

The Use of Corpora in Bilingual Phraseography

Dmitrij Dobrovolskij
Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Language Institute
Austrian Academy of Sciences, AAC-Austrian Academy Corpus
dobrovolskij@gmail.com

Abstract

The present paper discusses issues in the compilation of bilingual dictionaries of idioms based on an analysis of corpus data. The advantages of using corpora consist not only in more detailed and well thought-out illustrations of the expressions being described, but also in the additional possibilities that the corpus materials provide for compiling the idiom list and structuring entries. Thus the corpus allows us to determine the degree of frequency of an expression (at least in the written language). The relevant principles are illustrated by data taken from a new German-Russian dictionary of idioms that is being constructed by an international team of linguists and lexicographers. Fragments of this dictionary are available on the website of the German Language Institute in Mannheim: “Deutsch-russische Idiome online“ <http://wvonline.ids-mannheim.de/idiome_russ/index.htm>. Relevant information is also made available via the Europhras homepage on the website <<http://www.europhras.org>>. All examples of idiom usage in this dictionary are taken from the text corpora DeReKo and DWDS, and in individual cases from the German-language Internet. Parallel German-Russian texts from the Russian National Corpus (RNC) are also used.

Keywords: corpus; bilingual lexicography; phraseology; idiom; German; Russian

1 Preliminary Remarks

Bilingual lexicography widely acknowledges the role of phraseology; for a discussion of relevant theoretical issues see (Lubensky & McShane 2007). Considerable work has been done recently on the compilation of bilingual phraseological dictionaries in languages such as English, German, Russian, Czech, Spanish, French, Italian and Portuguese; cf., for instance, (Heřman et al. 2010), (Kraus & Baumgartner 2011) and a series of German bilingual idiom dictionaries initiated and co-compiled by Hans Schemann. The dictionary in this field that is especially remarkable and meets the highest lexicographic standards is (Lubensky 2013). This most complete Russian-English dictionary of idioms first came out in 1995 in New York. It was subsequently published twice in Moscow (in 1996 and in 2004), and now it has appeared in an enlarged and revised version that includes about 550 new entries. (Lubensky 2013) offers virtually the only lexicographic description of Russian phrasemes with their Eng-

lish counterparts that is based on contemporary notions of linguistically significant features of idioms.

Against this background, it seems especially surprising that modern bilingual phraseography scarcely makes use of text corpora. Though Lubensky (2013: vii) points out that the “availability of language corpora made it possible to check the idioms’ register and usage in multiple contexts”, none of the aforementioned dictionaries is really corpus-based. This fact makes it necessary to address the question as to how corpora can be used as a primary source for compiling a bilingual dictionary of idioms. Today, as lexicography is experiencing “the corpus revolution” (Hanks 2012), this is a question of vital importance. The various uses of corpora in bilingual phraseography will be discussed here on the basis of data taken from a new German-Russian dictionary of idioms that is now under construction.¹

2 German-Russian Phraseography: State of the Art

The need for a new German-Russian phraseological dictionary is motivated by the fact that existing such dictionaries do not meet present requirements. Both the vocabulary and the examples in Binovič and Grišin’s German-Russian phraseological dictionary (Бинович, Гришин 1975) are out of date, and the work fails to satisfy current needs with respect to a number of other parameters as well. Although Dobrovol’skij’s *Немецко-русский словарь живых идиом* “German-Russian Dictionary of Current Idioms” (Добровольский 1997) is on the whole more up to date, it also has certain shortcomings. Its idiom list is rather limited, and illustrative examples are often arbitrary and unpersuasive, which may be because it was written back in the “pre-corpus era”. Actually, one of the basic goals of our new lexicographical project is to eliminate all the shortcomings of this dictionary and to significantly expand its idiom list.

Yet another dictionary of this type has appeared recently: *Новый немецко-русский фразеологический словарь* “The New German-Russian Phraseological Dictionary” (Шекасюк 2010). Its phraseme list is fairly large and up to date, but the work is difficult to use, primarily because the illustrative examples are not translated into Russian, and the division of entries into meanings and selected equivalents often appears hasty and arbitrary.

Thus there is an unquestionable need for a new dictionary containing the most widely used contemporary German idioms together with carefully selected Russian equivalents, explanations facilitating the correct use of these idioms, and good, authentic examples translated into Russian. It is also important that such a dictionary exist not only in print, but also (at least in part) in an online version,

1 „Moderne deutsch-russische Idiomatik: Ein Korpus-Wörterbuch“, unter der Leitung von Dmitrij Dobrovol’skij. Wissenschaftliche Redaktion: Dmitrij Dobrovol’skij, Artem Šarandin, Irina Parina und Tat’jana Filipenko; erarbeitet von Elena Krotova, Dmitrij Dobrovol’skij, Tat’jana Filipenko, Artem Šarandin, Viktorija Kosteva, Irina Parina und Denis Zaxarov. Russische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Moskau / Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien.

which will not only provide easier access to the information but will also ensure continuous revision and improvement.²

3 Corpus-based Bilingual Phraseography and Cross-linguistic Equivalence

The lexicographic treatment of the notion of equivalent in dictionaries based on corpus data encounters certain problems. Not infrequently, the generally accepted equivalent of an idiom cannot always be used to translate authentic texts.

Let us take an example. The German idiom *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* (literally ~ “to stand one’s legs into the stomach”) has a “standard” equivalent in Russian, namely the expression *отстоять себе все ноги* (literally ~ “to stand on one’s feet as long as they fall off”), both meaning something like ‘to stand out’ or ‘to stand through’. It would be somewhat odd to doubt that these expressions are basically equivalent, since they are identical with respect to both their lexicalized meaning and have similar image components. Nevertheless, it turns out that it is far from always possible to translate the idiom *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* with the Russian expression *отстоять себе все ноги*. Numerous contexts with the idiom *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* can be found in text corpora in which this idiom has to be translated into Russian either by the verb *простоять/простаивать* ‘to stand for some time’ or by the collocations *стоять в очереди* ‘to queue up’ and *выстраиваться в длинную очередь* ‘to stand in a long queue’.

