The So-called “Langue de Bois” Against Religious Language in Literary Discourse. Forbidden Phrases

Starting from Coseriu’s theory which states that the process of communication between human beings is based on repeating linguistic patterns, this article tries to analyze if the communist language, in its attempt to suppress natural communicating habits including the religious imaginary, may be considered a form of repeated discourse or it is just a case of discursive repetition. It is a matter of common knowledge that the political discourse makes use of language for manipulative purposes, while religious phrases have persuasive goals. The hypothesis promoted here is that the so called “wooden language” tends to artificially replace forms of repeated discourse such as religious terms but the results are nothing but surrogate of communication. The only way language can defend itself against excessive use of cliché is by means of ironical approach of reality.