PART II

Semi-official and mixed discourses
CHAPTER 9

The role of metonymy and metaphor in the conceptualization of the Nation

An emergent ontological analysis of syntactic-semantic constructions

Benedikt Perak
University of Rijeka

This corpus-based study presents an emergent ontological analysis of syntactic-semantic constructions of the concept Nation. Using large Croatian corpora, I analysed the ontological congruence of the collocations of the lexeme nacija ‘nation’ in five types of syntactic-semantic constructions. This approach enabled a formal hierarchical description of the metaphorical conceptualization of the Nation and the cognitive mechanism of eliciting reification, personification and social appraisal of the Nation. Metaphorical mappings are seen as a powerful instrument for conceptualizing the institutional status of the Nation, reinforcing the interaction between members, and the creation of collective identity that influences a person’s self-appraisal, and vice versa.

Keywords: conceptual analysis, ontological model, ontological (in)congruence, meronymy, metonymy, metaphor, pragmatic function, syntactic-semantic constructions

1. Introduction and approaches

Dealing with the role of metaphor in conceptualizing a nation is a multifaceted endeavour. Firstly, we have to define the “terrain,” asking ontological questions like: is Nation a material thing, or is it an abstract idea emerging from a complex conceptual construction? As I argue for the latter option, together with many previous authors (Anderson 1983; James 1996: 34; Searle 2010; Borghi & Binkofski 2014), I have to identify the complex componential matrix of the concept Nation and its ontological status. The identification of the componential structure of the
NATION allows formal description of metonymic profiling and metaphorical mappings based on the analysis of ontologically (in)congruent relations between morphosyntactic arguments.

The aim of this chapter is to demonstrate how formal integration of structurally different levels of analysis can lead to comprehensive empirical knowledge about the role of metonymic and metaphorical conceptualization patterns of the NATION in discourse and its pragmatic implications (Lakoff 2008; Charteris-Black 2013; Cepinskyte this volume). The chapter is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the systemic approach to the ontological description and linguistic componential analysis of the concept NATION. Section 3 describes the methodology of the most frequent construal types of the Croatian noun nacija ‘nation’ in five salient syntactic-semantic constructions. Section 4 discusses the mechanism of metonymic and metaphorical conceptualization of the NATION. Finally, I assess the pragmatic functions of metaphorical reification, personification and social identification strategies of the NATION in discourse.

2. What kind of entity is the nation?

This section deals with the ontological classification of the NATION from the perspective of social ontology and complex systems theory. I describe the emergence of the NATION concept through the iterative process of classification and meronymy, as well as the essential role of linguistic conceptualization for the establishment of the cultural model of the NATION.

2.1 The emergent constructivist approach to the ontology of the nation

It is unlikely that anyone would claim that clay is an abstract concept. A piece of clay can be seen, touched, smelled; one can have a direct embodied interaction with it. Its referential entity is a material thing. What about nation? Its abstract referential nation-ness does not afford direct embodied cognition. However, even if it is not a thing that exists in the observable material world, nation has enormous psychological appeal and pragmatic force to shape human life and society.

From the evolutionary perspective, the intention for interaction with other meaningful group members is a bio-psycho-social trait evolved for maximizing individual survival and reproduction strategies (Richerson & Boyd 2005; Chiao & Blizinsky 2016). The idea that other individuals have comparable intentions and desires, similar codes of interaction and shared reverence for symbolic institutions (Tomasello 2000) is the seed of the NATION concept (Searle 2010). In his
research on the emergence of social ontology, John Searle (2010: 7) argued that collective intentionality and the human “capacity to impose functions on objects and people where the objects and the people cannot perform the functions solely in virtue of their physical structure” facilitates the construction of status functions. The status functions, in turn, act as the carriers of deontic powers, that is, “rights, duties, obligations, requirements, permissions, authorizations, entitlements” (Searle 2010: 9).

The implication of this emergent constructivist approach is that social reality emerges from the bio-psychological level of self-awareness and self-identity, but at the same time induces reorganization of its constituents. That is to say, self-identity is the epistemic standard for: (a) recognizing another individual’s identity as similar to one’s own, and (b) accepting deontic powers imposed by social interaction and communication. Dynamic interaction between individual self-identity and socially accepted values implies that nation is a dynamic sociocultural concept, constructed from the organization of various bio-psycho-social entities and susceptible to different types of conceptualizations.

2.2 Emergent ontological description as an iterative function of meronomy and classification

The value of a house is partially defined by the material it is made of, for instance, clay, metal, wood, but is not reducible to its constituents. The same emergent constructional reality is true of the abstract sociocultural concept nation. Two basic system relations that describe ontological emergence of entities, their properties and processes are classification and meronomy.

Classification or in-class inclusion sometimes also called taxonomy or categorization, refers to the recognition of relation properties “Xs are a type of Y.” In–inclusion is established between an entity Y and its hyponyms X₁, X₂, … Xₙ, as in the proposition humans are biological organisms. Cognitive sciences have produced a large volume of research on the embodied cognition mechanism (Barsalou 2007), and sociocultural dimensions (Bennardo & de Munck 2014) of the categorization processes.

Meronomy involves part-whole relations “Xs are part of Y,” as in “people are part of a nation.” In-class inclusion and meronomy are distinguished by “kind of” and “part of” expressions (Winston et al. 1987; Storey 1991). For example, the expression hrvatska nacija ‘Croatian nation’ activates the classification of Croatia into the class nation, where Croatia is a kind of nation. On the other hand, the expression simbol nacije ‘the symbol of a nation’ profiles a meronomic relation between the classes symbol and nation: a symbol is cognized as a part of the nation, not as a kind of nation.
From the system theory perspective (Capra 1997; Emmeche et al. 1997; Perak & Puljar D’Alessio 2013; Capra & Luisi 2014) the constitution of the material, psychological and social ontological reality of a nation can be described as an iterative, hierarchical, emergent process of establishing aggregated entities in meronomic relations that form in-class relations, with increasing relational complexity and decreasing structural stability of the aggregated entities.

