

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

**ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS USED BY MAIN CHARACTER IN
SHERLOCK HOLMES MOVIE: A STUDY IN PINK**

(A PRAGMATIC STUDY)

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Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University
as Partial Requirements to Obtain Bachelor's Degree in
English Literature Study Program.

ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM

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With reference to the letter of the dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University No 1437/UN4.91/KEP/2020 regarding supervisor, we hereby confirm to approve the undergraduate thesis draft by Rinta Anisa (F041171001) to be examined at the English Department of Faculty of Cultural Sciences.

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THESIS
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(A PRAGMATIC STUDY)**

BY

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Today, April 29th 2021, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **RINTA ANISA** (Student Number: **F041171001**) entitled **"ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN SHERLOCK HOME MOVIE: A STUDY IN PINK (PRAGMATIC STUDY)"** submitted as one of the requirements to obtain Sarjana Sastra (S.S.) degree at English Department, Faculty of Cultural Science, Hasanuddin University.

Makassar, April 29th 2021

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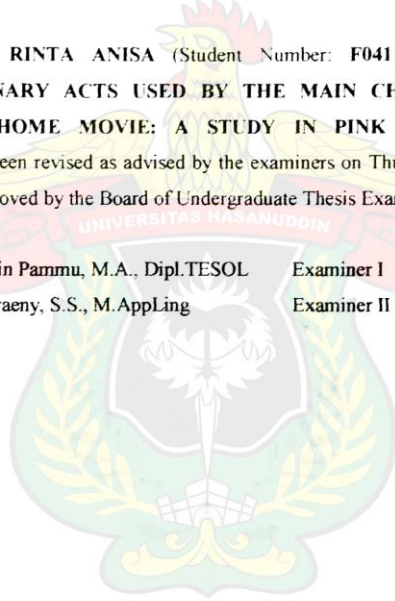
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DECLARATION

The thesis of RINTA ANISA (Student Number: F041171001) entitled "ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN SHERLOCK HOME MOVIE: A STUDY IN PINK (PRAGMATIC STUDY)" has been revised as advised by the examiners on Thursday, April 29th 2021 and is approved by the Board of Undergraduate Thesis Examination.

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Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa skripsi ini benar-benar karya saya sendiri. Sepanjang pengetahuan saya tidak terdapat karya yang ditulis atau diterbitkan orang lain kecuali sebagai acuan atau kutipan, dengan mengikuti tata penulisan karya ilmiah yang lazim.

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Yang Menyatakan,


Rinta Anisa

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With faith, the writer would like to express praise and gratitude to Allah SWT, the lord of the world, who has given blessing, health, strength, and opportunity in completing this study. May blessing, peace, and salutation be upon the most honourable prophet and messenger of God, Muhammad SAW, his descendant, and his followers.

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Lastly, the writer would thank herself for being very strong and never thinking of giving up even in the most difficult circumstances.

The writer hopes this study can become an inspiration for the readers and further researchers. The writer realizes that this study is not fully perfect. Therefore, the writer hopes any constructive and supportive criticism, suggestion, and advice for a better improvement.

Makassar, March 16th 2020

The writer,

Rinta Anisa

ABSTRACT

RINTA ANISA. *Illocutionary Acts Used by Main Character in Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink (Pragmatic Study)*, supervised by **Simon Sitoto** and **Karmila Mokoginta**.

The aims of this study are to describe the types of illocutionary acts used by the main character in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink* and to explain the meanings of the utterances.

The study was conducted by using the qualitative method. The writer collected the data by watching and reading the movie script. The selected data were classified based on the types of illocutionary acts. Then, the writer interpreted the meaning of the data based on the context.

