baxter encourages young researchers and scholars towards reading newspaper articles “against the grain” in order to challenge the gender stereotype which negatively portrays figures of women political leaders.

² Glocalisation seen as the need to communicate across cultures and languages.

The ninth chapter of the book, *Cracking the Concrete Ceiling in Male-Dominated Societies: A Tale of Three 'Presidentas'* (pp. 195–219) is a collective one, written by Diana Boxer (Professor and Distinguished Teaching Scholar at the University of Florida's Department of Linguistics), Lennie M. Jones (Ph.D. student at the University of Florida) and Florencia Cortés-Conde (Associate Professor at Goucher College, Baltimore, USA). The chapter analyses from a pragmatic and critic perspective the discourse of three women presidents from Latin America and Liberia: Cristina Fernández de Kirchner (Argentina), Michelle Bachelet Jeria (Chile) and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Liberia). All three "presidentas" have perfected their discourse in terms of discursive and semiotic strategies and have succeeded in manipulating gendered identities and in challenging male dominated politics in their political campaigns, political speeches and media representations.

In the tenth chapter, *Exploring Leadership Communication in the United Arab Emirates: Issues of Culture and Gender* (pp. 221–238), Catherine Nickerson (professor in the College of Business, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates) and Valerie Priscilla Goby (Ph.D., professor in the College of Business, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates) move leadership discourse and its gender stereotypes into the corporate environment. Their study's aim is to identify the "components" of a successful leader in the UAE and the preference either towards women's leadership with its discourse strategies or towards male leadership with its discourse characteristics. The authors analyse the results of a three-part survey to Emirati nationals conducted online and the findings are that the Western paradigm and its gender stereotypes attributed to leadership discourse cannot be assigned to leadership discourse in the UAE. The type of leadership discourse that is in practice there is more complex and the results of the survey show that this type of discourse combines elements of "the historical model and the assimilation of an appropriate modern approach" (p. 236).

In the last chapter of the book, *Between Performed Persona and Assigned Identity Categories: Stereotype as Identity Resource for Japanese Business Women in Leadership Positions* (pp. 239–265), Momoko Nakamura, Ph.D., Professor of English at Kanto Gakuin University, Japan, analyses different online articles in order to obtain a complex portrait of Japanese women in leadership positions. In a similar manner to the other articles in this section, the author of the study focuses on the gender stereotype. The chapter also investigates the relationship between the persona and the identity categories of Japanese business women in leadership positions, what the Japanese refer to as *kanrishoku*. The main conclusion the author reaches is that although participants in the group-talk articles contribute to the formation of negative stereotypes, media writers use the stereotyped identity category in order to create positive images of women in leadership positions.

All chapters are extremely well-written and they intermingle, forming an excellent continuum of leadership discourse analysis. The book has very good references: "a must-read for anyone interested in leadership discourse" (Louise Mullany, Professor at the Faculty of Arts, University of Nottingham, UK), "a timely and highly recommendable contribution to the leadership field" (Magnus Larsson, Associate Professor at the Department of Organization, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark), "an exciting volume with incisive analysis" (Gail Fairhurst, Distinguished University Research Professor, University of Cincinnati, USA). To all these we can add the fact that the volume represents a novelty judging from the perspective of discourse seen as challenger of leadership stereotypes. It is also extremely useful to researchers and scholars in several domains such as pragmatics, communication, business economics, gender studies or politics.

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