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The research project „Paradigmatic Shift Russian Linguistic Research” was run by the Department of Russian Language and Literature of the University of Debrecen from 2007 to 2011. The main goal of the project was to create and establish a new strategy in Russian linguistic research at the University of Debrecen. While before the 90s of the 20th century research in Russian linguistics did not go beyond applied linguistics and supported compulsory Russian language education, after the nineties it became more and more urgent to raise it to the level of those trends in theoretical linguistics which, through the examination of different languages facilitate the better understanding of how human language functions today and how it can be studied from a historical perspective. In this volume some of the main results of research carried out in different theoretical frameworks are summarized. The application of Chomsky’s government and binding theory proved to be especially fruitful in historical syntax. Aspects of psycholinguistics were used in etymological research and natural morphology was applied to studies in historical grammar. Cognitive semantics and conversion analysis were made use of in the analysis of present-day language samples. Methods of contact linguistics (code-switching, code-copying) were particularly instrumental to highlighting some characteristic features of language contacts in which Russian had also played a part.