Based on the results of data analysis, the writer found that direct illocutionary acts only have two types of illocutionary acts, assertive and directive. Indirect illocutionary acts have four types of illocutionary acts. They are assertive, directive, commissive, and expressive. In assertive illocutionary acts, the meanings are ensuring, explaining, denying, agreeing, informing, justifying, predicting, ascertaining, confirming, claiming, boasting, introducing, reporting, convincing, and clarifying. The meanings in directive illocutionary acts are requesting, commanding, permitting, asking permission, ordering, reminding, begging, complaining, and suggesting. Next, the meanings in commissive illocutionary acts are refusing, offering, and threatening. Last type of illocution is expressive, which contains the meaning of liking, mocking, insulting, and praising.

Keywords: Sherlock Holmes movie, Illocutionary acts, meaning, context

ABSTRAK

RINTA ANISA. *Tindak Tutur yang digunakan oleh Tokoh Utama dalam Film Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Pink (Studi Pragmatic).* Dibimbing oleh **Simon Sitoto** dan **Karmila Mokoginta**.

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan jenis-jenis tindak tutur yang digunakan oleh tokoh utama dalam film *Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Pink* dan untuk menjelaskan makna sebenarnya dari ujaran yang digunakan oleh tokoh utama dalam film *Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Pink*.

Penelitian ini dilaksanakan dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif. Penulis mengumpulkan data dengan menonton dan membaca naskah film. Kemudian data yang terpilih diklasifikasikan sesuai dengan jenis ilokusinya. Setelah itu penulis menginterpretasikan makna dari data tersebut berdasarkan konteks.

Berdasarkan hasil dari data analisis, penulis menemukan bahwa terdapat dua jenis tindak ilokusi secara langsung yaitu, asertif dan direktif. Sedangkan pada tindak ilokusi tidak langsung terdapat empat jenis tindak ilokusi. Tindak ilokusi tersebut adalah asertif, direktif, komisif, dan ekspresif. Dalam ilokusi asertif, makna yang ditemukan adalah memastikan, menjelaskan, menyangkal, menyetujui, menginformasikan, membenarkan, memprediksikan, mengonfirmasi, mengklaim, membanggakan diri, memperkenalkan, melaporkan, meyakinkan, dan mengklarifikasi. Makna yang terdapat pada jenis ilokusi direktif adalah meminta, memerintah, meminta izin, menyuruh, mengingatkan, memohon, mengeluh, dan menyarankan. Kemudian, makna yang terdapat pada jenis ilokusi komisif adalah menolak, menawarkan, dan mengancam. Dan yang terakhir adalah jenis ilokusi ekspresi, makna yang ditemukan pada jenis ini adalah menyukai, mengejek, menghina, dan bangga.

Kata kunci: Film *Sherlock Holmes*, tindak tutur, makna, konteks

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of study

Communication is crucial for people to interact with each other in society. In saying something, people produce and use different vocabulary as part of the creative aspects of human ability. With language, they can achieve mutual understanding through their utterances and there is always speech act in someone's utterances. In everyday life, communication occurs in every aspect, such as politics, economy, culture, and social. Communication also occurs in some media, especially in electronic media, such as movies.

In this research, the writer chose Sherlock Holmes's movie to be analyzed because the main character in this movie has unique and various ways of doing communication. More specifically, the title of the movie is "A Study in Pink" it is the first episode of the first season of the movie that tells about the introduction of Sherlock Holmes to Doctor Watson and their investigation into a series of deaths that were believed to be suicides. This movie is produced by director *Paul McGuigan* and it is written by *Steven Moffat*, based on *A Study in Scarlet* by *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*, which has many unique utterances uttered by Sherlock Holmes that contain illocutionary acts.

Illocutionary acts become the main aspects in analyzing the main character in the *Sherlock Holmes* movie since it concerns with what the speaker intends by uttering something. In this study, illocutionary acts become main study rather than locutionary acts and perlocution acts because illocutionary acts become the center to understand speech acts. An illocutionary act is interesting to be identified because it has to consider who the speaker and the hearer are, when, and where the conversation happens. The speech act itself is one of the important studies in pragmatics.

