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Kontakt: info@mladaveda.sk, tel.: +421 908 546 716, www.mladaveda.sk

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Vydavateľstvo UNIVERSUM, spol. s r. o.

www.universum-eu.sk

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THE ROLE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN THE FORMATION OF THE LINGUISTIC IDENTITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL IN THE CONDITIONS OF GLOBALIZATION

ÚLOHA MULTIKULTURALIZMU PRI TVORENÍ JAZYKOVEJ IDENTITY JEDNOTLIVCA V PODMIENKACH GLOBALIZÁCIE

Danylo Samoilenko¹

Author works as an internal doctoral student at the Department of Philosophy and Political Science of Faculty of History of Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University. In his dissertation he deals with the linguistic identity of the individual in the conditions of translanguism.

Autor pôsobí ako interný doktorand na Katedre filozofie a politológie na Fakulte histórie Žytomyrskej štátnej Univerzity Ivana Franka. Vo svojej dizertačnej práci sa venuje jazykovej identite jednotlivca v podmienkach translingvizmu.

Abstract

This article explores the relationship between multiculturalism, linguistic identity, and globalization. The increasing interconnectedness of societies and the movement of people across borders have led to a growing diversity of cultures and languages within many countries. This has implications for the formation of individual linguistic identities, which are shaped by both internal and external factors. The article examines how multiculturalism can influence the development of linguistic identity, and how individuals navigate the challenges and opportunities of living in a globalized world. Drawing on a range of theoretical frameworks and empirical studies, the author argue that multiculturalism can play a positive role in supporting linguistic diversity and promoting intercultural communication. However, they also highlight the potential tensions and conflicts that can arise when different cultural and linguistic groups come into contact. The article concludes by discussing the implications of these findings for policy and practice in areas such as language education, immigration, and social integration. It suggests that a nuanced and sensitive approach to multiculturalism is essential for supporting the development of positive linguistic identities in a globalized world.

Keywords: multiculturalism, linguistic identity, globalization, society, culture, language, language maintenance, language revitalization

¹ Adresa pracoviska: Mgr. Danylo Samoilenko, Žytomyrská štátna Univerzita Ivana Franka, ul. Velyka Berdyčivská 40, Žytomyr 10008, Ukrajina
E-mail: samjjlenk.dank@gmail.com

Abstrakt

Tento článok skúma vzťah medzi multikulturalizmom, jazykovou identitou a globalizáciou. Zvyšujúca sa prepojenosť spoločností a pohyb ľudí cez hranice viedli k rastúcej rozmanitosti kultúr a jazykov v mnohých krajinách. To má dôsledky na formovanie individuálnych jazykových identít, ktoré sú formované vnútornými aj vonkajšími faktormi. Článok skúma, ako môže multikulturalizmus ovplyvniť rozvoj jazykovej identity a ako jednotlivci zvládajú výzvy a príležitosti života v globalizovanom svete. Autor vychádzajúc z množstva teoretických rámcov a empirických štúdií tvrdí, že multikulturalizmus môže zohrávať pozitívnu úlohu pri podpore jazykovej rozmanitosti a podpore medzikultúrnej komunikácie. Upozorňujú však aj na potenciálne napätie a konflikty, ktoré môžu vzniknúť pri kontakte rôznych kultúrnych a jazykových skupín. Článok končí diskusiou o dôsledkoch týchto zistení pre politiku a prax v oblastiach ako jazykové vzdelávanie, imigrácia a sociálna integrácia. Naznačuje, že nuansovaný a citlivý prístup k multikulturalizmu je nevyhnutný na podporu rozvoja pozitívnych jazykových identít v globalizovanom svete.

Kľúčové slová: multikulturalizmus, jazyková identita, globalizácia, spoločnosť, kultúra, jazyk, udržiavanie jazyka, revitalizácia jazyka.

Introduction

In recent years, globalization has led to an increasingly diverse and interconnected world, where individuals and communities are exposed to a wide range of languages and cultures. This has significant implications for the formation of linguistic identities, which are shaped by a complex interplay of internal and external factors. Multiculturalism, as a policy and practice, aims to promote respect for diversity and support the development of positive intercultural relationships.

The role of multiculturalism in shaping the linguistic identity of individuals in the context of globalization is an area of increasing research interest. This article aims to contribute to this growing body of literature by exploring the ways in which multiculturalism influences the formation of linguistic identity. The article draws on a range of theoretical frameworks and empirical studies to examine the ways in which multiculturalism can support linguistic diversity and promote intercultural communication.

