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Toponymic unity of the Carpathian region

Abstract: The article lists 26 toponyms that are characteristic and common in the entire Carpathian region. They have been selected according to their toponymic classification (mostly oronyms, hydronyms, and oikonyms), and their etymology. These toponyms are commonly observed in the parts of the Carpathian Mountains located in Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine. As the basis for the toponymic analysis, we accepted a common appellative of Romanian or Slavic origins. Migrations of peoples of Slavic and Romanian (Vlach) origin had a significant influence on the dissemination of these toponyms, mainly due to pastoral transhumance and the so-called Vlach colonization. The toponyms were analyzed in semantic and structural terms. The list presents a variety and richness of regional forms which may be encountered in different Carpathian dialects as a legacy of ancient language contacts.

1 Introduction

The objective of this paper is to present toponyms that are characteristic and commonly met nowadays in the entire Carpathian region. The toponyms have been selected based on their toponymic classification (mostly oronyms, hydronyms and oikonyms), as well as in etymological origins. The selection of the analyzed toponyms is based on a common appellative of Romanian or Slavic origins. The local landforms, historical and political context, human migrations, and shepherd transhumance narrowed the research area to the territory of Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine. Among the illustrative toponyms presented in this paper, there are examples of macrotoponyms and microtoponyms as well.

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In fact, many academic studies have been dedicated to the Carpathian toponymy, both from a linguistic and geographical point of view. However, these studies are rarely presented in the trans-Carpathian and cross-border context. One of the exceptions to this trend is the "Carpathian Dialectological Atlas" (*Obŝekarpatskij dialektologičeskij atlas*), although it must be noted that toponymy is not its principal topic of research. The intention of this study is to become a contribution to the research on this subject and to expand the inventory of nouns found throughout the Carpathian region (Siatkowski 2016, 148f.), however, sixteen of the toponyms and appellatives discussed in this paper were marked in the atlas, mainly in its seventh volume.[1]

In both linguistic and geographical studies and monographs devoted to the Carpathian nomenclature, attention was paid to the characteristic vocabulary circulating throughout this area, mainly Romanian appellatives, e.g., *măgură*, *râpă*, *chiceră*. These appellatives were already documented in the first toponomastic and dialectological works devoted to these areas written down by academics of various nationalities, including (only to mention the earliest ones): Wędkiewicz (1915), Drăganu (1933), Janów (1938), Rudnicki (1939), Łukasik (1938), Crânjală (1938), Hrabec (1950), and along with the others. As already mentioned, toponymic papers mainly concern research on toponymy of individual regions. However, it happens that examples from other dialects and languages are possibly cited, usually on the margins of etymological analyses.

2 Dialectal diversities in the Carpathian region

The diversity of Carpathians manifests itself not only in the landscape and nature but also in terms of varied ethnic, cultural, and linguistic identities. A comparative study of the Carpathian toponymy allows the identification of a much larger number of *nomina propria* that are not only the result of pastoral activity, but also a joint participation in historical, political, or economic events reflected in the nomination system established in this area. It is not without significance that the northern Carpathian areas remained under the Hungarian and Austro-Hungarian jurisdiction for a long time. In the latter half of the 19th century, military maps of the empire were created with instructions for topographers and cartographers to prioritise a name's

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1 * kIčer- (7, HM 18), *dEl- (7, 34), *GrApa (7, HM 26), *grUŃ (7, 35), *magura (7, HM 17), *siGl- (4, 47), *prIslOp (7, HM 20), pol. *wierch* (7, 38), *p()rT (7, 52), pol. *łaz* (5, 28), pol. *moczar* (5, HM 17), *(paryja) (7, HM 25), *(iz)vOr (7, 56), pol. *koszary* (5, HM 16), *baňa (7, 57), (OKDA 2012).

communicative value. Toponyms were recorded on maps to reflect the names used by local populations and consider surrounding linguistic relations, particularly in areas inhabited by diverse ethnicities and languages (Włoskowicz 2015: 146–147). Another factor that undoubtedly influenced the unified nomenclature of these areas may be the broadly understood linguistic community of the Slavic-speaking inhabitants of Carpathian Ruthenia. Today, it is a cross-border region divided between Romania (Maramureș), Slovakia, Hungary, and Ukraine (Magocsi 2009).

Furthermore, mountain areas, due to their isolation, are characterized by a very large diversity of local dialects. Only in the Polish part of the Carpathians several mountain dialects may be distinguished, including subdialects as: Podhalański, Orava, Spiš (the last two also spoken in Slovakia), Żywiec, Sądecki, Lemko and Boyko dialects, while in Ukraine there is the Hutsul dialect, and in Romania the Maramureș or Bucovina dialects, etc. On the other hand, all these languages have been neighboring each other for more than a thousand years, which has led them to develop some shared features, mainly lexical in this region. However, the purpose of this paper is not to analyze linguistic or ethnic differences, but to attempt to examine and collect elements, specifically toponyms, occurring along the entire Carpathian range, regardless of the locally used language and ethnic-cultural affiliation.

3 Trans-Carpathian toponymies

Referring to the words of the Romanian linguist, Frățilă (1987: 97–98), research has established that toponyms, mainly hydronyms, oronyms, and oikonyms, are often kept with great tenacity, even when the population changes. The new population usually takes over local names by acquiring the old toponyms, often without understanding their original significance. The Old Polish names were preserved in some settlement names after their Vlach colonization that occurred in the period between the 16th and 17th centuries on the legal grounds of *ius Valachicum*, e.g., Ochotnica in the Gorce region of Poland. Another example is the Lemko villages of Szlachtowa (Lemko *Шляхтова*) or Jaworki (Lemko *Явірҡы*) in the Lemko region, where the old names are still in use despite forced resettlements of Lemko and Ukrainian residents as the result of the Operation Vistula in 1947.

