

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

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A number of letters in support of N4081 “Revised proposal to encode “Teuthonista” phonetic characters in the UCS” have been received; these are attached here.

Letter of Support

Die Bayerische Staatsbibliothek sammelt weltweit Literatur in den unterschiedlichsten Sprachen. Sie ist bestrebt, in allen Bereichen konsequent Unicode zu verwenden, da nur so die internationale Kompatibilität, verlässliche Zeichendarstellung, Verwendbarkeit verschiedener Alphabete und somit die optimale Suchbarkeit garantiert sind. Die Bestände sind u. a. im Verbundkatalog des Bayerischen Bibliotheksverbundes nachgewiesen und dort im Unicode-Zeichensatz abgespeichert. Derzeit wird der lokale Katalog (OPAC) der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek unicodefähig gemacht, auch die originalschriftliche Suche u. a. in Kyrillisch, Griechisch und Chinesisch befindet sich in Vorbereitung. Bei anderen Projekten unseres Hauses, etwa bei der im Aufbau befindlichen elektronischen Publikationsplattform Ostdok <http://www.ostdok.de/> wird ebenfalls darauf geachtet, dass Unicode eingesetzt werden kann.

Jede Vereinheitlichung von Zeichensätzen ermöglicht es, Literatur besser aufzufinden und optimiert die Recherchemöglichkeiten. Mit großem Interesse haben wir deshalb von den Plänen des Lehrstuhls für Sprachwissenschaft an der Universität Passau erfahren, in einem kooperativ angelegten Projekt das Transkriptionssystem Teuthonista für die Aufnahme in den Unicode-Zeichensatz vorzubereiten. Diese Bestrebungen, die Anwendung der Teuthonista im Bereich der Elektronischen Datenverarbeitung zu normieren und so ein einheitliches System zur Verfügung zu stellen, sind aus Sicht der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek außerordentlich begrüßenswert. Ein konkreter Einsatz der normierten Teuthonista ist bei dem kulturwissenschaftlich orientierten Informationsportal „Bayerische Landesbibliothek Online“ vorgesehen, dessen Ortsdatenbank, ein zentrales Rechercheinstrument, derzeit technisch und inhaltlich neu aufgesetzt wird. Hier sind auch die vorkommenden dialektalen Ortsnamen im Lautschriftsystem Teuthonista transkribiert. Eine einheitliche Darstellung dieser Lautschrift würde die Suche nach diesen Ortsnamen im Internet sehr erleichtern.

München, den 26. Oktober 2010



Dr. Rolf Griebel
Generaldirektor

O.Univ.-Prof. Dr. HANS GOEBL
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Salzburg, 03.01.2011

Frau
Prof. Dr. Eveline Wandl-Vogt
Institut für Österreichische Dialekt- und Namenlexika (IDINAMLEX)
Wohllebengasse 12-14
1040 Wien

To whom it may concern.

As a Romance scholar and experienced researcher in the field of Romance dialectology I am concerned since many years with all kind of problems related to the wide field of phonetic transcriptions. Obviously I am also aware of the many difficulties concerning the informatic implementation of phonetic symbols.

The great majority of the phonetic symbols in use in the field of traditional Romance dialectology belong to the so called "Ascoli-Boehmer tradition" as it has been applied, among others, in the famous linguistic atlas of Italy and Southern Switzerland AIS (published in eight volumes by the Swiss Scholars Karl Jaberg and Jakob Jud between 1928 and 1940).

The phonetic symbols used in Romance linguistics according to the Ascoli-Boehmer-AIS tradition are very similar to those of the Theutonista tradition so that the overwhelming majority of the later can also be used for Romance dialectological purposes.

This is the very reason why I warmly support the initiative of Professor Eveline Wandl-Vogt (IDINAMLEX of Vienna) to incorporate the symbols of the Theutonista tradition in the international Unicode convention.

With my best regards

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Hans Goebel', with a stylized, cursive script.