Pragmatics is the branch of the study of language becoming popular nowadays. Linguists are aware that the effect to get the essence of language will not give the best result without understanding pragmatics. Pragmatics covers meanings that appear in utterances, either implicitly or explicitly. Meanings are also studied in semantics, but some aspects of meaning sometimes cannot be caught by this study, especially in the terms of meaning in context, since semantics deals with meanings without references to the interlocutors and communicative functions.

Being conscious or not, people apply pragmatics in their communication. They have certain purposes, implicit or explicit in doing communication. Learning and understanding illocutionary acts will enhance our ability to communicate, because it will avoid misunderstanding or misinterpreting someone's utterances. If they can understand the implicit meaning of an utterance, they will get much

information unmentioned. Therefore, the writer is willing to explore this issue in her thesis in order to make people more conscious of the meanings of someone's utterances. In addition, it is very important to apply this issue to our social life.

From the explanation above, the writer intends to conduct the study entitled “Illocutionary Act Used by Main Character in Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink”

B. Identification of the problem

In relation to background of the study above, the writer considers some problems. Those are:

1. The main character in this movie has a unique and various ways in doing communication that contain illocutionary acts.
2. The main character tends to use indirect illocutionary acts in his utterances instead of revealing what he really aims to express.
3. The participants often misunderstand what the main character says because they do not know the meaning behind his utterance.

C. Scope of the problem

In line with the identification of the problem, this research has focused on the types of illocutionary acts used by the main character, Sherlock Holmes, and the meanings of his utterances in the *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*.

D. Research Questions

Based on the background of the study and the scope of the problem, the writer formulates two research questions. Those are:

1. What types of illocutionary acts are used by the main character in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*?
2. What are the meanings of the utterances used by the main character in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*?

E. Objective of the study

The aims of this study are:

1. To describe the types of illocutionary acts used by the main character in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*
2. To explain the meanings of the utterances used by the main character in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*

F. Significance of the study

The writer expects that this study will have some benefits for the readers. The benefits of this study are:

1. Practical Benefit

The writer hopes that this research will give the readers and linguistic students good understanding of speech acts, especially illocutionary acts. This research describes the types of illocutionary by Sherlock Holmes in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*.

2. Theoretical Benefit

The writer hopes that this research can be contributed as a reference for further researchers concerning with this topic.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Previous Study

To conduct this research, some related studies have been reviewed as a comparison. Some related researches are as follows:

The first research is conducted by Iqbal Fatwa Resmana (2018) entitled “An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in The Utterances of Detective Inspector Lestrade In Sherlock (BBC): A Study In Pink Movie”. In this research, the writer applied a qualitative research design with qualitative descriptive study. This research is dealing with the study of illocutionary act spoken by Detective Inspector Lestrade in Sherlock (BBC): A Study in Pink Movie. Based on the findings, four out of five types of illocutionary acts expressed by Lestrade are found in his utterances. They are representative, directive, commissive, and expressive.

The second research of Language Horizon *volume 06 Nomor 01 Tahun 2018* conducted by Achmad Nurdiansyah entitled “A Study of Illocutionary Acts in Heroes Series”. The approach used in the study is a combination of qualitative-quantitative research. This study proves that the five types of Illocutionary acts are found in the script of Heroes series with 6351 findings are identified as the Illocutionary act utterances, while the five types of Illocutionary act found in Heroes series are commissive, declaration, directive, expressive, and representative. This study also proves that representative act is the most dominant Illocutionary act.

The third previous study of *Journal of English Educational Study* *Volume 2 Issue 1 May 2019 Page 29-36* conducted by Friska Sari Luksiana Hutajulu and Herman entitled “Analysis of Illocutionary Act in The Movie ‘You Are My Home’ English Subtitle”. This research focused in analyzing illocutionary act in the movie “you are my home” that presented by Evim Sensin. This research used the combination between qualitative and quantitative approach. The purposes of this research are to find out the types of Illocutionary acts and to analyze the most dominant Illocutionary acts produced in “You are my home” movie English subtitle.

