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**БІЛІНГВІЗМ У ПОЛІТИЧНОМУ ДИСКУРСІ
БИЛИНГВИЗМ В ПОЛИТИЧЕСКОМ ДИСКУРСЕ
BILINGUALISM IN POLITICAL DISCOURSE**

The article is aimed at researching the phenomenon of bilingualism and its characteristics in political discourse. The problems of multilingualism, multiculturalism have been baffling the scientists since the twentieth century. The issues of multi/bilingualism are very topical nowadays that is why great number of researches on bilingualism have recently appeared in different spheres of science. In the present article the sources and reasons of bilingualism in contemporary society are examined. We distinguish the role and the level of involvement of this phenomenon in political discourse and analyze the examples of bilingual political speeches. More attention is paid to the political discourse of bilingual countries though we research the political discourse of monolingual countries as well. In the article the examples of multilingual political speeches are represented. The authentic speeches of Canadian, American and European politicians are analyzed. In the article we divide the political speeches into three types of text according to the involvement of bilingualism: a text in a language which contains single units – words or phrases – of the second language; a text equally and logically divided into two parts which are produced in two different languages, and one and the same text which is repeated in two languages.

Keywords: political discourse, bilingualism, multilingualism, plurilingualism, multiculturalism

Розглянуто явище білінгвізму та його головні характеристики в сучасному політичному дискурсі. Проблеми мультилінгвізму і мультикультуралізму цікавили вчених ще з минулого століття. Проблеми мультилінгвізму і білінгвізму дуже популярні в сучасному суспільстві, саме тому питання розглядали у своїх працях багато вчених різних областей знань. У статті розглянуто причини білінгвізму, визначено роль і прояви білінгвізму в сучасному політичному дискурсі, проаналізовано приклади білінгвальних політичних промов. Велику увагу приділено політичному дискурсу двомовних країн, де обидві мови є офіційно закріпленими законодавчо, також розглянуто характерні риси білінгвальних промов політиків монолінгвальних країн. Наведено приклади таких промов. Матеріалом для дослідження були обрані автентичні тексти канадських, американських і європейських політиків. Білінгвальні промови, залежно від залучення в них елементів білінгвізму, були поділені на три типи текстів: текст з частковим залученням білінгвальних одиниць (слова, фрази); текст рівно і логічно поділений на дві частини, кожна з яких промовляється різними мовами, і текст, який просто повторюється без жодних змін обома мовами. Визначено ареал використання усіх типів тексту.

Ключові слова: політичний дискурс, білінгвізм, мультилінгвізм, плюрлінгвізм, мультикультуралізм.

Рассмотрены явления билингвизма и его главные характеристики в современном политическом дискурсе. Проблемы мультилингвизма и мультикультурализма интересовали ученых, еще с прошлого века. Проблемы мультилингвизма и билингвизма очень популярны в современном обществе, именно поэтому вопросы билингвизма рассматривались в трудах многих ученых разных областей знаний. В статье были рассмотрены причины появления этого феномена, определено роль и проявления билингвизма в современном политическом дискурсе. Большое внимание уделено политическому дискурсу двуязычных стран, где оба языка являются официально закрепленными законодательно, также рассмотрены характерные черты билингвальных речей политиков монолингвальных стран. Приведены примеры таких речей. Материалом для исследования были избраны аутентичные тексты канадских, американских и европейских политиков. Билингвальные речи, в зависимости от вовлечения в них элементов билингвизма, были разделены на три типа текстов: текст с частичным вовлечением билингвальных единиц (слова, фразы); текст равно и логично разделенный на две части, каждая из которых произносится на разных языках, и текст, который просто повторяется без изменений на двух языках. Определен ареал использования всех типов текста.

Ключевые слова: политический дискурс, билингвизм, мультилингвизм, плюрилингвизм, мультикультурализм.

This article is aimed at researching the phenomenon of bilingualism and its characteristics in political discourse as a feature of political correctness. We set the following tasks: to examine the sources and reasons for bilingualism in contemporary society, to distinguish the role of this phenomenon in political discourse and to analyze the examples of bilingualism in the speeches of politicians in order to define the level of its involvement. We pay attention to the political discourse of bilingual and monolingual countries.