(Hans Goebel)

15th October 2010

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www.uni-regensburg.de

Use of the Phonetic Transcription Teuthonista at the University of Regensburg

Dear Madam / Sir,

Work in the field of onomastics (the study of names) which takes place at the University of Regensburg within the scope of Bachelor and MA theses, theses for a teaching qualification, dissertations, postdoctoral theses and various projects, requires everyone to be able to reproduce recent dialect forms with the aid of a transcription system. For the investigation of the origin and meaning of names of diverse kinds is the exact recording of spoken language absolutely essential. Together with written documents this constitutes the basis of linguistic explanation.

In support of the practice of the Historical Local Names Book of Bavaria (HONB), a transcription system which is based on Teuthonista is used at the University of Regensburg. Hereby nuances can be distinguished precisely and the dialect forms can be reproduced exactly. With the combination possibilities of varying diacritical marks on several levels on top of one another, which Teuthonista offers, the smallest phonetic gradations can be exactly transcribed. Other transcription systems, such as IPA, are not suitable for the Upper German and especially Bavarian variants, because the required sounds cannot be displayed accurately.

Up till now the characters which have not been uniformly available in Unicode, and which are necessary for the representation of dialect forms in Teuthonista, have been displayed with the help of a variety of fonts. Both with printing as well as the transfer of files to foreign computers, for example at conferences, difficulties thereby arise. Now in particular with the Onomastic Pilot Project supported by the German Research Council (DFG) -- Digital Local Names Book Online (DONBO) -- of which I am the head, a quick, comprehensive and lasting solution to the problem is required. The dialect forms transcribed within the scope of this project are accessible via the Internet and must be displayed on all computers in the same manner.

Yours faithfully



Prof. Dr. Albrecht Greule

LETTER OF SUPPORT

I have been a member of the project “Vorarlberger Sprachatlas mit Einschluss des Fürstentums Liechtenstein, des Allgäus, West- und Südtirols (VALTS)” (= *Linguistic atlas of Vorarlberg, including the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Allgäu and West and South Tyrol*) for 30 years, and I am now supervising the final phase of this project, which documents the dialects of about 200 villages. The atlas consists of five volumes, describing the linguistic landscape of the above-mentioned area and presenting a selection of the available material with over 1.000 maps. Altogether, there are about 500.000 dialectal records, which were written down in the Teuthonista script for reasons of simplicity and comparability with neighboring linguistic atlases.

As the VALTS material is not held in its entirety by one university, but rather in different locations around Vorarlberg that are hard to access by interested persons, it would be of great importance for future research to make this vast amount of data (most of which is still raw and unprocessed data) accessible and reproducible by employing a universal encoding system. This is the only way future studies can be performed with this vast amount of VALTS data.

For the reasons detailed above, I endorse the inclusion of Teuthonista in the Unicode standard and support all activities that will lead to a consistent and standardized encoding system.

On behalf of the “Vorarlberger Sprachatlas mit Einschluss des Fürstentums Liechtenstein, des Allgäus, West- und Südtirols (VALTS)“:

Prof. Dr. Hubert Klausmann

Prof. Dr. Mihaela Koletnik
Oddelek za slovanske jezike in književnosti/
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
Filozofska fakulteta/Faculty of Arts
Univerza v Mariboru/University of Maribor
Slovenija/Slovenia
mihaela.koletnik@uni-mb.si

Maribor, March 9th 2011

Frau
Prof. Dr. Eveline Wandl-Vogt
Institut für Österreichische Dialekt- und Namenlexika (DINAMLEX)
Mitglied des Zentrums Sprachwissenschaften, Bild- und Tondokumentation (SBT)
Wohllebengasse 12–14
1040 Wien, Austria

A letter of support

For being a researcher of Slovene dialects (mostly Styrian and Pannonian ones) for many years I have been confronting with different problems when transcribing a dialectal speech. The Slovene language consists namely of over 50 different dialects and difficulties with transcription are obvious.

In Slovene dialectology two transcriptions are used nowadays, namely BLFonet Mura and ZRCola.

It is, unquestionably, of great importance that scientific researches are supported by appropriate transcription tool.

From this point of view I entirely support the initiative of Prof. Dr. Eveline Wandl-Vogt – and her working group – with her project I DINAMLEX (Vienna) to include the system of the Teuthonista in the international Unicode convention.