The toponymic corpus presented in this paper is excerpted from five linguistic areas: Czech, Polish, Slovak, Ukrainian, and Romanian. The researched area comprises a major part of the Carpathian massif, and due to the region's geological characteristics, the eastern Carpathians are quite homogeneous. The average altitude of individual mountain ranges reaches approximately 1,000–1,500 m, and the terrain creates

suitable conditions for sheep grazing. For centuries (the first significant changes to the pastoral economy occurred only in the 20th century), the Carpathians were an area of transhumance – seasonal sheep grazing on mountain pastures, thanks to which the diversity of local ethnolects developed a specific pastoral linguistic code facilitating communication between shepherds from different linguistic areas. Thanks to shepherds, the vocabulary circulated throughout the region, and individual terms are still alive in local dialects, for example, Polish *baca* – Romanian *baciu* – Slovak *bača* 'chief shepherd, sheep owner', Romanian *brânză* – Polish, Slovak *bryndza* 'cheese', Polish *strąga* – Romanian, Slovak *strunga* – 'sheep pen' (Oczko 2018: 48–49) and toponymy – which is the main objective of this paper.

The first thing that should be observed is the origin of the toponyms. These are common nouns (or adjectives) that have become proper names. Over time, their original meaning was faded away and was forgotten, while phonetic transformations were in line with the specification of local dialects. It happened especially often when the etymon had foreign origins – like in the case of borrowings from Slavic to Romanian, e.g., *prislop* in Slavic means 'mountain pass', but today we can observe in the Romanian language some tautological forms such as "Pasul Prislop". Analogically, the same phenomenon took place in Polish, see: "Przełęcz Przysłop". It shows how ancient appellatives, describing landforms typical of a given area, often lose their basic meaning and become replaced by modern vocabulary forms. Polish *przełęcz* has a broader meaning than *przysłop*. The first designation is used to describe any mountain pass, even in high mountains such as the Alpes or Himalayas, while the latter term is used exclusively when describing the Carpathian landscape. In addition, most Polish mountain dwellers, even those of old-origins, have already forgotten the original meanings hidden behind toponyms such as *Kiczera, Groń* or *Grapa*, even if the original significance is still preserved in dialectological dictionaries. It should not be considered very surprising, since nowadays, dialect levelling is a common phenomenon (Karaś 2010). On the other hand, one should realize that some of the meanings could differ in various dialects. *Grapa* or *Gropa* in Slavic languages, borrowed from the Romanian *groapă* 'pit, grave', has a different meaning for Hutsuls from (modern) Ukraine, where *gropa* means 'valley, basin' (Hrabec 1950: 37), preserved as the oikonym *Gropa*. Then, Polish mountain dwellers understand it as a scarp or steep slope, preserved only in oronyms, cf. *Grapa*, *Drapa*. For Romanians, *groapă* is an appellative usually used in compound toponyms like *Groapa Mare, Pe Groapă*, sporadically in the plural form – *Gropi* – without any determinant.

Common toponyms have two main sources: Slavic and Romanian. As examples of Slavic toponyms may serve Polish *Bystrzyca* and Romanian *Bistrița*, both of which

comprise the Slavic adjective **bystrъ* 'fast'. Interestingly, the name of the *Bistrița River* from Maramures County, in its upper stretch, still bears a pure Romanian name: *Repedea* < Romanian adjective *repede* < Latin *rapidus*. This symbolic change of name was already noticed in the 17th century by the Moldavian chronicler, Miron Costin (Tudose 2012: 55). The other examples are as follows: Polish *Dział* 'a hill dividing two areas' (Łukasik 1938: 214), Romanian *deal* 'a hill' < Slavic **dělъ* 'division'. The narrowed character of the Polish meaning suggests that this word is a typical Vlach Carpathian form with semantic origins in the Romanian language. Another Carpathian toponym is based on Polish *wierch*, Romanian *vârf* 'summit' < Slavic **vŕchъ* (cf. Boryś 2005: 695).

Toponyms of Romanian origin appear with similar frequency, e.g., Polish *Kiczera* < Romanian *chicera* 'summit, high isolated hill', Polish *Mańczył* < Romanian *muncel* 'hill, knoll', Polish *Paryja* < Romanian *pârâu* 'small river'; Polish *Repowa* < Romanian *râpă* 'steep hill, bluff'; Polish *Bradowiec*, Romanian *Bradu Mare* < Romanian *brad* 'fir tree'.[2]

An isolated example is Polish (oronym) *Bania* and Romanian (oikonym) *Baia Mare.* Formally, those terms are a continuation of the Latin **bannea* 'bath' or Slavic **banja* 'steam bath', but the meaning 'mine', which appears in a geological context, is borrowed from Hungarian *bánya* 'mine' (DELR 2012: 208). In the Beskid Mountains, there are many peaks named *Bania.* However, at present, the original meaning of that regional word is usually confused with the Russian sauna *bania.* I interviewed some local inhabitants of the village of Pcim (Beskid Wyspowy, Poland), who lived on a hill called Bania, and asked them if they knew why the mountain was named this way. After being asked if they remembered any mine on the hill, they confirmed that there had been a goldmine, but the name was no longer associated with its original meaning. On the other hand, the Romanian term *baia* is much closer associated with its Hungarian origin. Not only is the prevalence of Hungarian in the area of Baia Mare evident, but also there is a vast mine in the vicinity of the city which gave the city its name and which is still actively exploited.

Another interesting observation about common Carpathian toponyms is the fact that none of them are of German origin, although there are a lot of Germanisms in the Polish and Slovakian mountains, especially the oikonyms, e.g., *Falsztyn*, *Dursztyn*, and some oronyms, e.g., *Giewont*. According to Wanda Herniczek-Morozowa's studies on pastoral terminology, the most numerous borrowings in the Lesser Poland dialects are of German origin (1975: 181).

Carpathian names of places are characterized by a large variety, which is the result of heterogeneity of the described objects (e.g., mountains, rivers,

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2 For the other, precise meanings and their source, see the lexicon below.

settlements) as well as the information contained in their lexical meaning (names with topographic or cultural content, etc.). For the purposes of the linguistic (toponomastic) systematics, we propose applying the structural-grammatical classification in accordance with the system introduced by Rospond (1957), here applied in its simplified version. However, Rospond proposed the semantic classification only for primal names (according to the terminology used by the author), while we decided to apply it also to other categories: derivatives and composita.

