Pro-diasystematic convergence of CONJ X constructions in Czech, Dutch, English, and German

The English *because* X construction (1) has a number of functional and formal equivalents in other languages such as *weil* X in German (2), *want* X in Dutch (3), but also *protože* X in Czech (4), among others (Konvička 2019: 167).

(1) *But Iowa still wants to sell eggs to California, because money*.
(2) *…dass ich auf Bildern mit meinem Freund sehr sehr glücklich aussehe, weil aah*
'…that I look very, very happy in the photos with my boyfriend, because aah'
(3) *Dat is 9.5 uur!!! Op een zaterdag!!! Met extra mensen omdat lowlands!!!*
'that is 9.5 hours!!! on a Saturday!!! With extra people because Lowlands!!!'
(4) *víš proč je ti dobře? protože TECHNO*
'do you know why you feel good? because TECHNO'

The synchronic cross-linguistic similarities of these constructions are further highlighted by similarities in their diachrony (Konvička 2020; Konvička & Stöcker 2022). Non-English *because* X equivalents are partly the results of language-internal developments, but also the results of language contact. Predominantly, but not solely with English.

This can be modelled using Diasystematic Construction Grammar (Höder 2018) as follows. Speakers without non-elliptic *because* X but with *because* clauses who come into contact with speakers of a (variety of a) language with *because* X constructions reorganize their constructicons by means of a pro-diasystematic change in two ways.

First, the *because* clauses, shared by both groups, get identified as interlingual equivalents and lose their language-specificity (Höder 2018: 54). Second, a convergence process (Höder 2014: 49) leads to the development of a *because* X equivalent in the (variety of a) language that had lacked such a construction.

Summing up, we not only see a rise of diasystematic constructions and their pro-diasystematic convergence, but also of multiple source constructions (Van de Velde, De Smet & Ghesquière 2015).

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