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DISCUSSIONS ON THE NEW UKRAINIAN SPELLING: THE NEED OF THE NOWADAYS

The aim of the study was to investigate the changes in Ukrainian spelling and analyze current issues related to it. To achieve this goal, we have set the task: to analyze the sources that contain discussions on the new spelling, delve into the topic, and summarize the information obtained during the study. We regard language as the key to a nation's identity and the basis of its ethnocultural integrity. The main feature of this integrity is the functioning of literary language in various public spheres. That is why taking into consideration the current needs for the Ukrainian language, the processes which take part in it, and the changes that happened during the decades of our state's independence, in October 2018, the Ukrainian National Commission on Spelling issued the renewed Ukrainian spelling, which was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in May 2019 [2].

Nowadays, the totalitarian period of our history is a thing of the past, that is why the administrative imperialistic control over the observance of spelling standards has also stopped. It resulted in the fact that numerous mass media, publishing houses, and educational institutions began to use spelling rules different from the official ones. It led to disorientation for a wide range of Ukrainian native speakers and foreign users of the language, caused uncertainty in their language competence, hindered the expansion of social functions of the Ukrainian language, and ultimately shook the language norm.

The modern edition of the Ukrainian orthography restores and brings to life some features of the orthography issued in 1928, which can be regarded as important parts of the Ukrainian orthographic tradition and the renewal of which has a modern scientific basis. At the same time, the spelling commission was guided by the understanding that the language practice of the Ukrainians in the late 20th century – early 21st century has already become an integral part of the Ukrainian spelling tradition. The modern version of the Ukrainian orthography preserves the approach to language as a sign system and a social phenomenon. The orthographic norm, on the one hand, is based on the close connections of the modern language systems elements reflected in writing, and on the other hand, on the observance of the language tradition and its dependence on it.

The modern Ukrainian language is a dynamic system. The vocabulary is changing, new terms are appearing in various spheres of public communication, and there is a need to adopt common and proper names to the previously formulated spelling rules [3].

Meanwhile, the introduction of an updated spelling raises many questions in society. A considerable part of the population does not accept change and does not want to relearn the rules, or argues that change is not in time. Others consider the changes to be very timely and appropriate. We think that every language needs regular

changes and development, and people need time to perceive it. That is why the new Ukrainian orthography can be regarded as an integral part of the construction of state independence.

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