    As far as their meaning is concerned, Carpathian toponyms can be divided into four basic semantic groups, which are appellatives originating from:

a) landform designates, for example, *Prislop* 'mountain pass'; *Płaj*, *Plaiu* 'vast, flat terrain usually used as grazing land'; *Murzasichle*, *Sihla*, *Syhła* 1. 'waterlogged forest' (for Polish forms), 2. 'dense forest with young trees' (for Romanian forms),

b) plant names, e.g., *Bukovina*, *Bucovina*, *Bukowiec*, cf. Slavic *buk* 'beech tree', *Rakytnik*, *Rachitele*, cf. Romanian *răchită* 'Salix', South Slavic *rakita* 'id.',

c) physical properties (which I include in Rospond's metonymic and metaphoric category): Polish *Babia Góra,* Slovak *Babia Hora*, Romanian *Baba Mare*, cf. Slavic, Romanian *baba* 'old woman', a frequent term for 'mounded hills', other hypotheses lead to a mythic person in Slavic and Romanian mythology where *baba* is related to demonic or magic nature,

d) economic activities in mountain or cultural toponyms, primarily relating to pastoral activity, e.g., *Kosarzyska, Koszaryszcze* < Romanian *coșar* 'mountain farmstead, sheepfold'.

Moreover, the presented toponyms also show a rich phonetic variety of names even in the same ethnolect area, especially observed in vowels and not so often in consonants: Polish *Groń* – *Gruń*, **G***rapa* – **D***rapa*, Slovak *Grapy* (plural form) – *Gropa* (singular form). At the same time, they represent different grammatical and structural realizations.

a) names without formants, e.g., Pol. *Groń*, *Gruń, Magura*, *Dział*, Rom. *Gruiu* – those are usually based on appellatives related to landform designates. It can be observed that the more commonly the meaning of a toponym is lost, the more often it appears as a primal name. Etymologically Romanian appellatives become a single name without any additional determinant in Polish, Slovakian, or Ukrainian dialects, for example, oronyms *Dział* – *Diel* – *Dił.*

b) names derived from other names formed with affixes: diminutive suffixes are especially productive in this case, e.g., Rom. *Grui-eț, Grui-șor*, Pol. *Grun-ik, Munczol-ik, Magór-ka*, Huts. *Munczeł-yk* (Hrabec 1950: 132), Slov. *Kýčer-ka.*

c) complex names (composita):

   i) appellative + determinant, the most frequent forms, where the determinants are adjectives: Rom. *Dealu Mare*, Slov. *Poludňový Grúň*, Huts. *Parszywa Baba* (Hrabec 1950: 132), Ukr. *Чорна Pina*, or genitival forms: Rom. *Râpa Stâncilor*, Pol. *Kasprowy Wierch.*

   ii) prepositional phrases – Rom. *Între Dealuri, Pe su Dealuri*, Slov. *Na Bradove,* those structures are evident and productive in the field names (Rospond 1957: 48).

Among the toponyms of the Carpathian area, the most numerous groups are oronyms and anoikonyms (in micro and macroscale), then oikonyms, and hydronyms are the rarest, but one topographic name can be used at the same time in all those cases – transonomization is a common occurrence. The most obvious examples are toponyms formed on the Slavic theme *bystrъ:

a) oronyms: Slovak *Bystrý Vrh,* Polish *Bystrzyk*, Romanian *Bistra*, *Bistricioru*,

b) oikonyms: Slovak *Banská Bystrica,* Polish *Bystrzyca*, Romanian *Bistriţa*,

c) hydronyms: Slovak *Bystrica,* Polish *Bystra*, *Bystrzyca*, Romanian *Bistra*, *Bistriţa*, Ukrainian *Бистрець.*

The toponymic excerption has been based, first on GeoNames database, then on a comparative analysis of various sources and maps. Of course, academic literature devoted to toponymic studies also could not be ignored. For the purposes of this paper, dictionaries, like *Dicţionarul toponimic al României* or *Tezaurul toponimic al României*, have been used, but also many other monographs and articles have been consulted. The key to the selection of the following toponyms was their modern form confirmed on current maps of the Carpathian region. Since the Carpathian massif mostly covers two genetically different linguistic areas – Romance (in Romania) and Slavic (in Ukrainian, Polish, Slovak, and Czech territories), the criterion consisted in the selection of:

a) toponyms in the Romanian Carpathians based on appellatives with native etymology (Latin or pre-Latin), which occur in Slavic language areas, e.g., Romanian *Muncel* – Polish *Mańczył*,

b) toponyms based on appellatives with Slavic etymology that occur in Romance (Romanian) linguistic areas, e.g., Polish *Bukowina* – Romanian *Bucovina.* However, it should be noted that some Romanian toponyms mentioned below are formend with Romanian appellatives such as *prislop*, *vârf*, *stog*, *tarniţă*, *laz*, etc. of Slavic origin (cf. Petrovici: 1970).

As a result of the comparison of Carpathian toponyms from the Romance and Slavic-speaking areas, 26 bases of the name were selected.

4 Carpathian names based on appellatives

4.1 Landforms

4.1.1 Toponyms based on orographic terms – high-frequency forms in the Carpathian region

a)   Romanian appellatives

(1)   Romanian ***chiceră*** has several different meanings; the most basic is 'high isolated hill, dominating in the landscape', but it could also mean 'peak' or 'craggy hill', in Ukrainian 'afforested mountain', in Polish usually 'mountain, hill', in Slovakian 'mountain slope' (cf. Eremia 2006: 42). Probable autochthonic, pre-Romance term, cf. Albanian *kikë* (ibidem), one of the most common names in the Carpathian area.[3] According to another hypothesis, the word could be of Slavic origin **kyčerъ* or **kyčera*, cf. Serbian *kičer* 'rock' (CHÍCERĂ[1] delr.lingv). Used as an oikonym as well.
CzeC forms – *Kýčera*, Moravian-Silesian Beskids and White Carpathians,
RomC forms – *Chicera, Chiciura, Chicioara, Chicerea* (oikonym), important diversification of the forms, scattered in all regions,
PolC forms – *Kiczera* (also as oikonym, tens localizations mainly in the eastern part of Sądecki Beskid, Low Beskids and Bieszczady), *Kiczora* (usually in the west part – Żywiecki and Islands Beskid, Gorce, Western Sądecki Beskid and Bieszczady), *Kiczerka* (often, Bieszczady and Low Beskid), *Kiczura* (occasionally, Bieszczady), *Kiczara* (Bieszczady), *Kiczory* (Żywiecki and Middle Beskid).
SloC forms – *Kýčera* mainly oronyms, *Kýčerka* (often used as oikonym), both in Outer Western and Inner Easter Carpathians,
UkrC forms – *Кичера* common, *Кичерка* only Eastern Bieszczady.