A nation is constituted in an iterative process because the aggregated entities become part of new constructs and categories that become part of new meronymic relations. For instance, an atom becomes a molecule that becomes a tissue that becomes an organ that becomes an individual that is a cognizer that identifies itself as a member of a social group that institutionalizes a nation through the process of communication. The constitutive process is hierarchical because the iterative process produces constitutive and emergent entities of a different structural order. The final construct is emergent because the properties of constitutive entities are organized in such a way as to produce new properties and functions in the aggregate entity. For example, there is no sovereignty on the biological level of an organism. The increasing level of complexity is derived from synthesis of inherited constitutive properties. This constructive process induces structural dynamics of increasing analytic componentiality with decreasing synthesis stability of the emergent entities.

In order to holistically represent the synthetic complexity system and analyse componentiality of entities, I propose the Emergent Ontological Model comprising of schematized 16 superclasses (see Figure 1). The model is based on the theoretical background of complex systems emergent principles (Emmeche et al. 1997), the description of social ontology (Searle 2010), as well as the embodied cognition perspective (Barsalou 2007) within the cognitive science tradition.

Each superclass in Figure 1 (existence, emergence, etc.) represents entities of a certain material, psychological or social complexity that are interconnected by dynamic bottom-up and top-down relations. Bottom-up relations form emergent features, while the structure of aggregate entities recurrently modifies the self-organization process of the constituent level by top-down relations.

In this model, nation is classified as a concept, represented by a triangle (see Figure 2), that is connected by an in-class (isA) relation with the institution superclass, constituted by the communication superclass and modified by the cultural model superclass. The institution superclass is defined as a set of conventionalized norms of communication, interaction, and identity, maintained by the socially distributed institutional power and modified by a cultural model.
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Figure 1. The emergent ontological model of material, psychological and sociocultural super-classes
Figure 2. Classification of the nation concept as an institution with communication as the constitutive superclass and cultural model as the modifying superclass. The relation is A defines nation as a member of the institution class.

The construal of the nation concept emerges from the specific organization of its meronomic features. In order to emerge as a relatively stable entity in social ontology, the nation as an institution requires a synthesis of less complex, constitutive material entities including material entities such as land (where people live and claim to have some proprietary rights), eco-system, organisms with psychological processes of perception, affect appraisal and cognition that can identify as part of social groups (Simon et al. 2015) such as family, kinship, as well as interaction patterns, rituals, social communication via language and other semiotic systems, creating narratives that constitute a history of a social group, belief systems that organize norms and rules of social interactions and stratification, economic organizations that enable the exchange of goods, political institutions that serve as governing principles for the administration of state and acculturalization of citizens, economy, law and military institutions (see Nardon and Steers 2009). The nation is also top-down modified by a shared cultural model.

2.3 Cultural models of the nation

A cultural model is defined as a set of cognitive schemas that are intersubjectively shared by a social group (D’Andrade 1987: 112). The cultural model of a specific nation are the representations of the nation concept shared by the members of a culture. Cultural models are institutionally conventionalized constructions that organize the components of the emergent nation concept in structurally and causatively different ways.
Different cognitive schemas are socially distributed and maintained by discourse. Profiling a certain cultural model of the nation in discourse is used to highlight the function of a certain deontic power in a social group (Lakoff 2008; Searle 2010) by activating the individual’s appraisal of mental states (Bennardo & de Munck 2014: 5) and eliciting collective perceptions of the past by framing, maintaining, and challenging views of the nation and identity (Máiz 2003; Hogan 2009; Pavlaković & Perak 2017).

2.4 The diachronic aspect of the componential analysis

Diachrony is an important aspect in the componential analysis of the cultural models of the nation. It is closely related to the term “nation-building,” describing the processes of national consolidation that lead up to the establishment of modern states, distinct from previous feudal and dynastic states, church states, kingdoms, empires, etc. (Kolstø 2000: Chapter 2). The phases of nation-building, described by Stein Rokkan’s (1975) model (see Marks, this volume), include territorial, economic, social and cultural unification, military and education institutionalization, proliferation of information through mass media, participation in the political system, establishment of public welfare services and implementation of economic policies. All these layers are interconnected in the emergence of the cultural model of a nation.

2.5 Language as a tool of conceptual construal

The institutional reality of the nation is created and maintained by social communication (see Figures 1 and 2). One of the most important communication tools is language (for the discussion of the use of other media see Grassi this volume).

Linguistic communication is sequentially imposed by means of social interaction, mediated by either a written or a spoken linguistic code. A code is a set of tokens (for the discussion on the institutional conventionalization of language see Čičin-Šain, Vervaet, this volume) that cognizers identify as a means to express an embodied experience and activate conceptual structures of the communicator(s) (see Figure 3). Discourse is thus a structure of symbolically organized conceptual patterns created in the process of intersubjective communication of perceptions, affective appraisals and cognitive configurations between cognizing agents (see Figure 3).

Linguistic constructions activate concepts relevant for the conceptualization of the nation. For instance, the Croatian lexeme nacija ‘nation’ (see Figure 4, lexemes are represented using a circle) is classified as an entity of the communication class. The lexeme refers to the concept nation that is classified on the complexity level of the institution class.
3. Analysis of syntactic-semantic constructions

According to the usage-based theory of language acquisition (Tomasello 2000, 2009; Langacker 2008; Ellis et al. 2015) language users conventionalize linguistic constructions on various structural levels. Linguistic patterns of conceptualization
Figure 4. Ontological lexeme-concept-class relations for the Croatian lexical concept nacija ‘nation’ that is part of the communication class and refers to the nation concept that is a kind of an institution

reflect frequent ways of construing embodied experiences about the material, psychological and sociocultural reality. Linguistic constructions can, therefore, be used not just to reveal salient entities in a domain, but also to map out the network of causal relations between constituents of an ontologically complex entity, such as the nation. Syntactic-semantic networks can be seen as conceptual patterns of construing cultural model(s). This approach enables us to use a corpus as a source for a usage-based analysis of the conceptualization patterns of the nation.

3.1 Syntactic-semantic constructions and construal of meaning

According to cognitive linguistic theory, the form-to-form dependency is derived from the cognitive organization of conceptual patterns (Langacker 2008). For
instance, speakers put adjective modifiers near nouns, such as red clay, as opposed to long-distance dependencies (Gildea & Temperley 2010), because this is cognitively the most efficient manner to cognize and linguistically represent the information about the properties of an entity. Morphosyntactic structures have an inherent semantic value. They organize the linguistic representation of knowledge about conceptualized entities, their relations, properties and processes.

