

THE DIVERSITY OF MEANS OF EXPRESSING THE DICHOTOMY OF TOLERANCE/INTOLERANCE IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN POLITICAL DISCOURSE: ON THE MATERIAL OF THE RUSSIAN AND FRENCH MEDIA

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Abstract

The article deals with the functioning of prefixal means of expression linguistic tolerance / intolerance in the political discourse of the Russian and French mass media in a comparative aspect. In the dichotomy "tolerance / intolerance" of the compared languages the prefixal morphemes with negative semantics prevail. The high-frequency prefixes, which convey the inherent nature of the modern European political discourse, are non-, non-, anti-, counter- / non-, de- (dès-), anti-, contre-. Additional negative shades acquire prefixes with the similar meaning: Hyper -, multi-, ultra-, Pro -, ex -; hyper-, sur-, pro -, ex -. In the functioning of prefixes there is a tendency to unification, in particular, in the Russian language under the influence of modern Western European languages. The revitalization of the phenomenon of verbal aggression in modern society motivates politicians to choose linguistic means of expressing tolerance in the "tolerance / intolerance" dichotomy. At the same time, the importance of studying language tolerance increases in a comparative aspect. The increased intensity of interaction between countries in the framework of global relations dictates the need for the competent building of political contacts. In a comparative study of word-building means of expressing linguistic tolerance in the Russian and French political discourses, one can identify both common and different features. Characteristic features of both languages is the use of both traditional prefixes with positive and negative connotations, as well as prefixes with specification meanings (temporality, intensity, territory, adherence to something / someone, etc.). At the same time, in the case of the French language, which reflects the tendency toward a unified critical approach of the Western political world in the assessment of contemporary events, there is a semantic shift in the realization of the meanings of prefixes from the zone of traditional neutrality towards conflict. In the Russian political discourse, the number of borrowed prefixes that have an international character increases. High-frequency of the use of prefixal means of expressing intolerance remains.

Keywords: tolerance, political discourse, word-formation, prefix, mass media, the Russian language, the French language.

1 INTRODUCTION

In the modern multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi-state world, the problem of tolerance can be perceived as a principle of survival.

Understanding the concept of "tolerance" is becoming increasingly relevant not only at the personal, but also at the state level. In the framework of the implementation of the UNESCO International "Culture of the world" program, the program "Forming tolerant consciousness, tolerance, peace and prevention of extremism in the civil society" was implemented in the Russian Federation (Fedorova, 2008).

The etymological analysis of the word "tolerance" (Weisgerber, 1993) indicates the Latin origin of this term: "tolerantia". In the course of development, "tolerance" has received many interpretations in different languages. It can be noted that the meaning of this term has a national character. For example, in the English language tolerance means readiness and ability of a person to treat a person, a thing or a phenomenon without negative emotions. The French language considers tolerance as the form of relationship that allows the possibility of existence and acceptance of a personal opinion and position of another person, a positive perception of freedom of self-expression of another person. The Spanish language sees in "tolerance" the understanding of other people's opinions or ideas. In Russian, "tolerance" is perceived as a tolerant or condescending attitude towards something or someone. Chinese language puts into the concept of "tolerance" manifestation of generous attitude to other people. For a Persian tolerance means readiness for reconciliation with an adversary (Gevorkyan, 2011).

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Tolerance can be considered as a communicative category. The speech behaviour of a person is an indicator of his erudition, intellectual characteristics, mental state and is expressed in the choice of certain lexemes and the construction of a statement in the context of stylistics (Khabibullina, Ivanova, Pirogova, 2017; Khabibullina, Trapeznikova, Smerchinskaya, 2017; Khabibullina, Ivanova, 2018; Khabibullina, Ivanova, Trapeznikova, 2018).

