

**PROJECT TITLE:** *The idiomatic structure of German and Spanish. An onomasiological corpus-based cognitive study.*

**SUMMARY:**

In this project we intend to create **(1)** an onomasiological bilingual corpus with the most frequent idiomatic expressions in German and Spanish (about 1200 in each language) taken from the dictionaries that are specified in the paper. The lematization of this corpus follows a hierarchical cataloguing of taxa (descriptors) and hipertaxa that are included in broad conceptual fields which correspond to the idioms' goal dominions. Through this onomasiological or ideographical structure we intend to create a didactic tool that will be useful not only for the phraseology of German as a foreign language, but also for Spanish phraseology. The advantage of the corpora that share these characteristics –versus traditional semasiological alphabetical dictionaries– is that they can be used actively (i.e. when searching for synonyms), given that one departs from the concept rather than the sign; and they promote the learning of idioms through logical-semantic associations. It is also our intention to use this corpus as a tool to deepen the theoretical study of contrastive phraseology in both languages. It is a totally innovative stance, given there is no German-Spanish lexical corpus with a macrostructural onomasiological arrangement.

In the second phase of the project **(2)** we intend to discover and analyze the most frequent idealized cognitive models in the different semantic fields (goal dominions), in order to uncover the interlingual affinities and divergences in the cosmovision and conceptualization of the external reality in both linguistic communities. Here we follow the principles of Cognitive Linguistics in its study of the metaphor, as well as the theory of cognitive modelling developed by Russian linguists in the 90's, which has not yet been applied to the sphere of Spanish phraseology. The application of the theory of cognitive modelling allows us to detect which mental schemes do not have so much a biological base (such as those of the orientational or ontological metaphors) as a cultural one; for the symbolic and conventional associations of the dominions at the root of these schemes are precisely the ones which explain the idiomatic differences among the various languages.

In a wide sense, the objectives we aim to reach with this project are: **a)** the systematic application of Cognitive Semantics and the theory of cognitive modelling to Contrastive Phraseology in Spain, and more specifically to the German-Spanish language pair, in order to study their idiomatic structure; **b)** the creation of an idiomatic onomasiological thesaurus that may enable the analysis of background cognitive models; **c)** the international collaboration with renowned phraseologists such as Hans Schemann (a member of the team), who is the author of an important onomasiological phraseological German dictionary.