(2)   Romanian ***deal*** 'hill', cf. Slavic **dělъ* (Boryś 2005: 138); one of the most common names in the Carpathian area, it was spread in this meaning through the Romanian language (DEAL delr.lingv; Bańkowski 2000: 321).
CzeC forms – *Díly, Za Dílem, Hárovické Díly*,
RomC forms – *Dealul Calului, Dealu Iepii* (only in composed toponyms), *Pe su Dealuri, Între Dealuri*,

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3 The translation of the terms into English covers their basic meaning, indicating in general terms characteristic features of landforms. However, there are observed semantic variations between the regional dialects where the landform meanings may differ from each other. The etymological data presented in the table below are indicative only, as they are not the objective of this study.

PolC forms – *Dział, Działek, Dzielec* 'usually as a hill dividing two areas', *Zadziele,*

SloC forms – *Diel, Dieľ, Dielec, Diely, Zádiel, Pod Dielom,*

UkrC forms – *Діл,* e.g., *Малий Діл, Велкий Діл, Ділок, Довгі Ділі, Ділове, Задільське* (oikonyms).

(3) Romanian ***groapă*** 1. 'rounded land depression', 2. 'short and deep valley'[4] (Eremia 2006: 82), autochthonic, pre-Romance term, cf. Albanian *gropë* (ibidem), one of the most common names in the Carpathian area,
CzeC forms – *Grapa, Grapy, Za Grapou, Na grapě, Hrubé Grapy, Pod Grapami* etc.,
RomC forms – *Groapa, Gropile* plural form, usually in composed toponyms, e.g., *Groapa Anei* (valley), *Groapa Zmeului* 'hollow',
PolC forms – *Grapa, Drapa* 'scarp',
SloC forms – *Grapy, Gropianec, Gropa,*
UkrC forms – *Гропа, Гропи (Ями), Гропенец* (hydronim).

(4) Romanian ***grui*** 'hilltop, high conical hill' < Latin **grunnium* (Eremia 2006: 83), one of the most common names in the Carpathian area,
CzeC forms – *Grúň,* (*Předni Grúň*), *Groníček, Gruník* (also used as a drymonym),
RomC forms – *Grui* (oikonym), *Gruieț, Gruișor* (also as oikonym, diminutive), *Gruiu* only in composed toponyms, e.g., *Gruiu Lung, Gruiu Stânei,*
PolC forms – *Groń, Gronik, Gronie* (also as oikonyms), *Hruń,* cf. Lemko *hrun, hrunok, grunok* (Rieger 1995: 56) or Boiko *hrun* (Rudnicki 1939: 58).[5]
SloC forms – *Gruň,* (*Poludňový Grúň*).
UkrC forms –*Грун,* e.g., *Красний Грунь, Груники* (oikonym).

(5) Romanian ***măgură*** 'secluded high hill, often isolated' (Eremia 2006: 112), the etymology of the term is unclear, it could be Latin form **magullum,* cf. Albanian *magullë,* the other theory shows its Slavic origin *mogyla,* which was transferred to the Romanic Danube ethnolects and then to common Romanian (Eremia 2006: 112; Łukasik 1938: 255).
CzeC forms – *Magurka* (very rare, also a hydronym),
RomC forms – *Magura, Măgura, Măgulă, Măgurice,*

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4 In Romanian, the basic meaning of this word is 'grave' (GROAPĂ dlr1), however, all the meanings given in the text refer to landforms, leaving out the basic meanings of common words.
5 In Lemko language *g* in loanwords is usually transformed in *h* (Stieber 1982: 95).

PolC forms – *Magura, Magury, Magorzyca, Maguryczne, Magurka, Magórka*,
that form is orthographically incorrect because of confusion of Polish *góra*
'mountain' with *Magura* (Jedziniak 2021: 112),
SloC forms – *Magura, Vyšná Magura, Magurka*,
UkrC forms – *Магура, Магура* (also hydronym).

(6) Romanian **muncel** 1. 'not too high hill' 2. 'high hill from a hilly massif' < Latin
     diminutive form *monticellus* (Eremia 2006: 122), Polish sources take as the
     etymon Romanian *muntele* with the definite article and palatalization *t > č*
     (Jedziniak 2021: 112), which does not appear to be correct, because the
     palatalization *k > č* had already been implemented in Romanian.
     CzeC forms – not confirmed as a toponym,
     RomC forms – *Munceii* (plural form), *Muncel*, only in composed toponyms,
     e.g., *Muncelul Mare*,
     PolC forms – Mańczył (collateral forms *Menczył, Mińcioły*), the other forms,
     e.g., *Munczel, Minczoł, Męczyłek* are polonised Boiko names, nowadays in
     Ukraine (Rudnicki 1939: 76),
     SloC forms – *Minčol, Malý Minčol, Minčolik*,
     UkrC forms – *Менчил, Менчилик, Мунчель, Менчул*.

(7) Romanian **râpă** 'steep hill or bluff' < Latin *ripa* 'waterside' (Eremia 2006: 161),
     some linguists reject the possibility of a Romanian origin of that term,
     pointing to a native formation from the Polish verb 'rypać' (Crânjală 1938:
     375).
     CzeC forms – not confirmed as a toponym,
     RomC forms – *Râpa Stâncilor, Râpoc, Râpele, Între Râpi*,
     PolC forms – *Rypi Wierch, Repowa, Ryplica* (glade),
     SloC forms – *Rypy* (Slovakian name for *Rypi Wierch*),
     UkrC forms – Ukr. *Чорна Pina, Piряна* (oikonym), cf. Huts. *Rypa* (Hrabec 1950:
     132).

