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Old Prussian *mary* in toponyms of the Warmia and Mazury districts

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Old Prussian water names related to the Proto-Indo-European root **mor-* 'stagnant water, sea, moor' occur in the Warmia and Mazury district. Today they occur as water names, field names and place names such as: *Marqg*, *Marqski Rów*, *Morqg*, *Morqskie Ląki*, *Morqski Las*, *Maróz*, *Marózek*, *Marózka* and the drained *Marqg* lake. In the medieval German documents the root **mor-* was recorded as *mor-* or *mar-*. It probably occurred on the Prussian territory in two variants, which can be reconstructed as *mōr-* and *mār-*.

The names of lakes should be considered the oldest among all the names presented in the paper. The remaining water names, place names and field names have been renewed or derived from the names of lakes as a result of different derivational processes.

The Prussian names related to the onomastic basis *mor-* were derived by means of the formatives *-ing-*, *-ung-* and *-en-*. Quite a lot of water names are formed with these formatives on the Old Prussian territories.

In the region of Warmia and Mazury lots of toponyms bear the Old Prussian names having their counterparts in other parts of Europe. They also include hydronyms related to the root **mor-* reconstructed in the meaning of 'stagnant water, sea, moor, water flow' (Krahe 1964:47). In Proto-Indo-European the root occurred in the words **mori*, **mōri* 'sea, stagnant water', which are continued in common nouns such as Latin *mare*, *maris* 'sea, lake', Old-Iranian *muir*, Breton *mor*, Gothic *marei*, Old-Bulgarian *morje* 'sea' (Pokorny 748). The common nouns related to the root **mor-* also occur in the Baltic languages. Lithuanian: *mārė*, *mārės*, *mārios* 'sea, gulf', Latvian: *mare* 'sea' and Old-Prussian **marē* 'gulf, stagnant water' recorded as *mary* in the

Elbing Dictionary (Mažiulis 17) can be included here. The root **mor-* can also be found in water names all over Europe (Krahe 1963:329) as well as in Lithuanian (Vanagas 204) and Latvian names (Endzelīns 377f). The root **mor-* occurs also in the names of water expanses: *Morze*, *Pomorze* (Falk 1976:140, Būga 1959:268) situated on the old Jatvingian territories (East Prussia) and in the names of objects situated on the Old Prussian territories (Nalepa 1964). A part of these territories is included in the present Warmia and Mazury districts, two regions of north-eastern Poland. These are the names of the lake *Marqg*, the *Marqg* river and the *Marqski Rów* stream situated north of Lukta, the town of *Morqg* situated by the lake with the same name, a forest and meadows in the vicinity of *Morqg*, the lakes and villages *Maróz*, *Marózek* and the *Marózka* river south of Olsztynek, and the drained *Marqg* lake situated between Uniszewo and Pęglity south-west of Olsztyn.

Marąg — a lake situated north of Lukta in the administrative district Ostróda is 393 hectares in area. Its depth reaches 20 metres. The name of the lake was first recorded in 1346 in the form *Marunge*, *Marink* (Gerullis 101). Later it is found in 1347 in the document concerning the grant of 6 *włókas* (*włóka* is a measure of area equivalent to 16,8 hectares) by *lacum Maringin*. There have been preserved six copies of this document, in which the name was recorded in the forms: *Marungen*, *Maringin*, *Maringen* (PU IV No 182, p. 162). It can also be traced in the document of December 15, 1348 granting 28 *włókas*, whose boundaries reach Marąg lake: *an dem ze Marink*, in other copies: *Marinc* (PU IV No 358, p. 324). In medieval documents the name was recorded as early as 1364 as: *Maring* (Gerullis 101). It was later marked on maps in the form *Marung See* 1576 (M 4), 1629 (M 46) and preserved as *Mahrung See* till 1945. In 1931 G. Leyding recorded a common name *Marqg* used by Poles (Leyding 244), which was accepted by the Place Name and Physiographical Object Establishing Committee (KUNM)¹.