(1) Schon am Nachmittag *standen sich* die Fans *die Beine in den Bauch*, um ein Autogramm Ullrichs zu bekommen. Fast 200 Meter lang war die Schlange bis zum Tisch, an dem der Radstar [...] Autogramme schrieb. (Mannheimer Morgen, 28.08.2004)

Уже во второй половине дня фанаты выстроились в длинную очередь, чтобы взять у Ульриха автограф. Очередь к столу, за которым звезда велогонок раздавал автографы, была почти 200 метров.

(2) Endlose Warteschlangen winden sich um das Moskauer Puschkin-Museum. Biedere russische Hausfrauen, Veteranen mit Orden am Sonntagsanzug [...], elegante Moskauerinnen – sie *stehen sich stundenlang die Beine in den Bauch* für ein paar Blicke auf den Schatz. (Zürcher Tagesanzeiger, 23.04.1996)

Бесконечная очередь вьётся вокруг московского Пушкинского музея. Простые российские домохозяйки, ветераны с орденами на груди, элегантные москвички – все они часами стоят в очереди, чтобы взглянуть на сокровища.

2 It goes without saying that putting a dictionary online does not automatically mean an easy access to data for its permanent revision. However, an online dictionary provides a better opportunity to improve the entries.

Consequently, despite the intuitively felt equivalence of the expressions *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* and *отстоять себе все ноги*, this equivalence cannot be considered complete. For the lexicographer interested in a maximally precise description of the material, such instances are problematical. Either we acknowledge that *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* and *отстоять себе все ноги* are equivalent, in which case it is necessary to explain why the “standard” equivalent is unacceptable in a number of contexts, or we deny that a relationship of bilingual equivalence obtains between *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* and *отстоять себе все ноги*, and focus exclusively on translating specific contexts. Such a solution, however, is counterintuitive.

There are at least two possibilities to solve this problem. Either we refrain from giving equivalents and replace them with an explanation, or we provide the given equivalents with a commentary indicating relevant limitations.

In our dictionary we have followed the second path. Thus for the German idiom *sich (D) die Beine in den Bauch stehen* we give the Russian equivalent *отстоять себе все ноги* and explain divergences in the use of the idioms in the commentary, where we point to the fact that the Russian idiom *отстоять себе все ноги* is a perfectiva tantum, i.e. it cannot normally be used in the imperfective aspect.

Another example. The German idiom *jmdn. an der Nase herumführen* (cf. English *to lead s.o. (around) by the nose*) is not fully equivalent to its seemingly ideal Russian counterpart *водить за нос кого-л.* because this Russian idiom is an imperfectiva tantum and can be used in the perfective aspect only in non-veridical contexts such as *а народ не дурак, за нос его так просто не проведешь* or *за нос такового провести нетрудно*, which are encountered quite rarely. For more detail see (Dobrovolskij 2013). Normally, when used in contexts focusing the result, the German idiom *jmdn. an der Nase herumführen* has to be translated into Russian either by the verbs *надуть* and *одурачить* or by the idiom *обвести вокруг пальца*.

(3) Die Aktionäre fühlen sich vom größten deutschen Industriekonzern *an der Nase herumgeführt*. (Mannheimer Morgen, 08.08.1995)

У акционеров такое чувство, что самый большой промышленный концерн Германии обвел их вокруг пальца.

(4) In Wahrheit hatte er [Wolfgang Schäuble] aber 100.000 Mark [...] bekommen [...]. Und das hat er im Deutschen Bundestag [...] verschwiegen und hat das erst später, vier Wochen später in einem Fernsehinterview aufgedeckt und da haben viele gesagt, [...] der hat den Deutschen Bundestag *an der Nase herumgeführt*. (www.stroebele-online.de/themen/spendenaffaere/29273.html)

На самом деле он [Вольфганг Шойбле] получил 100.000 марок. Причем он скрыл это от бундестага и только позднее, спустя четыре недели, признался в этом во время телеинтервью. И многие сказали тогда: он просто одурачил немецкий парламент.

A question that arises from the perspective of phraseological theory (especially its contrastive aspects) concerns the essence of cross-linguistic equivalence of idioms. It seems expedient to distinguish two different aspects of equivalence: (a) equivalence in translation; that is, the relationship between an idiom of language L1 and its translation into language L2 in a particular text, and (b)

equivalence in the language system; that is, the relationship between the compared idioms of L1 and L2 on the systemic level.³

One of the most important differences between translational and systemic equivalence (besides the fact that the former has to do with a concrete text and the latter with the lexical system) consists in the circumstance that equivalence in translation is a unilateral relationship, whereas equivalence in the language system is defined as bilateral. In other words, if a phraseme of language L1 is equivalent to a phraseme in language L2 (in terms of (b)-equivalence), this means that the L2 phraseme is also equivalent to the corresponding L1 expression. With respect to equivalence in translation, all that is being said is that an expression in language L2 is being used in the translation of some specific text in language L1 in such a way that between the L1 phraseme from this particular text and the L2 expression there is a relationship of semantic correspondence. The fact that the translation of some L1 phraseme into language L2 is its equivalent (at least with respect to this particular context) does not, of course, mean that the relationship can be reversed. That is, the L1 phraseme should not be regarded as an equivalent of the expression used in the translation of this phraseme into language L2 (even if this expression is a phraseme, which is not at all obligatory). Obviously, the study of equivalence in translation broadens our notions about the possibilities of cross-linguistic paraphrasing and about the role of contextual conditions in the selection of adequate correspondences, and it contributes to the development of both translation theory and contrastive phraseology.

