

Main Trends in the Development of Language Policy of Russia

Wu Ting

Northwest Normal University, Lanzhou, China
Peoples Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia
Corresponding author. Email: wutingnina @163. com

ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the coverage of the essence and role of the language policy of Russia at the current stage of development. The author notes that world and domestic historical experience governs the decisive role of the linguistic factor in ensuring stable political development and a tangible improvement in the situation in the country's social sphere. The constituent elements of the trends in ensuring an effective system of regulation and development of language policy in the Russian Federation are defined: the study of the language situation, codification of language norms, determination of the basic principles and ways to improve language policy, as well as the practical implementation of the goals of the policy and the planned program of action of the state in the framework of ensuring national unity.

Keywords: *language policy, language, development, state, people, nation, country*

1. INTRODUCTION

The study of the problems of language policy is relevant in sociolinguistics, political science, philosophy and other sciences. Such studies seem to be especially significant and important for Russia, since the solution of the problems of language policy today is a matter of not only national identity, but also state security. Language is the basis for defining, preserving, and communicating social experiences. The formation of national identity is impossible without language, since the entire system of political governance is based on language communication. "The advantage in this area belongs to the states whose national language is widely demanded in other countries, that is, it acts as the language of interethnic communication", Russian political scientist O.F. Ruskova writes [1]. Thus, the language policy in reality is connected with the natural human need for national identity and state security.

The purpose of this article is to analyze the language policy in Russia at the present stage of its development, as well as to determine the main trends in the influence of the state on its formation.

2. METHODOLOGY

The research methodology is an analytical review of legislative documents of international and national importance, official statistics and competent literary

sources of theoretical and methodological developments of researchers in terms of the formation and development of language policy in Russia and the world. The research is carried out through the analysis of social and linguistic realities in Russia, including descriptive, comparative and historical methods.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In general, language policy is defined by a number of researchers as a system of measures in the state aimed at maintaining the functions of the state language. The language policy in each country is a component of the national policy. Language planning, language control, language institutions – three components of language policy [2].

The responsibility of the language plan is to provide a legal and regulatory basis when formulating a language policy. Language control includes enacting laws that define sanctions for non-compliance and violation of language regulations. Language control includes the development of a law defining sanctions for non-compliance and violation of language legislation. [3] Language institutions provide for the creation of appropriate responsible structures for language issues and bodies for control and coordination of language policy (for example, the Ministry of Culture and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation). These structures and institutions should monitor language issues on an ongoing basis. The experience of developed countries (Switzerland, Finland, Denmark, etc.) shows

that such control and coordination bodies should be not only state, but also public organizations, scientific centers [4].

The history of language policy in our country, its development strategy is marked both by the negative results of interference in the functioning of the language of unqualified specialists, as well as by positive periods and examples of the regulation of language processes in society. In the first half of the last century, great work was carried out in the country on the creation of alphabetic and writing systems for the unwritten language of the Soviet people. In addition, linguists and sociologists attached great importance to overcoming the problems of illiteracy and the spread of Russian as the language of inter ethnic communication, education and government administration in the Soviet Union. Modern Russia reflects the overall principles of language policy and strategy in the first half of the 20th century; however, with the development of science and society, extralinguistic factors, especially geopolitics, and general linguistic conditions are constantly improved [5].

Turning to the modern legislation of the Russian Federation (RF), it should be primarily noted that the Basic Law (Constitution of the Russian Federation) stipulates: Human rights and freedom are the highest value, and the state must observe and protect citizens. The Russian Federation cherishes its own national language, and at the same time provides people with good conditions for the creation and retention of the national language (the provisions of Article 68 (Part 2) of the Basic Law) [6].

What needs to be especially mentioned here is the conceptual clause of the "Federal Law" on "the language of the people of the Russian Federation" [7], which points out the language protected by the state, and emphasizes that all states in the country are committed to promoting the development of national languages, bilingualism and multilingualism.

Exploring the positions of specialists in the field of sociology, political science and linguistics in relation to language policy in the Russian Federation and the world, it is necessary to emphasize the variety of approaches to defining its definition. Thus, language policy in the scientific field of public administration is a demonstration of the attitude of the state, represented by public authorities, to solving language problems in a particular country [8]. According to AA Kanevsky, it is also a set of attitudes, concepts, legislative acts and measures designed to influence the processes of the linguistic life of society and regulate these processes [2]. State language policy is the activity of the state and society aimed at solving problems in the sphere of linguistic relations by harmonizing the interests of various linguistic groups [9]. Proceeding from the fact that the language policy in the modern Russian state is called upon to be part of the national policy, reflect its principles and meet the state ideology, we propose to define it as a component of the ethno-national policy aimed at the approval, development

and widespread functioning of the Russian language as the state language in the country, proper provision linguistic rights of national and regional communities for the consolidation of society.

It is important to emphasize here that within the framework of ensuring equal access to the development of the language of all national minorities of the Russian Federation, subjects of ethnopolitics are seen as equal partners in the development and implementation of linguopolitics based on the principles of democracy. Where there is no interaction between the subjects of ethnopolitics in linguistic issues, where the dictate of one of the subjects reigns, the language policy has a totalitarian and dominant character of one of the languages.