This research is different from those previous studies, because all of them only focused on types of illocutionary acts. In this research, the writer focused on analyzing not only types of illocutionary acts but also the meanings of the utterances contained in *Sherlock Holmes Movie: A Study in Pink*.

B. Theoretical Framework

1. Pragmatics

Linguists are aware that the effort to get the essence of language will not give the best result without the understanding of pragmatics. Since pragmatics is concerned with the way of speakers using language in the context which cannot be predicted from purely linguistic knowledge, particularly semantics, which deals with meaning without reference to the users.

For the first time, Pragmatics' term was used by Morris (1938) concerning semiotics (semiotics learns about sign). He uses pragmatics' term to refer relation between sign and the people who interpret it. The word "pragmatics" comes from Greek which the meaning refers to the activity or event. After Morris, in 1962 Austin continues studying Pragmatics by issuing his book *How to Do Things with Words*. Generally, he says when somebody says something, he also does something. It is called Speech acts. For example, when somebody says *I'm awfully sorry I wasn't at the meeting this morning*, the speaker not only says the words but also do an action (apologizing).

Another definition of pragmatics is proposed by Yule (1996) "pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a speaker (or reader)". This definition shows that through pragmatic, we can know the meaning, purpose, assumption, and types of action from the speaker when they speak.

The advantage of studying language by pragmatics is that one can talk about people's intended meanings, their assumptions, their purpose or goals, and the kinds of action that they are performing when they speak. For example, when someone said, "can you get my coat?" he does not only ask the hearer, but also takes an action called ordering.

From explanation above we can conclude that pragmatics is a study of language which is bounded with the context. In other words, the

meaning of pragmatics is determined by the context, i.e. who is speaking to whom, where, when, how, and what the function of the utterance.

2. Context

As Leech (1983:13) states, “context is any background knowledge assumed to be shared by speaker and hearer and which contributes to hearer’s interpretation of what speaker means by a given utterance”. It means that context is situation or condition when the utterance is produced. By understanding the situation, the hearer can guess what the speaker intends to say. Communication which involve context could make an utterance more communicative. Furthermore, Leech (1983) specifies five aspect of the speech situation that should be considered as follow:

a. Addressers or addressees

Addressers or addressees are referred as a matter of convenience, as speaker (s) and hearer (h).

b. The context of an utterance

Context is considered to be any background knowledge assumed to be shared by speaker and hearer, which contributes to the hearer’s interpreted of what the speaker means by a given utterance.

c. The goals of an utterance

It is useful to talk of a goal or function of an utterance, in preference to talk about its intended meaning, or the speaker’s intention in uttering it.

- d. The utterance as a form of acts or activity: a speech act

Pragmatics deal with verbal acts or performance which take place in particular situation, in time

- e. The utterance as a product of a verbal act

There is another sense in which the word utterance can be used in pragmatics. It can refer to the product of verbal act, rather than to verbal act itself.

3. Speech Act

The terms and theories about the speech acts firstly introduced by J. L. Austin, a professor at Harvard University. Austin (1962) states that speech acts are an act that appears when someone utters something. In his book, he defines speech acts simply as the action performed by saying something. In other definitions, speech acts are actions that are performed via utterance or in saying something. When the speaker utters an utterance, it is not only to say the words but also perform the act of that utterance, it called performative utterance. Example, “I promise I will come home before midnight tonight”. In saying that utterance, the speaker also does an action (promising). The speaker is promising to the hearer that he/she will come home before midnight tonight.