With kind regards

Prof. Dr. Mihaela Koletnik



SPRACHATLAS VON BAYERISCH-SCHWABEN
UNIVERSITÄT AUGSBURG
PROF. DR. WERNER KÖNIG

Letter of Support

The project “Bavarian Linguistic Atlas” consists of six sub-projects, based in five Bavarian universities:

- SUF: Sprachatlas von Unterfranken (Würzburg) *L.A. of Lower Franconia*
- SNOB: Sprachatlas von Nordostbayern (Bayreuth) *L.A. of Northeastern Bavaria*
- SMF: Sprachatlas von Mittelfranken (Erlangen) *L.A. of Middle Franconia*
- SBS: Sprachatlas von Bayerisch-Schwaben (Augsburg) *L.A. of Bavarian Swabia*
- SOB: Sprachatlas von Oberbayern (Passau) *L.A. of Upper Bavaria*
- SNIB: Sprachatlas von Niederbayern (Passau) *L.A. of Lower Bavaria*

The work on the first one of these atlases started in 1984. In the meantime, most of these projects have been finished and 42 large-sized volumes, with about 100 to 250 maps each, have been published. This project documents the dialects of Bavaria as they were spoken around the end of the last century. Altogether, 1450 locations were visited and the dialect of 2 to 4 native speakers of each location was recorded by means of a comprehensive questionnaire. The phonetic transcription system of Teuthonista was used for these written recordings as well as for the maps, legends and comments. The printed volumes constitute one of the most comprehensive fundamental works in the area of linguistic geography worldwide. Documentation is nearly finished and linguistic analysis is about to start. The phonetic transcription system employed for this analysis is also Teuthonista.

A set of consistent encoding rules for this phonetic transcription is of utmost priority for future research, as the many different individual systems that are used right now would finally be replaced by a consistently encoded and universally available and reproducible system.

The publishers of these linguistic atlases and the researchers working with these volumes endorse the inclusion of the Teuthonista script in the Unicode standard and support all activities that will lead to a consistent and standardized encoding system.

On behalf of the publishers of the atlases mentioned above:

Prof. Dr. Werner König

Frau
Eveline Wandl-Vogt
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Prof. Dr. Claudine Moulin
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Trier, 10. März 2011

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herrn,

das Kompetenzzentrum für elektronische Erschließungs- und Publikationsverfahren in den Geisteswissenschaften an der Universität Trier/Trier Center for Digital Humanities ist durch seine Tätigkeit im Bereich der Digitalisierung geisteswissenschaftlicher Grundlagenwerke seit vielen Jahren immer wieder mit dem Problem konfrontiert, dass es für Sonderzeichen vor allem in Sprachstufen- und Dialektwörterbüchern im digitalen Medium noch keine Darstellungsmöglichkeit gibt. Für das *Pfälzische Wörterbuch* etwa wurde eine Variante der „Theutonista-Lautschrift“ benutzt, und auch das Rheinische Wörterbuch greift auf eine Lautschrift der „Theutonista-Tradition“ zurück.

Aus diesen Gründen unterstützen wir die Initiative von Frau Eveline Wandl-Vogt (IDINAMLEX, Wien), die phonetischen Sonderzeichen der „Teuthonista“-Lautschrift in den internationalen Standard UNICODE aufzunehmen.

Mit den besten Grüßen



Prof. Dr. Claudine Moulin



UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI VERONA
Dipartimento di Lingue e Letterature Straniere

Sezione di linguistica tedesca

Prof. Dr. Birgit Alber

Prof. Dr. Stefan Rabanus

Prof. Dr. Alessandra Tomaselli

Teuthonista writing system

As a research unit which is very much concerned with German dialectology we strongly support the proposal to include the Teuthonista writing system in the Unicode Standard. Our most important source for the research on German dialects consists of atlases and monographs that mainly use the Teuthonista writing system in order to represent phonetic data (Teuthonista has been the standard phonetic writing in German dialectology since 1924). Since we are doing our research in a non-German-speaking country and most of the sources not available in our libraries in printed form we depend very much on the faithful electronic transmission of the phonetic symbology (digital atlases, databases accessible via the Internet, exchange of files). The inclusion of Teuthonista in the Unicode Standard would notably facilitate our research.

