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Toward a Serbian FrameNet: Resource Construction, Methodology, and Initial Annotation Results

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Abstract

This paper presents the initial steps toward developing the FrameNet lexical database for Serbian. FrameNet is a lexical database, primarily for English, based on Charles Fillmore’s theory of Frame Semantics. Following the establishment of the Berkeley FrameNet, databases were developed for many other languages. There is growing interest in FrameNet and its applications in NLP, owing to its role in text structuring through role labeling. In addition to NLP, FrameNet has found applications across various research areas of applied linguistics.

Building FrameNet for Serbian is an important step in developing crucial resources for this underrepresented language. The paper reports on the construction of the Serbian database.

After translating the names of the English frames and frame elements into Serbian, we expanded the list with additional frames from the Brazilian database. We began our first annotations, and we present annotations of 162 sentences containing the lexemes *oštetiti* (‘damage’) and *uništiti* (‘destroy’). As a result, we offer lexical unit reports for two frames non-existent in the English FrameNet, specific to Serbian. We further discuss the main challenges and uncertainties encountered during the annotation process, as well as the solutions adopted. The development of the Serbian FrameNet contributes to the enrichment of multilingual FrameNet initiatives and provides a foundation for future research in semantic annotation, lexicography, and NLP applications for Serbian.

Keywords: FrameNet, Serbian language, database, destroying and damaging frames.

1 Introduction

In this paper, we present the initial phase of developing the Serbian FrameNet, a lexical database. FrameNet is based on Charles Fillmore’s theory of

Frame Semantics. Our work focuses on (i) adapting the FrameNet framework to Serbian, (ii) integrating existing lexical resources, and (iii) establishing an annotation workflow. We build upon the platform developed by the Brazilian FrameNet team (Torrent et al., 2025) and adapt it to the linguistic and resource-specific characteristics of Serbian.

The initial version of the resource includes translated frame and frame element inventories, aligned with the original FrameNet structure. The lexicon has been enriched with approximately 17,000 lexemes derived from the Leximirka lexical database, including their inflectional paradigms. In addition, a corpus of Serbian sentences has been integrated to support annotation and evaluation.

We have begun manual annotation of selected frames, focusing on the core semantic domains. Preliminary results indicate both the feasibility of direct frame transfer and the need for language-specific adaptations, particularly in cases of variation in argument structure and surface linguistic realization.

1.1 Theoretical background

FrameNet is an electronic lexicographic database of English, based on the theory of Frame Semantics – the cognitive-semantic approach to lexical semantic analysis, developed by Charles Fillmore and his collaborators. The research focus of this approach is on the meaning and use of words, and the idea is that lexical semantics should be described in relation to the frames to which words belong. Namely, the essential idea is that words of specific classes (verbs, nouns, adjectives, and adverbs) evoke frames – systems of concepts related in such a way that understanding any of these concepts requires understanding the entire system to which it belongs (Fillmore, 1982).

A semantic frame is a conceptual gestalt that could represent an event, state, attribute, relation,

or entity (Boas et al., 2024). Namely, Fillmore holds that word meanings are relativized to scenes (Fillmore, 1977) or frames, and that cultural and world knowledge motivates linguistic expressions and is embedded in them. That’s why the FrameNet frame definition represents the schematic representation of the situation type that underlies the meaning of the word, together with the named roles of the participants or aspects of the situation (Fillmore et al., 2003).

The work on FrameNet, which began in 1997, can be considered an implementation of the theory of Frame Semantics, since it is organized around semantic frames evoked by different words. At the moment, it contains more than 10,000 lexical units which evoke frames (Boas et al., 2024). This database contains manually annotated sentences from real-world corpora and provides detailed, precise information on the semantic and syntactic properties of words. Namely, its importance is reflected in the fact that word meanings are explicitly related to the syntactic contexts in which they appear (e.g., FEs to their syntactic realizations), thereby enabling conclusions about semantico-syntactic interdependencies.

1.2 Related work

Linguistic researchers were drawn to such a detailed resource and motivated to adapt FrameNet to other languages. Over the last few years, similar lexicographic databases have been developed for Japanese, German, Spanish, Chinese, Brazilian Portuguese, Finnish, French, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latvian, Swedish, and other languages. Besides, the project *Multilingual FrameNet* has started, and interest in contrastive and typological research has increased, as has interest in creating frames for specific terminologies (Torrent et al., 2018; Boas et al., 2025).