As Yule (1996:47) says that “in attempting to express themselves, people do not only produce utterance containing grammatical structures and words, they perform action via utterances”. According to the

description above, it can be concluded that the speech act is the activity done by uttering something

4. Kind of Speech Acts

a. Direct speech

Yule (1996:54) argues “whenever there is a direct relationship between a structure and a function, we have a direct speech”. This argument means that direct speech is an expression of the speaker to the hearer based on the function of the type of sentence that is spoken directly. For example, declarative sentences are to inform something, imperative sentences are used to order something to the hearer, and interrogative sentences are used to ask something.

b. Indirect speech

According to Yule (1996:55) “whenever there is an indirect relationship between a structure and a function, we have an indirect speech”. It means that the act of indirect speech is an expression that is implemented to order someone to do something indirectly. Typically, the speaker would use declarative sentences or interrogative sentences in such a manner that they do not seem to be oppressive and that those who are ordered do not feel ruled. This method is a more polite way than direct speech.

Example:

“Can you put this book on my desk?”

The utterance above is an interrogative sentence. However, it is not used to ask a question, but to request the hearer to put the book on the speaker's desk. It is clear that when the speakers say this utterance, we do not just expect an answer, but also the action from the hearer.

5. Types of Speech Acts

1. Locutionary Act

The Locutionary Act is called the act of saying something. As Austin (1962) states that the locutionary act is approximately equal to the utterance of a certain sentence with a certain sense and reference, which is roughly equivalent to the traditional meaning. He describes this act as the actual type of words used by the speaker and their semantic meaning. This act produces language's sounds, which means something. In comparison, this kind of speech acts is the simplest one to be identified, as in the process of identifying, it can be done without involving the context of utterance.

For example:

“There are rabbits in the cage”

On the example above, the utterance is uttered just to inform that particular rabbit and cage in the external world, without the inclination to do something and also does not influence the hearer.

2. Illocutionary Act

Illocutionary Act is called by the act of doing something. Illocutionary act is what the speaker wishes to accomplish by saying something, and it can be the act of asserting, promising, apologizing, threatening, ordering, asking, etc. According to Austin (1962), this act is what the speaker is doing by uttering these words: commanding, offering, promising, threatening, thanking, etc. The function of illocutionary act is not only to utter something, but also to do something.

For example:

“Your room is really messy”

The utterance above, if it is uttered by a mother to her child means the mother told to her child to clean the room (express commanding).

According to Wachyu in Nugroho (2011), the illocutionary act is thought as the most important act in the speech acts. This act relates to the speaker's purposes. Through those utterances, the speaker wants to admiring, informing, warning, or ordering something. Illocutionary act is more difficult to be identified than locutionary act because they have to consider who the speaker and the hearer are, when and where the conversation happens. Thus, the illocutionary act is a center to understand speech acts.

3. Perlocutionary Act

Perlocutionary Act is called by The Acts of Effecting Someone (hearer). Perlocutionary act is the reaction of the hearer, the consequences of saying something, intended or not. The effect after the speaker says something to the hearer; an act is performed as a reaction. The action of the hearer depends on what the speaker says. The effects may be actions, thoughts or feelings. In other words, perlocutionary act is the effect created by illocutionary act to the hearer, such as shocking, misleading, convincing, panic, etc.

For example:

If I say “there is a cockroach on your back” It may well cause you to panic or scream loudly.

There are significant variations between the illocutions and the perlocutions. First of all, illocutionary acts are intended for the speaker, though perlocutionary consequences are not necessarily intended for him or her. Second, illocutionary acts are under the direct control of the speaker, while perlocutionary consequences are not under his or her full control. Third, if illocutionary acts are apparent, they become apparent as the utterance is made, whereas perlocutionary effects are typically not noticeable until after the utterance has been made. Fourth, illocutionary acts are in principle determinate, while perlocutionary effects are often under determinate.

Finally, illocutionary acts are more frequent, while perlocutionary effects are less conventionally linked to linguistic forms.