The Marąg river, a left tributary of the river Pasłęka, rises in the southern inlet of lake Marąg. It was recorded only once in the Middle Ages, in a document of September 14, 1359, by virtue of which the Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights Winrich von Kniprode grants 6 *włókas* in Woysen field and the right to catch fish in the Marąg river, cf: *Fischerei im Marungssfliesse*

¹The Place Name and Physiographical Object Establishing Committee (KUNM) founded in 1946 by the Polish authorities in order to establish place names on the territories incorporated into Poland in 1945 and to repolonize them.

in other copies of the document: *Maringesfließe*, *Marungisfließe*, *Mahrung-schen fließ* (PU V No 768, p. 436). About 1790 the name was marked on Schrötter's map in the form *Mahrung Fliess* (Schrötter XVI) and it was used till 1945. In 1931 G. Leyding recorded the common Polish name *Marqg* (Leyding 244), later accepted by the KUNM, cf: 1951 *Marqg*. German *Mahrung Fliess* (Rospond 183).

The Marąski Rów stream flowing in the Marąg river, drains off the water from Jagoty lake, situated near Komorowo. Its common name *Marenski Rów* is recorded in 1931 (Leyding 244). It was derived from the adjective relating to the river Marąg and from the noun *rów* 'ditch'.

About 10 kilometres north-west of lake Marąg there is the town of Morąg. In the location privilege of December 17, 1331, the name of the town was written down as: *que Morungen appellatur* (PU II No 746, p. 493). In subsequent documents it was recorded fairly uniformly as: *Morung*, *Morunge*, *Morungen*, cf. 1333 *consulum Morungen* (PU II No 804, p. 538), 1346 *advocatus in Morungen* (PU IV No 57, p. 57-58); 1347 *in Morung* (PU IV No 142, p. 129), 1347 *in Morunge* (PU IV No 145, p. 134), 1350 *czu Morunge* (PU IV No 597, p. 538). From the 16th century onward the official German name *Mohrungen* became general. It was used side by side with the common Polish form *Morqg*, accepted after World War II by the KUNM, see 1951 *Morqg*, German *Mohrungen* (Rospond 198).

South of the town there is lake Morąg, partly drained, which was recorded as: 1331 *Maurin* (PU II No 746, p. 493). A vast expanse of meadows and numerous streams without outflow in the vicinity of the town testify that it was a vast but shallow water resource. In 1947 Leyding recorded the Polish common name *Morąskie Jezioro* and the official German name *Mohrung See* (Leyding 145). At present the lake bears the name *Morqg* and the surrounding meadows are called *Morąskie Łąki* (Morąg Meadows), a name derived from the name of the lake.

Further, in the vicinity of Morąg, one finds Morąski Las. Its name was recorded in 1947 by Leyding side by side with the official German name *Mohrunger Stadtwald* (Leyding 145). The names are derived from the town name.

The objects whose present names are Maróz, Marózek and Marózka, situated south of Olsztynek, constitute the third group of names related to the root **mor-*. *Maróz* lake, stretching over a considerable distance from north to south lies between the villages of Maróz, Marózek and Swaderki. Its name

was recorded in the Middle Ages in a document of February 24, 1352, cf: *et stantem ultra lacum Morensen* (PU V No 128, p. 75). In the 15th century the name was recorded as *Morensen* in 1412-1413 (Leyding 236), in the 16th century as *Moransen* (OK 191, M 4, Leyding 236). The form *Moransen See* was also used in the 17th century (1629 M 46) and in the early the 18th century. In the late 18th century, the form *Gross Maransen See* became general and it was officially used till 1945. The Polish name was recorded in the form *Wielkie Maroskie Jezioro* by W. Kętrzyński in the second half of the 19th century (Kętrzyński 377). The Polish name *Maróz* or *Marązy* is given side by side with the German *Gross Maransen* in the *Geographic Dictionary of the Polish Kingdom (Słownik geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich)*, cf. 1885 (SG VI 135). In 1930 G. Leyding recorded the name *Duze Maroskie Jezioro* (Leyding 236). At present the name *Maróz* is used, cf. 1951 *Maróz*, German *Gross Moransen See* (Rospond 184), 1964 *Jezioro Maróz* (Mp 25), 1983 *Maróz* (PHP I 868).

At about 0,5 km south of Maróz lake there is Marózek or Mały Maróz. It is a hydrologically closed water resource, 17,9 ha in area. The name of the lake was recorded in the same document of February 24, 1352, in which the name Maróz lake occurred, cf: *et stantem ultra parvum Morensen* (PU V No 128, p. 75). The next record of the name is from the 18th century, cf. about 1790 *Kl. Maransen See* (Schrötter XVII). The Polish name was recorded in 1882 in the form *Małe Maroskie Jezioro* (Kętrzyński 377). In 1930 the Polish name *Zdrężno*, not related to the Old-Prussian *mary*, and the German name *Kleiner Maransen See* were mentioned by G. Leyding (Leyding 188).