As for equivalence in the language system, its study has both theoretical and practical significance for phraseology. Deserving of special attention from the theoretical point of view is the question of why one and the same concept is expressed by means of an idiom in one language but not in another. Another (no less important) problem concerns the fact that between basically similar idioms in language L1 and language L2, there are practically always certain semantic, pragmatic, and collocational differences that must be discovered and described. This is especially important in cases where a traditional description postulates a relationship of “full equivalence” but ignores the absence of functional interchangeability between the idioms. The practical aspect of systemic equivalence is what is reflected in bilingual dictionaries, where the entry consists of a phraseme of language L1 (in the lemma) and its idiomatic (to the extent this is possible) correlates in L2. Can these correlates be regarded as equivalents of the L1 phraseme? Yes and no. On the one hand, they must be at least “partial equivalents”, for otherwise they could not be placed in the corresponding dictionary entry. On the other, often they cannot be used in the translation of specific texts. The reason, as a rule, is that the phrasemes of L1 and L2 display certain differences in their semantic, pragmatic, and collocational features. They can be considered cross-linguistic equivalents only in a rather approximate comparison of the idioms of the given languages, and are the starting point of a thorough contrastive analysis that attempts to

3 That (a) and (b) represent different aspects of the equivalence phenomenon has been noted in various theoretical contexts. For example, Zgusta distinguishes between *explanatory* or *descriptive* and *translational* or *insertable* equivalents, Hausmann between *prototypical* and *textual* equivalents, and Gouws between *semantic* and *communicative* ones. For more detail see (Adamska-Sałaciak 2010: 392-397).

discover the unique properties of each idiom and thereby improve the lexicological and lexicographical description of phraseology.

Obviously, aspects (a) and (b) are, as it were, two sides of the same phenomenon or two approaches to studying it. We assume that one of the principal goals of contrastive phraseology is to discover genuine equivalents – that is, those that are as close as possible with respect to their actual meanings and – ideally – with respect to the image basis of the expressions, and that function equally well in analogous types of situations, which does not at all imply an obligatory “phraseme – phraseme” relationship. What is important for cross-linguistic correspondence, after all, is not “phraseologicalness,” but functional equivalence.⁴ It is this type of equivalence that is most interesting from the perspective of bilingual lexicography. To find out functional equivalents we have to simultaneously go two ways: from text to language system and from language system to text. On the one hand, not all systemic equivalents can function as counterparts in authentic texts and, on the other, not all translational equivalents can be included in the dictionary as typical parallels suitable for using in neutral contexts.

In contrast to a conception that is wide-spread within traditional phraseology, I claim that lexical units of any kind (i.e., not only idioms) in L2 which have the identical meaning and, in the ideal case, near-identical metaphorical basis as the L1-idioms from the source text are excellent functional equivalents, so they have to be considered not only more or less appropriate translational solutions, but also real functional equivalents, i.e. parallels in the lexicons of L1 and L2, which have to be fixed lexicographically.

4 Parameters of the new Corpus-based Dictionary

The basic parameters upon which dictionaries can be described and compared are (i) the word list (in our case, the idiom list), (ii) the corpus of illustrative examples, (iii) the macrostructure, and (iv) the microstructure, that is, the structure of the entries. Each of these parameters is briefly described below.

4 I consider functional equivalents to be a kind of compromise between the translational and systemic approaches, i.e. functional equivalents are lexical items that on the one hand, semantically resemble each other as closely as possible, i.e. are intuitively felt similar in a contextless, isolated presentation, and, on the other, mostly can be used in similar situations. Thus, my interpretation of functional equivalence differs from, for example, Zgusta's approach. Zgusta (1984: 151) points out that “a translation should convey to its reader the same message with the same aesthetic and other values which are conveyed by the original text. Since languages differ in all imaginable respects, the translator-lexicographer must sometimes use means quite different from those used in the original in order to obtain the same results. If the different means do produce the same effect, the texts are considered functionally equivalent”.

4.1 The Idiom List

The idiom list of our new dictionary is based primarily on that of Dobrovol'skij's *Немецко-русский словарь живых идиом* "German-Russian Dictionary of Current Idioms" (Добровольский 1997), which contains in all about 1000 items. While working on the monograph (Dobrovol'skij 1997), I conducted a detailed survey in which informants were asked to take into account not only the units that they felt were widely used in contemporary speech, but also those that were judged to be generally known although not necessarily used. In other words, a distinction was drawn between passive and active command of the phraseology. Combining these two idiom lists resulted in a new, expanded idiom list that was supplemented in the course of working with the corpora. At present our idiom list contains some 2000 idioms with variants. There is reason to believe that it covers a majority of commonly used and most familiar idioms of the contemporary German literary language.

Vulgar expressions were deliberately excluded, since such idioms are ill suited for active use by non-native speakers of German. Since the dictionary aspires to a certain extent to be active, its idiom list focuses not so much on understanding as on use.

4.2 The Body of Illustrative Examples

The basic difference between the present dictionary and traditional ones is that all examples of idiom usage in it are taken from the text corpora DeReKo and DWDS, and in individual cases from the German-language Internet. Parallel texts from the Russian National Corpus (RNC) are also used. These examples are especially valuable because they have been translated by professional translators rather than by the authors and editors of the dictionary. Since this part of the parallel corpus of the RNC is still rather modest in size, however, examples needed for the dictionary were rarely encountered.

The use of authentic examples based on text corpora is a new approach in bilingual lexicography. Traditional dictionaries were based on a limited body of generally randomly selected examples, and the use of the idioms was often not even exemplified. The advantages of using corpora consist not only in more detailed and well thought-out illustrations of the expressions being described, but also in the additional possibilities that the corpus materials provide for compiling the idiom list and structuring entries. Thus the corpus allows us to determine the degree of frequency of an expression (at least in the written language). For example, the expression *ich fresse einen Besen* occurred in DeReKo 60 times, *Blech reden* 128 times, *bei Adam und Eva anfangen [beginnen]* 236 times, *jmdm. um den Bart gehen* 41 times, *Gift und Galle spucken [speien...]* 312 times, and *bittere Pille* 2804 times. The lower occurrence threshold for an expression to be included in the idiom list can be set differently for different dictionaries. The important point is that together with surveys of informants, the lexicographer now has a supplemental resource for determining the frequency of each individual idiom.

Yet another advantage of using corpora is that it increases our ability to determine the peculiarities of the formal and semantic structure of idioms, particularly in the description of the ambiguity and

variation of a form. Although an analysis of examples of use clearly indicates that polysemy in phraseology is an extremely widespread phenomenon (for further detail see Dobrovolskij & Filipenko 2009), traditional dictionaries rarely distinguish the different meanings of idioms, and seldom reflect the full diversity of variants actually represented in texts. Dictionaries often register only a single “canonized” form of an idiom that in many cases proves to be not the most frequent one.

