To Whom It May concern

A Letter of Evaluation
for the Dictionary of Russian Language '*CrossLexica*'
Presented by Prof. Igor Bolshakov

I will bluntly state at the very beginning that 'CrossLexica' overwhelms you when you see its fragments for the first time: I don't know of any other monolingual dictionary of such a size, such a structure and such a search engine that ensures an easy way to find any information you might need. I am a specialist of semantic-combinatorial dictionaries, having developed and published such dictionaries for Russian and French; therefore, I think I am in a good position to evaluate 'CrossLexica'.

1. 'CrossLexica' is unique in its genre. As far as I know, no similar dictionary exists for any language. A few published dictionaries of collocations (English and French) cannot even be compared with 'CrossLexica' as far as the number of phrases described, the wealth of lexicographic information supplied, and the logic of dictionary organization.

2. 'CrossLexica' is elaborated quite professionally. Its structure seems well pondered, and its organization corresponds to the highest standards of modern lexicography. It embodies best and most advanced ideas concerning semantically structured dictionaries. Several simplifications seems justified, given the orientation at an as large as possible mass of prospective users.

3. 'CrossLexica' features many properties that guarantee its utter usefulness for different applications. I see its variegated advantages for language teaching and learning (even for the Russian speakers!). for translation (including Automatic Translation), for text editing, for Question-Answering systems, etc. Its numerous extensions (= 'Non-Dialogue Applications') can be used independently and add substantially to the value of the dictionary. Now, when any guy-on-the-street can use a laptop or a mobile phone for the information retrieval, such a dictionary appears as an ultimate means.

4. 'CrossLexica' is fully automated lexical database. It is user-friendly, admits of easy adaptations and can be combined with other language-processing computer systems.

Based on the above considerations, I strongly recommend 'CrossLexica' to any person that has to deal with the Russian language.

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