By lake Maróz, at its south-western inlet, lies the village Maróz (Biolik 1992:93-94). Its name can be found in documents dating from the 15th century onward, cf: 1411 *Marensen* (Kętrzyński 378), 1785 *Marensen oder Maronsen, poln. Marros* (Goldbeck 130), about 1790 *Gr. Maransen* (Schrötter XVII), 1820 *Gr. Maransen, Marosz* (Wald 209). The Polish form *Maróz* or *Marązy*, being a counterpart of the German *Gross Maransen*, is given in 1882 (Kętrzyński 378) and in the *Geographic Dictionary*: 1885 *Maróz* or *Marązy*, German *Gross Maransen* (SG VI 135).

The village Marózek lies on the eastern shore of lake Maróz. Its name started being recorded in the late 18th century, cf: 1785 *Maransen Ofen oder Klein Maransen* (Goldbeck 130), about 1790 *Kl. Maransen* (Schrötter XVII), 1820 *Kl. Maransen* (Wald 209), 1885 *Marózek*, German *Klein Maransen* (SG VI 135), 1951 *Marózek*, German *Klein Maransen* (Rospond 184),

1964 *Marózek* (Mp 25). The name of the village was derived by means of the deminutive suffix *-ek* from the name of the lake or village *Maróz*. The German name *Klein Maransen* with the German element *Klein* (*klein* 'little') is related to the German name *Gross Maransen*, with *Gross* (*gross* 'great').

The Marózka river, a left tributary of the Lyna, flows into the southern part of lake Maróz. It rises from lake Mielno. Its name is derived with the suffix *-ka* from the name of lake Maróz, because from the 18th century onward the river bore the name recorded as: 1333 *bis czu dem flisse Lubnitz* (PU II No 782, p. 520), 1334-1336 *Lubnitz* (Kętrzyński 224), 1576 *Lubnitz* (M 4), 1595 *Lubnitz* (Leyding 244), 1629 *Lubnitz Fl.* (M 46). About 1790 the name of the river was recorded as *Maransen Fl.* (Schrötter XVII). W. Kętrzyński reconstructed the Polish name *Lubienica* (Kętrzyński 372). In 1930 G. Leyding recorded the official German name *Maranse Fließ* and the common name *Marózka*. The name was accepted by the Place Name and Physiographic Object Establishing Committee (KUNM), see: 1951 *Marózka, Maransen Fließ* (Rospond 184), 1964 *Marózka* (Mp 25).

Marąg was also the name of the drained lake situated in the part between the villages Uniszewo and Pęglity in the parish Gietrzwałd (Pospiszylowa, 143-144). Its name has been mentioned in documents since 1348, see: 1348 *in lacubus nostris Marung et wlpynq* (CDW II No 108, p. 116); 1350 *circa lacum maringe* (CDW II No 159, p. 159); 1369 *ad stagnum dictum Marung* (SRW p. 30), then in the document concerning the grant of the estate Lajsy enacted on May 4, 1378 as *Marang See* (CDW III No 54, p. 37) and on the maps: 1576 *Maring S* (M 4), 1629 *Maring S.* (M 46), 1755 *Mohrung S.* (Endersch), about 1790 *Marung See* (Schrötter XVI), then as *Mahrung See* till the end of 19th century. As late as 1917 the lake did not exist, cf. *z wyborynymi łakami, zwłaszcza na sąsiednim Maręgu* (Barczewski 42; with very good meadows, especially by the neighbouring Marąg). In 1925 G. Leyding wrote down the common Polish name *Marangi* (Leyding 214). The name of the former lake was recorded in 1938 and 1939 as *Maring Seewiesen* (Leyding 214).

Water names should be regarded the oldest among all the above-mentioned water, place and field names. This is true for the names of the lakes Maróz and Marózek, recorded in documents earlier than the place names and the name of lake Marąg, attested in the location privilege of the town. At the time when the names were being formed, lake Marózek may have been a shallow inlet which became a separate water expanse due to the lowering water level. This is confirmed by the depth of lake Maróz, reaching 41 metres,

and that of lake Marózek, reaching only 4 metres, by the distance between the tanks and their location in a deep, steep-sloped valley. The oldest record of the name of lake Maróz as *lacum Morensen* differs from the record of that of lake Marózek only by a Latin element *parvum*, added to differentiate the tanks, surely having one name. The town of Morąg, recorded in documents from 1331 as *Morungen*, *Morung*, *Morunge*, must have existed earlier, before the Prussian territories were conquered by the Teutonic Knights. The name of the lake was written by Germans in a different way from the name of the town. The name of this medieval city must have been known to the Teutonic Knights earlier and it was used more frequently than the name of the lake which was hardly of any value. The clerk writing out the location document had heard the name of the town earlier, while the name of the lake was probably unknown to him.