In a number of instances text corpora allow us not only to determine the form of a lemma and a selection of its most frequent variants, but also to establish whether a given expression belongs to the sphere of phraseology. For example, Duden 11 (2002) cites two synonymous idioms with the verb *abberufen* in the passive: *abberufen werden: in die Ewigkeit abberufen werden* and *aus dem Leben abberufen werden*. The following synonymous expressions with this verb form are given in DeReKo: *aus dem Leben abberufen werden, zur großen Armee abberufen werden, in die Ewigkeit abberufen werden, ins Jenseits abberufen werden, in die ewigen Jagdgründe abberufen werden, in die ewige Heimat abberufen werden, von/aus dieser Welt abberufen werden, aus diesem irdischen Leben abberufen werden, aus unseren Reihen [aus unserer Mitte] abberufen werden, zu den Scharen der Engel abberufen werden, in eine andere Welt abberufen werden, in den ewigen Frieden abberufen werden, in ein besseres Jenseits abberufen werden, für uns alle viel zu früh abberufen werden, vom Schöpfer abberufen werden, von Gott (dem Herrn) abberufen werden, vom Tod (ins Jenseits) abberufen werden, von einem gnädigen Tod abberufen werden*. There are also expressions close in meaning in which the verb *abberufen* is used in the active voice: *jmdn. will Gott abberufen, jmdn. hat der Tod abberufen*. These findings suggest that the sense of “calling/summoning s.o. from life” is simply a metaphorical meaning of the verb *abberufen*. Consequently, what we have to do with here is not an idiom but a series of relatively free collocations based on a metaphor.

Another example. Duden 11 (2002) cites four idioms with the noun *Mundwerk*: *jmds. Mundwerk steht nicht still* (ugs.) ‘jmd. redet ununterbrochen’; *ein böses/lockeres/loses/frechtes o.ä. Mundwerk haben* (ugs.) ‘gehässig/vorlaut/frech o.ä. reden’; *ein gutes/flinkes Mundwerk haben* (ugs.) ‘sehr gewandt reden’; *ein großes Mundwerk haben* (ugs.) ‘großsprecherisch reden’. Corpus analysis has shown that the noun *Mundwerk* has a much broader combinatorial profile. Compare, e.g., *flottes, vorlautes, geschliffenes Mundwerk*. This noun can also be used without any adjectives, combining with verbs of various meanings. Cf.

(5) Manchmal wäre es vielleicht sinnvoller, mein *Mundwerk* etwas zu zügeln, nach dem Motto „Reden ist Silber, Schweigen ist Gold“. (St. Galler Tagblatt, 08.04.1999)

Hence, we are dealing here not with four idioms but with a free noun. It seems that the combinatorial profile of this noun is relatively restricted. The only way to describe the collocational constraints in question is the consistent analysis of corpus data.

4.3 Dictionary Macrostructure

The dictionary has two parts: the *body*, consisting of entries listed alphabetically by headword, and the *index*, which makes it possible to find an idiom from any of its constituents.

The idioms are arranged alphabetically by headword, selected according to the following hierarchy:

- nouns
- adjectives (including adjectivized participles)
- adverbs (including adjectives in adverbial position and adverbialized participles)
- numerals
- verbs
- particles (with the exception of the negative particle *nicht*)
- pronouns (with the exception of the reflexive pronoun *sich*)
- prepositions
- conjunctions
- interjections

The order of this hierarchy is motivated by the variation features of the lexical structure of the idiom. Thus the verb can often be replaced by a synonym (or more rarely by an antonym), whereas adjectives and adverbs are more stable elements of the structure, and it is this that accounts for their higher position in the hierarchy. Adjectives and adjectivized participles, in turn, are more stable than adverbs. For example, cf. the structurally and semantically similar idioms *es ist (nicht) gut bestellt (um jmdn., etw. A) = дела обстоят (не очень) хорошо (с чем-л. / у кого-л.)* и *es ist (nicht so) schlecht bestellt (um A) = дела обстоят (не так) плохо (с чем-л. / у кого-л.)*. Alphabetizing them according to the adverbial constituent would necessitate entering them in different parts of the dictionary (under GUT and under SCHLECHT, respectively), which is counterintuitive. Alphabetization according to the constituent BESTELLT, which is an adjectivized participle, is much more convenient for the user.

An example of a group of idioms based on the headword under which they are arranged is given in the Appendix.

4.4 Dictionary Entry Structure

Dictionary entries open with the *headword*, i.e. the word on which alphabetization is based. This (word, if it is a noun) is always given in the nominative singular (e.g. КОПФ), even if the idioms following the headword contain forms such as *Kopfes, Köpfe, Köpfen* etc. The headword is followed by the *lemma* – the idiom in traditional dictionary form (nominative for nominal expressions, the infinitive with valencies for verbal ones).

Idioms in *propositional* (or *personal*) form are indicated in cases where the subjective valency is filled in a non-trivial way or when the infinitive of the idiom translates poorly into Russian. Compare, e.g., **ei-**

nen dicken Kopf haben (*von etw. D*): (*jmd.*) hat (*von etw. D*) einen dicken Kopf = (*у кого-л.*) голова болит (*из-за чего-л.*), (*у кого-л.*) голова раскалывается (*от чего-л., после чего-л. – особенно с похмелья*). The propositional form often helps to discriminate the senses of a polysemous idiom; cf. **jenseits von Gut und Böse sein**: **1.** (*jmd.*) ist jenseits von Gut und Böse = (*кто-л.*) чужд плотским удовольствиям (*часто о пожилых людях*) **2.** (*jmd.*) ist jenseits von Gut und Böse = (*кто-л.*) не от мира сего, (*кто-л.*) потерял связь с реальностью, (*кто-л.*) неадекватен (*часто о людях, находящихся в состоянии сильного алкогольного опьянения*) **3.** (*jmd.*) ist jenseits von Gut und Böse = (*кто-л.*) по ту сторону добра и зла **4.** (*etw.*) ist jenseits von Gut und Böse = (*что-л.*) выходит за привычные рамки, (*что-л.*) невероятно (*что-л. очень хорошо либо очень плохо; часто о слишком высоких либо слишком низких ценах*).