Language tolerance in the political discourse remains an insufficiently studied issue. Within the framework of national science, the following researchers can be distinguished: Kudryavtsev A.G., Vakhrushev A.A., Nesterov N.M., Yurova T.A., Yuzhakova Yu.V., Sinelnikova L.N. and others. In the foreign scientific space, this problem was studied by such researchers as T.van Dijk, Hofstede G., Kerns A., Kunsmann P., Zhizhek S. and others. Language tolerance being a practical realization of the principles of tolerance in discourse implies the prevention and mitigation of conflicts and contributes to the most effective communication (Khabibullina, Ivanova, Chesnokova, 2017).

Understanding the phenomenon of language tolerance / intolerance as an integral part of the culture and history of a particular people was studied in the works of the following domestic and foreign scholars: Karabutova E.A., Alpatov V.M., Apresyan Yu.D., Arutyunova N.D., Sepir E., Jacobson R., Benveniste E. and others.

One can talk about the opposition of two polarities: linguistic tolerance and linguistic aggression, which were identified by domestic scientists A.A. Vakhrushevym and N.M. Nesterova in their work "Comparative Analysis of Means of Language Actualization, Language Aggression and Language Tolerance" (Vakhrushev, Nesterova, 2011). According to the above linguists, the use of such phenomena as "linguistic tolerance" and "linguistic aggression" becomes relevant only in conflict situations. These extremes are the personification of two opposite strategies of speech behaviour. As noted by Vakhrushev A.A. and N.M. Nesterova, linguistic aggression is the most studied aspect in the framework of the above opposition. Such researchers as I. I. Gulakova, Ya.A. Pokrovskaya, G.V. Kusov, V.Vlasova, E.V., Enina L.V., Kochkin M.Yu., Shalina I.V. , Shcherbinina Yu.V studied the same issues of the problem.

According to T.A. Vorontsova, tolerance together with aggression corresponds to one of the types of verbal behavior (Vorontsova, 2009). This type of speech behavior is characterized by the suppression of aggression in speech, the preservation of the communicative independence of the speakers, a balanced dialogue. At the same time, tolerance can be expressed through the tactics of avoiding conflict issues or by presenting the object of speech from different positions. Reducing the level of categorical expression of the utterance, hiding its coarse meaning (for example, through the use of euphemisms and paraphrases), a soft flow of criticism, in which attention focuses on sympathy and anxiety, also contribute to the implementation of language tolerance. The above ideas are shared by foreign linguists, such as Dake T. (Dake, 2013), Pinker S. (Pinker, 2009) and others.

In general terms, linguistic or communicative tolerance can be taken as a verbal realization of the attitudes of the addresser who wants to be tolerant to other people's opinions, alien value systems and behavioral patterns, be oriented towards mutual understanding and mutual respect of communicating parties.

For the most part, linguistic tolerance is the verbal impersonation of the correctness of assessments, the

ability to adequately respond to the sharpness of a person, the incontinence of his speech, the recognition of the possibility of having his own excellent opinion.

Along with the concept of "language tolerance", "linguistic politeness", "linguistic aggression" other similar terms are used. N.D. Golev, for example, highlights such a thing as "linguistic tolerance." "Language courtesy" is expressed in speech etiquette. Carefully selected rituals of appeals, requests, refusals, apologies are intended to prevent quite possible discontent, irritation, disagreement of the addressee. In addition to the term of "linguistic tolerance" in the Russian linguistics, there is the term of "linguistic toleration". These terms are not equivalent. Thus, linguistic tolerance is the result of psychological processes associated with communication activity, while linguistic toleration is "respectful attitude on the part of an ethnic group that is numerically or socially dominant in any territory, as well as the corresponding authorities, to languages of other ethnic groups living in the same territory, the observance of civil, linguistic rights and economic interests of their speakers, the provision of the possibility to use their native languages in certain communicative spheres, TVO and the composition of which depends on the demographic power of these groups, the functional development of their language, historical traditions existence of these languages in the territory" (*Dictionary of sociolinguistic terms*, 2006).