The issues of multi/bilingualism are very topical in the contemporary societies which results in a great number of researches and approaches in different spheres of science: psychology, physiology, philosophy and of course linguistics. This topic was studied in the previous century by L. V. Scherba, U. Weinreich, E. Haugen, I. Bilodid and is examined nowadays by J. R. Edwards, R. B. Kaplan, J. Kluger, J. Dewaele, H. Komorowska, H. Bagirokov.

We should note that the theme of multi/bilingualism issues in political discourse is rather new and not thoroughly researched. So, the first question which the researchers face is to define the phenomenon itself and determine its features. Bilingualism is commonly defined as the use of two languages by an individual or within a group of individuals (society). Thus the topicality of bilingualism causes the necessity of the usage of two languages for the successful social activity. Though the scholars agree that bilingualism is the ability to use two languages, they also distinguish the way of thinking that involves the values of two cultures as one of the main characteristics. We can speak about bilingualism only when the second language performs all the functions of the first one or of mother tongue.

Lots of approaches to bilingualism have recently appeared. In fact, the new studies introduce new broader terms: multilingualism as the coexistence of more than two languages within one social environment and plurilingualism as the use of several languages by one individual [1]. Of course, all these notions should be regarded in the context of multiculturalism which can be defined as existence and, what is more important, acceptance and promotion of traditions of different cultures within a single society. The theory of multiculturalism was introduced and developed in western socio-political

discourse due to globalization processes. The very phenomenon is not unusual, especially in contemporary world where the migrant crises arise due to the rising number of refugees all over the world. Those newcomers bring not only their cultural traditions but also their languages. That results in the problems of such people adaptation to the new environment and new way of life. It is natural that the first step of this process is linguistic adaptation. So bilingualism is becoming a social phenomenon. That is why great importance is attached to this topic in the social and political articles in many countries.

Another issue of bilingualism concerns the antagonistic problems in already existing multi/bilingual and monolingual countries and societies. It is being noticed in some French speaking provinces in Canada and in some parts of Great Britain. For example though Canada is officially a bilingual country, in the province of Quebec you can hardly find the road signs in English vice versa, Great Britain is monolingual but Scots is the second most spoken language in the country and the road signs in Scotland are duplicated in English and Scots. This antagonism or even separation led to the uniting role of politics. Indeed Politicians as the representatives of ruling circles pay great attention to the development of multi/bilingualism in their countries. In particular, this concerns bilingual countries but monolingual countries cannot be omitted. Bilingual elements or even bilingual speeches can also be found in the discourse of northern European countries where English is widely spread as the second but non-official language.

We examined the speeches of Canadian politicians to analyze their bilingualism as a demonstration of political correctness. Bilingualism as a phenomenon is attracting their attention. Here and there we can easily find the interviews or speeches where Canadian politicians touch upon the problems of bilingualism. They try to encourage citizens to learn other languages. *'Learning French at my high school meant Ontario core French, basically a few hours per week of trying to make sense of the passé composé and which word was masculin or féminin'* – said G. Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages at the meeting with the students of Toronto University [2]. Explaining the importance and necessity of bilingualism, he fluently spoke two official languages, easily changing them. Of course, the terms he used were purely linguistic as the topic of his speech was related to the linguistic problems.

In general, carrying out the research we found out that in the speeches of politicians only some units of the second language are used. They may be frequent or not, significant or not. They may represent only some notions or realia *'Since the Parti Québécois (PQ), which calls for national sovereignty for Quebec, won a minority government in September, the reminders have become increasingly less subtle'* [3]. Though proper names are transcribed in contemporary languages, nowadays it is a popular way to keep them unchanged even in writing. It means that lexical units retain their identity both orally and in writing (*The Coalition Avenir Québec*).

Yet, we can also find examples of bilingual speeches. Very often politicians start their speeches using one language and finish using another. We observed not only single units but also whole bilingual texts which can show the examples of Canadian multiculturalism. *'...Le manque de transparence les privilèges aux amis du parti. Il n'y a rien de nouveau là-dedans. Canadians are looking for leadership. They're tired of being told they have to choose between the red and blue doors of Liberal and Conservative corruption and entitlement'* [4]. We see that one language changes another. First of all, this change helps keep to the rules of political correctness as the speaker and the audience are bilingual. Furthermore it divides the text logically and

equally into notional parts. These parts are united by one topic and represent one and the same speech which is delivered in two languages. The speaker does not skip from one language to another. He does not mix the languages. He starts the speech in the first language and logically continues it in the second one.