Although primarily designed to improve and enrich lexicography with corpus-linguistic data based on semantic frame primitives (Fillmore and Atkins, 1994; Atkins et al., 2003a,b; Boas et al., 2024), FrameNet is being used across a wide range of research areas in linguistics, computational linguistics, language acquisition, natural language processing, and applied linguistics.

FrameNet was developed for Slavic languages, such as Bulgarian, BulFrameNet (Koeva, 2010), and research in this area has addressed various topics, such as (Stoyanova and Leseva, 2025). Ini-

tial results for Serbian frames were presented in (Marković et al., 2021; Dinić Marinković et al., 2024). The present research is part of a PhD thesis that examines the potential application of Frame Semantics theory to Serbian descriptive lexicography, with a focus on verbs of damage and destruction. Also, in (Bagi, 2025), a semantico-syntactic analysis of these verbs was presented. The frames evoked by these verbs were described, as well as the process of work on identifying and describing frames and frame elements. In the present research, we focus on sentence annotation involving the verbs damage and destroy.

In the remainder of the paper, we describe the methodology used to establish the database (Section 2.1) and the annotation process (Section 2.2). In Section 3, we present the annotation results, which we discuss in Section 4. We finish with the concluding remarks in Section 5.

2 Methods

2.1 Establishing the database

In preparing a Serbian FrameNet resource, we relied on several well-established linguistic resources and tailored them to the specific requirements of frame-semantic annotation. Given that Serbian is written in two scripts, Cyrillic and Latin, we standardized all resources in the Cyrillic script to ensure consistency across datasets and compatibility with existing language technology tools. This decision is also aligned with the predominant use of Cyrillic in formal linguistic resources for Serbian.

A central component of our work is the lexical resource, which contains 255,190 monolexemic entries formatted as `<wordform, POS, lexeme>` and covers 17,860 distinct lexemes. This lexicon was derived from Leximirka (Stanković et al., 2018; Lazić and Škorić, 2019), a comprehensive lexical database based on the electronic dictionaries (Krstev, 2008; Vitas and Krstev, 2012) developed over several decades by Cvetana Krstev and Duško Vitas. Among other features, Leximirka provides rich morphological information, including lemmas and their inflected forms, making it a suitable foundation for mapping lexical units to frames and supporting downstream annotation tasks.

The database import and configuration were carried out by Ely Matos and the development team. The database is currently hosted in a central repos-

itory¹, with plans to migrate it to a local Serbian installation.

POS	Lemmas	Word forms
V	3,708	112,119
A	4,067	82,756
N	8,887	58,514
PRON	67	863
ADV	625	625
NUM	34	93
PREP	77	77
ART	63	63
INTJ	29	29
CCON	28	28
SCON	23	23
Total	17,508	254,670

Table 1: Distribution of lexical categories (POS) sorted by frequency (word forms)

In addition to lexical resources, we constructed bilingual alignment lists to facilitate the transfer of frame-semantic knowledge from English to Serbian. The parallel list of frame names and frame elements includes manually translated and subsequently double-checked translations to ensure terminological accuracy and conceptual consistency. Initially, 1,224 English frame names were translated, along with an additional 209 frames identified during the process, resulting in 1,433 Serbian frame names. Furthermore, 1,251 distinct frame elements were translated, corresponding to 11,494 entries when accounting for their associated identifiers and variations.

To support empirical validation and annotation experiments, we also prepared a dataset of 600 Serbian sentences for frame annotation². These sentences serve as an initial corpus for testing annotation guidelines, evaluating inter-annotator consistency³, and exploring the applicability of frame-semantic structures in Serbian. The integration of these resources provides a solid foundation for developing a Serbian FrameNet, enabling both linguistic analysis and training computational models for semantic role labeling and related tasks.

¹<https://external.frame.net.br/>

²We extracted these sentences from the Serbian referent corpora, mainly from SrpKor2021 (Vitas et al., 2025), available at: <https://noske.jerteh.rs/>. This corpus contains texts from different genres – publicistic, literary, and scientific – as well as from various internet domains.

