FOREWORD

The reaching out of Corpus Linguistics to other linguistic and scientific disciplines is not a matter of fashion, but a natural phenomenon. The interdisciplinary dimension of Corpus Linguistics follows naturally from the fact that corpus linguistics – as stated by editors of the book "The Corpus Linguistics Discourse" (2018) Anna Čermáková and Michaela Mahlberg – "can make connections across linguistic disciplines that do not easily seem to get together" (p. 6). Among the strengths of Corpus Linguistics, the editors also mention "focus on the identification of tendencies and patterns of mainstream language use" and they continue: "The more repetitions we find of patterns and meanings the clearer the picture becomes." Contributions to the **11th international biannual linguistic conference SLOVKO 2021**, which has been given the title *NLP, Corpus Linguistics and Interdisciplinarity*, that are presented in this special issue of the *Journal of Linguistics* (Jazykovedný časopis), together sketch a hopefully similar picture of the Corpus Linguistic discourse.

The picture is definitely varied, that is, thematically diverse, as the authors aim at a wide array of linguistic phenomena: artificial homonyms, verb valency, word order, linguistic prototypes, adjectival constructions and others. The contributors work within various language families (Slavic, Germanic, Asian) and practically all major linguistic levels (morphological, lexical, syntactical, phrasal or semantic), while they also focus on several genres (19th century essays, biblical texts), and make use of multiple linguistic approaches to the interaction between meaning and form (systematic, historical, cognitive linguistics, to name just a few), and, very importantly, operate at the interdisciplinary intersection with (social) media and (specialized) discourse studies or translatology. From this respect, our aim as the editors has been to offer a representative overview over the many research questions and projects conducted in today's linguistics in both Slavic (Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia, Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria) and Germanic countries (Austria, Germany and Sweden), thus also creating a platform for an international scientific dialogue.

The impressively "colorful" picture of today's Corpus Linguistics needs, however, a certain unifying frame, so that the variety can be perceived and appreciated as such. A thematic divergence is, in other words, helped by a synthesizing counterweight – a methodological convergence. In this respect, our aim has also been to show that the varied contributions share to a certain degree a common denominator: be it an interest in both corpus-based and -driven empiric

and systemic inquiry into written and spoken language (the part *Corpus-Based/Corpus-Driven Linguistic Research*), an interest in technological development of annotation and visualization tools, creating pedagogical resources and applications for processing of language data (the part *Corpus Building and Natural Language Processing*) or in interdisciplinary connection between conceptual and technological instruments of linguistics with the research in other domains (the part *Interdisciplinary Research Based on Corpora*). All of the aforementioned linguistic and computational task are in their own right able to help with processing raw linguistic material that can be studied and used by both researchers, language users in general and language learners in particular. It is therefore our hope that the contributions presented in the issue will not draw only a simple picture with just one red thread, but rather picture of many threads, bringing about interdisciplinary connections between linguistic and other scientific domains that are set within an ever-growing digital and media environment of nowadays's world and to a great extent enabled by the very unprecedented potential of corpus resources, tools and methods.

Editors