Acknowledgements

Writing this book – which is based on my Habilitation thesis accepted by the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Cologne in October 2021 – would not have been possible without the professional and emotional support of many people.

First and foremost, I am enormously grateful to Yaron Matras for his invitation to publish the manuscript in the Language Contact and Bilingualism series at De Gruyter Mouton, for having been a great advisor over several years and for his appreciation of my work.

Very warm thanks go to my teachers of Romani Martin Gális and Iveta Kokyová and my long-standing mentors, supervisors and friends Sebastian Kempgen and Daniel Bunčić.

I want to thank Kirstin Börgen and Birgit Sievert for the very professional and kind cooperation during the process of preparing the manuscript for print, as well as the two anonymous reviewers for their incredibly thorough revision of the manuscript and countless valuable hints which definitely helped to improve the quality of the book.

The questions and comments of Viktor Elšík, Mirjana Mirić, Nikola Rašić and all the participants of the International Conference of Romani Linguistics 2020 and 2021 have been very helpful, just like the discussions with and hints by Norbert Boretzky, Christian Sappok, Manfred Krug, Achim Rabus, Nicolas Jansens, Birgit Hellwig and Eugen Hill.

Finally, but very importantly, I want to thank my parents Gudrun (†) and Herbert Meyer, my husband Till Sonnemann and his parents Gyburg and Jürgen, my life-coaches Luka Kadović and Andrew Woods with Olina as well as my wonderful (former) colleagues in Bamberg and Cologne for always believing in me.

Bamberg, July 2022

https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110756173-202