³For this research, we had two annotators, but we didn’t measure IAA; this could be a worthwhile area for future research.

2.2 Annotation

After establishing the Serbian FrameNet platform, we prepared a set of several hundred sentences containing the lexemes *oštetiti* (EN to damage) and *uništiti* (EN to destroy) and began manual annotation. In the Frame Semantics theory and in FrameNet, one of the central analytical elements is the *lexical unit*⁴, which represents a word in one of its senses (Fillmore et al., 2003). In the typical case, every sense of a polysemous word belongs to a different semantic frame (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016). Since the SR lexemes *oštetiti* (‘damage’) and *uništiti* (‘destroy’) are polysemous, they are related to a number of frames: lexeme *oštetiti* with the frames *Oštećivanje* (Damaging), *Uskraćivanje* (Deprivation), *Izazvati emociju* (Cause emotion), lexeme *uništiti* with the frames *Uništavanje* (Destroying), *Dovesti u teško stanje* (Cause to be in a difficult state), *Pobediti protivnika* (Beat opponent), *Izazvati emociju* (Cause emotion), *Stimulisati emociju* (Stimulate emotion), *Ubijanje* (Killing). While working on manual annotation, we followed the guidelines in (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016). According to it, the annotation is primarily done relative to the target word (the word evoking the frame), and then the focus shifts to the target dependents, which are annotated as whole constituents.

3 Results

As mentioned above, following the guidelines in (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016), we annotated 162 sentences: 82 with the verb *to damage* and 80 with the verb *to destroy*. The FrameNet platform contains two annotation types: FE annotation (directed only to frame elements) and full-text annotation, which supports the so-called multilayer annotation related to the target word. We opted for the second type because it allows labeling frame elements (in further text, FEs) (Frame Element layer), their grammatical functions (Grammatical Function layer), and their grammatical realizations (Phrase Type layer).⁵

⁴In Serbian linguistics, the term sublexeme is used.

⁵For the moment, the layers’ and labels’ names are in English. We decided not to translate them. The possibility of translating them is open for a later time, and the database can

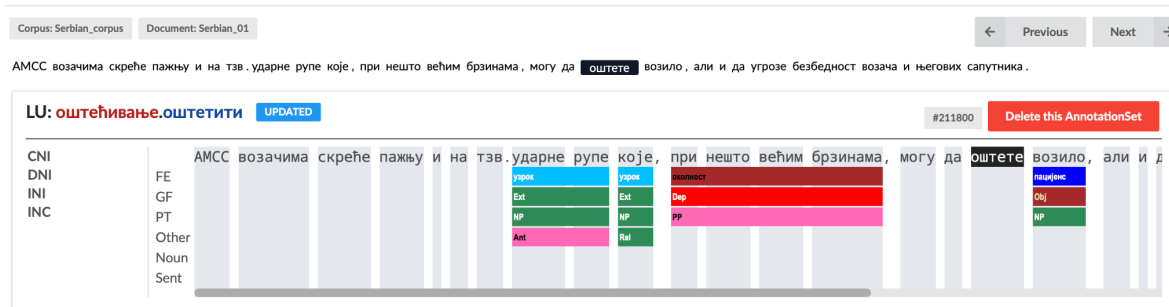


Figure 1: Annotation window

An example of the annotation window is shown in Figure 1.

3.1 The valence description

In order to briefly represent the results of the three-layer annotation of sentences with lexemes *damage* and *destroy*, we will represent a few Lexical Units reports, that is, syntactic realizations of FEs, and a part of the valence description for the frames non existing in the Berkley FrameNet. Those are frames *Uskraćivanje* (Deprivation), which is evoked by a sublexeme *damage*, and frame *Dovesti u teško stanje* (Cause to be in a difficult state), evoked by a sublexeme *destroy* (see Figure 2, 3, 4 and 5).

The Deprivation frame refers to a situation in which the AGENT affects the PATIENT in such a way that the Patient remains deprived of a STATE_OF_AFFAIRS they are expected to have, need, or want. The STATE_OF_AFFAIRS does not always have to be specified and may refer to the PATIENT's right to possess something. In this frame, sublexeme *damage* means 'to cause someone to be without something, to deprive someone of something'.