The lemma or propositional form (if there is one) is followed by stylistic *labels*. The use of which follows the principles set forth in (Баранов, Добровольский 2008). Thus the label *разг.* (colloquial) is not used at all, since most idioms belong to the colloquial register. In other words, this label “works” by remaining silent. The following labels are used: *высок.* (high style) – for high style expressions, *книжн.* (literary) – for literary and bookish expressions, *офиц.* (formal) – for expressions in official language and business communication, *нейтр.* (neutral) – for expressions in the neutral register (that is, for idioms higher than colloquial expressions on the scale of stylistic registers), and *снижен.* (\approx very informal) – for idioms felt to be not entirely acceptable in the standard colloquial style (i.e. lower than *разг.*).

The *translation* of the idiom into Russian is generally oriented toward the system of the language, i.e. toward (b)-equivalents, rather than toward contextual conditions. Relevant functional and context-sensitive properties are additionally explained and illustrated in other parts of the entry, mostly in the commentary and illustrative field. That is, if in the examples of usage an idiom is translated in a non-standard manner, this does not mean that these – often unique – ways of translating it must be registered in the translation field. There it is often expedient to indicate several equivalents, first of all, those translations that with respect to their actual meaning and image basis maximally approximate the German idiom being described. The syntactic parallelism of suggested equivalents is also taken into account as far as possible. If an equivalent parallel to the lemma cannot be found or if it sounds strange, what is recorded in the field of the propositional form is the syntactic version of the German expression that would best correspond to the suggested Russian translation. The translation field can also contain explanatory commentaries that further indicate in which of the possible meanings the suggested Russian translation is equivalent to the German expression.

The *variant field* follows the translation field. Describing variants in a separate field makes it possible not only to reflect more completely the actual variation of the structure of the idiom, but also to avoid having to burden the notation of the lemma with a series of parentheses.

As for selecting *illustrative examples*, preference is given to modern examples, that is, to contexts with idioms dating from the past fifteen years. The basic source for illustrative examples is the corpus of the Mannheim Institute of the German Language (DeReKo). For more detail see section 4.2. In selec-

ting illustrative examples, we have tried not to include examples peculiar to Austrian or Swiss usage, since these deviate from standard literary German (and due to their regional and cultural distinctiveness) do not fully satisfy the needs of a bilingual dictionary with educational goals.⁵

The search for contexts relies not only on the standard options but also on so called “co-occurrence analysis” (Kookkurrenzanalyse). This program helps to determine the lexical contexts in which a given idiom occurs especially often.

All contexts are given in the current (i.e. the “new”) orthography. The peculiarities of Swiss orthography (for example, *ss* instead of the normative *ß*) are not preserved. Such deviations from prevailing standards are given in conformity with the spelling norms of the common German language. For the sake of convenience in using the dictionary, the authors have simplified extremely complex and verbose contexts. Deletions in abbreviated contexts are marked by [...]; cf. examples (1), (2), and (4) above. This indication is not repeated in the Russian translations. Contexts that are overloaded with specific information that is not relevant to conditions for using a given idiom are slightly modified. For example, unfamiliar proper names are replaced with neutral designations of the participants of a situation. In such cases the source is indicated (in parentheses immediately following the context) by *Nach.*. Compare examples in the Appendix.

The *commentary field* contains information significant for the correct use of the expressions if such information cannot be derived from the valency model and/or the semantic and syntactic features of the Russian equivalents. The commentary field indicates, for example, the syntactic and combinatorial properties of the idiom. Also reflected in the commentaries are features relating to the polarization (especially the negative polarity) of expressions, their aspectological peculiarities, possibilities of nominalization, characteristic metonymical shifts, etc., as well as any significant transformational properties of the idiom, especially if they do not coincide with the syntax of the Russian equivalent. Thus the idiom *Blech reden* (unlike its Russian equivalents *пустословить*, *нести чепуху*, *болтать языком*) can be passivized. The commentary field has no fixed position in the structure of the dictionary entry. Accordingly, it can be located in any part of the dictionary entry (depending on the nature of the information being provided).

5 This does not mean that Austrian and Swiss sources of empirical data were excluded.

5 Conclusion

The use of corpora clearly expands the resources available to the lexicographer for creating the illustrative component of the dictionary entry, but it also offers a number of additional possibilities. Let us attempt to list the most obvious such advantages. Working with corpora makes it possible

- to determine the frequency of each idiom included in the dictionary;
- to determine whether a particular word group is an idiom;
- to determine the standard form of a lemma from the point of view of modern usage;
- to clarify the government models of relevant idioms;
- to determine the most significant variants of each idiom;
- to determine the polysemy structure of each idiom and refine the description of its concrete meanings;
- on the basis of corpus materials, to select the most adequate correspondences, including translations of concrete examples, for each meaning of an idiom;
- to describe the typical modifications of the structure of each idiom;
- to determine the typical environment of the idioms being described and the types of contexts in which they are perceived to be most natural.

Literature on the subject distinguishes two approaches to the use of corpora in lexicographical research: corpus-based and corpus-driven.⁶ In the first approach, corpus data are used to confirm already existing hypotheses, while in the second it is the corpus itself that constitutes the data about linguistic structures, and it is only later that these data are interpreted by the linguist. It is clear that on the whole, lexicographers use corpora as the source of additional information about already given linguistic forms (that is, the corpus-based approach). As the material discussed in this paper shows, however, lexicographical work also presumes elements of the corpus-driven paradigm. In other words, in a number of cases corpus data provide lexicographers with knowledge about the structure and semantics of idioms to which they would not have had access even on the hypothetical level prior to consulting the corpus.

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6 Cf., first of all (Tognini-Bonelli 2001), where this distinction is discussed. However, “good corpus research almost always uses both” (Kilgarriff 2013: 96).

