

Andra Kalnača (University of Latvia)  
Lina Inčuraitė-Noreikienė (Vilnius University)  
Daiki Horiguchi (Kyoto University)

## **Compounds and compounding in Baltic languages**

In recent years, while preparing various digital Latvian and Lithuanian language resources (corpora, databases, dictionaries, wordnets, etc., e.g., Miliūnaitė, Aleksaitė 2011; Rimkutė et al. 2013; Dadurkevičius 2020a, 2020b; Andronova et al. 2022; Levāne-Petrova et al. 2023; see also *LatvianWordNet* <https://wordnet.ailab.lv/>; Kalnača, Pakalne 2026), the issue of compounds in both Baltic languages – their structural types, semantics and word formation models, as well as orthography issues – has become relevant. Although compounds have traditionally been considered in the grammars of both languages (among others, Ambrazas 1997, 2006; Nītiņa, Grigorjevs 2013; Kalnača, Lokmane 2021), and special studies have been devoted to them both synchronically and diachronically (e.g., Larsson 2002; Urbutis 2009; Inčuraitė-Noreikienė 2015; Bukelskytė-Čepelė 2017; Stundžia, Jarmalavičius 2019), the rapid development of the language vocabulary, often based directly on the formation of compounds as an effective resource, has highlighted the need to pay attention to this area of word formation.

Therefore, the section “Compounds and compounding in Baltic languages” is intended as a discussion forum in which various theoretical and practical issues related to compounds would be examined, both in structural and semantic aspects, and based on the use of various corpora and database materials. Defining compounds has frequently proven problematic due to challenges in establishing clear criteria (among others, Dressler 2006; Lieber, Štekauer 2009; Ralli 2013; Bauer 2017). Although Haspelmath (2025) proposed criteria intended to be applicable across language types in a uniform way, confusion still remains, particularly in cross-linguistic comparisons (see also Booij 2007). Our special focus is on the Baltic languages (Latvian and Lithuanian), but submissions are also welcome for the analysis of other languages.

Relevant topics and areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

1. Synchronic and diachronic models of compounds in Latvian and Lithuanian
2. Compounds and analysis of corpus and/or database data
3. Word-medial elements of compounds, their understanding and classification
4. Boundary of word phrases and compounds in written and spoken language
5. Combinations of inherited and borrowed lexemes in compounds
6. Combinations of lexical and function words in compounds
7. Compounds and affixation, compounds as a basis for further derivations
8. Peculiarities of the semantics of compounds
9. Syntactic structure and headedness of compounds

Discussing these topics will not only contribute to the theoretical and descriptive study of compounding in Baltic and other languages but also help better understand compounding and how it interacts with other word-formation processes.

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