This study uses corpus natural language processing tools provided by Sketch Engine for the identification of syntactic-semantic structures that contribute to the construal of the nation concept based on data from the corpus of Croatian, hrWaC 2.2. This corpus features 29 predefined morphosyntactic relations for the lemma nacija ‘nation’. Each of them has a certain semantic function; however, in this study I present only five types of morphosyntactic relations (see Table 1) that are crucial for conceptualizing the nation: what are relevant concepts that form the ontological domain of the entity nation?; what are the properties of the entity called nation?; what are its dependent genitival relations to other entities?; what can be done with the lexical concept nation?; and what can the lexical concept of nation do?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relation name</th>
<th>Notation</th>
<th>Syntactic structure</th>
<th>Semantic value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>koordinacija</td>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>C:Noun+“and/or”+Q:Noun</td>
<td>What C nouns are related to the Q nation?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kakav?</td>
<td>Adjective modifier</td>
<td>C:Adjective+Q:Noun</td>
<td>What are the C properties of the Q nation?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n-koga-čega</td>
<td>Dependent genitive</td>
<td>C:Noun in nominative+Q:Noun in genitive</td>
<td>What are the C parts that the Q nation is genitivally related to?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>koga-što</td>
<td>Thematic object in accusative</td>
<td>C:Verb+Q:Noun in accusative</td>
<td>What are the C processes that can be performed on the Q nation?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subjekt_od</td>
<td>Agentive entity</td>
<td>Q:Noun in nominative+C:Verb</td>
<td>What C processes can the Q nation perform?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. See https://the.sketchengine.co.uk/corpus/wsdef?corpname=preloaded/hrwac22.
For each dependent relation, a query is devised that produces a pattern with:
(a) queried lemma (Q) as the ‘From’ node; (b) a grammatical relation as a relationship (R); and (c) collocated lemma (C) as the ‘To’ node. Each pattern was restricted to yield the 50 most frequent collocations.

3.2 Noun collocates of the coordinated construction

The coordinated construction is a simple syntactic-semantic construction that connects two nouns using the conjunction ‘and’. The conjunction *and* functions as a logical operator, yielding nouns that can reveal which entities are conceptualized as ontologically related. The interrelated concepts form a conceptual matrix or a domain. A domain is defined in terms of sets of ‘encyclopaedic’ knowledge and experiences that competent members of a discourse community have about the nation, organized around some ‘prototypical’ concepts (Musolff 2016: 8).

The method for identifying the ontologically domain-related entities from the coordinated construction is performed on the lexical concept *nacija* ‘nation’ using the Croatian 1.2 Giga word web corpus hrWaC 2.2. The source lemma *nacija* ‘nation’ occurs 56,803 times or 40.6386 per million words in hrWaC 2.2. The target concepts are acquired from a friend-of-a-friend network of 1000 collocates in [nacija i/ili Noun x i/ili Noun y] construction, ranked by a measure of syntactic distribution (Rychlý & Kilgarriff 2007). This means that *nacija* ‘nation’ and its 50 collocates have been interlinked with 50 collocates of the initial collocates. The network has been filtered using the page rank algorithm in Gephi software (Brin 1998) resulting in a network that contains eighty lexemes that represent ontologically relevant concepts for the creation of the semantic domain of the nation. Larger nodes represent a higher value according to the page rank of the network.

Based on the most prominent constituents of this network, such as *čovjek* ‘man’, *obitelj* ‘family’, *politika* ‘politics’, *vjera* ‘belief’, *jezik* ‘language’ we can conclude that the lexeme *nacija* ‘nation’ is highly related to entities from the ontological complex of the following superclasses: **identity**, **interaction**, **communication** and **institution**. The problem is that the coordinated construction does not offer insight into the conceptualization of causal relations between these related concepts. To find these structures we must investigate dependent syntactic-semantic relations.

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2. https://the.sketchengine.co.uk/corpus/corp_info?corpname=preloaded/hrwac22&struct_attr_stats=1&subcorpora=1 (Ljubešić & Erjavec 2011) The same corpus is used in the chapters by Šarić this volume and Stanojević this volume.
3.3 Adjective collocates of the adjective modifier construction

A sequential connection of lexical concepts in the dependent adjective modifier construction ADJ+N semantically construes the nominal concept of the nation in terms of profiled adjective activation. Table 2 presents 50 adjective collocations for the adjective modifier construction (ADJ+nation) in hrWaC 2.2. The adjectives are classified according to the ontological complexity of the prototypical attributed nouns and represented along with their frequency in hrWaC 2.2.

Modifiers profile a particular component of the nation concept: proper adjectives are prompts for conceptualizing the nation in terms of a particular ethnicity (hrvatski 'Croatian'), a state (europski 'European') or a religious entity (muslimanski 'Muslim'). Descriptive adjectives like suveren 'sovereign', privilegiran 'privileged', močan 'powerful', siromašan 'poor', profile political sovereignty and economic status, while modifiers like cijeli 'whole' or formiran 'formed' profile the
componential or constructional aspect of the nation. The emotional and cognitive component of the nation is activated by modifiers such as glup ‘stupid’, ponosan ‘proud’. Finally, adjectives like sportski ‘sport’ indicate the importance of sports for nation representation and national social identification.

Relationship frequency can indicate cognitive entrenchment of the pattern (Ellis & Larsen-Freeman 2009; Schmid 2010; Stefanowitsch & Flach 2016). The classification of adjectives in relation to the profiled entity introduces the embodied view of domain activation: linguistic usage of a lexical item activates a pattern of mental simulation, forming a cognitively entrenched domain of related concepts (Chow et al. 2014; Buccino et al. 2016).

