

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910816710203321
Titolo	Voice and argument structure in Baltic // edited by Axel Holvoet, Nicole Nau
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam, Netherlands ; ; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania : , : Ashgate, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	90-272-6795-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (410 p.)
Collana	Valency, Argument Realization and Grammatical Relations in Baltic (VARGReB), , 2352-0159 ; ; Volume 2
Disciplina	491/.9
Soggetti	Baltic languages - Voice Baltic languages - Syntax Baltic languages - Verb phrase Baltic languages - Grammaticalization
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	""1.2 Previous research on Lithuanian causatives """"1.3 The database "" ""1.4 Structure of the article ""; ""2. Morphological causatives in Lithuanian: general overview ""; ""2.1 Morphology of causativization ""; ""2.2 Brief historical background ""; ""2.3 Causative verbs in relation to their bases: syntactic aspects ""; ""2.4 Causative verbs in relation to their bases: semantic aspects ""; ""3. Measuring the productivity of Lithuanian morphological causatives ""; ""4. Argument structure of causatives from transitive verbs ""; ""4.1 Causatives from ingestive verbs "" ""5.1 Verbs of abstract action""""5.2 Ingestive verbs""; ""6. Conclusions""; ""Abbreviations ""; ""Sources: corpora and dictionaries ""; ""References ""; ""Extended uses of morphological causatives in Latvian""; ""1. Introduction""; ""2. Polyfunctionality of causative markers ""; ""3. A few notes on formal markers ""; ""4. Types of extended meanings ""; ""5. Causee backgrounding with verbs of light and sound emission ""; ""6. Dilution of the causative element: ground-figure relationship ""; ""7. Ambient verbs ""; ""8. Pain and emotion verbs ""

""9. Causativization of transitives: curatives """"10. Concluding remarks  
""; ""Abbreviations ""; ""Bibliography ""; ""Part II. Reflexives and middle  
voice""; ""Middle voice reflexives and argument structure in Baltic""; ""1.  
Introduction""; ""2. Between anticausatives and passives""; ""3. Three  
domains of the middle""; ""4. The third domain""; ""5. Questions of  
argument structure in middle voice constructions""; ""6. Lexicon or  
grammar?""; ""7. A split category""; ""8. Inflection or derivation""; ""9.  
Voice again""; ""Abbreviations""; ""References""  
""Converse relations with the reflexive marker in Lithuanian and Polish:  
Between grammar and lexicon""

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Sommario/riassunto

The present article discusses the nature of the Latvian passive and, more specifically, the impersonal passive. It is argued that Latvian has indeed an impersonal passive that shows no signs of turning into an active impersonal, a development that has occurred in the history of Polish and could be an ongoing process in contemporary Lithuanian. Several lexical restrictions on the derivation of the Latvian constructions under discussion shows that they are indeed impersonal passives rather than active impersonals. Conspicuously absent, however, is a ban on the passivization of unaccusatives, as

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