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***THE CATECHESIS AS A POLEMICAL GENRE IN THE DEBATES ON THE CROATIAN LITERARY LANGUAGE IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY***

*Abstract*

*The paper examines the debates on the formation of the Croatian literary language during the period of Illyrism. Stylistic features of the two outstanding works Mali katehizam za velike ljude (1842) by D. Rakovac and Šta naměravaju Iliri? (1844) by B. Šulek are analyzed. In this context, the author explores the influence of traditional genres, such as catechesis and sermon on shaping the polemical linguistic discourse during the period of Illyrism.*

*Keywords: Illyrism, Croatian literary language, polemical discourse, Dragutin. Rakovac, Bogoslav. Šulek*