Table 2. Collocates of the C:Adjective+ Q:nacija grammatical relation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>PARTONOMY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>force</td>
<td>jak ‘strong’ 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>movement</td>
<td>vodeći ‘leading’ 120, napredan ‘advanced’ 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sequence</td>
<td>razvijen ‘developed’ 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biology – state</td>
<td>zdrav ‘healthy’ 104, bolestan ‘sick’ 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biology – kind</td>
<td>umjetan ‘artificial’ 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>psychological affect</td>
<td>drag ‘dear’ 96, ponosan ‘proud’ 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cognitive</td>
<td>izmišljen ‘imagined’ 71, glup ‘stupid’ 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>social identity</td>
<td>vlastit ‘one’s own’ 251, većinski ‘majority’ 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>communication</td>
<td>blogerski ‘blogger’ 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>institution – economy</td>
<td>bogat ‘rich’ 116, suveren ‘souverain’ 64, siromašan ‘poor’ 63, povlašten ‘privileged’ 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>institution – sport</td>
<td>nogometni ‘soccer’ 302, sportski ‘sport’ 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>institution – religious</td>
<td>muslimanski ‘Muslim’ 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>institution – political</td>
<td>uspješan ‘successful’ 135, moćan ‘powerful’ 80, civiliziran ‘civilized’ 45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 Noun collocates of the dependent genitive construction

Using the same corpus method, I extracted 50 most frequently collocated nouns in the dependent genitive construction ‘C noun of Q nation’ (Co-occurring Noun + Lemma nacija ‘nation’ in the genitive). By applying the domain activation classification, the collocated nouns are ordered according to ontological complexity (Figure 1), from MATERIAL to PSYCHOLOGICAL and SOCIAL3 and represented along with their frequency in hrWaC 2.2 (see Table 3).

| Table 3. The collocates of the C:Noun + Q:nacija ‘of nation’ grammatical relation |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| MATERIAL                        | EMERGENCE                       | stvaranje ‘creation’ 84; formiranje ‘forming’ 78; stanje ‘state’ 706 |
| PARTONOMY                       | jedinstvo ‘unity’ 54; homogenizacija ‘homogenization’ 20; ostatak ‘rest’ 134 |
| SEQUENCE                        | budućnost ‘future’ 50 |
| BIOLOGY – ORGANISM              | radanje ‘birth’ 24; zdravlje ‘health’ 257; opstanak ‘survival’ 54; izumiranje ‘extinction’ 14 |
| BIOLOGY – PARTS OF THE BODY     | lice ‘face’ 253; mozak ‘brain’ 26; oko ‘eye’ 37; obraz ‘cheek’ 14; puls ‘pulse’ 47 |
| PSYCHOLOGICAL                   | affect                          |
| COGNITION                       | svijest ‘consciousness’ 33; savjest ‘conscience’ 28; poimanje ‘understanding’ 31; pojam ‘concept’ 119; ideja ‘idea’ 52; definicija ‘definition’ 31 |
| SOCIAL                          | identity                        |
| INSTITUTION – ECONOMY           | interes ‘interest’ 99; bogatstvo ‘wealth’ 23; dobrobit ‘well-being’ 53; prosperitet ‘prosperity’ 17; boljitak ‘prosperity’ 25; blagostanje ‘welfare’ 19 |
| INSTITUTION – SPORTS            | kup ‘cup’ 1093                   |
| INSTITUTION – MORAL             | dobro ‘the good’ 20; moral ‘morals’ 22 |
| INSTITUTION – RELIGIOUS         | duh ‘spirit’ 79; sudbina ‘fate’ 36 |

3. Concepts and domains are indicated by small caps.
Domain analysis reveals that the socio-cultural *nacija* 'nation' concept in dependent genitive constructions is profiled as an object that is created, formed, has a state, that can be homogenous in its structure. However, it is also profiled as a biological organism: having a birth, having a father, having various parts of the body, as a surviving or extinct species (for plant profiling, see Rash, Stanojević this volume). Likewise, it is profiled as an experiencer or cognizer: having psychological affective and cognitive states. Ontologically closer to its socio-cultural institution class, it is profiled as a member with a social function. Finally, it is portrayed as an interactor that has socio-economic goals and moral values imposed by its cultural model. Some of these conceptualizations, such as *radanje nacije* 'birth of a nation', extend the ontological properties of the collocated nouns; nation is not a material object that can be formed, not a biological thing that can be born, etc. Still, such ontologically incongruent constructions construe new emergent semantic value of the *nation* concept. Their semantic and pragmatic implications are essential for metaphorical conceptualization (see Section 4).

3.5 Verb collocates of the thematic object construction

According to the conventions of Croatian syntax, a noun in the accusative following a verb usually functions as a direct object. The query for the thematic construction yielded verbs that refer to processes with *nacija* 'nation' coded as a semantic object. The resulting verbs are classified according to the ontological domain of prototypical objects for the construed process. For instance, a prototypical semantic object for the process *drink* would be something liquid, that is, material, liquid, beverage, preferably non-toxic. The prototypical object-of-a-verb classes are ordered schematically from material and psychological to more complex social domains.

This classification shows that *nation* is conceptualized in thematic constructions as a material object, a moving object, a biological organism, an experiencer of psychological states, a cognizer of cognitive processes, as an invented or defined concept, a social interactor, a communicator and a theme in social communication. The extension of ontological properties seems to be salient in the thematic construal of the nation. It is important to note that some verbs like *poniziti* 'degrade, humiliate' with its motion component 'to lower something' and the social interaction association, are polysemous in nature. Their polysemy is motivated by a diachronic shift in lexical usage and associated ontological reference. A new reference can become a semantic extension, making the ontological classification of prototypical collocations a somewhat nondeterministic process,
Table 4. The collocates of the C:Verb + Q:nacija ‘nation’ thematic construction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>OBJECT</th>
<th>COLLOCATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>stvoriti ‘create’ 143; formirati ‘form’ 22;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>homogenizirati ‘homogenize’ 17; ujediniti ‘unite’ 44;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ujedinjavati ‘unite’ 11; izjednačavati ‘equate’ 8;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>uništiti ‘destroy’ 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECT IN MOTION</td>
<td></td>
<td>uzdizati ‘elevate’ 17; potresti ‘shake’ 9;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOSOLOGY</td>
<td></td>
<td>mobilizirati ‘mobilize’ 18; zaviti ‘wrap’ 7;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>AFFECTIVE – EXPERIENCER</td>
<td>trovati ‘poison’ 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>šokirati ‘shock’ 36; plasiti ‘scare’ 12; mrziti ‘hate’ 44; sramotiti ‘embarrass’ 17; osramotiti ‘dishonor’ 15; iznenaditi ‘surprise’ 15; nasmijati ‘make laugh’ 12; nasmijavati ‘make laugh’ 12; razveseliti ‘cheer up’ 17; otrudovati ‘gladden’ 8; razočarati ‘disappoint’ zamarati ‘bore’ 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COGNITIVE – COGNIZER</td>
<td></td>
<td>podsjetiti ‘remind’ 16; zaglupljivati ‘make stupid’ 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COGNITIVE – CONCEPT</td>
<td></td>
<td>izmisliti ‘invent’ 27; izmišljati ‘invent’ 11; određivati ‘determine’ 32; generalizirati ‘generalize’ 7; poistovjećivati ‘identify’ 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL</td>
<td>INTERACTION – INTERACTOR</td>
<td>uveseljavati ‘amuse’ 14; zabavljati ‘entertain’ 40;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>zabaviti ‘entertain’ 8; maltretirati ‘mistreat’ 18;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>spasavati ‘save’ 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL HIERARCHY – INTERACTOR</td>
<td></td>
<td>ponižavati ‘degrade, humiliate’ 9; ponzititi ‘degrade, humiliate’ 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNICATION – COMMUNICATOR</td>
<td></td>
<td>uvjeriti ‘convince’ 36; uvjeravati ‘convince’ 32;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>vrijediti ‘insult’ 25; uvrijediti ‘insult’ 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNICATION – CONCEPT</td>
<td></td>
<td>priznavati ‘acknowledge’ 23; odreći ‘give up, negare’ 19; negirati ‘negate’ 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC – INTERACTOR</td>
<td></td>
<td>počastiti ‘complement’ 10; zadužiti ‘be obliged by’ 26; varati ‘cheat’ 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

