TWO CONVERGENT EFFECTS OF LANGUAGE CONTACT IN ROMANIAN: THE RELATIVE PRONOUN CINE 'WHO'

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Abstract. This paper focuses on a construction attested in Old Romanian and Lipovan Romanian, but unavailable in standard Modern Romanian: the use of *cine* 'who' as a relative pronoun in headed relative clauses. We put forth the hypothesis that this structure occured as is an effect of language contact. In particular, the interrogative *cine* 'who' acquired its relative value and the possibility to be used in headed relative clauses by grammatical replication of the Old Church Slavonic equivalent, respectively of the Russian equivalent. Although the two scenarios appear to be similar, the two varieties followed two distinct diachronic paths.

Keywords: language contact, grammatical replication, relative pronoun, Old Romanian, Lipovan Romanian.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this article, we analyse a construction which is attested in Old Romanian (ORom)² and in the Modern Romanian variety spoken by the Lipovan community in Dobrodja (LRom): the headed relative clause introduced by *cine* 'who'. In Modern Romanian (MRom), *cine* (< Latin QUI(S)+NE 'who') is used as an interrogative pronoun, (1a), and as a relative-interrogative pronoun in free relative clauses, (1b). Moreover, *cine* can only refer to [+ human] entities and it is a default 3rd person singular form, as seen by the agreement with the verb when *cine* occupies the subject position (1) (see GR 2013: 491–492).

(1) a. Cine a venit? who AUX.PERF.3SG come.PTCP 'Who came?'

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 $^{^2}$ The earliest Romanian texts are from the 16^{th} century; therefore, ORom roughly covers the period between the 16^{th} century to 1780.

```
b.
        Nu
                știu
                                 cine
                                                          venit.
        NEG
                know.1sg
                                 who
                                         AUX.PERF.3SG
                                                          come.PTCP
        'I don't know who came.'
        *Cine
                                 venit?
c.
        who
                AUX.PERF.3PL
                                 come.PTCP
d.
        *Cine
                ati
                                 venit?
        who
                AUX.PERF.2PL
                                 come.PTCP
```

In contrast to MRom, in ORom and LRom *cine* can function as a relative pronoun, in headed relative clauses (2); importantly, unlike MRom *cine*, ORom and LRom *cine* carries the morphological feature specification of the antecedent, visible, for example, in the plural agreement with the verb when *cine* is a subject. In similar constructions, in MRom, the relative *care* 'which' is used.

```
(2)
        a.
                Toți
                         cinre
                                                  vădzu
                                 me
                all.M.PL who
                                                  see.PS.3PL
                                 CL.ACC.1SG
                                          gioc (PH.1500-10:17<sup>r</sup>)
                bătură-și
                hit.PS.3PL=CL.REFL.3PL
                                          game
                 'All the ones who have seen me bemocked me'
        b.
                         umblau
                                                  femei
                                                                    know.IMPF.3PL
                CL.REFL walk.around.IMPF.3PL
                                                  women who
                să
                         cânte
                         sing.SUBJ.3PL
                SUBJ
                 'Women who knew how to sing were walking around.'
                                          (LRom, spontaneous conversation, 20.02.2018)
```

The goal of this paper is to describe these constructions in the two Romanian varieties (ORom and LRom) and to investigate their sources. Our working hypothesis is that, given that the two varieties under scrutiny have been strongly influenced by Slavonic languages, differing contact settings (i.e. literacy contact with Old Church Slavonic (OCS) for ORom and Russian-Romanian direct contact for LRom) had a convergent effect.

Therefore, in section 2 we present the state of the art and the data in ORom, in section 3 we focus on LRom, while in section 4 we introduce the two contact scenarios and the OCS and Russian structures that could have influenced the relative use of *cine*; in section 5 we offer explanations for the occurrence of the construction with *cine* as a relative pronoun in headed relative clauses in the two varieties under consideration.