Yuzhakova Yu.V. asserts that linguistic tolerance is "the product of the interaction between the negative and neutral intentions of the addresser and the general standard of tolerance" (Yuzhakova, 2007). Under this definition Yu.V. Yuzhakov. involves the implementation of a set of behavioural, speech and language norms that require you to perceive someone else as equal and worthy. In the framework of this approach, language tolerance is considered as an adaptation tool, which makes it possible to escape from the manifestation of a polar opposite phenomenon - speech aggression. At the same time, according to Yu.V. Yuzhakova, inseparable components of language tolerance are negative or neutral intentions. Yuzhakova Yu.V. also notes that the most frequent manifestation of language tolerance occurs at the time of voicing a negative assessment aimed at the object of the utterance.

Thus language aggression is a purposeful communicative action, focused on causing negative emotional and psychological state (for example, frustration or fear) of the object of speech influence (Sedov, 2003).

A conceptual difference can be seen between such concepts as "language aggression" and "language discrimination". Language aggression is an act of realization of speech behavior, while language discrimination is "a violation of the civil and / or economic rights of an individual (ethnic group) due to ignorance or poor knowledge of a language numerically or socially dominant in a given territory" (*Dictionary of sociolinguistic terms*, 2006).

So, the opposite notion of speech tolerance is speech intolerance, i.e. intolerability. The main type of its manifestation is speech aggression. Speech aggression – is a way of speech behaviour, which is motivated by the aggressive state of the speaker.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Being a multifaceted concept, linguistic tolerance has a number of its features within the framework of language policy. This approach is called "political correctness". Political correctness dictates the speaker a number of requirements that he cannot violate, being a unit of political discourse. Due to political correctness, it is possible to level the national, cultural and racial differences between the citizens of these countries. This phenomenon is considered a consequence of the global integration of cultures. In addition, political correctness is a positive way of destroying the historically established national egocentrism of any country and, from the point of view of linguistics, participating in the creation of a single multicultural, multiethnic and polyreligious space.

To express language tolerance in political discourse, speakers can use various means of language. These include derivational, semantic and syntactic means of expression.

The object of this research work are word-building means of expressing language tolerance / intolerance in contemporary Russian and French political discourses.

As is known, the main models of word formation are: suffixing, prefixing, parasynthetic method, compounding, conversion, reduction (letter reduction, apocope, apheresis), onomatopoeia, telescoping.

In the morphemics, non-root and root morphemes are distinguished. Non-root morphemes include such word-building elements as affixes (prefixes and suffixes).

The expression of language tolerance can be traced not only in terms of choice of the vocabulary, but also

the use of prefixes with positive semantics. The prefixal morphemes expressing tolerance in the Russian political discourse should include **super-**, **hyper-**. Thus, in his statement D.A. Medvedev emphasizes the critical importance of the issue under discussion, "an over-important issue" on the one hand and on the other hand attention is drawn to the positive developments in this area:

Rus.: «Вы правы, этот вопрос волнует абсолютно всё население страны. Это **сверхважный** вопрос. Действительно, ситуация в ЖКХ сложная, хотя, на мой взгляд, она тоже начинает меняться» (Transcript of Dmitry Medvedev's interview with five TV channels, 2016). / You are right, this question worries absolutely the entire population of the country. This is an over-important issue. Indeed, the situation in the housing and utilities sector is complex, although, in my opinion, it is also beginning to change/

However, in the following example, the prefixes **multi-** and **ultra-** belonging to the category "expression of intensity" and conveying a positive assessment acquire a negative connotation from the point of view of language intolerance. The implementation of this value of the described prefixes leads to the perception of these lexemes by contextual synonyms:

Rus. : «Согласно данным консалтинговой компании Knight Frank, в РФ на 27% увеличилось количество **мультимиллионеров** (...) и число **ультрабогатых** россиян составляет 2% от общего количества богачей в мире» (Golos pravdy, No 3, 2018). / According to the consulting company Knight Frank, in the Russian Federation the number of multimillionaires (...) increased by 27% and the number of ultra-rich Russians is 2% of the total number of rich in the world/.

Fr. : «Je ne suis pas pour l'**hyperprécarité** mais je suis contre cette volonté de bloquer la création d'emplois pour protéger de manière indue des secteurs» (Exclusif. Emmanuel Macron). / I'm not for this hyper-insecurity, but I'm against this desire to block job creation for the unjustified protection of certain sectors/.