As can be seen in Figure 4, the core elements of this frame are AGENT (less frequently, CAUSE), PATIENT, and STATE_OF_AFFAIRS, which is expressed by a PP with the preposition *za* ('for') and nominal in the accusative case. Other elements testified are CRITERION, EXPLANATION, ENABLING_FACTOR⁶, REASON, CONTAIN-

be enriched with Serbian labels. For example, in the Phrase Type layer, under the label PP (preposition phrase), the most frequently used prepositions in Serbian should be entered into the database to make the information on the syntactic realizations of frame elements more complete.

⁶As far as we know, this FE doesn't exist in the English FrameNet. In Serbian, it is expressed by a PP *zahvaljujući* and a dative nominal (*zahvaljujući njemu* 'thanks to him'), and it refers to an element that doesn't directly cause a certain event,

ING_EVENT, TIME, MANNER, MEANS, DEGREE.

In frame *Cause to be in a difficult state*, the AGENT or CAUSE affects the PATIENT in such a way that the PATIENT (or some part of it) ends up in a completely non-canonical state, such that it no longer retains its original appearance, function, etc. The PATIENT loses its inherent characteristics and is nearly completely altered; the resulting state is extremely unfavorable. Sublexeme *to destroy* here doesn't mean 'to cause something to stop existing' but 'to cause an entity to end up in a severely compromised state'.

Therefore, core elements of this frame are AGENT, CAUSE, and PATIENT; besides, MALEFICIARY, EXPLANATION, CONTAINING_EVENT, FREQUENCY, TIME, INSTRUMENT, PLACE, MANNER, MEANS, and DEGREE appear.

4 Discussion

During the annotation process, we encountered several challenges, some of which are inherent to Serbian. Firstly, they are connected with the null instantiation cases – cases in which conceptually salient frame elements don't appear as lexical or phrasal material in the sentence. It is well-known that Frame Semantics differ among the three types of null instantiation: DNI (Definite Null Instantiation), INI (Indefinite Null Instantiation), and CNI (Constructional Null Instantiation).

Related to the last case, the omission of the frame element licensed by the grammatical construction in which the target word appears (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016), such as the omission of subjects in imperative and passive sentences, posed several issues. Namely, as a pro-drop language, Serbian allows the omission of the subject of any predicate clause, since it is "contained" in the predicate form (the finite form of the verb, which differs for per-

but indirectly enables or makes it easier.

FE Syntactic Realizations		
FE	# Annotated	Realization(s)
● агенс	23	Ext.NP (15) Ext.PP (1) CNI.-- (8) DNI.-- (1)
● пацијенс	25	Obj.NP (17) Ext.NP (8) Ext.PP (1) DNI.-- (1)
● стање_ствари	10	Dep.PP (10)
● узрок	2	Ext.NP (1) CNI.-- (1)
○ критеријум	1	Dep.PP (1)
○ објашњење	4	Dep.Sub (3) Dep.PP (1)
○ омогућавајући_фактор	1	Dep.PP (1)
○ разлог	1	Dep.PP (1)
○ садржавајући_догађај	3	Dep.PP (2) Dep.Sub (1)
⦿ време	5	Dep.PP (2) Dep.AVP (3)
⦿ начин	2	Dep.AVP (1) Dep.PP (1)
⦿ средство	5	Dep.NP (5) Dep.PP (1)
⦿ степен	3	Dep.AVP (3)

Figure 2: LU: deprivation.damage

son and number). For example, in the sentence *Uništio si me* (EN lit. (You) destroyed me, ‘You broke me’), it is clear that the agent is *you*, since it is “embedded” in the finite, congruent form of the verb. Also, the word *you* is considered the grammatical subject of the respective sentence. What we want to say is that, in this example, in the situation denoted by the verb *destroy*, the agent exists but is not explicit. It is clear that these cases differ from deagentization⁷ in which the agent is removed from the sentence’s structure and cannot occupy the grammatical subject position,⁸ as in passive sentences. In the sentence *Na dokovima je oštećen jedan teretni brod* (‘A cargo ship was damaged at

⁷This term is used in the Serbian syntax, for backgrounding or removing an agent. A more usual term is *agent demotion*, like in (Matthies, 2022).