2. OLD ROMANIAN

The construction with *cine* 'who' as a relative pronoun introducing headed relative clauses is attested in Old Romanian. We first present the previous literature on the topic, then introduce our data collected from Old Romanian texts.

2.1. The state of the art

Two aspects have been previously highlighted in the literature: (i) the fact that *cine* 'who' was used in headed relative clauses instead of *care* 'which' or *ce* 'what', therefore *cine* also covered some values of *care* and *ce*; (ii) *cine* could only refer to [+ human] entities, could carry the morphological features of the antecedent and could trigger plural agreement on the verb (Densusianu 1961 II: 122, Bidu 1965: 65–67, Rosetti 1968: 543, Dimitrescu (coord.) 1978: 284, Frâncu 2009: 68, SOR 2016: 361, 483).

```
(3)
                 oamenii
                                                   rumâni
                                                                    creștini
        a.
                                  cine-s
                                                                    Christians.PL
                 people.PL.DEF
                                  who=be.3PL
                                                   Romanian.PL
                 'the people who are Romanian Christians'
                       (ICr: 2, in Densusianu 1961 II: 122, Dimitrescu (coord.) 1978: 285)
        b.
                 cine
                         mă
                                          văzură
                 who
                         CL.ACC.1SG
                                          see.PS.3PL
                 'who saw me'
                                         (CP.XXX: 12, in Dimitrescu (coord.) 1978: 284)
```

Some scholars have underlined the fact that *cine* as a relative pronoun introducing headed relative clauses is specific to translations (SOR 2016: 361), but others considered it a general feature of ORom, since it was also employed in non-translated ("original") texts (Frâncu 2009: 68). It is also worth mentioning that *cine*-constructions sometimes correspond to a participial clause in the Slavonic original text; this is the case of example (4), the only occurrence in CV.1563–83 (Costinescu 1981: 164, Stan 2013: 65).

```
(4)
         și
                   alalti
                            cinre
                                                         lângedzi
                                      avea
         and
                   others who
                                      have.IMPF.3PL
                                                         disease.PL
         întru
                   ostrovu (CV.1563–83: 49<sup>v</sup>)
                   island
         in
         'and the other ones on the island who had diseases'
         cf. imęštei (OCS original, 24<sup>v</sup>, in Costinescu 1981: 164)
```

2.2. Other data from ORom

In this section, we present the data extracted from the ORom corpus set up by Emanuela Timotin for SOR (2016: 1–7). We aim to offer a brief description of the headed relative clause introduced by with *cine*, as well as an overview of the frequency of this structure and of its distribution relative to the type of text (translation vs original texts³). A significant number of texts (mainly religious and legal) dating from the ORom period are translations from OCS.

³ The phrase "original texts" is taken from Romanian traditional scholarship, and refers to texts written directly in Romanian (not translated). As most of the ORom translations are religious translations (and follow more closely the features of the source texts), original texts have been generally considered as being a more faithful reflection of older stages of language.

