

FROM COMMUNISM TO DEMOCRACY: THE FOUR LANGUAGES OF SALI BERISHA

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ABSTRACT

This article aims at finding and analyzing of what for the purpose of this study will be called “language” of a text. Following the analysis, in the reviewed text below, were noted four languages: the first is what we will call the “old language”(speech used by the communist elites in Albania in the years 1945-1991), which is similar, to a certain point, with what is known widely as *newspeak* (Orwell, 1947), or what another author calls “the totalitarian Albanian” (Vehbiu, 2007); 2—the ‘new language’ (speech with “western” terms, or words that up to that point were not used in public speeches in Albania (such as pluralism, democracy, human rights, private property, etc); 3—technical or ‘scientific language’ (words that relate to the speakers’ profession, in this case medicine); and last, the ideological/political language (terms that can be left wing or right wing). The text analyzed here is an article of September 1990—a time when the communist regime was still in power in Albania (it would be brought down two years later)—of Sali Berisha, at that time cardiologist and later the first President of post-communist Albania. The aim of this article is the drafting of a dictionary and afterwards, through a quantitative analysis, to provide a kind of measurement of the four types of languages, to understand which one weights more on Dr. Berisha’s discourse.