University of Verona (Italy), 28 September 2010

Stefan Rabanus
Birgit Alber
Alessandra Tomaselli



KOMMISSION FÜR MUNDARTFORSCHUNG
- Bayerisches Wörterbuch -
Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften
Prof. Dr. Anthony Rowley

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6. October 2010

“Teuthonista” in Unicode: Letter of Support

The „Bayerisches Wörterbuch“ [Bavarian Dictionary] project of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences, for which I am responsible as editor-in-chief, uses the traditional „Teuthonista“ phonetic transcription in many dialect quotes and for all phonetic descriptions. Indeed all philological dialect dictionary projects and all linguistic atlases of Austrian, Swiss German and Southern German linguistic varieties use Teuthonista transcription; a very similar system is in use in the field of Italian dialectology. For our project, as for many others, a world-wide standardized codification in Unicode of the special symbols used in Teuthonista transcription would be of considerable advantage. Since publication started in 1995, we have devised various methods of codification for Teuthonista symbols, none of which has worked reliably when our manuscripts are converted to printed form. A Unicode codification would greatly improve the editing of documents in text systems and make it easier to transfer our manuscripts to print. In particular, it also would help simplify the electronic publication of our dictionary, as we could move beyond PDF without having to devise special fonts for our users.

Yours sincerely



Prof. Dr. Anthony R. Rowley

Editor-in-chief
Bayerisches Wörterbuch

SCHWEIZERDEUTSCHES WÖRTERBUCH CH-8001 Zürich, Auf der Mauer 5

Schweizerisches Idiotikon ☎ 044 251 36 76 📠 044 251 36 72

Dr. Hans-Peter Schifferle, Chefredaktor

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Mag. Eveline Wandl-Vogt
Institut für Österreichische Dialekt- und
Namenlexika DINAMLEX
Wohllebengasse 12-14
A – 1040 Wien

Zürich, den 10. März 2011

Liebe Eveline

Die Redaktion des Schweizerischen Idiotikons, der auch der Sprachatlas der deutschen Schweiz (SDS) angegliedert ist, begrüßt und unterstützt die Initiative, die verschiedenen phonetischen Zeichen (etwa die heute vielfach obsoleten der Anfänge des Idiotikons oder die Theutonista-Zeichen bzw. diejenigen der mit der romanistischen Tradition von Boehmer-Ascoli eng verknüpften SDS-Transkription) in das Unicode-System zu integrieren.

Damit wird es möglich sein, die unzähligen, in der Schweiz kursierenden Sonderlösungen bei dieser Zeichenerfassung durch ein einheitliches System abzulösen.

Wir können nur wünschen, dass dieser Initiative Erfolg beschieden sein wird.

SCHWEIZERDEUTSCHES WÖRTERBUCH


Hans-Peter Schifferle, Chefredaktor

Universität Leipzig, Institut für Germanistik, Beethovenstraße 15, 04107 Leipzig

Institut für Österreichische Dialekt- und
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Frau Mag. Eveline Wandl-Vogt
Wohlebengasse 12-14
A-1040 Wien

Leipzig, 08.03.2011

Teuthonista Unicode

As a researcher in the German dialectology I am concerned since many years with all kind of problems related to the wide field of phonetic transcriptions. Designing my own Teuthonista fonts in the early 1990s for my own purposes I am also aware of the difficulties concerning the technical implementation of phonetic symbols.

The great majority of the phonetic symbols in German dialectology belong to the Teuthonista- and Boehmer-Ascoli-tradition as it has been applied in the journal Teuthonista, later Zeitschrift für deutsche Mundartforschung and in the linguistic atlases from the Sprachatlas der deutschen Schweiz (published 1962–1997), to the Südwestdeutscher Sprachatlas (published 1989 –), Bayerischer Sprachatlas (1996–). Phonetic symbols in this tradition are still in use in German dialectology as the ongoing publication of the linguistic atlases and publications in their environment substantiate. Therefore I warmly support the initiative of Mag. EvelineWandl-Vogt of DINAMLEX to implement the Teuthonista symbols into Unicode.