First of all, we should mention the variety of antecedents of these relative structures. The most frequent is the indefinite pronoun *tot* (all), especially in the masculine plural form *toţi* 'all' (5a). Other antecedents are: personal pronouns (5b), demonstrative pronouns (5c), negative pronouns (5d), nominal phrases headed by [+ human] nouns (5e,f), and proper names (5g).

```
(5)
                 Ferice de toți cinre
                                                    teame
        a.
                 happy of all
                                   who
                                            CL.REFL fear.3PL
                 de Domnul (PH.1500-10: 112<sup>r</sup>)
                 of God
                 'Happy are all those who fear God'
        b.
                 cum iaste
                                   el cine poate
                                                    dereage
                                   he who can
                                                    reclaim.INF
                 how be.3sG
                 păcatul (CC1.1567: 225<sup>r</sup>)
                 sin.DEF
                 'how he is the one who can reclaim the sin'
                 avutul iaste
                                   acela
                                           cine-au
                                                                               oarece dar
                                                                      luat
        c.
                 rich.DEF be.3SG that.one who=AUX.PERF.3SG
                                                                      take.PTCP some gift
                 de la Dumnezeu (CC1.1567: 110r)
                 from God
                 'the rich one is the one who took a certain gift from God'
        d.
                 nu-i
                                   nime
                                            cine să-l
                 NEG=be.3sG
                                   no.one who SUBJ=CL.ACC.M.3SG
                 dezleage (PO.1582: 140)
                 interpret.SUBJ.3SG
                 'there is no one who can interpret it (the dream)'
                          înteleagă
                                                     toti
                                                             oamenii
        e.
                 SUBJ
                          understand.SUBJ.3PL
                                                     all
                                                              people.PL.DEF
                 cine-s
                                   rumâni
                                                     crestini (CCat.1560: 1<sup>v</sup>)
                 who=be.3PL
                                   Romanian.PL
                                                     Christians.PL
                 'in order for all the people who are Romanian Christians to understand'
        f.
                 iară alalte
                                   rude
                                            cine
                                                     am (DÎ.1591-1600: VIII)
                 and other
                                   relatives who
                                                     have.1SG
                 'and the other relatives I have'
                 sămânța lu Dan,
                                            cine era
                                                             măiestru
        g.
```

Secondly, although in most of the headed relative clauses *cine* occupies the subject position (see (5)), it is also attested in other syntactic positions, such as the direct object (6):

'the successor of Dan, who was a carver master'

who be.IMPF.3SG master

(6) Iisus Hristos, pre **cine** jidovii ţinură
Jesus Christ DOM who Jews.PL keep.PS.3PL
ca un proclet şi blăstemat (CC¹.1567:136^v)
as a damned and cursed
'Jesus Christ, whom the Jews people considered damned and cursed'

seed.DEF GEN Dan

at carve.SUP

la cioplit (PO.1582: 309)

Thirdly, in Table 1 below, we present the quantitative data extracted from the ORom corpus.

Table 1

The occurrences of cine 'who' in headed relative clauses in the ORom corpus

The text	Original/Translation	Cine-constructions
PH.1500-10	Translation – Slavonic	11
DÎ.1521-1600	Mainly original	7
CCat.1560	Original	5
CT.1560-1	Translation – Slavonic	27
CC1.1567	Translation – Slavonic	23
CM.1567	Translation – Slavonic	3
FT.1570-5	Original	1
CV.1563-83	Translation – Slavonic	1
CC ² .1581	Translation – Slavonic	4
PO.1582	Translation – Hungarian	48
FD.1572-1604	Translation – Slavonic	3
DRH.A.1636-46	Original	2
DRH.B.1628-46	Original	2
PI.~1650	Translation – Slavonic	2
SVI.~1670	Translation – Slavonic	2
DDL.1679	Translation – Slavonic	1
DPar.1683	Translation – Slavonic	1
ULM.~1725	Original	2
CLM.1700-50	Original	2
NL.~1750-66	Original	5

What Table 1 shows is that the construction under scrutiny was far from being accidental in ORom: it is attested in a large number of texts, and these are both translations and original texts. It is interesting to notice that a translation from Hungarian (PO.1582) contains the highest number of attestations.

However, there are certain texts belonging to the same period in which this usage of *cine* is not attested at all: CPrav.1560-2, CP¹.1577, Prav.1581, A.1620, CD.1698, AA.1708, AAM.1713, ACP.1714, CBuc.1749, Bert.1774, etc.). In the fourth section we will try to offer an account of this situation.

