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As is generally known, the task of editing medieval texts is an extremely difficult one. In addition to this complexity, within the tradition of texts produced in the area usually named Slavia Orthodoxa one has more often than not to do with translations from Greek and, to a lesser extent, other languages (e. g. Latin, German or Hebrew), so that the editor's job requires at least a bilingual orientation.

Besides the search for the "right" textual readings, obtained by a thoroughful comparative analysis of the extant manuscript copies, a major problem of the text analysis and interpretation refers to a set of questions which can be formulated as follows:

- 1) Which kind of readers is our edition intended for?
- 2) Which kind of texts are we (or they) more interested in? Or, to put it in other terms, do we strive to reconstruct the lost original or to trace the history of the text, its reception and development?
- 3) Does our edition represent an attempt to make the text available to the modern reader and, if so, can we consider it to be a betrayal of its previous intention and function?

The paper tries to answer these and other questions, related to the editorial practice, alternating theoretical considerations with a sample of concrete examples.