With my best regards



Beat Siebenhaar

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg . Deutsches Seminar . D-79085 Freiburg

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Frau Mag. Eveline Wandi-Vogt
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A-1040 Wien

UNI
FREIBURG

Teuthonista Unicode

Within my activities in the field of lexicography of the Alemannic and Franconian dialects in Southwest Germany I am concerned with a lot of difficulties related to the technical implementation of phonetic symbols.

In the workflow of the preparation of the Badisches Wörterbuch (published since 1925, publication is still in progress) we apply phonetic transcriptions according to the Teuthonista system, which is a de-facto standard in German dialectology. We use the Teuthonista symbols e.g. in our own cartography software, our database system and of course in the published articles of the dictionary itself.

I am well aware of the difficulties concerning the use of Teuthonista symbols in different software applications and I am sure, that the inclusion of this widely used character set into the Unicode standard will greatly reduce such problems. Therefore I support the initiative of Eveline Wandi-Vogt of DINAMLEX and others to implement the Teuthonista symbols into Unicode.

Best regards



Tobias Streck

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität
Freiburg

Deutsches Seminar –
Germanistische Linguistik

Tobias Streck, M.A.
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Freiburg, 19. Mai 2011

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE for PSYCHOLINGUISTICS



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Nijmegen, 8 March 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The Language Archive at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen stores a large collection of audiovisual and textual linguistic resources and aims at making this material available to users now and in the future. A large proportion of this material concerns minority languages and languages that are threatened with extinction. Preserving this unique material for future users not only requires measures to keep the digital objects intact but also requires continuous migration of the data formats before they become obsolete. For textual material, the chance of future interpretability of the data is greatly enhanced by storing them using a globally accepted standardized character set, which Unicode is at the moment.

It is therefore that I very much support the effort by Eveline Wandl-Vogt and colleagues to bring the Teuthonista phonetic system into Unicode, such that a large body of research data that was created using this system since the 1920s can be converted into more future proof formats.

Yours truly,

Paul Trilsbeek
Head Archive Management
The Language Archive, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

Letter of Support

For about a year now, the project “Sprachatlas von Nord-Baden-Württemberg” (=Linguistic atlas of Northern Baden-Württemberg) has been conducted as a part of the project “Sprachalltag in Nord-Baden-Württemberg” (=Everyday language in Northern Baden-Württemberg) at the Ludwig Uhland institute at the University of Tübingen. The time scheduled for collecting data is three years, and the participating researchers have already performed 40 recordings in the first year. Up to now, only the funding for the collection phase has been granted. At the end of these three years, there will be about 150.000 dialectal records, which will be documented in the Teuthonista script for reasons of comparability with neighboring linguistic atlas projects. A printed publication is very unlikely, because the required funding is not available.

After the collection phase, it would be of great value if the huge amount of data was made available by means of a standardized encoding system, so that other persons and institutions can continue the research on this data, which was collected so laboriously.

For the reasons detailed above, I endorse the inclusion of the Teuthonista phonetic script in the Unicode standard and I support all activities leading to such a standardized and consistent encoding system.

For the project “Sprachalltag in Nord-Baden-Württemberg”

Prof. Dr. Bernhard Tschofen



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M. Eric WEHRLI
Professeur

To whom it may concern,

Ligne directe: 022 379 73 63
E-mail: eric.wehrli@lettres.unige.ch

March 10, 2011

As researchers in the field of computational linguistics, we are concerned with character encoding issues related to specific languages, scripts and transcription traditions. The Unicode standard has greatly reduced these issues in the last few years, and we therefore support the inclusion of any widely used character set into this standard.

The transcription system "Teuthonista" is a de-facto standard in German dialectology, and a slight variation is also used in the dialectological tradition of Romance languages. Given the vast amount of past and current research in these domains, the Theutonista system can be considered a widely used character set. Moreover, it covers all language varieties spoken in Switzerland.

For these reasons, we support the proposal by Michael Everson, Eveline Wandl-Vogt and Alois Dicklberger to encode the phonetic characters of the Teuthonista system in the UCS.