with fuzzy boundaries that include semasiological and sociolinguistic criteria for meaning construal.4

3.6 Verb collocates of the agentive subject construction

Finally, the query for the agentive construction where the noun nacija ‘nation’ is the subject of a verb reveals processes where the concept nacija ‘nation’ is

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4. The complete analysis of this diachronic ontological shift is, unfortunately, too complex to be represented in this chapter.
coded as a syntactic-semantic subject. Again, I classified the identified processes according to the schematized ontological domain of prototypical subjects for the collocated verbs.

### Table 5. The collocates of the C:Noun + Q:nacija 'of nation' grammatical relation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>EXISTING MATERIAL OBJECT</th>
<th>postati 'become' 111; postojati 'exist' 78</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMERGING MATERIAL OBJECT</td>
<td>nastati 'become' 59; nestati 'disappear' 10; formirati 'form' 14; stvoriti 'create' 13; stvarati 'create' 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATERIAL OBJECT WITH PROPERTIES</td>
<td>imati 'have' 41; izgubiti 'loose' 12; moći 'be able to' 44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATERIAL OBJECT IN MOTION</td>
<td>pasti 'fall' 8; propasti 'collapse' 8; ostati 'stay' 23; doći 'come' 9; početi 'start' 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGICAL ORGANISM</td>
<td>živjeti 'live' 9; trebati 'need' 33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCHOLOGICAL</td>
<td>PERCEIVER</td>
<td>vidjeti 'see' 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPERIENER OF AFFECTIVE STATES</td>
<td>odahnuti 'sigh in relief' 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COGNIZER</td>
<td>izmisliti 'invent' 16; znati 'know' 15; shvatiti 'comprehend' 11; htjeti 'want' 14; odlučiti 'decide' 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL</td>
<td>INTERACTOR WITH SOCIAL INTERACTION INTENTIONS</td>
<td>dati 'give' 14; napraviti 'do, create' 10; složiti 'put together' 7; otkriti 'reveal' 7; pokazati 'show' 19; raditi 'work' 7; uspjeti 'succeed' 15; dobiti 'get' 8; osvojiti 'win' 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERACTOR WITH SOCIAL INTERACTION AWARENESS</td>
<td>smjeti 'be allowed to' 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNICATOR</td>
<td>reći 'say' 33; govoriti 'speak' 7; dokazati 'prove' 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most of the collocations profile the sociocultural concept *nacija* 'nation' as an agentive entity that initiates complex processes and the capacity of conscious and seemingly independent intention to interact with the environment. The subjects of these processes are prototypically related to biological organisms with psychological states, intentions for social interaction, communication skills and comprehension of social and institutional standards. This type of syntactic-semantic construal frequently profiles the nation as a person with salient instigation of agency.

It is important to notice that it is not just the ontological complexity of the verb, but the very syntactic-semantic coding of *nacija* 'nation' in the place of the subject argument that triggers agentive construal. In comparison to the other three constructions, I argue that agentive construal is the most complex type of
conceptualization pattern because it imposes properties of human cognizing and intentionality on the status function of the concept NATION.

In the next section I explain in greater detail the process of metaphorical conceptualization of the nation and its pragmatic functions in the discourse.

4. Ontological congruence analysis of categorization, metonymy, and metaphor

In the previous sections I demonstrated that dependent morphosyntactic constructions profile specific causal construal between properties, entities, relations and processes of collocated lexical items. Exemplified by the 50 most frequent collocations in four types of dependent morphosyntactic constructions, I noted that construed semantic patterns are not always congruent with prototypical ontological patterns established by the embodied knowledge about the world. There is no napredan ‘advanced’ NATION in the spatial-motion sense, nor is there an actual otac ‘father’ of the NATION. Neither can a NATION as a sociocultural institution be alive in the biological sense, nor can a NATION know anything as a cognizer. This mismatch between the constituents of prototypical ontological relations and extended meaning imposed by syntactic-semantic construal is termed ontological incongruence of syntactic-semantic arguments. In this section, I explore the implications of that (in)congruence for the conceptualization of the NATION.

I argue that three basic cognitive processes of conceptualization – categorization, metonymic profiling and metaphorical mapping – are derived from profiling ontological relations: in-class inclusion, ontological congruence and ontological incongruence, respectively. Based on this congruence analysis, I have devised a methodology for identifying metaphor in discourse using the ontological model of lexical concepts and constructions (OMLCC). The OMLCC considers the functionality of the syntactic-semantic interface as well as the emergent ontological complexity of the entities, properties and processes (see Figure 1) with the goal of revealing cognitive mappings and pragmatic implications of the linguistic construal of concepts in discourse.

4.1 Cognitive profiling of meronomic relations in syntactic-semantic constructions

Meronomic relations are the building blocks of any entity and complex systems in general (see Section 2.2). An aggregate entity has structurally simpler component parts, and can, at the same time, be a part of a structurally more complex entity. Meronomic ontological relationships can be lexically expressed through
meronymic semantic relations. On the level of collostructions, meronymy is expressed as a combination of syntactically dependent lexemes that refer to the ontologically prototypical meronomic relations. These relations are an important part of the discourse because they organize the structure of the conceptualization. Can we identify the meronymic relations for different syntactic-semantic constructions of the nation?

