This collection of new writing on modality in Slavonic languages aims at integrating recent advances in General and Slavonic linguistics. Modality comprises expressions of possibility, necessity and volition and due to its location at the interface of semantics, logic, syntax and pragmatics occupies a pivotal position in many fields of linguistic research. The book’s twenty four chapters reflect the breadth and diversity of current research in General and Slavonic linguistics. The book is divided into sections dealing with semantic, areal, diachronic, pragmatic and also cultural aspects of modality in Slavonic and other languages. One important question addressed is the correlation between modality and neighbouring functional domains such as evidentiality and irreality. Another important focus is on questions of language change and language contact. Fine-grained empirical studies combined with typologically oriented research offer new insights into cross-linguistically relevant structures and into general principles of language change and language contact. The book exemplifies work in all Slavonic languages; in addition, it contains data from a couple of other European and non-European languages, including Baltic, Germanic, Caucasian, American Indian, Pacific, African, and Uralic languages.

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