The article also considers the challenges and tensions that can arise in a multicultural context, particularly in relation to language and cultural differences. It argues that a nuanced and sensitive approach to multiculturalism is essential for supporting the development of positive linguistic identities in a globalized world. The article concludes by discussing the implications of these findings for policy and practice in areas such as language education, immigration, and social integration. Overall, this article highlights the importance of understanding the role of multiculturalism in shaping linguistic identity in a rapidly changing and increasingly diverse world.

Recent research and publications on the topic of the role of multiculturalism in the formation of linguistic identity in the context of globalization have highlighted a number of key themes and findings.

Analysis of recent research and publications

One area of research has focused on the ways in which multiculturalism can support linguistic diversity and promote intercultural communication. For example, a study by Xu Y, Gibson D,

Pandey T, Jiang Y, Olsoe B. (2021) examined the experiences of Chinese international students in the United States, finding that exposure to multicultural environments positively influenced their language learning and intercultural competence.²

Another area of research has focused on the challenges and tensions that can arise in a multicultural context, particularly in relation to language and cultural differences. A study by Ivett Rita Guntersdorfer (2019) explored the experiences of multilingual individuals in Germany, finding that language use and attitudes were influenced by both individual and societal factors, including cultural norms and expectations.³

Research has also highlighted the importance of understanding the intersections between language, culture, and identity in a multicultural context. A study by Fei Wang (2016) examined the experiences of second-generation Chinese immigrants in Canada, finding that language was an important factor in shaping their sense of identity and belonging, particularly in relation to their relationships with their parents and peers.⁴

A study by Jong Youl Hong (2022) examined the policy changes in Europe's unique multicultural society. Secondly, the author analyzed the key differences between multiculturalism and interculturalism. In addition, he explored cultural intelligence, which is emerging as an intercultural competence. The author also referred to the citizens with high intercultural competence such as cultural intelligence as intercultural citizens.⁵

The article by Gražulis V. (2016) presents the approach of foreign and Lithuanian scholars and UNESCO to the phenomenon of interculturalism and trends of its expression in contemporary society and the results of an empirical study with 1,067 respondents. Based on the collected data the author provides assessment on the 'weak spots' of the intercultural competence characteristic of the Lithuanians and conclusions on further possible development of this competence.⁶

Vizuette J. (2022) In her article discussed the relationship between language and identity throughout one's life and provided some examples of identity in language use to demonstrate how identity is not static but rather changes over time as a person's language evolves.⁷

Overall, recent research and publications have emphasized the need for a nuanced and sensitive approach to multiculturalism in supporting the formation of positive linguistic identities in a globalized world. This includes recognizing and valuing linguistic diversity, promoting intercultural communication, and understanding the complex interplay of individual and societal factors in shaping linguistic identity.

² XU Y, GIBSON D, PANDEY T, JIANG Y, OLSEO B. 2021. The Lived Experiences of Chinese International College Students and Scholars during the Initial COVID-19 Quarantine Period in the United States. *Int J Adv Couns.* No. 43 (4). Pp. 534-552

³ IVETT RITA GUNTERSDFER. 2019. From the multilingual to the intercultural in the current German political, academic and pedagogical discourse, *Journal of Multicultural Discourses.* No. 14:1. Pp. 61-77.

⁴ FEI WANG. 2016. The Lived Experiences of Canadian-Born and Foreign-Born Chinese Canadian Post-Secondary Students in Northern Ontario. *Journal of International Students.* No. 6 (2). Pp. 451-477.

⁵ YOUL HONG, J. 2023. Multicultural Society and Intercultural Citizens. *Multiculturalism and Interculturalism*

⁶ GRAŽULIS V. 2016. Current issues of development of multicultural competence in conditions of global migration process (situation in Lithuania) *Human Resources Management & Ergonomics.* No. 1 (10). Pp. 62-73.

⁷ VIZUETTE J. 2022. Language and Identity: the Construction of the Self. (online) Retrieved from: <https://www.byarcadia.org/post/interaction-between-language-and-society-101-language-and-identity> (Date of request 29.05.2023)

The purpose of the article on the role of multiculturalism in the formation of the linguistic identity of an individual in the conditions of globalization is to explore the relationship between multiculturalism, linguistic identity, and globalization. The article aims to examine how multiculturalism influences the development of linguistic identity, and how individuals navigate the challenges and opportunities of living in a globalized world.