4.1.1 Meronymy in the adjective modifier construction
In the adjective modifier construction (see Section 3.2) the meronymic relation is construed if the properties of the adjective profile appropriate ontological complexity of the modified noun. One of the methods to establish the complexity level of an adjective is to determine the ontological complexity of the lexically related noun (Spencer 2013). For example, the adjective sovereign is lexically related to the noun sovereignty that is taxonomically related to the superclass level of institution, which is the most appropriate complexity level to meronymically construe the NATION. In the same manner, we can argue that poor profiles institutional economic status. Then again, do stupid and proud form a prototypical meronymic construal of the nation's institutional properties? Obviously not, because these properties emerge on the psychological level of (human) cognition and affective experience. That is not to say that more complex levels like interaction, communication and institution classes do not partially inherit these properties. However, the modifiers stupid and proud are prototypically related to human cognizers and, consequently, the expression proud nation profiles the nation in terms of a collection of human cognizers who are proud. Is this a meronymic construction of the nation? If the adjective profiles a prototypical meronomic component of the nation, we can argue that the construction expresses componential meronomic relations, or metonymy. The meronomic network of properties of a modifier structures the part-whole metonymic profiling a for b. In this example: stupid humans for a stupid nation. The pragmatic effect of this metonymic profiling is generalization reduction: the properties of the constitutive entity are projected onto the emergent whole, reducing the properties of the whole to the profiled part. This is a common discursive method to cognitively highlight some constitutive and downplay other features of the construed entity nation.

Due to the contingency of the part and whole, the metonymic relation part-for whole can be reversed if the adjective profiles ontologically more complex institutional or cultural model properties. For instance, proper adjectives, like Croatian, Serbian, Yugoslav, Muslim, profile a specific institutional configuration of the nation’s components: land, people, customs, state, ethnicity and religious identity, and so on. These proper adjectives activate knowledge about a cultural model that profiles schematic prototypical reduction whole for part:
the prototypical properties of the emergent whole are projected on the presumed parts. For instance, members of the Croatian nation are presumably Croats, and in a Muslim nation everyone seemingly abides by the Muslim law. Prototypicality reduction is pragmatically used in political discourses to activate a set of values that are part of a referential cultural model: for instance, Croatian nation activates the way Croats model their nation as an institution.

4.1.2 Meronymy in the genitive construction

The dependent genitive syntactic-semantic construction (C:Noun in nominative+Q:nation Noun in the genitive), or simply ‘x of nation’, construes causal relations between the nation coded in the genitive case and the dependent entity in the nominative case, like otac nacije ‘father of the nation’ (see Section 3.3). The method for establishing meronymic relations is defined by a dependent relation of the collocated entity to the lexical concept nation. The partonymic (part of) structure of the construction ENTITY of NATION can be logically reframed as a componential meronymic relation: NATION HAS AN ENTITY. For example, if there is a father of the nation, then a nation has a father as a meronymic part. The assessment of meronymic profiling of lexical meaning can be much more transparent in this way. The collocation stvaranje nacije ‘creation of the nation’, reframed as nation has creation (phase), profiles the phase of the nation-building sequence, while pripadnik nacije ‘member of the nation’ profiles the nation as having members as parts. Likewise, the collocation zdravlje nacije ‘health of the nation’ should metonymically profile the health of the biological members of the nation.

However, there are some more ambiguous collocations. For instance, father of the nation does not profile a male genetic progenitor, but has to do with the male role model that institutes, provides for, and protects his family. The extended father concepts have been partially modified by patriarchal cultural models, ancestor worship, a Christian model for priests, and historical narratives about the founding members of the nation. New conceptualizations focus on some previously established meronymic aspects and diachronically extend the conceptual matrix of the lexeme. All these prototypical extensions (Lakoff 1987) and cultural model modifications of the lexeme father are present in the mind, but the ontological nature of the lexeme nation as a social institution gets filtered out and prompts the most informationally relevant meronomic component.

Dependent genitive constructions activate cognitive profiling of the ontologically most appropriate entity in the meronymic chain. Appropriateness is established by the complexity of ontological features of the collocated entities as well as the context. Activated senses in the genitive construction are pragmatically useful in the discourse because they construe the nation with a rich embodied system of meronymic chains established for each collocated lexical concept.
4.1.3 Meronymy in the thematic object construction

Meronymic profiling of the nation is established with relation to the prototypical object-of-verb class. For example, one of the very frequent processes in this construction is *stvoriti* ‘to create’. The ontological complexity level of this process is prototypically related to the emergence of some material object. Schematic features of creating an object are inherited by more complex psychological levels for conceptualizing distinct categories. This extended meronymic chain is applied to conceptualizing the social institution *nacija* ‘nation’ as a discrete created thing (for the discussion on the building mapping see Demata, Marks this volume; Đurović and Silaški this volume, analyse the implications of the container mapping). Frequent usage in discourse indicates the importance of this reifying construal for the appraisal of the nation category as an institution and its pragmatic implications.

Extended meronymic chains are more transparent in collocations with ontologically more complex processes, such as *trovati* ‘to poison’, having biological organisms as prototypical patients or direct argument and the instrument of poisoning as the thematic indirect argument (*to poison somebody*patient with somethinginstrument).

(1) Kumice ne truju naciju, prodaju ispravne proizvode. (*Forum.hr*)
Sellers [in the open market] do not poison the nation, [they] sell good products.

(2) … nacionalna demagogija otrov koji truje naciju uspješnije od ičega drugog. (*Sutra.hr*)
… national demagogy [is] a poison that poisons the nation more effectively than

One possible analysis of the construction *to poison a nation* (with *x*) is that the verb metonymically profiles poisoning organisms that are members of the nation (Example 1). On the other hand, the meaning of the verb can be meronymically extended to profile the destructive effects of poisoning on more abstract political, economic functions of the nation (Example 2). The type of profiling is determined by the indirect argument of the verb that expresses the instrument of poisoning. For instruments of the material class, that is, actual poison, the prototypical profiling organism for nation is salient; if the instrument refers to the psychological or social class, extended profiling is activated in which the nation is metaphorically conceptualized as an organism.