In the statement of E. Macron about domestic policy in the framework of the protection of the rights of economically weak segments of the French population, the prefix **hyper-** has an intensifying value, introducing negative emotional connotation.

Intolerant meaning is transmitted by numerous prefixes, including those not specialized in the expression of negative values.

In Russian, with the help of the prefix **non-**, homonymous negative particle **not**, all parts of speech are formed. The main feature of the console is the expression of a negative assessment or opposition.

Rus.: «В октябре 2017 года Комитет гражданских инициатив составил индекс социально-экономической и политической напряженности в регионах России. [...]. При составлении индекса учитывали политическое и экономическое **недовольство** и **неспособность** власти на него реагировать» (Golos pravdy, No. 6, 2018). / In October 2017, the Committee of Civil Initiatives compiled an index of socio-economic and political tension in the regions of Russia. [...]. In compiling the index, political and economic discontent and the inability of the authorities to respond to it were taken into account /.

The prefix «**не-**» used with nouns expresses intolerance to the current internal socio-economic and political situation.

Rus.: «И хотя в 2015 году объём товарооборота уменьшился на 7,8 процента, мы настроены вместе с индийскими партнёрами преодолеть эту негативную тенденцию, связанную, по нашему мнению, преимущественно с волатильностью глобальных рынков и **нестабильностью** валютных курсов» (Putin: Russia and India are determined to overcome the decline in commodity turnover, 2016). / And although in 2015 the volume of trade decreased by 7.8 percent, we are determined, together with our Indian partners, to overcome this negative trend, which is associated, in our opinion, mainly with the volatility of global markets and the instability of exchange rates/.

In the statement of V.V. Putin about economic and political relationship with India, the prefix does not reinforce the antithesis, which positively colours the phrase from the point of view of language tolerance, since the current negative situation is opposed to the desire to improve and stabilize relationships.

The statement of the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev regarding the internal policy of the state in the field of privatization of state property contains a repetition of adverbs with a negative prefix.

Rus.: «Помните известное изречение "**Неважно**, какого цвета кошка, лишь бы она ловила мышей"? Применительно к приватизации в значительной мере **неважно**, кто приобретает, лишь бы это приобреталось за нормальные деньги» (Transcript of Dmitry Medvedev's interview with five TV channels, 2016) / Do you remember the famous saying "It doesn't matter what colour the cat is, if only it

catches mice? With regard to privatization, it is largely unimportant who acquires, as long as it is acquired for good money”

The phraseological unit is used as a mitigating factor of the language intolerance of a government official.

Rus.: «По словам главы Счетной палаты Татьяны Голиковой, из-за мизерного пособия люди не видят смысла регистрироваться в службе занятости и собирать бумаги для получения выплаты, на которую **невозможно прожить**» (Golos pravdy, No. 6, 2018). According to the head of the Accounts Chamber, Tatyana Golikova, because of the meager allowance, people see no reason to register with the employment service and collect papers for receiving a payment that is impossible to live on/.

Language intolerance, expressed by the adverb with the prefix non-synonymous lexeme "**can not**", softens the categorical statements and, in fact, is its euphemistic counterpart. The replacement makes the effect of language tolerance in the described situation.

In the Russian political discourse prefixes with negative connotations often add a positive connotation to the whole statement. So from the point of view of language tolerance, the following statement by the President of the Russian Federation, V.V. Putin, on the problem of domestic opposition, the «государство-олигархия» /"state-oligarchy"/ is semantically positive, since the word «олигархия» /"oligarchy"/ is perceived negatively, and the state's confrontation with it, taking into account Russia's historical heritage, is a positive fact, despite the denial at the beginning of the phrase.

Rus.: «Я не скажу, что существует два **непримиримых** врага, с одной стороны — государство, а с другой — олигархи» (Phrases of Vladimir Putin). / I will not say that there are two irreconcilable enemies, the state - on the one hand, and the oligarchs - on the other /.

Unlike the prefix «не-», the prefix «без-» does not have only negative meaning. Combined with the negative root morpheme the prefix leads to the antonymization of the notion of the original lexeme.

