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Autore	Belyavski-Frank Masha
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Nota di contenuto	The Balkan Conditional in Serbo-Croatian Epic Poetry, and its Comparison with Bi - Phonology, Morpho-Syntactic Analysis and Geographic Distribution - Distribution of Semantic Functions and Parallel Modal Constructions with Htjeti - Scase Expressions in Colloquial Speech and Folk Prose - The Macedonian Balkan Conditional - The Bulgarian Balkan Conditional - The Balkan Conditional and Its Comparison with Modal Expressions in North Slavic - The Balkan Conditional in Non-Slavic Languages and its Comparison with South Slavic
Sommario/riassunto	This study examines the morphological and semantic development of the modal construction formed with either the imperfect of 'to want' (Croatian/Serbian) plus the infinitive, or with a modal particle from 'to want' (Macedonian) plus the imperfect of the main verb. The Balkan conditional is analyzed using material from diverse sources, including epic folk poetry, dialectal texts, and the standard literary language in the South Slavic languages, as well as in the Balkan non-Slavic languages of Greek, Albanian, Daco-Rumanian, Istro-Rumanian, and Arumanian. Specific syntactic and semantic contexts are analyzed, and the Balkan conditional is compared to other modal constructions in these languages. One of the characteristic analytic verbal forms shared by the languages of the Balkan league is the Balkan conditional or the so-called 'future-in-the-past'. In the majority of these languages, the Balkan conditional has the status of a grammatical category, whose invariant components are 'modality', specifically 'potentiality', and

'reference to past tense'. With such components, these expressions most frequently and naturally refer to actions which did not take place, i.e., the past, contrary-to-fact conditional.