The functions of these constructions are related to the activation of rich embodied knowledge about the influence of material substances on an organism and the subsequent extension of properties to the concept nation, a conceptual process that enables the metaphorical conceptualization of the nation.
as an ORGANISM. Verbs that profile psychological affective experience or cognitive functions, such as to scare, to shame, to surprise, to make laugh, to remind, saliently profile the COGNIZER FOR NATION metonymic relation. These transitive verbs have prominently human experiencers and cognizers as direct objects. Construing the NATION as an object of these verbs metonymically imposes subjective states of individuals – PART (MEMBERS THAT CAN COGNIZE) FOR WHOLE (SOCIAL GROUP OF COGNIZERS). However, the established metonymic relation can have a reversed emergent meaning that construes the NATION AS A COGNIZER. The pragmatic implication of this construal creates a social appraisal bias that functionally influences the individual’s emotions and cognition. The way an individual appraises an event is influenced by the way that other individuals appraise and feel about the same event (Mumenthaler & Sander 2012; Fiske & Taylor 2013).

Lastly, social processes like to insult, to complement, to cheat construe the NATION in terms of PERSONS who can be insulted, complemented, and cheated. However, the metonymic profiling PERSON FOR NATION can have a residual effect of reversed properties projection that imposes PERSONHOOD on the NATION. This reverse metonym-based conceptualization of the nation produces a social appraisal bias of adopting and conforming to institutionalized social values (for the discussion of PERSON mappings see Demata, Gomola this volume).

In general, the thematic construction profiles the NATION in the discourse not just as an argument of verbs with appropriate institution complexity, such as declare or institutionalize, but it frequently construes meronomic components of the NATION as AN OBJECT / ORGANISM / PERSON.

4.1.4 Meronymy in the agentive subject construction
Agentive profiling in the agentive construction (see Section 3.4) is established by relating the lexical concept nacija ‘nation’ to the prototypical subject-of-verb class. However, agency is not overt with verbs that profile ontologically less complex types of processes that do not require an agent-like subject, such as exist, become, disappear, have, or motion type of processes, like fall, stay (+participle), come. The pragmatic function of these collocations is to frame the nation-building process as a self-emerging entity, avoiding the detailed activation of complex historical and cultural dimensions.

The profiling of agency emerges with verbs related to the biological class. For instance, the verb živjeti ‘to live’ metonymically profiles the presence of nation members or ethnicities, such as druge nacije koje su živjele u Jugoslaviji ‘other nations that lived in Yugoslavia’. Nevertheless, metonymic construction also projects the living properties onto the lexical concept nacija ‘nation’, creating metaphorical personification effects in the emergent construal. Agency of the nation
is saliently profiled by collostructions that profile psychological processes (see Example 3):

(3) To je vidjela cijela nacija.\(^5\)
    The whole nation has seen it.

Overt agency in Example (3) is avoided by using the adjective *cijela* ‘whole’ that triggers its opposite conceptualization of *parts* and subsequent metonymic profiling. Still, the example frames the nation as a *perceiving agent*. Similar framing with bio-psychological features is present in collostructions such as *nacija je odahnula* ‘the nation sighed in relief’, *Hrvatska Nacija je znala*\(^6\) ‘the Croatian nation knew’, *velike nacije su shvatile* ‘big nations understood’, as well as in constructions with verbs that profile social interaction: *To je nacija koja je svjetu dala Da Vincija* ‘This is the nation that gave the world Da Vinci’.

The pragmatic function of the agentive subject construction is related to the heightened cognitive relevance and social appraisal when interacting with entities that express features of autonomous agency (Smith & Conrey 2007). The problem is that imposing agency on the constructed social concept is an ontologically complex and a cognitively expensive process. This is corroborated by a significantly smaller number of verbs (\(n = 37\)) in the agentive than in the thematic collostructions (\(n = 50+\)) in our queries, as well as the overall frequency (subjekt_od: 1523, koga-štto: 5019) and collostruction scores (subjekt_od: 2.68, koga-štto: 8.84). It seems that it is less conventional in discourse, as captured by the hrWaC 2.2 corpus, to conceptualize the nation as a semantic subject rather than a thematic object. Nonetheless, the agentive construction is highly relevant to frame the sense of personhood of a nation and the consequent extensions of its meronymic features for conceptualizing institutional power.

4.2 Metaphor as incongruent profiling of extended meronomic relations

In this section I deal with the emergent process of the discursive conceptualization of the nation – metaphorical mappings. Following conceptual metaphor theory (CMT) (Lakoff & Johnson 1980/2003, 1999; Lakoff 2008; Musolff 2016), metaphor is defined as a process of understanding one domain in terms of another by using “…one highly structured and clearly delineated concept to structure another” (Lakoff & Johnson 1980/2003: 61). Essentially, metaphorical constructions activate

\(^5\) Source: hrWaC 2.2, index.hr.

\(^6\) Source: hrWaC 2.2, politika.com.

\(^7\) Source: hrWaC 2.2, zpress.hr.
mappings between two concepts that are ontologically unrelated in the referent cultural model.

One of the problems in the formal analysis of metaphor (Gibbs 2017: 58) has been associated with the lack of epistemic and ontological description of concepts. My aim is to formalize the description of conceptual structures by providing an ontology model that indicates the complexity level of construed concepts and meronomic structure of conceptualized entities, properties and processes. Ontological analysis of syntactic-semantic constructions can enable us to detect the emergence of metaphorical mappings from established meronymic relations. Figure 6 presents an example of the ontological analysis of the dependent genitive collocation radanje nacije 'birth of a nation'.

Croatian lexemes nacija and radanje, represented as circles, refer to their corresponding concepts nation and birth that have taxonomic isa and meronomic partOf relations with other concepts and superclasses. The concept of birth has a meronomic relation to initial phase and organism enabling a meronymic profile of the initial phase aspect of the nation creation sequence and metonymic relation organism for nation. This established pattern possibly enables the emergent metaphorical conceptualization of nation as organism. A similar process is at work in Example (3) The whole nation has seen it (Figure 7) (see also 4.1.2).

The verb vidjeti ‘see’ in Figure 7 is represented as a black circle, referring to the process see with the prototypical subject seer, taxonomically related to (at least) the perception class. The construction meronymically profiles the seer that is meronomically related to the nation. This leads to the activation of the metaphorical relation nation as seer.