Thus, speaking of the world security and countering terrorism, V.V. Putin formulates the idea of global cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

Rus.: «В общем, для нас, как и для наших партнеров – я в этом глубоко убежден, – сотрудничество в сфере **безопасности** является одним из приоритетов, и оно выгодно для всех участниц организации коллективной **безопасности**» (Transcript of Vladimir Putin's interview with Mir TV, 2017). /In general, for us, as for our partners - I am deeply convinced of this - security cooperation is one of the priorities, and it is beneficial for all the participants of formation collective security/.

However, the main value of this prefix remains a negative assessment or denial:

Rus.: «В Министерстве труда и социальной защиты населения России разрабатывают законопроект, предусматривающий увеличение размера пособия по **безработице**. <...>. И кроме того, он содержит изменение в процедуру признания гражданина **безработным**» (Golos pravdy, No. 6, 2018). / The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of Russia is developing a draft law providing for an increase in the amount of unemployment benefits. <...>. And besides, it contains a change in the procedure for recognizing a citizen as unemployed /.

Russian prefixes (**без-**, **не -**), expressing, as a rule, intolerance, in French correspond to the prefix de- / dés-, which Marine Le Pan used in the following example to criticize political opponent Francois Fillon in the 2017 election campaign. The language of intolerance serves as a mechanism for lowering the status of the opponent and his political ideas.

Fr.: «Mon adversaire a une vision **désincarnée**, il ne voit que centers-villes, c'est à eux qu'ils parlent essentiellement, à ceux qu'il pense être les gagnants de la mondialisation Il est le candidat de l'oligarchie, je suis la candidate du peuple <...> » (Je ne suis pas la candidate du FN). /"My opponent has a completely unfounded vision; he does not see that the central cities of which he constantly talks, about which he thinks, have the achievements of globalization. He is a candidate from the oligarchy, I am a candidate from the people ... "/.

In the explanatory dictionaries of the Russian language (for example, S.I. Ozhegova, N.Yu. Shvedova), the prefix **экс-** from the latin **ex-** "from" means "past, former; being beyond what I am; exit, removal, extraction; movement from the inside out; formerly (in designations of ranks, posts), i.e. "Retired, former, lost the previous position", for example, **ex**-governour, **ex**-minister, **ex**-president, etc.

A series of resignations of regional political leaders that have occurred recently, has contributed to the increased ambiguity of the borrowed prefix **ex-**. The conflict manifests itself between the etymologically

neutral plan of expression and the content of the derivational significance, which implicitly reflects linguistic intolerance towards politicians who have lost their political status.

Rus.: «В рамках серии уголовных дел об экс главе Марий Эл этой женщиной (Маркелова Т. И.) интересуются органы следствия» [6]. / Within the framework of a series of criminal cases about the ex-head of Mari El, the investigative organs are interested in this woman (Markelova T. I.) /.

Similar semantics, enhanced by the prefix **non-**, the prefix possesses in the following example:

Rus.: «... не секрет, у нас и **послепенсионный** отрезок жизни недолог» (Golos pravdy, No. 6, 2018) /... it's not a secret, we don't even have a post-pension period of life/.

One of the most frequent prefixal morphemes in modern political discourse is the **anti-**prefix.

Rus.: «В России существенно выросла общая сумма взяток, выявленных правоохранителями. Об этом сообщает информбюллетень Национального **антикоррупционного** комитета» (Golos pravdy, No. 6, 2018). / In Russia, the total amount of bribes revealed by law enforcement officers has significantly increased. This is reported in the information bulletin of the National Anti-Corruption Committee (Golos pravdy, No. 6, 2018).

It should be noted that the value "negation" transmitted by the prefix anti-is largely determined and depends on the root lexeme. Thus, in this example, the prefix expresses language tolerance, whereas in the following - intolerance:

Fr.: *Apologie du racisme **anti-français*** (*Apologie du racisme anti-français*) / Apologia of anti-French racism.