We also examined some socio-political articles in order to find some bilingual elements. We noticed bilingual elements in the articles but not in the speeches of politicians in the northern European countries. For example, the articles in English contain some explanations which are given in Finnish '*Shared values and practices are built on guaranteeing same rights for the two languages, or 'both national language groups (molemmille kansallisille kieliryhmille'; GP 4, Castrén, 1919), 'different language elements of the country'*. Nevertheless, we cannot research such articles as purely bilingual; as their topic is multilingualism and multiculturalism, we cannot relate them to political discourse, which is the material of the given article.

Another type of bilingual texts which belongs to political discourse is actually the same text (speech) given in two languages. Technically the second part is the translation of the first one. In the process of the research it drew our attention that in European political discourse of monolingual countries where English is widely spread but is not official, the speeches of the politicians are divided into two parts. The first part is usually in English, the second one represents the same speech in native language of the country. '*The Government will promote cultural policy on a democratic basis. The gradual implementation of the comprehensive school reform will be continued.Hallitus edistää kulttuuripolitiikkaa kansanvaltaiselta pohjalta. Peruskoulu-uudistuksen asteittaista toteuttamista jatketaan ...*'

Speaking about the bilingual speeches, the most obvious example can easily be found in the US political discourse. The same tendency is observed there since Spanish takes an important place as it is spoken especially in the southern states but is not official in the country. Unofficially, Spanish in the USA is considered to be the second language. That is why, trying to be politically polite, the politicians and senators from the southern states speak both English and Spanish and use Spanish in their speeches. '*Good evening. I'm Marco Rubio. I'm blessed to represent Florida in the United States Senate. Let me begin by congratulating President Obama on the start of his second term. Tonight, I have the honor of responding to his State of the Union address on behalf of my fellow Republicans.*' – '*Buenas noches. Soy Marco Rubio. Me siento bendecido por servir al estado de la Florida en el Senado de los Estados Unidos. Quiero felicitar al presidente Obama por el comienzo de su segundo mandato. Esta noche, tengo el honor de responder a su discurso sobre el Estado de la Unión en nombre de mis colegas republicanos.*' [5] It is very important to note that this speech recorded in both languages by the senator Marco Rubio, is considered to be one of the first attempts of this practice and it attracted great public attention. If bilingual speeches of Canadian politicians are technically regular since Canada is a bilingual country, for the USA such situation is not yet frequent. Such speeches demonstrate immense influence which multiculturalism exerts on contemporary political life.

So, we can summarize that bilingualism as the manifestation of political correctness can easily be found in the contemporary political discourse though its involvement is not obvious as well as obligatory. In most cases, it is represented only by single units – words or phrases – for example, bilingual elements are often used in greetings, at the beginning or at the end of the speeches '*Thank you. Merci beaucoup. On continue*' [6] in Canadian political discourse. Sometimes, depending on the audience which the

politicians address they choose the greetings of this audience language ('*As-Salaam Alaikum*' – Thomas Mulcair, Canadian politician and the leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada; '*Shalom*' – Stephen Harper, former prime minister of Canada). This type of speeches is the most frequent and used to show politeness. Such speeches are mostly spread in political discourse of officially bilingual countries.

The second type of speeches is given in two languages and divided into two dependent parts delivered in two different languages. The second part of such speeches can either continue or add the first one. Such involvement is spread mostly in bilingual countries and is not so frequent in monolingual. This can definitely be explained by the laws of these countries as the citizens are supposed to know two languages and the use of bilingual elements is politically correct.

Finally the third type of bilingual speeches can be demonstrated by repeating speeches or as we assume translation. Technically, the second part is the copy, duplicate of the first one but is given in the second language. This kind of manifestation is mostly observed in the political discourse of monolingual countries.

To conclude, we can divide the political speeches into three types of text according to the involvement of bilingualism in them. The first type is a text in a language which contains single units – words or phrases – of the second language, the second type is a text equally and logically divided into two parts which are produced in two different languages, and finally, the third type is one and the same text which is repeated in two languages. Speaking about the area of such types of texts frequency, we may resume that the first and second types are commonly spread in bilingual countries, while the second and third types – in monolingual.

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