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7 Digital Resources

- DeReKo – Das Deutsche Referenzkorpus des IDS Mannheim im Portal COSMAS II (Corpus Search, Management and Analysis System) <<https://cosmas2.ids-mannheim.de/cosmas2-web>>
- DWDS – Corpora des Digitalen Wörterbuchs der deutschen Sprache des 20. Jahrhunderts <<http://www.dwds.de>>

Online dictionary “Deutsch-russische Idiome online“ <http://wvonline.ids-mannheim.de/idiome_russ/index.htm>

RNC (НКРЯ) – Russian National Corpus (Национальный корпус русского языка) <http://www.ruscorpora.ru>

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Appendix

ЛИХТ

Licht bringen (in etw. A)

нейтр.

внести ясность (во что-л.); прояснить (что-л.); пролить свет (на что-л.)

☞ Archäologen *haben* endlich *Licht* in einen Abschnitt der Geschichte Londons *gebracht*, der vom Abzug der Römer aus Britannien 410 bis ins Mittelalter reicht. (Berliner Morgenpost, 09.09.1999)

Археологам наконец-то удалось *пролить свет* на период истории Лондона с момента ухода римлян из Британии в 410 г. и до Средневековья.

☞ Die Aussage eines 37 Jahre alten Beifahrers in einem anderen Auto *hatte Licht* in die zunächst rätselhafte Kollision *gebracht*. (Frankfurter Rundschau, 26.03.1999)

Показания 37-летнего пассажира, сидевшего рядом с водителем в другом автомобиле, *прояснили* это сперва казавшееся загадочным столкновение.

☞ Auf jeden Fall sind die Funde aus Engers sehr wichtig, um *Licht* in das für Historiker „dunkle fünfte Jahrhundert“ zu *bringen*. (Rhein-Zeitung, 25.05.2007)

В любом случае, находки в Энгерсе очень важны для историков, поскольку могут *пролить свет* на «тёмный пятый век».

das Licht der Welt erblicken: (jmd., etw.) erblickt das Licht der Welt

высок.

(кто-л.) появился на свет, (кто-л.) родился; (что-л.) родилось (напр. об изобретениях); (что-л.) увидело свет

☞ In Deutschland *erblicken* pro Jahr rund 60 000 Säuglinge vor der 37. Schwangerschaftswoche *das Licht der Welt* – Tendenz steigend. (Rhein-Zeitung, 09.11.2011)

В Германии за год более 60 000 детей *появляются на свет* до 37-ой недели беременности, и эта тенденция растёт.

☞ Die Anzahl seiner Geburtspartys hält sich in überschaubaren Grenzen, denn er *erblickte* an einem 29. Februar *das Licht der Welt*. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 08.02.2009)

Ему не так часто доводилось устраивать вечеринки в честь своего дня рождения, потому что он *появился на свет* 29-го февраля.

☞ 1995 war auch das Geburtsjahr des Internet-Dienstes Yahoo und Ende 1998 *erblickte* die Suchmaschine Google in einer Garage *das Licht der Welt*. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 15.03.2009)

В 1995 году появился ещё и Интернет-сервис «Yahoo», а в конце 1998-го в гараже *была рождена* поисковая система «Гугл».

ein Licht geht auf (*jmdm.*)

глаза открылись (*у кого-л.*); (*кто-л.*) догадался

- 📖 Идиома часто употребляется с наречиями *plötzlich*, *endlich*, *langsam* – перевод соответственно модифицируется.
- 📖 Die italienische Schauspielerin Gina Lollobrigida kommt nach Nürnberg! *Langsam ging* den Verehrern des Filmstars *ein Licht auf*: April! April! (Nach: Nürnberger Zeitung, 29.04.2010)
Итальянская актриса Джина Лоллобриджида приезжает в Нюрнберг! *Постепенно* до поклонников кинозвезды дошло, что это была первоапрельская шутка.
- 📖 Aber nachdem ich Hunderte von Interviews mit Trainern gelesen und gehört habe, *ist mir endlich ein Licht aufgegangen*: Ich bin eigentlich gar kein Arbeitnehmer oder Kunde, ich bin ein Helfer. (Nach: Rhein-Zeitung, 28.02.2002)
Но после того как я прочитал и прослушал сотни интервью с тренерами, *я наконец-то понял*: я никакой не наёмный рабочий и не клиент, я помощник.
- 📖 Идиома может употребляться с валентностью *über etw.* А в значении '(кто-л.) осознал (что-л.)'.
- 📖 Und *geht* der Mannschaft endlich *ein Licht auf* über den Ernst der Lage? (Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12.03.2009)
И *осознает* ли команда наконец всю серьёзность положения?

grünes Licht geben (*für etw. A*)

нейтр.

дать зелёный свет (*для чего-л.*), дать разрешение (*на что-л.*)

- 📖 Das Bauamt *hat grünes Licht* für einen Anbau ans Museum *gegeben*. Dort soll das Archiv untergebracht werden. (Rhein-Zeitung, 08.09.2011)
Строительное ведомство *дало разрешение* на постройку флигеля музея. Там будет располагаться архив.
- 📖 Das Arbeitsgericht Frankfurt *hat* im Tarifstreit beim Flugzeugbauer Airbus *grünes Licht* für Warnstreiks *gegeben*. (Rhein-Zeitung, 01.10.2011)
Суд по трудовым спорам Франкфурта *дал зелёный свет* на предупредительную забастовку рабочих самолётостроительного концерна «Эйрбас» из-за тарифного конфликта.
- 📖 Die Suche nach der seit Jahrzehnten verschwundenen Leiche von Lolita Brieger auf einer ehemaligen Mülldeponie in der Eifel kann beginnen. Experten *gaben grünes Licht*. (Rhein-Zeitung, 05.10.2011)
Поиски трупа Лолиты Бригер, исчезнувшей уже десятки лет назад, на бывшей мусорной свалке в Эйфеле, могут начаться. Эксперты *дали зелёный свет*.
- 📖 Ben Bernanke (56) kann aufatmen. Er bekommt eine zweite Amtszeit als US-Notenbankchef. Der mächtige Bankenausschuss des Senats *gab* dafür *grünes Licht*. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 18.12.2009)
56-летний Бен Бернанке может вздохнуть с облегчением. Он во второй раз получил должность директора эмиссионного банка США. Вчера влиятельная банковская комиссия сената дала соответствующее *разрешение*.
- 📖 Bis 2012 hat der Iran die Atombombe, glauben viele Beobachter. „Dann ist es zu spät“, lautet das Credo des israelischen Premiers Netanjahu. Er drängt auf einen Angriff. Von George Bush *gab* es dafür *grünes Licht*, von Obama nicht. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 14.04.2010)
К 2012 году у Ирана появится атомная бомба, полагают многие наблюдатели. «Тогда будет слишком поздно», – уверен премьер министр Израиля Нетаньяху. Он настаивает на нападении. Джордж Буш *давал* ему на это *зелёный свет*, а Обама – нет.
- 📖 Warschau. Ein Gericht in Polen *gab grünes Licht* für die Auslieferung eines mutmaßlichen Agenten des israelischen Geheimdienstes Mossad an Deutschland. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 08.07.2010)
Польский суд *дал зелёный свет* на экстрадицию в Германию предполагаемого агента израильской разведки «Моссад».
- 📖 Возможна атрибутивная модификация.