(8) Romanian **sihlă** 1. 'dense forest (of young trees)' (SIHLĂ dlr1), in Slavic
     languages the meaning varies slightly, cf. Polish *sychła* 'wet woodland'. The
     origin of this word is not confirmed, Romanian studies offer two different
     possibilities: first as an Old Slavic **sъch-lъ* 'dry branches' (cf. Eremia 2006:
     171) cf. Ukrainian dialectal *с'игла* 'mountain forest'. The other theory,
     definitively considered impossible by Ciorănescu (2002: 714), is Latin *silva*
     with phonetic changes *v > h* and metathesis *lv > hl*, which are also possible to
     observe in other Latin words inherited by the Romanian language: Lat.
     vulpes > Rom. *vulpe* > Rom. dial. *hulpe* (Tudose 2012: 391). However, Slovak
     etymological studies indicate the Romanian origin of the term in the entire
     Carpathian region (Králik 2015: 530, cf. Hrabec 1950: 49).

CzeC forms – *Sihly* (oikonym, drymonym, very rare), *Sihelský Potok* (hydronym),
RomC forms – *Sihla*, *Sâhla* (oikonym), *Silhele*, *Hoanca Silhii*,
PolC forms – *Sihła*, *Sychlec*, *Syhlec*, (*Wyżni Syhlec*), *Sychła*, *Syhła*, (*Syhła Banicka*, *Syhła Łokotczakowa*, *Syhła Wyżna*), *Syhły*, (*Błyżni Syhły*,[6] *Syhły Niżne*), *Syhlaniec*, *Syhlanka*, *Syhlanki*, *Syhłowaciec*, *Syhłowaty*, *Murzasichle*, *Zasichla*, *Sigła*, *Podsigła*,
SloC forms – *Sihlene*, *Sihla*, *Sihly* (oikonyms),
UkrC forms – *Сиглів*, *Сигланський*, *Сигла* (saddleback and hydronym), *Сигли* (oikonym).

b)   Slavic appellatives

(9)   Slavic ****preslopъ** 'moutain pass', for RomC forms cf. Romanian *prislop* 'idem' (Eremia 2006: 154), in modern topographic nomenclature the lexem was replaced by Romanian *pas*, Polish *przełęcz*, Slovak *sedlo*, Ukrainian *перевал* but the original term is still preserved. Nowadays, in the Ukrainian Carpathians, this term does not appear in its original meaning 'pass' as a point in the mountains, it is observed only in hydronymic and oiconymic functions. However, in the Hutsul region, Hrabec means the names of the mountains *Przysłop* in the vicinity of the localities, among others, Rostock, Sokołówki and Kosów (1950: 125). For Romanian toponyms cf. Romanian *prislop.*
CzeC forms – *Příslop*, *Příslopský potok* (hydronym),
RomC forms – *Prislop*, *Prizlopu*,
PolC forms – *Przysłop*, *Przysłopek*, *Prislip* – saddleback in Bieszczady,
cf. Lemko *pryslip* (Rieger 1995: 161),
SloC forms – *Prislop*, *Príslopy*, *Prislopok* (oronyms); *Prýslop*, *Príslopenec*, *Prislopec* (oikonyms)
UkrC forms – *Прислip* (hydronym, oikonym).

(10)   Slavic ***v**ŕ**chъ** 'summit', for RomC forms cf. Romanian *vârf* 'idem' (Eremia 2006: 210; Králik 2015: 670), Slavic appellative usually forms composed names.
CzeC forms – general Czech toponym, as a oronym used mostly in western part of the country: *Vrch*, *Vrchy*,
RomC forms – *Vârful Mare*, *Vârvu*,

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6 The name of a meadow in the Lemko Region near Wisłok Dolny, cf. Lemko *ближе* 'nearby', *ближній* 'close, neigboring (Horoszczak 2004: 25, 193).

PolC forms – *Kasprowy Wierch*, *Wierchy* (plural form), *Wierszki* (plural form, diminutive), *Wierzch*,
SloC forms – only in composed toponyms, e.g., *Suchý Vrch*,
UkrC forms – *Верх* (*Голий Верх*), *Верхи*, *Верх* (as oikonym).

4.1.2 Toponyms based on orographic terms – infrequent forms in the Carpathian region, sporadically or not confirmed in all linguistic areas

(11)   Romanian **pârtie** 'mountain trail' < Slavic ***pьrtъ*** 'pass', widespread in the Carpathians because of the so-called Vlach colonization – from Romanian or Ukrainian dial. *perť* penetrated the other languages of the region (Králik 2015: 480).
CzeC forms – noticed only as a hydronym *Prťový potok*,
RomC forms – in Romanian that appellative is used only in composed toponyms as ski resort name, e.g., *Pârtia Piatra Grăitoare*, *Pârtia Mărişel*,
PolC forms – *Orla Perć* (mountain trail),
SloC forms – *Starmá prť*, *Zadná prť* (gorge),
UkrC forms – not confirmed as a toponym.

(12)   Slavic ***stogъ** 'stack', 'haystack' (Boryś 2005: 579), for RomC forms cf. Romanian *stog* 'idem' (STOG dlr1). The toponyms are observed especially in the Slovakian mountains, however on Polish territory, as an oronym, its diminutive forms are more common.
CzeC forms – *Velký Stožek*, *Malý Stožek*, *Pod Stožku*,
RomC forms – *Vârful Stogu*, *Muntele Stogu*,
PolC forms – *Stóg*, *Stożek* (diminutive),
SloC forms – *Stoh* (oronym), *Stohový Potok* (hydronym),
UkrC forms – *Стіг*, *Стожок*.