3. LIPOVAN ROMANIAN

Lipovan Romanian headed relative clauses introduced by *cine* 'who' have been largely analysed in Boioc Apintei (2021b). Lipovan Romanian is a conservative variety of Romanian, spoken by Russian communities, mainly in the Dobrudja region, in South-Eastern Romania, therefore in a bilingual Russian-Romanian setting (with Romanian being the official language and Russian, the language of the community). The Lipovan communities migrated from Russia approximatively 300 years ago, where they were being prosecuted for religious reasons; these communities have been separated from the Russian-speaking areas ever since. The data used in this section was collected by Adnana Boioc Apintei in several fieldwork sessions, between 2018 and 2021.

Similarly to ORom, headed relative clauses with *cine* are also attested in LRom. In these structures, *cine* refers to [+ human] entities and can trigger plural agreement on the verb, as in (7a,b,c,e). As for the nature of the antecedent, in contrast to ORom, LRom does not have a clear preference for *tot* ('all'); therefore, *cine* allows as antecedents nominal phrases, (7a, b, c), proper names, (7d), or the indefinite *tot*, (7e).

```
(7)
                Se
                         umblau
        a.
                                                  femei
                                                           cine
                                                                   știau
                CL.REFL walk.around.IMPF.3PL
                                                  women who
                                                                   know.IMPF.3PL
                         cânte.
                să
                         sing.SUBJ.3PL
                SUBJ
                 'Women who knew how to sing were walking around.'
                                            (LRo, spontaneous conversation, 20.02.2018)
                                 cine
        b.
                Copiii
                                          sunt
                                                           mai mici
                children.DEF
                                 who
                                          be.3PL
                                                           younger
                                 duc
                                          după
                                                  doispe
                                                                   ziua
                CL.REFL.3PL
                                 go.3PL
                                          after
                                                  12
                 'The children who are younger go (carolling) after 12 pm.'
                                            (LRo, spontaneous conversation, 20.02.2018)
        c.
                Femeile
                                 cine
                women.DEF
                                 who
                                          want.3PL come.3PL
                și
                                 roagă.
                and
                         CL.REFL pray.3PL
                 'Women who want come and pray.'
                                            (LRo, spontaneous conversation, 20.02.2018)
        d.
                Dacă
                                          trimitem
                                                           la doamna
                                                                            Voluvia,
                         0
                                                                            Voluvia
                if
                                          send.1PL
                                                           to madam.DEF
                         CL.ACC.F.3SG
                cine
                         este
                                 bibliotecară,
                                                  o să
                                                           afle
                                                                   mai multe.
                who
                         be.3sG librarian
                                                  FUT
                                                           find
                                                                   more
                 'If we send her to Mrs. Voluvia, who is a librarian, she will find out
                  more.'
                                 (LRo, spontaneous conversation, 20.02.2018)
                Ei
                         cântă
                                          cântece de Maslenița,
        e.
                they
                         sing.3PL
                                          song.PL on Maslenița
```

all who be.3PL Lipovans this do 'They sing songs on the occasion of Maslenița (= pre-Christian holiday), all who are Lipovans do this.'

(LRo, spontaneous conversation, 20.02.2018)

fac.

asta

When comparing ORom to LRom, it is clear that the construction under scrutiny is common to the two varieties. What seems to be different is the fact that while ORom clearly prefers the indefinite *tot* ('all') as antecedent for the *cine*-clause, LRom does not exhibit such a tendency, allowing different types of antecedents.

lipoveni

toți

cine

sunt

4. TWO CONTACT SCENARIOS, ONE CONVERGENT EFFECT

4.1. Two contact scenarios

Although there are approaches in which direct contact and written contact (via translations) are considered to be two possible manifestations of *bilingualism* (Adams 2004, i.a.), in this section we focus on briefly describing *literacy contact* (relevant for the relation between ORom and OCS) and *contact in a direct bilingual* setting (relevant for the relation between LRom and Russian) as two separate phenomena.

4.1.1. Literacy contact

While direct contact has been widely discussed in the literature, contact via translations has only been more recently taken into account as a source for language change (Verkholantsev 2008, Rabus 2013, Lavidas 2021, Mendoza and Birzer (eds.) 2022).