Language is a factor that, in terms of its significance in differentiating cultures, is second only to religion. The West differs from the overwhelming majority of civilizations in its multilingualism. Japanese, Hindi, Beijing dialect of Chinese, Arabic, as well as directly Russian languages are now recognized as the main languages of civilizations [10]. Thus, a key step towards the development of ethnopolitics within the framework of linguistic aspects was to bring the provisions of the state language policy in Russia in line with the standards and norms of the European Charter [11]. At present, on the territory of the Russian Federation, one or more non-Russian languages are the main languages of the people on the region. This is related to Russia's multi-ethnic state. If the region is inhabited by ethnic minorities, their language will be regulated as the official language of the region. In addition, in many republics of the Russian Federation, non-Russian languages can be a second official language. Today, dozens of officially recognized regional languages exist in 22 republics (for example, in Dagestan, Bashkiria, Tatarstan, Chuvashia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachay-Cherkessia).

Considering that the goal of domestic ethnopolitics is to achieve interethnic unity and political harmony of society, as well as the implementation of the rights of all ethnic groups proclaimed by international documents and the legislation of our state to use the language in private and public life, the language should be considered as an object of politics with its theoretical and methodological aspects of functioning and influence on social processes.

The Russian literary language unites the nationalities of all territories, contributes to their awareness of their common destiny, history, traditions, and spirituality. Attempts to separate ethnic groups based on language and divide them according to ethnographic principles can only have temporary success, because the instinct to preserve ethnic identity is triggered in the genesis of an extreme situation, and this has been repeatedly confirmed and evidenced by the history of Russia [12].

The current situation with regard to the trends in the formation and development of language policy in the Russian Federation depends to a greater extent on the complex state structure. We know that Russia includes 85

equal subjects, and more than 100 indigenous peoples and many ethnic groups live on its territory [13]. These nationalities and ethnic groups speak more than 150 different languages, which belong to several language families, such as: Finno-Ugric, Slavic, Mongolian, North Caucasus, Turkic, etc., and about 80 literary languages. But at the same time, the degree of language uniformity in Russia is quite high: 98.2% of the population speaks Russian; 23% of the population speaks another 38 languages, while the remaining 114 languages are only spoken in 1% of the population [9].

Separately, it is worth highlighting the educational system as a structure-forming factor of the state's language policy. In Russia, 91.6% of schools are taught in Russian, less than 1% are taught in non-Russian languages. The largest language besides Russian and Tatar is Yakut. In addition to English, the study of Chinese and Spanish is growing [4]. In accordance with the Federal State Educational Standards, despite the priority of the Russian as the state language, the expediency and necessity of including courses in other languages in the educational programs of educational institutions of all levels of education, author's methodologies for teaching bilingualism are developed, the role of knowledge of languages is highlighted in the system adaptation of the student's personality in a multicultural society.

4. CONCLUSION

Language plays an important role in consolidating society, the formation of a political nation, the identification of all citizens as a political community as an essential aspect of the national idea and enshrined as an official state symbol. It also becomes a sign of a person's belonging to a certain territorial, economic, informational space of the state, even certain unions of countries. The identification of people of different nationalities in a political system, nation or people occurs by means of language.

The state language, in which laws are adopted, becomes a priority in all spheres of public life and public administration. He performs a representative role at the interstate level of the country, its specific bodies. Therefore, the priority of the state language policy in Russia is the approval and development of the Russian language; The Russian language has a key role in determining the identity of the state and in determining the main characteristics of nation, which historically lives on the territory of the country, accounts for an absolute majority of its population, gave the official name to the state and is the basic system-forming component of the Russian statehood.

REFERENCES

[1] O.F. Rusakova, V.M. Rusakov, PR discourse: theoretical and methodological analysis, Institute of

Philosophy and Law of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences: Institute of International Relations, 2008.

[2] A.A. Kanevsky, Language policy as a type of national policy of the state, *Philosophy of law* 4(71) (2015) 47-51.

[3] A. Korotayev, S. Borinskaya, G. Starostin, K. Meshcherina, *Evolution of Eurasian and African Family Systems, Cross-Cultural Research, Comparative Linguistics, and Deep History, Social Evolution & History* 18(2) (2019) 286-312.

[4] A.L. Arefiev, *Russian language in the modern world, University book* 1-2 (2017) 22-23.

[5] I.A. Petrulovich, L.M. Mesropyan, *Modern language policy of the Russian Federation: main vectors and development trends, Humanitarian of the South of Russia* 4 (2015) 66-76.

[6] *The Constitution of the Russian Federation* (adopted by popular vote on 12.12.1993) (as revised on 21.07.2014).

[7] *Law of the Russian Federation "On the languages of the peoples of the Russian Federation"* dated 10.25.1991 N 1807-1 (as amended on 03.12.2014).

[8] V.M. Alpatov, *Language policy in Russia and the world, Language policy and language conflicts in the modern world* 1 (2014) 11-24.

[9] A.A. Suleimanov, *Language policy in the Russian Federation, Young scientist* 23(261) (2019) 551-553.

[10] Armenui Minasyan, *Language policy, national identity and politics, European Scientific Journal* 2 (2019) 273-277.

[11] *European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Series of European Treaties, No. 148, Available at: <https://www.coe.int/ru/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/rms/090000168007c098>.*

[12] E.D. Suleimenova, *Globalization and language policy, Multilingualism and transcultural practices* 17(1) (2020) 112-120.

[13] E.V. Vostrikova, P.S. Kusliy, *Language as a dynamic system: the heritage of Wilhelm von Humboldt and modern linguistics, Epistemology & Philosophy of Science* 57(1) (2020) 110-130.