The title of the article "Apologie du racisme **anti-français**", published on August 5, 2010 on the "Free People" blog, expresses doubts about the equality of compliance by all with the implementation of the law regarding racism. The prefix anti- expresses intolerance to a situation when in a society which fights against discrimination and promotes the idea of equality, the idea put forward is not true.

Along with the prefix **anti-**, endowed with negative semantics, the **counter-** prefix functions (countermeasures, counterrevolution, counter-forces, counter-arguments, counter-sanctions, etc.). For example,

Rus.: «Сейчас введены **контрсанкции**, продовольственный рынок открыт для своих товаропроизводителей» (Golos pravdy, No 3, 2018). / At present counter-sanctions have been introduced, the food market is open to its producers/.

Fr.: *L'islam comme **contre-identification française**: trois moments* (Lorcerie). / Islam as French counter-identity: three points/. The inclusion of the prefix contre- in the title of the article draws attention to the problem of the political identity of migrants of the Maghreb in France, which acquires a negativistic meaning in a religious context and is directed against the system of power in the form in which it exists and causes alienation of people from the state. On the other hand, it recalls ethno-religious discrimination, Islamophobia in the era of colonialism and its conflict-causing consequences for the V Republic at the present time.

Fr.: "*Les Africains, comme les francs, veulent d'abord **vivre**, et non **survivre**, dans leur pays, selon leurs lois et traditions, pour leur leurs enfants sans craindre la criminalité, l'oppression ou la guerre*" (Marine Le Pen, 2017). / Africans, like the French, want, first of all, to live, not survive, in their own countries, in accordance with their traditions and laws, to raise their children without fear of crime, oppression and war.

Language tolerance in the statement of Marine Le Pen about migrants from African countries is presented in the antithesis of "live" - "**survive**". So, the speaker, thanks to the used prefix sur-, realizes the dichotomy of tolerance / intolerance. In this case, the author is based on fundamental universal values - security, free life, parenting. An interesting case of the use of a platformer found in modern political discourse is the **pro-** / **pro-** prefix, which acquires an ambiguous character.

Rus.: «Отправленный в отставку бывший министр внутренних дел самопровозглашенной Луганской народной республики Игорь Корнет сообщил о разоблачении в республике **проукраинского** заговора» (Cornet, 2017). / Sent in resignation Former Minister of Home Affairs of the self-proclaimed Lugansk People's Republic Igor Cornet reported on the exposure of the pro-Ukrainian conspiracy in the republic/.

Etymologically, the prefix of pro- in the nouns and adjectives is "supporter of someone / something, acting in the interests of someone else" and has a positive connotation. However, in the modern mass media space its use is becoming negative, especially in Russian as a result of tracing from Western European languages.

Fr.: *“Plongée dans la galaxie des pro-russes français”* (Murat). / Immersion in the galaxy of French pro-Russian.

4. CONCLUSION

The article with the above name is about defenders and opponents of Russia in France. Despite the differences of opinion, both sides are in favour of a “Russian affair”. However, for foreign media in the conditions of anti-Russian sentiments in Western countries, the lexeme with the prefix expresses intolerance.

The revitalization of the phenomenon of verbal aggression in modern society motivates politicians to choose linguistic means of expressing tolerance in the “tolerance / intolerance” dichotomy. At the same time, the importance of studying language tolerance increases in a comparative aspect. The increased intensity of interaction between countries in the framework of global relations dictates the need for the competent building of political contacts.

In a comparative study of word-building means of expressing linguistic tolerance in the Russian and French political discourses, one can identify both common and different features. Characteristic features of both languages is the use of both traditional prefixes with positive and negative connotations, as well as prefixes with specification meanings (temporality, intensity, territory, adherence to something / someone, etc.). At the same time, in the case of the French language, which reflects the tendency toward a unified critical approach of the Western political world in the assessment of contemporary events, there is a semantic shift in the realization of the meanings of prefixes from the zone of traditional neutrality towards conflict. In the Russian political discourse, the number of borrowed prefixes that have an international character increases. High-frequency of the use of prefixal means of expressing intolerance remains.

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