

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Sentences of a philosophical nature are characterized by a lack of precision. That is why in the contemporary analytic philosophy there has been a search for the certain methods of their translations. One of such a kind of methods is the method of paraphrases. Generally speaking paraphrase is a translation of a sentence that is unclear to a more clear one. The use of paraphrase is aimed at showing what is the right logical form of expressions or to uncover the precise content in the metaphorical expressions. Paraphrase enables us to talk about our ontological premises or commitments. Philosophers used the method of paraphrase in order to avoid talking about subjects that were philosophically problematic. Although it was often used by K. Twardowski, B. Russell, R. Carnap, K. Ajdukiewicz, W. V. Quine, P. van Inwagen or J. Woleński, there are no studies that show differences and similarities between these stances. The exceptions are J. Woleński's *Kierunki i metody analizy filozoficznej* (1989) and Ch. Daly's *An Introduction to Philosophical Methods* (2010). These authors only mention about a paraphrase as a separate method of analysis.

The main goal of the project is the reconstruction of the selected applications of paraphrasing. There will be examined the use of paraphrases in the philosophies of Carnap, Ajdukiewicz and Quine. What would be helpful during this reconstruction is the analysis of premises hidden behind the particular philosophical programs that is philosophy as the analysis of syntax and linguistic schemes (Carnap), semantic epistemology (Ajdukiewicz) and methodological naturalism (Quine). The project is also aimed at comparing and contrasting the Anglosphere representatives' views with the Polish philosopher's stance. This will allow us to identify the similarities and differences in the methodologies used by the prominent representatives of these two philosophical environments. This project should be also treated as the attempt to systematize views on the paraphrase method.

By analyzing the selected applications of paraphrases, it will be possible to give an answer to the question of how the paraphrasing method can be used in the current ontological disputes. This is also an attempt to establish what methods should be used in the metaphysics that is revisionary when it comes to our ways of thinking about the world.

The result of this research will not only be a historical reconstruction of the philosophical views but also a methodological assessment of a paraphrase as a tool that may be used in the ontological debates. Solving the second problem will enable us to decide which view should be considered to be the most attractive: Carnap's, Quine's, or Ajdukiewicz's?