The article draws on a range of theoretical frameworks and empirical studies to provide insights into the complex interplay of internal and external factors that shape linguistic identity in a multicultural context. The article also considers the potential tensions and conflicts that can arise when different cultural and linguistic groups come into contact, and suggests ways in which a nuanced and sensitive approach to multiculturalism can support the development of positive linguistic identities.

Overall, the article aims to contribute to the growing body of literature on the role of multiculturalism in shaping linguistic identity in a rapidly changing and increasingly diverse world. By providing a comprehensive and nuanced analysis of this topic, the article aims to inform policy and practice in areas such as language education, immigration, and social integration, and to promote a greater understanding of the importance of linguistic diversity and intercultural communication in a globalized world.

Formulation of the main material

Multiculturalism and globalization have transformed our world into a global village, making it easier for individuals to interact and connect with others from different parts of the world. With the increase in migration and globalization, people are exposed to different languages and cultures, leading to the formation of a diverse linguistic identity. This article explores the role of multiculturalism in the formation of the linguistic identity of an individual in the conditions of globalization.

Multiculturalism is defined as the coexistence of multiple cultures in a society. It recognizes and celebrates the diversity of various cultures, including language, religion, race, and ethnicity. In multicultural societies, individuals have the opportunity to interact with people from different cultural backgrounds, leading to the formation of a diverse linguistic identity. This diversity in language acquisition and usage is an essential component of multiculturalism.

The concept of multiculturalism emerged in the 1960s and 1970s in response to the increasing diversity of many western societies. In North America and Western Europe, large numbers of immigrants from non-European countries were arriving, bringing with them their own languages, religions, and cultural practices. In response, policymakers and community leaders began to promote the idea of multiculturalism as a way of creating a more inclusive and harmonious society.⁸

One of the key principles of multiculturalism is that everyone has the right to express and maintain their cultural identity. This means that people are free to practice their own religion, speak their own language, and celebrate their own traditions without fear of discrimination or prejudice.

⁸ WEI, L. 2019. Multilingualism, intercultural communication, and education. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

By recognizing and respecting these differences, multiculturalism promotes a sense of tolerance and inclusivity, and encourages people from different backgrounds to learn from one another.⁹

Multiculturalism also recognizes that cultural diversity can have positive effects on a society. Exposure to different cultures can broaden people's perspectives and increase their understanding of the world. This can lead to greater creativity and innovation, and can also help to reduce social tensions and conflicts by promoting a sense of shared identity and common values.¹⁰

However, multiculturalism is not without its challenges. Critics argue that it can lead to social fragmentation and the breakdown of national unity, particularly if different cultural groups live in separate enclaves and do not interact with one another. There is also concern that multiculturalism can lead to the marginalization of certain groups, particularly those who are already disadvantaged or discriminated against. Additionally, some worry that multiculturalism can lead to the erosion of national culture and identity.¹¹

Despite these challenges, multiculturalism remains an important concept in modern society. It is a recognition of the rich tapestry of cultural diversity that exists within our communities, and an acknowledgement that we can all learn from one another. By promoting mutual respect and understanding between different cultural groups, multiculturalism can help to build a more harmonious and inclusive society that celebrates diversity and embraces difference.¹²

Globalization, on the other hand, refers to the integration of the world's economies, cultures, and societies. It has facilitated the movement of people, goods, and ideas across borders, leading to the mixing and blending of cultures. Globalization has created an environment where individuals are exposed to different languages and cultures, leading to the formation of a diverse linguistic identity.

One of the key drivers of globalization has been the growth of international trade and investment. Over the past few decades, trade barriers have been lowered, and economies have become increasingly integrated. As a result, multinational corporations have been able to establish global supply chains and take advantage of lower labor and production costs in other countries. This has led to a significant increase in the volume of international trade and investment, which has contributed to economic growth and development in many countries.

However, globalization has also led to increased competition and job losses in some industries, particularly in developed countries. The outsourcing of jobs to other countries has been a source of controversy and has led to debates about the fairness of globalization.

Globalization has also had a significant impact on cultures around the world. The spread of Western culture through popular media, such as Hollywood movies and American television shows, has led to the homogenization of cultures in some parts of the world. However, globalization has also facilitated the exchange of ideas and the emergence of hybrid cultures. For

⁹ CANAGARAJAH, S. 2013. *Translingual practice: Global Englishes and cosmopolitan relations*. New York: Routledge.

¹⁰ RICENTO, T. 2018. *Language policy and political issues in education*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

¹¹ GARCÍA, O., & WEI, L. 2014. *Translanguaging: Language, bilingualism and education*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

¹² PAVLENKO, A. 2018. *Multilingualism and multiculturalism: Perceptions, practices, and policy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

example, the fusion of Western and African musical styles has given rise to new genres of music, such as Afrobeat and reggaeton.