(13)   Romanian **tarniță** 'the ridge on top of a mountain or hill in the shape of a saddle', the lexeme was borrowed from the Ukrainian dial. *тарниця* 'wooden or leather horse saddle' (Eremia 2006: 191). This meaning is also known in Romanian (TARNIȚĂ dlr1), as a metaphor used by Romanians to name the landform (Tudose 2012: 410).
CzeC forms – not confirmed as a landform name,
RomC forms – *Tarnița*, *Tărnicioară*, *Tărnicuță*, *Tărnițile*,
PolC forms – *Tarnica*, *Tarniczka*,
SloC forms – not confirmed as a landform name,
UkrC forms – *Тарниця* (also hydronym), *Тарничка*, *Тарничкова Клива*.

4.1.3 Toponyms based on the other landform elements – frequent forms in the Carpathian region

a) Romanian appellatives

(14)   Romanian ***plaiu*** 1. 'flat and extended terrain usually used as grazing land', 2. 'path over a mountain or along a ridge', origin from Latin. *_plagium_ 'slope' (Mării 2005: 123), cf. Greek _πλάγιος_, but shouldn't be confused with Slovakian or Czech _pláň_ 'id.' < Slavic *_polnь_ (Skok 1972: 675; Tudose 2012: 356).
CzeC forms – not confirmed,
RomC forms – _Plaiu_ usually in composed toponyms, e.g., _Plaiul Deia_, _Plaiul Arșiței_ (Bistritza Mts),
PolC forms – _Płaj_, _Górny Płaj_ 'path along a ridge',
SloC forms – _plaj_ 'path', noticed only in the Eastern Slovakia (cf. Crânjală 1938: 442),
UkrC forms – _Плай_, _Плаюць_ (oikonym).

b) Slavic appellatives

(15)   Slavic (Ukrainian, Slovakian, Polish) ***laz*** 1. 'unwooded area', 2. 'mountain pasture, pastureland' (Eremia 2006: 104; Králik 2015: 320), for RomC forms cf. Romanian _laz_ 1. 'land cleared of trees and bushes', 2. 'a forest of young trees (Făgăraș Region)' (LAZ[1] dlr1).
CzeC forms – _Lázy_ (settlement name),
RomC forms – _Laz_, _Lazul_, _Lăzuț_ (diminutive), _Dealul Lazurilor_,
PolC forms – _Łazy_, _Łazki_, _Łazisko_.
SloC forms – _Laz_, _Lazy_,
UkrC forms – _Лаз_ (oronym), _Лазок_ (oikonym).

(16)   Slavic ****močarъ***, cf. Ukrainian dial. ***мочар*** 1. 'marsh', 2. 'waterlogged area' (Boryś 2005: 334; Králik 2015: 364), cf. Czech _močal_ (Machek 1968: 371), for RomC forms cf. Romanian _moceră_ 'idem', possible intermediation of Hungarian _mocsár_ (MOCERĂ dlr1, cf. Eremia 2006: 118).
CzecC forms – _Močáry_ (anoikonyms),
RomC forms – _Moceriș_ (settlement name, hydronym), _Mociaru_ (microtoponymy), cf. the Hungarian toponym _Mocsár_,
PolC forms – _Moczary_, _Moczury_,
SloC forms – _Močarisko_, _Močariska_ (both settlement names),
UkrC forms – _Мочар_, _Мочарки_ (mostly oikonyms and anoikonyms).

4.2 Toponyms based on hydrographic terms

a) Romanian appellatives

(17) Romanian **pârâu** 1. 'small rivers less than 50 km long', 2. 'water runoff from rain or melting snow' (Eremia 2006: 142); autochthonic, pre-Romance term, cf. Albanian *përrua* 'stream' (Eremia 2006: 142). According to the Slavic hypothesis, the origin of this word is similar to Slavic **parovъ* 'ravine' from the Slavic verb **po-rъjǫ* (Bańkowski 2000: 504, 506; Boryś 2005: 413).
CzeC forms – not confirmed,
RomC forms – *Pârâu* usually in composed toponyms, e.g., *Pârâul Iepii*,
PolC forms – *Paryja, Paryje, Paryjka*,
SloC forms – not confirmed,
UkrC forms – *Пір'є*, cf. Huts. *Pirie Wielkie* (Hrabec 1950: 153).

b) Slavic appellatives

(18) Slavic ***izvorъ** 1. 'mountain stream', 2. 'water spring'; in Slavic and Romanian language used mainly as a toponym (Skok 1973: 623), however in Romanian is still used as an appellative too (cf. IZVOR dlr1). In North Slavic languages, in the absence of confirmation of the appellatives, this word should be treated as a loanword through Romanian *izvor*.
CzeC forms – not confirmed,
RomC forms – *Izvor, Izvoru* (hydronym, oikonym), *Izvorani* (oikonym), *Izvoarele* (oikonym), *Izvorelu, Izvoraşu*, often in composed toponyms, e.g., *Izvoru Bădicului*,
PolC forms – *Izwor, Izwór Wielki, Zwór* (hydronym), cf. Boiko *z'vir* 'stream' (Rudnicki 1939: 34, 124),
SloC forms – not confirmed,
UkrC forms – *Ізвор* (very rare, spring), *Звір*, e.g., *Урочище Студений Звір* (oikonym), cf. Huts. *zvir/zvÿr* 'creek valley in the mountains' (Hrabec 1950: 53).

4.3 Toponyms based on the name of the plant

a) Romanian appellatives

(19) Romanian **brad** 1. 'fir tree', probably from Romanian substrate form, cf. Albanian *bredh* 'id.' (DELR 2012: 326). However, especially for Slovak forms, a Slavic origin should be considered, cf. *brada* 'chin', *bradavica* 'wart' (Machek 1968: 62–63).
CzeC forms – not confirmed,

RomC forms – *Bradu Lung* (oronym), *Bradu* (oronym, oikonym, local name),
PolC forms – *Bradowiec* (oronym and hydronym), *Bradów, Braduła* (both oikonyms),
SloC forms – *Na Bradove, Bradavica* (oronyms),
UkrC forms – not confirmed.

b) Slavic appellatives

(20) Slavic ***bukъ** 1. 'beech tree *Fagus*', cf. Polish, Slovak *buk*, Ukrainian *бук* (Boryś 2005: 46), for RomC forms cf. also Romanian *bucovină* 'beech forest' (Eremia 2006: 28). The toponym meaning below in all languages is related to the beech forest, although the occurrence of these names is not limited to the Carpathian areas only.
CzeC forms – *Bucovice, Bukovec* (oikonyms), *Bucovinka* (spring),
RomC forms – *Bucovina* (region), *Bucov* (small valley), *Bucovu* (hydronym),
PolC forms – *Bukowina*, eg. *Bukowina Tatrzańska, Bukowiec* (oikonyms),
SloC forms – *Bukovina, Bukovec* (oikonyms),
UkrC forms – *Буковина* (region), *Букове, Буковець* (both oikonyms), *Буковель* (oronym).