Best regards



Prof. Éric Wehrli

ROMANIAN ONLINE DIALECT ATLAS PROJECT

Sheila Embleton, Dorin Uritescu and Eric S. Wheeler
York University, Toronto, Canada

11 March 2011

Dr. Eveline Wandl-Vogt
Institut für Österreichische Dialect- und Namenlexika
Wohllebengasse 12-14
Vienna, Austria


To Whom It May Concern:

The use of specialized and non-standard characters in digital data has been an important issue for the Romanian Online Dialect Atlas (RODA). Our digitalization of more than a million handwritten forms of dialect data requires special treatment to manage the notation used in the field and in the subsequent published volumes.

With proper tools and methods, researchers are able to make use of modern information technology to uncover patterns in the behaviour and nature of human activities that otherwise would remain hidden. Digitalized data is a key element of that discovery, and the appropriate representation of the data is essential to any successful digitalization effort.

We strongly support the efforts of Prof. Wandl-Vogt and her colleagues to find more satisfactory solutions to a problem that impacts digital data projects of all sorts, especially in the areas of Linguistics, Dialectology, Dialectometry, and the Humanities in general.

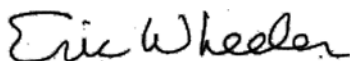
Sincerely,



Sheila Embleton, FRSC
Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics



Dorin Uritescu,
Full Professor, Departments of French, and Linguistics and Language Studies, Glendon College



Eric S. Wheeler
Adjunct Professor,
School of Information Technology, and Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics.

TEUTHONISTA GOES UNICODE

Since the 1960s, I have been dealing with the Bavarian dialects on a scientific level. During my study years at the LMU in Munich, I was introduced into this field by Ladislaus Michael Weifert and Ingo Reiffenstein (based in Munich at that time, later in Salzburg). I like to think back to a field trip Mr. Reiffenstein and I made through Northern Upper Bavaria. Experimentally, he used IPA for documenting our observations, whereas I used the Theutonista script, which was already familiar to me at that time. This experiment delivered a clear result: IPA turned out to be highly unsuitable for the practical documentation of Bavarian dialects. This is still the case. The phonetic details regarding both vocalism and consonantism can only be brought to paper with an enormous number of additional symbols. The discussion published in the “Zeitschrift für Dialektologie und Linguistik” (Journal for dialectology and linguistics) in the years of 1964/65 points in the same direction.

In my numerous publications about the Bavarian dialects I rely on the Teuthonista system. In the beginning, manuscripts were typed on a mechanical typewriter and the diacritics had to be inserted manually. Even after the introduction of the exchangeable typeball, the problem remained. How about today?

In my current projects, I deeply regret the fact that I cannot use the Teuthonista script on my PC. As an honorary professor for Bavarian dialectology at the University of Regensburg (since 1999), I am still holding advanced seminars and the occasional lecture. When I am preparing for these courses and creating demonstration material, the support of Theutonista by Microsoft would be a great help for me.

Therefore, I would like to express my full approval and support of the TEUTHONISTA GOES UNICODE initiative.

Regensburg, October 10th, 2010
Prof. Dr. Ludwig Zehetner

Министерство образования и науки
Российской Федерации
(Минобрнауки России)



Государственное образовательное учреждение
высшего профессионального образования

**«Волгоградский
государственный университет»
(ВолГУ)**
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Frau
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A-1040 Wien

Prof. Dr. Nikolay Shamne
The Institute of Philology and Intercultural
Communication
Volgograd State University

Volgograd, 25 May 2011

_____ 201__ г. № _____

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The Institute of Philology and Intercultural Communication has been engaged since more than 30 years in different research projects in the domain of collecting dialects of the Volgograd Region, transcribing texts and forming the national corpora. We are aware of large difficulties when rendering special phonetic and other diacritic symbols for the processing of diachronic and diatopic corpora.

For these reasons we strongly support the Initiative of Eveline Wandl-Vogt (IDINAMLEX, Wien) to incorporate the symbols of the Theutonista Tradition in the international Unicode Convention.

Best regards,

Prof. Dr. Director of Institute of Philology and Intercultural Communication
Volgograd State University

Nikolay Shamne