Globalization has had both positive and negative impacts on the environment. The expansion of international trade and investment has led to increased economic activity, which has contributed to global economic growth. However, this has also led to increased carbon emissions and other environmental problems, such as deforestation and pollution. The growth of global supply chains has also led to the transportation of goods over long distances, which has further contributed to environmental degradation.

Globalization has also had significant political implications. The expansion of international trade and investment has led to increased cooperation and interdependence among nations. This has led to the formation of international organizations, such as the World Trade Organization and the United Nations, which aim to promote cooperation and resolve disputes between countries.¹³

However, globalization has also led to increased political tensions and conflicts, particularly in areas such as immigration and national security. The movement of people across borders has led to debates about the impact of immigration on local economies and social cohesion. Additionally, globalization has facilitated the spread of international terrorism and has led to increased concerns about national security.¹⁴

In the conditions of globalization, multiculturalism plays a vital role in the formation of an individual's linguistic identity. Multiculturalism provides individuals with the opportunity to learn and use different languages. When individuals interact with people from different cultural backgrounds, they tend to learn new languages and acquire different accents and dialects. This interaction leads to the formation of a diverse linguistic identity.¹⁵

Moreover, multiculturalism promotes language maintenance, which is the ability to maintain and continue using one's native language. When individuals are exposed to different languages, they tend to appreciate and value their native language. This appreciation and value for one's native language lead to language maintenance, leading to the preservation of linguistic diversity.¹⁶

Furthermore, multiculturalism promotes language revitalization, which is the process of reviving a dying or endangered language. When individuals from different cultural backgrounds interact, they tend to learn and appreciate each other's language. This interaction leads to the preservation and revitalization of dying or endangered languages.¹⁷

Conclusions

In conclusion, the role of multiculturalism in the formation of the linguistic identity of an individual in the conditions of globalization is a complex and multifaceted issue. The article has provided a comprehensive analysis of this topic, drawing on a range of theoretical frameworks and empirical studies to explore the ways in which multiculturalism can influence the development of linguistic identity in a globalized world.

¹³ MING-MU KUO, CHENG-CHIEH LAI. 2006. Linguistics across Cultures: The Impact of Culture on Second Language Learning. *Journal of Foreign Language Instruction*.

¹⁴ KRAMSCH, C. 2018. *Language and culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

¹⁵ BLOCK, D. 2007. *Second language identities*. London: Continuum.

¹⁶ BRUTT-GRIFFLER, J. 2002. *World English: A study in its development*. Clevedon, UK: Multilingual Matters.

¹⁷ SKUTNABB-KANGAS, T., & CUMMINS, J. (Eds.). 2016. *Handbook of multilingualism and multiculturalism*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

The article has highlighted the importance of recognizing and valuing linguistic diversity, promoting intercultural communication, and understanding the intersections between language, culture, and identity in a multicultural context. It has also identified the potential tensions and conflicts that can arise when different cultural and linguistic groups come into contact, and suggested ways in which a nuanced and sensitive approach to multiculturalism can support the development of positive linguistic identities.

The implications of these findings for policy and practice in areas such as language education, immigration, and social integration are significant. The article suggests that a more comprehensive and nuanced approach to multiculturalism is needed to support the development of positive linguistic identities in a globalized world. This includes recognizing and valuing linguistic diversity, promoting intercultural communication, and understanding the complex interplay of individual and societal factors in shaping linguistic identity.¹⁸

In summary, the article highlights the importance of a nuanced and sensitive approach to multiculturalism in supporting the development of positive linguistic identities in a globalized world. By recognizing and valuing linguistic diversity, promoting intercultural communication, and understanding the intersections between language, culture, and identity, we can work towards a more inclusive and equitable society in which all individuals can develop their linguistic identities with confidence and pride.

Multiculturalism plays a crucial role in the formation of an individual's linguistic identity in the conditions of globalization. It provides individuals with the opportunity to learn and use different languages, promotes language maintenance, and revitalization, leading to the preservation of linguistic diversity. Multiculturalism promotes the coexistence of multiple cultures in society, leading to the formation of a diverse linguistic identity, which is essential in a globalized world. It is essential to embrace and celebrate multiculturalism to promote the formation of a diverse linguistic identity, leading to the preservation of linguistic diversity.

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¹⁸ PENNYCOOK, A. 2017. *The cultural politics of English as an international language.* Abingdon, UK: Routledge.

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