6. Classification of Illocutionary Act

Austin (1962) categorizes the illocutionary acts into five basic categories of verdictive, expositive, exercitive, behabitive, and commissive. But Searle thinks Austin's taxonomy of illocutionary act contains several weaknesses and needs to be seriously revised. Searle (1979) argues that Austin's taxonomy does not maintain a clear distinction between illocutionary verbs and illocutionary acts. Thus, Searle established his classification of speech acts which include representatives, directives, commissives, expressive, and declarations.

1. Assertive

Searle (1979:12) states "the point or purpose of the members of assertive class is to commit the speaker (in varying degrees to something's being the case, to the truth of expressed proposition". That means the speaker represents something as what he believes. Paradigmatic cases include asserting, claiming, concluding, reporting and stating. In using an assertive the speaker makes the words fit the world (of belief). Assertive verbs are *state, suggest, boast, complain, claim, report, hypothesize, describe, predict, tell, affirm, assert, argue, inform, etc.*

For example:

If I say “It is raining outside”, I was trying to get you to think what I believe.

2. Directives

Directive is kind of illocutionary acts that speakers use to get someone else to do something. They are trying to express what the speaker wants. The speaker attempts to make the world fit the words (via the hearer) when he uses the directive. The illocutionary forces of these acts encompass commanding, ordering, requesting, suggesting, inviting, forbidding, and so on. In addition, Yule (1996) proposes that directives can be perceived negative and positive. Directive verbs are *order, command, request, advice, recommend, ask, beg, plead, pray, entreat, invite, permit, dare, challenge, defy, etc.*

For example:

“Give me a cup of coffee. Make it black.”

In the utterance above, the speaker wants the hearer to do something (make a cup of coffee). The speaker uses the words ‘give me’ indicating the illocutionary act of directive (commanding).

3. Commissive

Commissive is kind of illocutionary acts that speakers use to commit themselves to some future actions. They express what the speaker intends. In using the commissive, the speaker undertakes to

make the world fit the words (via the speaker). For example promising, threatening, refusing, and pledging, offering, vowing and volunteering, the point of a promise is to commit the speaker to doing something (and not necessarily to try to get the hearer himself to do it. Commissive verbs are *vow, offer, promise, threat, refusal, pledge, Etc.*

For example:

“I promise I will come on time.”

In the utterance above, the speaker commits himself to come on time (future action). The speaker uses the word “promise” indicating the illocutionary acts of commissive (promising).

4. Expressive

Expressive is kind of illocutionary acts that state what the speaker feels. They express psychological states and it can be statements of pleasure, pain, like, dislike, joy, or sorrow. Paradigmatic cases include apologizing, blaming, congratulating, praising, and thanking. In using an expressive, the speaker makes the words fit the world (of feeling). Expressive verbs are *thank, congratulate, apologize, condole, deplore, welcome, pardon, blame, greet, mock, praise, compliment, leave-taking, etc.*

For example:

“Thank you for coming to my house”

In that utterance, the speaker expresses his/her psychological

states to the hearer for coming. The speaker uses the phrase “thank you” indicating the illocutionary acts of expressive (Thanking).

5. Declaration

Declaration is kind of words and expressions that change the world via their utterances such as declaring war, naming, christening, marrying and so on. A special institutional role in a specific context is required in order to perform a declaration appropriately. If the speaker does not have that role, her or his utterance will be infelicitous or inappropriate. Declaration verbs are *resign, dismiss, christen, name, excommunicate, appoint, sentence, declare, approve, disapprove, bless, cure, nominate, confirm, etc.*

For example:

Priest: I now pronounce you husband and wife.

The utterance above, can only be appropriate and successfully performed if it is said by the priest. Thus, the utterance has an effect in which it turns two singles into a married couple. In this example, the speaker uses the illocutionary acts of declarations (declaring).

In that utterance, the speaker seems to give a command (in directive), but, it is actually not. Directives and declarations are different. Directives express what the speaker wants (personal acts), but declarations are performed by someone who has an authority to do so within some institutional framework (institutional acts).