Written language contact is related to ancient languages, where *cultural* borrowing represents a type of contact induced change (Lavidas 2021: 11). In many situations, including translations from OCS to ORom, this type of contact takes place between a standardized language and a non-standardized language, a fact which facilitates translation induced changes (Heine and Kuteva 2005: 250; Lavidas 2021: 15). As noticed by Lavidas (2021: 7), the influence of the written learned language can trigger semi-natural grammatical change, i.e. changes that are in line with the typological feature of the target-language.

For this type of contact we adopt the label *literacy contact* first introduced in Slavonic historical linguistics by Verkholantsev (2008: 136–137) and discussed by Rabus (2013); more recently, *literacy contact* appears in relation to (biblical) translations in Greek, Latin, OCS (Mendoza and Birzer (ed.) 2022) and we suggest that the situation of the massive translation from OCS in ORom fits the same framework. It is important to note that old translations, mainly focused on being faithful to the original, differ from modern translations, where the focus is on the content. The cultural prestige and the standardized character of the source-language are also important factors in favouring potential translation induced changes to spreading from high registers to low registers and – depending on the diffusion of the texts – even to the spoken language. In this respect, let us take stock of Heine and Kuteva's (2005: 250) observations:

"In some contact situations, the model language is accessible primarily as a written medium only while the replica language has no, or no commonly accepted, written norm. Now, in an attempt to translate texts from the former into the latter language, translators tend to conform to the structure provided by the model language, in particular if the latter is considered to represent a more attractive religion and/or a more powerful civilization.

Such situations may have the effect that, at least in the initial stages, the replication of grammatical categories starts out with written discourse before it extends to spoken discourse, and it may result in a situation where the written register of a replica language is characterized by more transfers than the spoken registers."

4.1.2. Contact in a direct bilingual setting

As seen at the beginning of section 3, LRom is a variety of Romanian that has been spoken by Russian communities in a bilingual setting for approximately 300 years now. Some of the speakers show a *symmetric* bilingualism, while other are *dominant* in Russian. These communities are characterized by conservatism in both languages: they have been separated from the Russian-speaking area, therefore they speak an old version of Russian and they are closed communities, therefore they also preserve conservative features of Romanian (for details, see Boioc Apintei 2021a).

4.2. Old Church Slavonic

In order to account for the possible influence of OCS on the use of *cine* as a relative pronoun, it is incumbent on us to have a general idea on the system of *wh*-words in OCS.

First of all, the OCS had an 'universal' relative pronoun (m. *use*, f. *use*, n. *use*), with the meaning 'who, which, that', referring either to persons or things (Vaillant 1948: 141, Olteanu 1974: 60, Olteanu (ed.) 1975: 86, Gamanovich 2001: 89, Lunt 2001: 162):

```
(8) отче нашь, иже еси на небестьхъ father our who be.2sG in heaven 'Our Father, who art in heaven' (Mar, Mt., VI, 9, in Olteanu (ed.) 1975: 208)
```

The relative *wwe* frequently occurred as an equivalent of the Greek definite article (Vaillant 1948: 341, Gardiner 1984: 139, Fuchsbauer 2022), a pattern introduced in the Greek-Slavonic translations made by Constantine the Philosopher and his collaborators, which extended to original Slavonic texts (Fuchsbauer 2022: 166).

```
(9)
                                               τò
                                                               έν
          a. τò
                              φῶς
                                                                            σοί
                              fō-s
                                               to
                                                               en
                                                                            soi
               to
              the.nom.sg.n
                              light-nom.sg
                                               the.Nom.sg.N
                                                                            you.DAT.SG
              svět-ъ
                              iže
                                                               tebě.
                                               νъ
              light-nom.sg. rel.nom.sg.m. in
                                                               vou.Loc.sg
              'the light that is in thee' (Mt. 6.23)
                                                         (in Fuchsbauer 2022: 165)
```

Secondly, OCS had two specialized interrogative forms, $\kappa \tau \tau \sigma$ 'who' and $\psi \tau \sigma$ 'what', and a semantically unspecialized interrogative, i.e., $\kappa \tau m$ 'what, which one, who' (Gardiner 1984: 48-49, Gasparov 2001: 95); the last item could also be used as a relative pronoun (Olteanu (ed.) 1975: 88, Gorazd, s.v. $\kappa \tau m$).