(21) Slavic ***dǫbъ** 'oak tree *Quercus*', cf. Polish *dąb,* Slovak *dub*, Ukrainian *дуб*, and Slavic ***dǫbrъ** 'oak tree forest' > ***dǫbrava** (Boryś 2005: 110), in all the languages, meanings of the below toponyms are related to the oak forest, and the names are common not only in the Carpathian region. For RomC forms cf. Romanian *dumbravă* 'oak forest', the conservation of nasal *ǫ* as *um* in Romanian forms confirms an early Slavic borrowing (Eremia 2006: 66).
CzeC forms – *Dúbrava* (rare in Moravian-Wallachia),
RomC forms – *Dumbrava, Dumbrăvița,*
PolC forms – *Dębinia, Dąbie, Dąbrowa, Dębówka, Dębowo,*
SloC forms – *Dubova, Dubovec, Dubrava, Dubrova,*
UkrC forms – *Дуброва* (oikonymîăpo).

(22) Slavic ***orkyta** '*Salix*', cf. South Slavic *rakita* 'id.', Polish *rokita* 'id.', *rokitnik* '*Hippophae*' (Boryś 2005: 517), for RomC forms cf. Romanian *răchită* 'id.' (RĂCHITĂ dlr1).
CzeC forms – *Rokytnice* (oikonyms), there are various toponyms in Czech Republic, e.g. *Rokytnik, Rokytno, Rokytovec*, but they are noticed mainly in Giant Mts and Western part of the country,
RomC forms – *Răchitele, Răchitișu, Răchițele,*
PolC forms – *Rokita, Rokitniak,*
SloC forms – *Rakytnik* (oikonym), *Rakytový Grúň,*
UkrC forms – *Рокита Велика, Рокита-Мала* (oronym).

4.4 Toponyms related to the pastoral economy and human activity

(23)   Romanian *coșar* 1. 'mountain farmstead', 2. 'sheepfold' < South Slavic *košara* 'id.' (Ciorănescu 2002: 243).
CzeC forms – *Košařiska, Košárky* (oikonyms), *Košárkův vrch*,
RomC forms – *Coșarocu (Hung. Kosárok), Coșara, Coșarele din Jos* (all microtoponyms), *Dealul Coșarului, Su Râpa Coșarului*,
PolC forms – *Kosarzyska, Koszarka, Koszarzyska* (field names),
SloC forms – *Košariská* (oikonym, oronym), *Košiarka*
UkrC forms –*Кошарище* (oronym and oikonym).

(24)   Romanian *baie* < Latin **bannea* 'bath', Slavic *banja* < Latin **bānea* 'baths, thermae', for Romanian and other Slavic languages the origin of that word is Latin, neither of its meanings is observed in Carpathian toponyms 1. 'gold or salt mine', 2. 'open pit mine' seems to be borrowed from the Hungarian *bánya* 'id.' < South Slavic languages (DELR 2012: 208).
CzeC forms – *Baňa* (oronym),
RomC forms – *Baia Mare, Baia Albă* (a stone quarry), *Baia de Humă* (a hollow), *Bănia* (oikonym).
PolC forms – *Bania* (oronym), *Krywańskie Banie, Banisty Żleb*,
SloC forms – *Baňa, Banisko, Banská Bystrica*,
UkrC forms – *Баня-Березів* (oioknym).

4.5 Toponyms based on physical properties

(25)   Slavic **baba* 1. 'Old woman', 2. 'witch' (Boryś 2005: 19), some linguists (Malec 2003: 37) explain the name by metaphorical motivation, it is a frequent term for 'mounded hills'; furthermore, other hypotheses should not be ignored (Wojnicz-Pawłowska 2005: 163–166). In Slavic and Romanian mythology, *baba* is a witch of a demonic or magical nature; the names of some hills could be motivated by local legends in which *baba* could refer to that mythic creature (Cząstka-Kłapyta 2020: 12, 17). For RomC forms cf. Romanian *babă* 'idem' (DELR 2012: 200)
CzeC forms – *Bába* (oronym), other forms, e.g. *Babin, Babice*, recorded in the western part of the country,
RomC forms – *Babele, Baba Mare* (Bucegi), *Baba Izvoru, Baba Moartă* (both hydronyms),

PolC forms – *Babia Góra* (oronym),
SloC forms – *Baba, Babia hora, Babka*,
UkrC forms – *Баба, Баба Людова*, Huts. *Baba Kiczerka, Parszywa Baba.*

(26)   Slavic ***bystrъ** 1. 'fast' (Boryś 2005: 49), for RomC forms cf. Romanian *bistriță*
         'fast-flowing river' (Eremia 2006: 24).
         CzeC forms – *Bystrý vodopád, Bystrý potok* (both hydronyms), *Bystrý*,
         Valašská Bystřice, Bystřice (oikonyms),
         RomC forms – *Bistrița* (oikonym), *Bistra* (hydronym),
         PolC forms –*Bystra, Bystrze, Bystrzyk, Bystrzyca*,
         SloC forms – *Bystra, Bystrý Vrch, Banská Bystrica* (oikonym),
         UkrC forms – *Бистрець* (oikonym and hydronym), *Бистриця* (oikonym).

5 Toponyms attested exclusively in the Carpathians

Some toponyms, in particular those of Romanian origin, can be regarded as characteristic of Carpathian toponymy. They are not documented elsewhere in the Slavic linguistic territory and undoubtedly contribute to their "toponymic unity" in terms of difference from other geographical regions. These are toponyms based on the following Romanian appellatives: *baie* (24), *brad* (19), *chiceră* (1), *coșar* (23), *deal* (2), *groapă* (3), *grui* (4), *măgură* (5), *muncel* (6), *pârtie* (11), *pârâu* (17), *râpă* (7), *plai* (14), *sihlă* (8), *tarniță* (13).