- ☞ Für entsprechende Projekte in Hammelburg, Freising, Kempten und Passau *gab* Wirtschaftsminister Otto Wiesheu jetzt *das lang ersehnte grüne Licht*. (Nürnberger Nachrichten, 10.08.1994)
Министр экономики Отто Визхой *наконец-то дал разрешение* на соответствующие проекты в Хаммелбурге, Фрайзинге, Кэмптене и Пассау.

in rosigem Licht

нейтр.

в розовом [радужном] свете

☞ редко **in rosa(rotem) Licht**

- ☞ Frankfurt sieht nach zehn trüben Jahren plötzlich die eigene Zukunft *in rosigem Licht*. (Nach: Nürnberger Nachrichten, 20.02.2001)

После десяти мрачных лет будущее Франкфурта неожиданно предстаёт в *розовом свете*.

- ☞ Прилагательное *rosig* может употребляться с неопределённым артиклем (*in einem rosigen Licht*). Возможны также сравнительная или превосходная степени прилагательного (*in einem rosigeren Licht*, *im rosigsten Licht*).

- ☞ Ich war 13 oder 14 Jahre alt, als wir in der Schule einen Aufsatz über unsere Zukunftspläne und Lebensziele schreiben mussten. Aufsätze schrieb ich gern, und trotz aller Nachkriegseinschränkungen sah ich die Zukunft *in einem rosigen Licht*. (Nach: Mannheimer Morgen, 27.12.1997)

Мне было лет 13-14, когда нам в школе задали написать сочинение о планах на будущее и целях в жизни. Я любил писать сочинения, а будущее, несмотря на все тяготы послевоенного времени, видел в *розовом свете*.

- ☞ Die Pannenserie der vergangenen Monate an Bord der Mir hat paradoxerweise dazu beigetragen, dass die Zukunft der russischen Raumfahrt heute wieder *in einem rosigeren Licht* erscheint. (Nürnberger Nachrichten, 25.08.1997)

Как ни парадоксально, но серия поломок на орбитальной станции «Мир» за последние месяцы способствовала тому, что сегодня будущее российской космонавтики снова кажется *более радужным*.

- ☞ Прилагательное в составе идиомы может модифицироваться с помощью указательных местоимений, адвербиалов и пр.

- ☞ Warum ist er nicht Lehrer geworden, wenn er die materiellen Vorteile des Lehrerberufes *in solch herrlich rosarotem Licht* sieht? (Frankfurter Rundschau, 23.07.1997)

Почему же он сам не стал учителем, если материальные выгоды этой профессии ему видятся *в столь прекрасном розовом свете*?

- ☞ В контекстах с отрицанием идиома употребляется в форме *in keinem rosigen Licht* или *nicht in rosigem Licht*.

- ☞ Beschwerden von Nachbarn über zu laute Musik und die anhaltende Ebbe im Stadtsäckel lassen die Zukunft des Jugendkulturhauses „Schillers“ *in keinem rosigen Licht* erscheinen. (Nach: Mannheimer Morgen, 19.03.2010)

Из-за жалоб соседей на слишком громкую музыку и постоянного недостатка в городской казне будущее молодёжного дома культуры «Шиллерс» видится отнюдь *не в розовом свете*.

- ☞ Der scheidende Privatsekretär der Queen wollte zu Charles Entsetzen ein weiteres Diana-Buch genehmigen, das die Verstorbene *nicht gerade in rosigem Licht darstellt*. (Berliner Morgenpost, 02.11.1998)

Увольняющийся личный секретарь королевы хотел к ужасу Чарльза дать согласие на публикацию ещё одной книги о Диане, в которой покойная предстаёт отнюдь *не в розовом свете*.

- ☞ Идиома может также употребляться в форме (*etw. A*) *in (ein) rosiges Licht tauchen [stellen, rücken ...]*.

☞ Bei den Neujahrsansprachen haben Politiker und Unternehmen die Wirtschaftswirklichkeit *in rosigen Licht* getaucht. Von drei Prozent Wachstum und der Wende am Arbeitsmarkt war da die Rede. (Rhein-Zeitung, 07.01.1998)

В своих новогодних поздравлениях политики и бизнесмены *представили* реальную экономическую ситуацию страны *в розовом свете*. Речь шла тогда о трёх процентах роста и переменах на рынке труда.

TUCH

ein rotes Tuch sein (*für jmdn.*)

действовать как красная тряпка на быка (*на кого-л.*)

☞ **wie ein rotes Tuch wirken** (*auf jmdn.*)

☞ Die Steuererklärung *ist für fast jeden ein rotes Tuch*. Viele sind schon in Hektik, denn der Termin rückt jetzt langsam näher: Spätestens am 31. Mai muss die Steuererklärung abgegeben werden. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 26.03.2010)

Налоговая декларация *действует* почти на каждого *как красная тряпка на быка*. Многие уже в панике, так как срок медленно, но верно приближается: декларация должна быть сдана не позднее 31 мая.