Of all objects situated north of Lukta, lake Marąg has the earliest records, such as: *Marunge*, *Marink*, *Maringin*, *Marungen*, *Maringen*, *Marinc*. The river name was recorded in the Middle Ages with a German hydrographic element *Fließ*, see: *Maringesflisse*, *Marungisflisse*, *Marungsche Fließ*. When this element and the suffix *-sche* in the last record are dropped, the name acquires the shape: *Maringes*, *Marungis*, *Marungs*. The drained Marąg lake situated in Warmia was recorded in the forms: *Marung*, *Maringe*, *Marang*.

All the above-mentioned records of the Prussian names come from documents written in Latin or German usually by German clerks who tried to adjust Prussian names to their own language system. They wrote them in different forms, using phonetic and phonetic-derivational substitutions, which caused their original form to be obscured, usually by omission of a Prussian flexional ending or the substitution of a German ending. The Teutonic Knight's writers came from different parts of Germany and they spoke different dialects, hence they adopted Prussian names in different ways. Most of them were recorded in Middle-High-German with a strong addition of Middle-Low-German dialectal features. In the light of the complicated phonetic, graphical, derivational and flexional substitutes (Zabrocki, 1961:201-233; Górniewicz, 1981:35-45) which were given to Prussian names recorded in documents, special attention must be paid to the great consistency in the records of the element **mor-*. The root was always written as *Mar-* in the name of the lake and the river *Marąg*, as *Mor-* in the name of the town *Morąg*, as *Maur-* in the case of the lake, as *Mor-* in the names of the lakes *Maróz* and *Marózek* and as *Mar-* in the names of the drained lake *Marąg*.

It was written in two forms: as *Mor-* and *Mar-*. The variant *Maur-* in the name of *Marąg* lake is purely substitutional, and it testifies that there was a long vowel in the root of the name and that the document was written by a writer who pronounced long vowels as diphthongs. We do not know if these were two long vowels *ā* and *ō* in the Old-Prussian dialects or just one sound (Smoczyński, 886-887; Schmalstieg 17-18). The uniform and consequent records of particular names with either the vowel *ā* or *ō* may indicate that Prussians used two long low phonemes pronounced with the back of the tongue. According to R. Trautmann the Prussian phoneme *ō* occurring in Pomezanian relics should be treated as an archaism. It is the reflex of Proto-Indo-European and Baltic *ō*, which had not developed into *ā* at that time yet. We may assume that at the time when the names were being recorded (14th century), the evolution of *ā* into *ō* which Trautmann wrote about was not yet completed (Górniewicz, 1980:359-368, Trautmann, 1910:122-131). Both phonemes must have been pronounced differently in different names, as we cannot find them being confused by German writers. It is of greater interest still that in the language of the Teutonic Knight's chancery, long *a* is often used as long *o*. The Proto-Indo-European element **mōr-* may have had two variants **mōr-* and **mar-* in the Prussian dialects which became fixed in water names. The boundaries of the use of these two forms can not be marked, as the objects analysed are situated close to one another. The Marąg stream and Marąg lake are situated 8 kilometres south-east of the former Morąg lake and about 35 kilometres north-west of the lakes Maróz and Marózek and the drained Marąg lake more or less halfway between the lake and the river Marąg and Maróz, Marózek lakes. Considering the supposed Prussian tribal territory boundaries the lakes Maróz and Marózek were situated in the former Sasin area, the lakes Marąg and Morąg in Pomezania and the drained *Marąg* lake on the borderline between the former Galindia Forest and the Sasin area.