This classification does not exclude the presence of some of these toponyms in areas outside the investigated region. On the Dalmatian coast, there are toponyms similar in form to those found in the Carpathians: *Munćel (Muncijel)* and *Plai*, although their presence is independent, because of origins in the Dalmatian language from Latin *monticellus* (Skok 1972: 482) and form Greek *πλάγιος* (Skok 1972: 673).

6 Toponyms which are "common" in the Carpathians

Toponyms based on Romanian appellatives of Slavic origin appear quite often in the nomenclature of the Romanian Carpathians; however, they occur throughout the whole Slavic-speaking area, in the north-east and in the south, in the Balkans.

Some of them, in particular those based on plant names, are very common, both in the Balkans, e.g., *Dubovac, Duboštica, Dubrovnik,* and in Russia or Belarus, e.g., *Dubrovka.* The most common are toponyms based on appellatives such as **baba* (25), **bukъ* (20), **bystrъ* (26), **dǫbъ* (21), **orkyta* (22), **vr̩chъ* (10), while the others are sporadically attested, e.g., **preslopъ* (9) – two villages named *Prijeslop* in Herzegovina (Skok 1973: 279), or **izvorъ* (18) – mainly oikonyms and spring names *Извор* in Serbia and Bulgaria (cf. Skok 1973: 623).[7]

7 Conclusions

The Romanian and Slavic appellatives in composed toponyms have retained their more universal semantic and functional character. The determining element gives them their characteristics referring to: 1) morphological features, e.g., *Izwór Wielki,* 2) another local name nearby, e.g., *Баба Людова, Plaiul Arșiței,* 3) personal ownership, e.g., *Kasprowy Wierch,* 4) prepositional phrases, e.g., *Na Bradove, Su Dealu.*

Names based on phytonyms – in which case Romanian etymons are out-numbered by Slavic ones – are characterized by quite rich derivation and variability of forms, e.g., *Bukowiec, Bukovina, Bucov, Bukove, Bukovec,* etc. The derivation of names is mainly achieved by means of functional suffixes that form toponyms common to all Slavic languages, e.g. *-owa, -owe, -owiec, -ina.* Romanian nouns including these suffixes were probably adopted from Slavic languages already in a derivative form, e.g., *bucovină, dumbravă* because these derivative suffixes for toponyms do not occur in the Romanian language. In Romanian, the nominative forms are observed in their basic, non-derivative structures, which results from the Romance character of the language. However, diminutive forms, such as *Lăzuț, Tărnicioara,* are not uncommon.

Particularly rich variability of names is observed in Polish nomenclature; on the one hand, proper names are often fixed in a misspelled form, e.g., *syhła – *sychła, magura – *magóra;* on the other hand, we can see a wealth of derived forms and phonetic adaptations of Romanian borrowings, e.g., *Parija* (singular form), *Paryje* (plural form), *Paryjka* (diminutive form). The above example also illustrates possible changes within the genus: Romanian *neutrum* – Polish *feminin.* Changes in

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7 Detailed identification of toponyms outside the Carpathian Mts based on Slavic appellatives requires a separate study, for example, based on a rich lexical material collected in *The Slavic Linguistic Atlas* (OLA). Therefore, in the article, I will limit to a general statement of their presence in local and terrain names in Slavic-speaking areas.

grammatical gender may, however, result from the fact that the Romanian form of the *neutrum* in the plural takes the article and is identical to the feminine gender: *pârâu-l* (singular) – *pâraie-le* (plural).

Widespread and frequent occurrence of these names also contribute to transonomization. This phenomenon is less common in the case of field names typical for oronyms, e.g., *Magura, Muncel*, but toponyms based on appellatives generally related to human economic activities in mountain areas become the basis for mountain, field, local or water names, e.g., *Bania* as oronym and hydronym, and *Баня-Березів* as oikonym in Ukrainian territory. Also, names that refer to a characteristic feature may be considered a similar case of transonomization, e.g., Slavic **bystrъ* 'fast', or names of plant origin, e.g., Slavic **bukъ*.

The geographical range of some of the analyzed toponyms goes beyond the Carpathian area. Toponyms, such as *Rokytnik* or *Bukovina*, are found in the western part of the Czech Republic, in the Giant Mountains. Toponyms in the Balkans and South Slavs have the same basis for the name, e.g., *Bukovec, Bucovica* in Slovenia, *Bukovac* in Serbia, or *Bukovec* in Croatia.

The paper lists 26 toponyms that are commonly observed throughout the Carpathian Mountains – mainly in Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine. Migrations of peoples of Slavic and Romanian (Wallachian) origin significantly influenced the dissemination of these toponyms, mainly because of pastoral transhumance and the so-called Vlach colonization. Moreover, one should not ignore the fact that over the centuries this area was under administration and jurisdiction of at times various and at times uniform state organizations, which has also contributed to the consolidation of the nomenclature of this area.

This paper does not list all the names that could be identified, since the complete compilation could only be obtained as a result of detailed studies conducted on a larger scale by an international and interdisciplinary (in collaboration with, for example, geographers) research team.

Abbreviations

CzeC forms	*Czech Carpathian forms noticed in Moravian Wallachia (White Carpathians) and Moravian-Silesian Beskids*
dial.	*dialectal*
Huts.	*Hutsul Dialect*
Pol.	*Polish*

PolC forms	*Polish Carpathian forms noticed in Polish Beskids, Tatras and Western Bieszczady*
Rom.	*Romanian*
RomC forms	*Romanian Carpathian forms noticed in Western Mts, Easer and South Carpathians*
SloC forms	*Slovak Carpathian forms noticed in Inner and Outer Western Carpathians, Inner Eastern Carpathians*
Slov.	*Slovak*
UkrC forms	*Ukrainian Carpathian forms noticed in Eastern Bieszczady, Gorgans, Chornohora and Pokucie Mts.*
Ukr.	*Ukrainian*

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