☞ Als Außenminister Guido Westerwelle seinen Antrittsbesuch in Warschau machte, wusste er sehr genau, dass Frau Steinbach *ein rotes Tuch* in Polen *ist*. Die CDU-Abgeordnete hatte 1991 im Bundestag nicht für die Oder-Neiße-Grenze gestimmt. (Nach: Nürnberger Nachrichten, 12.02.2010)

Когда министр иностранных дел Гидо Вестервелле Германии совершил свой первый визит в этой должности в Варшаву, он знал очень хорошо, что госпожа Штайнбах *действует* на поляков *как красная тряпка на быка*. Будучи депутатом от партии ХДС в бундестаге, она не проголосовала в 1991 году за границу по Одере-Нейсе.

☞ Die Sicherheitskonferenz bleibt eine kitschige Angelegenheit für die bayerische Polizei, zumal unter den Gästen auch einige sind, die auf die Gegner *wie ein rotes Tuch wirken*. (Nürnberger Zeitung, 11.02.2005)

Конференция по безопасности остается весьма щекотливым мероприятием для баварской полиции, тем более что среди гостей есть такие, *которые* действуют на своих оппонентов *как красная тряпка на быка*.

in trockene Tücher bringen (*etw. A*)

☞ **in trockene Tücher bekommen** (*etw. A*)

окончательно оговорить [согласовать] (*что-л.*)

☞ Der Wechsel des Holländers von Real Madrid nach München soll kurz vor dem Abschluss stehen! Die Bayern und Real wollen den Transfer heute *in trockene Tücher bringen*. Nur noch Details seien zu klären. (Hamburger Morgenpost, 27.08.2009)

Переход голландского игрока из мадридского «Реала» в мюнхенский клуб уже практически завершён! «Бавария» и «Реал» хотят *окончательно оговорить* трансфер сегодня. Осталось только согласовать детали.

☞ Seehofer warnte vor einem Scheitern der Verhandlungen. Zur Not müsse die Ministerrunde die ganze Nacht zum Mittwoch verhandeln, um die Reform *in trockene Tücher* zu *bekommen*. Würde das Problem in das nächste Jahr verschoben, wäre eine Lösung noch schwieriger als jetzt. (dpa, 18.12.2007)

Господин Зеehoфер предостерег о возможном провале переговоров. По его словам, коллегии министров в крайнем случае придётся заседать всю ночь до утра среды, чтобы *окончательно согласовать* реформу. Если же отложить этот проблемный вопрос на следующий год, решить его потом будет ещё сложнее.

☞ Ср. также идиомы *in trockenen Tüchern sein*, *in trockene Tücher kommen* и *in trockenen Tüchern haben* (*etw. A*).

in trockenen Tüchern haben (etw. A)

довести до конца (что-л.), (окончательно) уладить (что-л.)

☞ Wir *haben* jetzt schon alles *in trockenen Tüchern* und wollten den neuen Trainer auch so schnell wie möglich der Mannschaft vorstellen. (Braunschweiger Zeitung, 26.01.2012)

Мы уже всё *уладили* и хотим как можно скорее представить нового тренера команде.

☞ Vorrang vor allem anderen hat für Obama nach wie vor die Gesundheitsreform, die er möglichst noch in diesem Jahr *in trockenen Tüchern haben* will. (Mannheimer Morgen, 10.12.2009)

Предпочтение Обама по-прежнему отдаёт реформе здравоохранения, которую он, по возможности, планирует *довести до конца* в этом году.

📖 Ср. также идиомы *in trockenen Tüchern sein*, *in trockene Tücher bringen* (etw. A) и *in trockene Tücher kommen*.

in trockene Tücher kommen

реализоваться, быть принятым

☞ Während die Finanzmärkte in Asien und Europa zunächst positiv auf die Einigung in Washington reagierten, fiel der Enthusiasmus an der Wall Street gedämpft aus. Zudem warten die Märkte ab, ob die Vereinbarung zwischen Obama und den Kongressführern tatsächlich *in trockene Tücher kommt*. (Nach: St. Galler Tagblatt, 02.08.2011)

В то время как финансовые рынки Азии и Европы положительно отреагировали на достигнутую в Вашингтоне договорённость, на Уолл Стрит она была встречена с вялым энтузиазмом. Кроме того, рынки выжидают, будет ли *принято* соглашение между Обамой и конгрессменами.

☞ Die Nervosität im Regierungslager steigt. Schließlich sollen innerhalb der nächsten fünf Wochen die ehrgeizigsten Reformen *in trockene Tücher kommen*, die sich die Koalition vorgenommen hat. (Nach: dpa, 02.06.2006)

В правительственном лагере растёт нервное напряжение. Ведь в течение следующих пяти недель предстоит *реализовать* самые смелые реформы, о которых заявила правящая коалиция.

📖 Ср. также идиомы *in trockenen Tüchern sein*, *in trockene Tücher bringen* (etw. A) и *in trockenen Tüchern haben* (etw. A).

in trockenen Tüchern sein: (etw.) ist in trockenen Tüchern

(что-л.) (окончательно) решено, (что-л.) доведено до конца

☞ Neben der Arbeit an Großveranstaltungen trifft der Coach auch Personalentscheidungen für seine Mannschaft. „Aber zu meiner Philosophie gehört es, erst über Namen zu sprechen, wenn alles *in trockenen Tüchern ist*“, sagt er. (Nach: Braunschweiger Zeitung, 11.01.2012)

Тренер не только организует крупные мероприятия, но и принимает решения, касающиеся состава команды. «Таков мой принцип – называть имена, только когда всё *решено окончательно*», – замечает он.

☞ Allerdings *ist* die Finanzierung des Großprojekts noch nicht *in trockenen Tüchern*. Es steht noch nicht ausreichend Geld zur Verfügung. (Nach: Mannheimer Morgen, 13.01.2012)

Однако вопрос о финансировании этого крупномасштабного проекта ещё не *решён окончательно*. Пока не было выделено достаточно средств.

📖 Ср. также идиомы *in trockene Tücher bringen* (etw. A), *in trockene Tücher kommen* и *in trockenen Tüchern haben* (etw. A).