The grammatical form of the names presented above is a separate problem. Marąg lake, which lies north of Lukta, was recorded in the following ways: *Marunge*, *Marink*, *Maringin*, *Marungen*, *Maringen*, *Marinc*, *Maring*, *Marang*. The root **Mār-* was expanded with a suffix recorded as *-ung-*, *-ink-*, *-ing-*, *-inc-*. The formative recorded as *-ink-* is surely a graphic variant of *-ing-*, which arose as a result of the confusion of the sounds *g* and *k*, similarly *-inc-* was a variant of *-ing-*, in which *k*, denoting *g*, was recorded as *c*. In all the records and variants from the 16th century, the formative *-ung-* occurred

twice, *-ing-* eight times. In Prussian the name lake *Marąg* may have been used as masculine noun and occurred as **Māringis*. The name *Mahrung See* used by Germans is a phonetic substitute for the Prussian name expanded with the element *See*, and the name *Morąg* is a Polish phonetic substitute for the Prussian name, in which the Prussian formative *-ing-* was adopted as Polish *-ąg*.

The name of the river *Marąg*, draining off the water from lake *Marąg* to the river *Pasłęka*, has the forms *Maringes*, *Marungis*, *Marungs*, with the German substitutional elements dropped. Originally it may have been the same as the lake name and have had the form **Māringis*.

The name of the present-day town *Morąg* was recorded in the Middle Ages as: *Morungen*, *Morung*, *Morunge*. The Old-Prussian name of the town can be reconstructed as **Mōrungis* with the formative *-ung-* and the flexional ending *-is* in the nominative singular, masculine, of the Prussian *-o-*, *-jo-* stem declension. The name **Mōrungis* may have also been ascribed to the lake formerly situated south and south-west of the town and recorded in the 14th century as *Maurin*. The formative *-ung-* can also be reconstructed in the Prussian name of the drained *Marąg* lake, which was recorded in the oldest documents as: *Marung*, *maringe*, *Marung*, *Marang*. Old Prussians may have used the name **Mārungis*, the form with the suffix *-ing-* being its variant. The name recorded by Germans as *Marang* in 1378 may have emerged under the influence of the Polish pronunciation. In Prussian the formatives with *-ng-* occurring in: *-ing-*, *-ung-*, *-ang-* form many water names².

It is possible that the lakes *Maróz* and *Marózek* bore the Prussian name **Mōrens*, derived with the formative *-en-* and recorded with the German endings *-en*, *-e*, as *Morensen*, *Morense*. In these records the Prussian ending of the nominative singular masc. *-s*, derived from the former *-is*, was preserved. Germans used the name *Moransen* and from the 18th century onward *Maransen See* with the elements *Gross* and *Klein*. The form *Maransen* was adopted by Poles as *Marązy* in the plural with the synchronic pronunciation *-an-* in front of the voiced fricative consonant. The Polish name *Maróz* resulted from the loss of nasality before fricatives in the pronunciation of the people inhabiting this area. The non-nasal pronunciation was recorded in 1785 in the name of the village *Marros* and in 1820 in *Marosz*. The vowel *o* occurring in the final syllable was pronounced as *ũ* or closed *o*. The Prussian suffix *-en-*,

²See the map included in Ślaski (1985:64) and Powierski (1985:76-95).

similarly to *-ing*, *-ung-*, *-ang-*, is used to form many other hydronyms in the Warmia and Mazury districts.

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Abbreviations

- Barczewski — W. Barczewski, *Geografia polskiej Warmii*, Olsztyn 1917, Gazeta Olsztyńska.
- CDW — *Codex diplomaticus Warmiensis oder Regesten und Urkunden zur Geschichte Ermlands*, Bd. II v. C. P. Woelky, J. M. Saage, Mainz 1861, Bd. III von C. P. Woelky, Braunsberg und Leipzig 1874, futher on the abbreviation CDW with number of page, volume and documents, Bd. I F. Kirchheim, Bd. II F. Kirchheim, Bd. III E. Peter, Bd. IV Selbstverlag des Vereins.
- Endersch — the abbreviation refers to the map: *Tabula Geographica Episcopatum Warmiensem in Prussia exhibens Heilsberg, solta habitatio Episcopalis longitudinem 36 gradum et 16 minutorum ab insula Farro numera J. F. Endersch, 1755.*
- Goldbeck — J. G. Goldbeck, *Verständige Topographie des Königreich in Preussen*. Erster Theil, 1785, Nachdruck: Hamburg 1967: Sonderschriften des Vereins für Familienforschung in Ost- und Westpreussen.
- Kętrzyński — W. Kętrzyński, *O ludności polskiej w Prusiech niegdyś krzyżackich*, Lwów 1882: Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolińskich.
- Leyding — G. Leyding, *Słownik nazw miejscowych okręgu mazurskiego*, Cz. II. *Nazwy fizjograficzne (zlokalizowane)*, Poznań 1959: PWN.
- M 4 — C. Hennenberger, *Grosse Landtafel von Preussen in 9 Blättern, Erste Ausgabe vom Jahre 1576*, Königsberg.
- M 46 — *Septentrio Prussiae — Das ist des Landes zu Preussen welches das Herrlichste Theil Sarmatiae Europas Eigentliche und wahrhafte Beschreibung*, C. Hennenberger, 1629, Königsberg.
- Mp 25 — *Mapa województwa olsztyńskiego*, 1 ; 25 000, Warszawa 1964.
- OK 281 — *Prussia Accurate descripta a Casparo Hennenberg*, Königsberg 1576.
- PHP I — *Podział hydrograficzny Polski, Część I. Zestawienie liczbowo-opisowe*, Warszawa 1983.
- PU (with number of volume and number of page), *Preussisches Urkundenbuch*, Vol. II, von M. Hein and E. Maschke, Königsberg 1932; Vol. III, von M. Hein and H. Koeppen, Aalen 1958-1932, Vol. IV, von H. Koeppen, Marburg 1960; Vol. V, von H. Koeppen, Marburg 1969: Bd. I Königsberg: Hartungsche Verlagsdruckerei, Bd. II Königsberg Gräfe u. Unzer, Bd. III N. C. Elvert Verlag.