⁸Though sometimes present as an agentive complement or adjunct.

Valence Patterns					
# Annotated	Patterns				
1	● агенс	● пацијенс	● стање_ствари		
1	Ext NP	Obj NP	Dep PP		
2	● агенс	● пацијенс	● стање_ствари	⦿ средство	
2	Ext NP	Obj NP	Dep PP		Dep NP
2	● агенс	● пацијенс	● стање_ствари		
2	CNI --	Ext NP	Dep PP		
4	● агенс	● пацијенс			
1	CNI --	Obj NP			
3	Ext NP	Obj NP			

Figure 3: LU: deprivation.damage

the docks’), there is no agent, and it is not related to any person. In other words, the situation is described with an anonymized agent.

This was the reason we asked whether we should introduce a new label for the CNI in cases of agent omission in active sentences. One of the solutions was proposed in (Subirats, 2009), which introduces the label ECNI from the Spanish FrameNet. Typically, it is used to instantiate external arguments (External Constructional Null Instantiation), such as subjects. ECNI is not licensed lexically but constructionally, e.g., it depends on sentential constructions with predicative or support verbs, and it is subject to contextual and pragmatic limitations. If we implemented this solution, our database would have two labels for the two types of CNI: CNI in passive, and ECNI in active sentences.

During annotation, we encountered a few additional issues. As already mentioned, annotation is done relative to the target word: only those frame elements that are part of the maximal phrase headed by the target word are annotated (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016). But, sometimes it is not completely clear what is to be considered a scope of the target word (in our case, the predicate of a clause), especially in cases in which two clauses are in copulative coordination, or when there are two predicative verbs, the other additionally specifying the action denoted by the first one. This is the case in the example, where the action of destroying is specified by the construction *da uništi, odnosno zapali* (to destroy, more precisely, to burn). That’s why we wonder whether the patient (*dokaz svoje pobede*, ‘proof of his/her victory’) falls under the maximal phrase of the target (Figure 6).

Further, since subjects can be out of the clause in which the target is, we wonder if it is neces-

FE Syntactic Realizations		
FE	# Annotated	Realization(s)
● агенс	9	CNI.-- (3) Ext.NP (7)
● пацијенс	22	Obj.NP (22) DNI.-- (2)
● узрок	13	Ext.NP (13) Ext.PP (1) Ext.VPping (1)
○ малефицијар	3	Dep.NP (3)
○ објашњење	1	Dep.Sub (1)
○ садржавајући_догађај	1	Dep.PP (1)
○ фреквенција	1	Dep.AVP (1)
⊙ време	3	Dep.NP (1) Dep.PP (1) Dep.AVP (1)
⊙ инструмент	4	Dep.NP (4)
⊙ место	2	Dep.PP (2)
⊙ начин	3	Dep.AVP (3)
⊙ средство	1	Dep.VPping (1)
⊙ степен	3	Dep.AVP (2) Dep.Sub (1)

Figure 4: LU: cause_to_be_in_a_difficult_state.destroy

sary to annotate the whole subject constituent. In other words, in our example: *Protiv Šarančića i trojice njegovih saradnika, koji su uhapšeni 2. juna u Beogradu, Posebno odeljenje Višeg suda u Beogradu vodi istragu zbog sumnje da su zloupotrebom službenog položaja oštetili Železnice Srbije za 1.24 miliona evra kupovinom vozova iz Švedske i Slovenije* (‘The Special Department of the Higher Court in Belgrade is conducting an investigation against Šarančić and three of his associates, who were arrested on June 2 in Belgrade, on suspicion of having abused their official positions and caused damage to Serbian Railways amounting to €1.24 million through the purchase of trains from Sweden and Slovenia’), agent is in the preposition phrase (PP) *against* + nominal phrase (NP) in genitive case; we are not sure whether to annotate preposition *against* as part of the agent. If we annotate it, in the valence description of the lexical unit (sublexeme) *damage*, we will find that the agent is expressed by PP, which doesn’t hold for the sit-