Interestingly, $m\kappa\epsilon$ was progressively replaced by the interrogative $\kappa\tau m$ 'what, which one, who' (Olteanu (ed.) 1975: 88) in the spoken language (Vaillant 1948: 142). Therefore, the interrogative $\kappa\tau m$ 'what, which one, who' specialises as a relative form that is also used with the forms κm and m, the latter involving palatalisation, (10). In OCS, this palatalisation (i.e. "Slavonic second palatalisation") takes places when a velar consonant (like κ) is followed by a soft vowel, written m or τ , originating in a diphthong (M. Hâncu, p.c.).

(10) цин слоүжьбж тѣлесънж прѣимъше...
which serving.ACC.SG.F body.ACC.SG.F accept.PTCP.PRES
'which (having) accepted to serve the bodily service'

(Codex Suprasliensis, 88, 14, in Gorazd, s.v. кън)

Another OCS pronoun which is important for our discussion is **KTTO** 'who'. According to the grammars of OCS, **KTTO** 'who' is an interrogative pronoun (Vaillant 1948 I: 139, Gardiner 1984: 49, Gazparov 2001: 95, Lunt 2001: 63), but the dictionaries based on texts also mention its use with a relative value (Gorazd, s.v. **KTTO**) (11):

(11)кто слъща кто поивели listen.IND.AORIST.3SG lead.IMP.2SG who.NOM who.NOM TOY стога PRT.INTERROG there sit.IND.AORIST.3SG 'you shall lead the one who had listed and the one who had sat there' (Codex Suprasliensis, 241, 22, in Gorazd, s.v. къто)

4.3. Russian

In order to account for the existence of the *cine* relative construction in LRom, we first briefly describe the situation of relative pronouns in Russian. What is relevant for our discussion is the fact that a set of pronouns – κto 'who', νto 'what', νto 'what' (adjective), νto 'which' and νto 'whose' – function as both interrogative and relative pronouns (Wade 2011: 143). Moreover, Russian consistently uses νto (originating in the OCS νto) for people (12a) (Wade 2011: 145) and this item can trigger either singular, (12a), or plural, (12b), agreement on the verb; interestingly, νto can only have pronouns as antecedents, as in (12b), and not nouns (Wade 2011: 147).

(12)Кто у вас Ма́льчик a. родился? be.born.PAST.3SG=REFL who to you и́ли де́вочка? (in Wade 2011: 145) or girl 'What is it, a boy or a girl?' b. Te из нас, стихотворения, кто читали of those 118 who read.PAST.3PL poem были в восторге. (in Wade 2011: 147) were.delighted 'Those of us who read the poem were delighted.'

5. EXPLANATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

The data presented in this paper so far can be summarized as follows: in two Romanian varieties, ORom and LRom, which have been in contact with two Slavonic varieties, i.e. OCS and Russian, respectively, we find attestations of a structure which is

unavailable in MRom. In particular, the respective varieties allow for a structure in which *cine* 'who' (an interrogative pronoun in MRom) introduces headed relative clauses; in MRom, this is only possible with *care* 'which, who' or *ce* 'which, (nonstandard) who'. In both varieties, the relative *cine* can only have [+ human] antecedents. However, there is a significant difference between the two varieties: relative *cine* was lost in the passage from ORom to MRom, but it was preserved in present-day LRom.