- Rospond — Rospond S., *Słownik nazw geograficznych Polski zachodniej i północnej*, według uchwał Komisji Ustalania Nazw Miejscowości pod przewodnictwem Stanisława Srokowskiego, Wrocław – Warszawa 1951: Polskie Towarzystwo Geograficzne.
- Schrötter — Schrötter, *Karte von Ostpreussen nebst Preussisch Litauen und Westpreussen nebst des Netzedistrict*, Berlin 1803-1810. About 1790.
- SG — *Słownik geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich*, F. Sulimierski, B. Chlebowski, W. Walewski, vol. I – XV, Warszawa 1880-1902: Nakładem Filipa Sulimierskiego i Władysława Walewskiego.
- SRW — C. P. Woelky, *Scriptores rerum Warmiensium*, Braunsberg 1889: E. Peter.
- Wald — S. G. Wald, *Topographische Uebersicht der Verwaltungs Bezirgs der Königlich Preussischen Regierung zu Königsberg in Preussen*, Königsberg 1820: gedr. bei Heinrich Degen.

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Reviews

STOLZ, Thomas, *Sprachbund im Baltikum? Estnisch und Lettisch im Zentrum einer sprachlichen Konvergenzlandschaft*, Bochum: Universitätsverlag Brockmeyer, 1991. 121 S. [= Bochum-Essener Beiträge zur Sprachwandelforschung, Bd. 13].

Bezüglich der sprachlichen Konvergenzerscheinungen im Baltikum lagen bislang in der Hauptsache Untersuchungen zu Einzelproblemen vornehmlich aus den Bereichen Phonologie und Lexik vor. Das vorliegende Bändchen, das aus einem Habilitationsvortrag entstanden ist, bringt nun einige neue und bisher kaum beachtete Argumente in die Diskussion, was die sprachlichen Beziehungen zwischen dem Lettischen und Estnischen angeht; das Livische wurde hier leider nicht berücksichtigt. Da der Verf. bewußt darauf verzichtete, den Vortragscharakter des Textes zu ändern, wird allenthalben deutlich, daß wir es hier nicht mit einer endgültigen Lösung präsentierenden Monographie zu tun haben, sondern, wie der Verf. selbst mehrfach betont (S. 8, 14, 19 u.ö.), mit einer Schrift, die vor allen Dingen zukünftige intensive linguistische Beschäftigung mit dem Baltikum anregen soll, darüber hinaus auch denen Denkanstöße geben soll, die sich allgemein mit dem Thema "Sprachbund" befassen.

Das Werk besteht aus drei Teilen: In der Einleitung ("Definitionsversuche", S. 6-26) verdeutlicht der Verf., ausgehend von zwei Sprachbundesdefinitionen, einer alten (Trubetzkoy) und einer neueren (Bußmann), seine eigene Zielsetzung und Vorgehensweise. Er macht auf die Mängel in diesen Definitionsansätzen und auf die recht ungünstige Literaturlage aufmerksam, kritisiert vor allem die partiellen Ansätze früherer Arbeiten. Seines Erachtens ist es notwendig auf möglichst allen linguistischen Ebenen Argumente zu finden, die für einen möglichen Sprachbund im Baltikum sprechen. — Im