Valence Patterns						
# Annotated	Patterns					
2	● паузиран	● узима	○ малефицијар			
2	Obj NP	Ext NP	Dep NP			
1	● агенс	● паузиран	⊙ инструмент	⊙ инструмент		
1	CNI --	DNI --	Dep NP	Dep NP		
1	● агенс	● паузиран				
1	Ext NP	Obj NP				
1	● агенс	● паузиран	⊙ инструмент	⊙ место	⊙ начин	
1	Ext NP	Obj NP	Dep NP	Dep PP	Dep AVP	

Figure 5: LU: cause_to_be_in_a_difficult_state.destroy

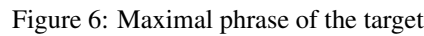
uation denoted by this sublexeme – that form is governed by the predicate of the other clause, the verb *to conduct* (to conduct an investigation against someone) (see Figure 7 and 8).⁹

We also wonder whether we do the right thing when the target is in a relative clause, and its antecedent is annotated as a whole PP. This is the case with an example: *Očekivali smo veću ažurnost sudskih organa po pitanju donošenja presude za huligane koji su spalili i uništili džamiju u Nišu* (‘We expected the judicial authorities to act more promptly in issuing verdicts for the hooligans who set fire to and destroyed the mosque in Niš’), in which the antecedent is PP *for the hooligans* (see Figure 9¹⁰).

In the rest of the section, we will briefly present typical dilemmas arising from cases in our corpus. One of them concerns the possibility of a double interpretation of some FEs. Namely, in some ex-

⁹According to Fillmore (Fillmore, 2007), Ext was chosen as the subject marker instead of, for example, Subj (Subject), because External Grammatical Function doesn’t correspond only to the subject of a finite sentence. Also, the argument that participates in the grammatical construction with the target word will be marked as Ext, as in the example: *We persuaded [the general] to release the prisoners*, in which *the general* is the external argument of the verb *to release*. For this reason, we have decided to record Ext in such examples, even when it is not the subject of the clause containing the target word, but refers to it. It seems that these cases should be distinguished from cases of null instantiation, especially DNI or CNI, because they typically refer to instances when there is no subject in the sentence at all. In the case of DNI, the subject can be recovered from the preceding context, rather than from the sentence being annotated. Of course, Serbian allows the omission of overt subjects with finite verbs, but if two predicates share the same subject in the sentence, that is, if the subject is explicitly present, we decided to mark it as Ext.

¹⁰The answer to the questions we posed regarding the coreference of subjects and antecedents of relative clauses isn’t straightforward, since it is not covered by (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016). These issues are relevant for the FrameNet, especially the latter, since it is necessary to annotate antecedent and relativizer on the fourth layer, if the target word occurs in the relative clause.



Против Шаранића и тројице његових сарадника, који су ухапшени 2. јуна у Београду, Посебно одељење Вишег суда у Београду води истрагу због сумње да су злоупотребом службеног положаја оштетили „Железницу Србије“ за 1,24 милиона евра куповином возова из Шведске и Словеније.

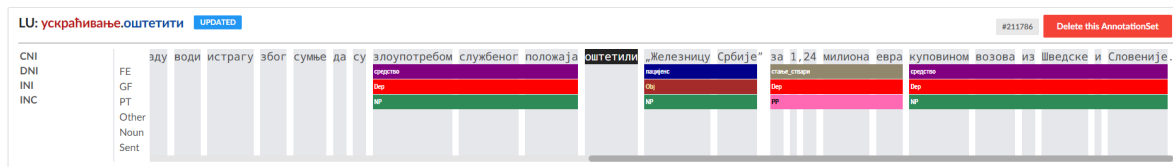


Figure 8: The subject constituent in PP(2)

Очекивали смо већу ажурност судских органа по питању доношења пресуде за хулигане који су спалили и уништили цамију у Нишу.

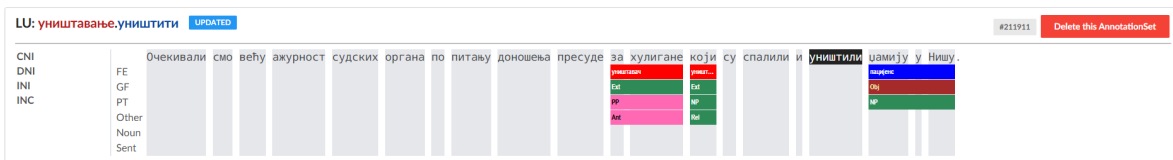


Figure 9: Antecedent of the subject in relative clause as PP

(The Albanian police announced that they had destroyed **7,300 marijuana plants in the north of the country**).