In all these examples, the underlying structure of the isa taxonomic and the isPartOf meronomic conceptual networks enable the possibility of metaphorical conceptualization of nation as x. Essentially, following prominent researchers in the conceptual metonymy and metaphor theory (Barcelona 2000; Radden 2000; Brdar 2007, Stanojević this volume), I claim that metaphorical mappings establish new emergent mental representations using previously established meronomic network relations. Metaphorical constructions meronymically profile a source entity and activate an extension of its meronomic relation that is projected onto the target entity. This new relation violates ontological congruence. The identification of the metaphorical constructions in discourse can thus be formalized as follows:

A syntactic-semantic construction produces a metaphorical conceptualization if the collocated lexemes activate a conceptual representation involving an ontological violation of prototypical relations of the constituents.

The violation is defined as ontologically non-existent in-class inclusion or non-existent mereological relation between lexical concepts that are syntactically
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Figure 6. Activation of the metaphorical relation nation as organism in the construction radanje nacije 'birth of a nation'. The n-koga-čega relation indicates thematic syntactic-semantic construal. MeronomicRelation indicates the meronomic ontological relation that a concept has with other concept(s). MeronymicProfiling indicates the profiled concept. MetaphoricRelation indicates the nation as organism conceptual mapping.
joined in the linguistic construction. The metaphorical cognitive function can thus be expressed:

\[ A \text{ IsNot } B,\ A\text{ hasNotPartsOf } B,\ \text{but process elements of } A\ \text{and elements of } B\ \text{together and map elements of } B\ \text{with } A.\]

The succinct notation \( A \text{ AS } B \) captures the definition of the metaphor process more accurately than the conventional, logically incorrect formal notation \( A \text{ IS } B \).

Meronymic profiling and the extension of meronomic properties of the concept of nation establish new conceptual networks that activate new types of conceptualizations about entities, properties and processes related to the framing of the nation in the discourse. We can think of the function of metaphorical mappings of the nation as an inherent human cognitive capability to
expand the knowledge and representation of social reality by using linguistic constructions.\(^8\)

4.3 Pragmatic relevance of metaphors in discourse

Ontological analysis of the syntactic-semantic constructions allows us to reason systematically about the pragmatic functions of metaphorical conceptualizations in terms of discursive epistemic effects. Summarizing the ontological classifications in Sections 3 and 4, the metaphorical construal of the nation has three major mutually complementary cognitive functions: imposing reification, personification and sociocultural identification.

Examples of reification, like stvaranje nacije ‘creation of a nation,’ cijela nacija ‘whole nation,’ radanje nacije ‘birth of a nation,’ are present in all the examined constructions. The reifying properties cognitively enable the conceptualization of the nation as a material class of entity. Specifically, as an existing, emerging entity, located in space with various phases of nation-building processes. Pragmatically, reification imposes a status function on material components of the nation, such as land, borders, and material symbols.

In constructions like nacija shvaća ‘the nation comprehends’\(^9\) the nation is conceptualized as a person with a sense of mindfulness and agency. The personification strategy imposes collective intentionality in relation to a social group’s mental states. This can result in social influence bias (Moussaïd et al. 2013) by which individuals adapt their opinion, revise their beliefs, or change their behaviour as a result of social interactions with other people. Collective bias effects are related to manipulating cognitive appraisal of random events and the projection of long-term collective goals as individual desires.

Finally, sociocultural identification profiles the nation in terms of social interaction, cultural norms and institutions. In the dominant contemporary understanding of the social identity imposed by global political and economic systems, a person is (at least) administratively categorized as a member of a state. However, that identification is somewhat different from the social identification as a member of a nation. The sense of belonging to a nation is related to the concept of nationalism. Patrick Colm Hogan (2009) defines nationalism as “any form of in-group identification for a group defined in part by reference to a geographical area along with some form of sovereign government over that area.”

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8. The metaphors identified in this study are available at the Croatian metaphor repository MetaNet.hr: http://ihjj.hr/metafore/.
is thus not just identification with a social group that shares positive appraisal and particular political interests based on land, settlement, urban and rural habitation, age and generation, ethnicity, language, etc. Social identification as a member of a nation is defined by the positive assessment of the role that sovereign government has in supporting various political identities and leveraging the process of contesting different political perspectives. We can thus argue that meronymic profiling and metaphorical mapping like nacija shvaća ‘the nation comprehends’ activates the pragmatic function of imposing the status function on the complex sociocultural entity NATION and modifying the deontic power of its constituents within a particular social reality.

5. Conclusion

In this chapter I have presented an ontological analysis method of syntactic-semantic constructions of the concept NATION in Croatian discourse as represented by the hrWaC 2.2 corpus. The premise of this approach is that corpus research of morphosyntactic constructions can reveal culture-specific patterns of metonymic and metaphorical conceptualization in discourse. Each construction can be seen as revealing a layer of components in a multi-layered matrix that represents prototypical conceptualizations of the Croatian lexeme nacija ‘nation’. I focused on five types of dependent syntactic-semantic constructions: noun coordination, adjective modifier, dependent genitive, thematic object, agentive subject. The ontological model of lexical concepts and constructions (OMLCC) was used to distinguish meronymic relations in causal configurations that activate the metonymic profile X FOR NATION and enable possible metaphorical processing of NATION AS X. The OMLCC approach shows that the activated metaphorical mappings use established meronymic patterns to form ontologically incongruent extensions and create new emergent metaphorical meanings. The metaphorical conceptualizations of the NATION in syntactic-semantic constructions elicit pragmatic functions of reification, personification and social appraisal. These functions are important for imposing and reinforcing the institutional status of the NATION, a conventionalization of interaction and communication between members, as well as the creation of collective IDENTITY that influences a PERSON’S self-appraisal, and vice versa.

The empirical corpus method revealed salient patterns of reorganization and adaptation of communicative knowledge about the nation in discourse. Further research should consider other constructions and show their relevance for the construal of the NATION, as well as detect the cultural, media, genre, gender, personal, or any other type of configuration preferences in different discourses (see Šarić this volume, for a case of cultural analysis).
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References


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Please provide a citation for the reference (Lakoff and Johnson 1999, Perak 2017) in this chapter.