What we witness in these two varieties is the fact that an interrogative pronoun becomes a relative pronoun, with certain grammatical and semantic restrictions. This type of syntactic change is not unusual, being attested in many European languages (i.e. Romance, Slavonic, some Germanic, Latin, Modern Greek, Hungarian, Georgian etc., see Kuteva et al. 2019: 356–357). This type of change probably modelled on written Latin (Giacalone Ramat 2008: 161) was considered a property of Standard Average European by Haspelmath (1998: 281–282), and its distribution in Europe was considered to be an effect of contact-induced grammaticalization (Heine and Kuteva 2006: 205–243). Moreover, this path extended to non-European languages, probably also via contact (Kuteva et al. 2019: 357).

Although we seem to face a general process of (contact induced) grammaticalization, we still need to explain the means/situation which determined this syntactic change. Therefore, we adopt Heine and Kuteva's (2010: 86) concept of grammatical replication, defined as a process whereby speakers create a new grammatical meaning or structure in the replica language following the model language, by using the linguistic resources available in the replica language. In particular, the interrogative cine 'grammatically replicated' the relative value of OCS $\kappa_{TM}/\kappa_{HM}/\mu_{HM}$ 'what, which one, who' in ORom, and respectively the value of Russian κ_{to} in LRom. But while in ORom the structure with cine preserves the same grammatical and semantic constraints (nominal and pronominal singular and plural antecedents, with the [+ human] feature), in LRom the antecedent constraint of Russian was lost (i.e. in (Modern) Russian (12b), the structure is possible only with pronominal antecedents, while in LRom (7), both pronominal and nominal antecedents are possible).

For ORom, two other factors have probably favoured the process: firstly, the form *nime* from OCS was a general complementizer and relative marker (as seen in section 4.2); although it was replaced in later texts by *kraw/knw/unn*, it was probably preserved in the translators' passive knowledge as a universal relative marker; secondly, the equivalence between Romanian *cine* [fine] and the OCS palatalised form *unn* [tsii] was also favoured by their phonological resemblance.

The spread of the structure in ORom needs a supplementary explanation. As we mentioned in section 2, the relative *cine* was also used in translations from other languages (such as PO.1582) and in original texts and documents. Therefore, although the translations from OCS offered the input for this syntactic change, this is not enough to explain the spread of the phenomenon. This is a point where the general European *interrogative-to-relative* path of grammaticalization comes into play: the original replica grammaticalization was supported by the fact that the transfer interrogative-to-relative follows a universal path of grammaticalization (Heine and Kuteva 2005, ch. 3), a fact which allowed for the spread of the structure to texts which are not translated from OCS. Moreover, although grammatical induced changes via translations have been considered ephemeral for a long time, as Lavidas (2021: 114) mentions, the new elements that appear in translations can really diffuse in a population because of their *prestigious character* and the fact that *translations can be influential and trigger semi-natural changes*.

Finally, we need to account for the different evolution of the structure in LRom and ORom, i.e. preservations vs disappearance. In order to do so, we adopt Lavidas' (2021) *Hypothesis of Internalized Diglossia*, based on Kroch's (1989, 2001) model of grammars in competition, according to which multiple grammatical systems coexist in a "peaceful" way within a synchronic period. Applying this hypothesis to our contact situations we can notice that in LRom the coexistence of *cine* and *care* as relative pronouns has really been "peaceful", being preserved to the present-day, while in ORom the two grammars were indeed in competition (as mentioned in section 2, there were texts in which *cine* was not attested at all as a relative pronoun), and the effect of this competition was that *care* was preserved as a relative pronoun, while *cine* was jettisoned and restricted to its primary interrogative value, at which point it also lost the ability to trigger plural subject-verb agreement.

CORPUS

- A. 1620 = Alexandria. Ed. F. Zgraon, Bucureşti, Fundaţia Naţională pentru Ştiinţă şi Artă, 2005 (Cele mai vechi cărţi populare în literatura română, 11).
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