In example E4, PP in *Hilandar* could be considered a dependent modifier in NP, with the noun *fire* as a head (the fire that broke out in Hilandar), or it could be interpreted as a separate constituent, a place modifier. In that case, it would modify the action denoted by the verb *damage*, and it would be an answer to a question: where the fire destroyed two-thirds of the monastery complex? Though these constructions really are ambiguous, it seems that in this case, PP in *Hilandar* is the modifier of the noun *fire*.

A similar situation arises with PPs from examples E5 (at 12 Pop Lukina Street in the municipality of Stari grad in Belgrade) and E6 (in the north of the country), which could also be interpreted in two ways. We consider that they should be regarded as a separate constituent, or separate FE, PLACE, since they modify the predicate to destroy, and they indicate where the action of destroying is taking place.

Some FEs were difficult to differentiate. This holds for the relation between the elements NAČIN (MANNER) and OPIS_DOGAĐAJA (EVENT_DESCRIPTION). Namely, it should be noted that the FrameNet element MANNER represents a broader category than what is considered an adverbial of manner in Serbian syntax. Under this category is understood the way an action is performed (i.e., the answer to a question about how something is done). In FrameNet, this FE in the frame *Destroying* relates to “any description of the process of destruction which is not covered by more specific FEs, including epistemic modifi-

cation (probably, presumably, mysteriously), secondary effects (quietly, loudly), and general descriptions comparing events (the same way). It may also indicate salient characteristics of the DESTROYER that also affect the action (presumptuously, coldly, deliberately, eagerly, carefully)¹¹. Since it includes epistemic modifiers and general event descriptions, FE MANNER is hard to differentiate from EVENT_DESCRIPTION, extra-thematic FE, typically used for expressions describing the clause of the target word as a whole, representing a sentential modifier, like a word *oddly* from the next example: [Oddly], there was a very small earthquake in Miami today (Ruppenhofer et al., 2016).

There are also cases in which a modifier could be interpreted as both clausal and sentential:

E7 Načelnik odeljenja za strance u Ljubljani Marjan Kompara je u svojoj kancelariji **bukvalno** makazama razrezao, uništio moj pasoš (The head of the foreigners’ department in Ljubljana, Marjan Kompara, **literally** cut up and destroyed my passport with scissors in his office).

Though *literally* is not between commas, it maybe could be considered as a sentential modifier, since the word *literally* represents a comment which relates to a whole complex sentence. Moreover, it cannot be said that a passport is literally being destroyed; it doesn’t specify how this action is performed. This word expresses the speaker’s amazement at the fact that the DESTROYER really cut and destroyed his or her passport. As for now, we left this FE as a MANNER, mostly because it is not between commas.

¹¹<https://framenet.icsi.berkeley.edu/frames/Destroying>

5 Conclusions

In this paper, we tried to explain all the doubts we faced during the first phase of work on the Serbian FrameNate database: from translating frames and their elements, to more general dilemmas related to important terms (like constructionally-licensed null instantiation) and FEs (CONTAINING_EVENT and CAUSE), to specific sentences and some phenomena specific to the Serbian language.

Previous papers on the study of various phenomena in Serbian, based on Frame Semantics theory, as well as our analysis, show that Serbian can be analyzed within this framework, yielding a detailed semantico-syntactic description of the use of words evoking frames.

We assume that English frames can be adapted to Serbian, but they may need to be modified and, in some cases, additional frames typical of Serbian may need to be added.

As is well-known, the work on FrameNet is not linear, and some details will be revised and possibly transformed in future work on the database.

In order to complete the analysis of frames evoked by verbs *damage* and *destroy*, it is necessary to include other sublexemes that evoke these frames, as well as present the relations among the frames and FEs.

Since this lexicographic database is a unique resource, we consider it important to continue building FrameNet, especially given that Serbian is an underresourced language.

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