

THE SOCIOLINGUISTIC COMPETENCE OF UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

The escalation of conflict in Ukraine has caused civilian casualties and destruction of civilian infrastructure, forcing people to flee their homes seeking safety, protection and assistance. In the first five weeks, more than four million refugees from Ukraine crossed borders into neighbouring countries, and many more have been forced to move inside the country. They are in need of protection and support. In light of the emergency and the scale of humanitarian needs of refugees from Ukraine, an inter-agency regional refugee response is being carried out, in support of the efforts of refugee-hosting countries. The Regional Refugee Response Plan brings together UN, NGO and other relevant partners and focuses on supporting host country governments to ensure safe access to territory for refugees and third-country nationals fleeing from Ukraine, in line with international standards. It also prioritizes the provision of critical protection services and humanitarian assistance, as displacement and needs continue to grow exponentially [1].

Picture 1 [1]



The accumulated international and actual Ukrainian experience suggests that the main problems faced by displaced persons are: a) the question of their legal status in the host territories; b) humanitarian needs (access to education, medical services, social security, etc.), c) official employment, d) psychological and social adaptation, e) negative informational policy, which leads to possible discrimination on national, cultural and other grounds, religion, etc.) hope only for state financial assistance as the main source of existence, etc. It is especially worth emphasizing that one of the most important aspects of legal and social adaptation of refugees is their interpersonal communication and direct interaction with representatives of state bodies for assistance to refugees, executive authorities, other authorities, public associations, and local people, which is an important element of support and integration of displaced persons. Thus, the priority component of the migration policy of any state is linguistic

integration as one of the resources of the socio-cultural adaptation of refugees [4, p. 220].

Picture 2 [1]

Total Refugee influx from Ukraine in neighboring countries*** JSON

Location name	Source	Data date	Population
Poland	Government	17 May 2022	3,396,792
Romania	Government	17 May 2022	930,341
Russian Federation	Government	17 May 2022	863,086
Hungary	Government	17 May 2022	615,256
Republic of Moldova	Government	17 May 2022	465,435
Slovakia	Government	17 May 2022	426,605
Belarus	Government	12 May 2022	27,308

The CEFRL (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) organized learners' competences in two broad categories: general competence and communicative competence. The communicative competence is described as containing three components: linguistic competence, sociolinguistic competence and pragmatic competence. The categories included in the sociolinguistic competence are: markers of social relations, politeness conventions, expressions of folk-wisdom, register differences, and dialect and accent. The last category, dialect and accent, was not used in the analyse of the discourse of the participants because it is generally concerned with the oral form of language [2, p. 129].

The process of social adaptation is an important component of migration policy and involves a structured system of social support for refugees, with a scientifically shaped legal framework and practical implementation. In particular, the study of the experience of the US, Canada, and other countries have allowed scientists to identify the main areas of social assistance for refugees: social (providing temporary asylum); socio-pedagogical (development and implementation of comprehensive rehabilitation programs for language, culture, education, vocational training, psychological and pedagogical counseling); social and legal (promotion of legal entry into the country, legal advice); financial (financial assistance); social and labor (assistance in professional self-determination, mastering the profession, employment); socio-information (providing information on education and health care); medical and social; social and psychological (primarily to overcome the consequences of absolute and relative social deprivation and isolation), etc. [4, p. 222].

Some Ukrainians already speak Hungarian or Romanian as their native language, while personal networks and language proximity with other Slavic languages (e.g. Polish, Slovak, and Czech) may lessen language barriers that can hinder migrants from being aware of or accessing needed services. However, there will still be considerable and immediate demand for interpreters and translators. And in the longer term, language classes will be important for supporting adults in settling in and navigating their new communities, while children can receive assistance in schools. For those in

or looking for work, job-related vocabulary and employer-based language classes are particularly useful approaches [3].

Under socio-linguistic adaptation, it is appropriate to understand the process of accumulation of active and passive vocabulary, which ensures the transfer of information for the purpose of successful verbal communication for refugees from other countries. We regard it as advisable to consider this form of adaptation at the phonetic, lexical, grammatical and stylistic levels. The result of socio-linguistic adaptation, in our view, should be the complete linguistic relationship of a migrant with a language that he/she does not perceive as foreign. However, successful language adaptation is impossible in a society isolated from native speakers [4, p. 230-231].

Therefore, the concept of language adaptation at different times remains one of the most interesting phenomena, as it is dynamic and debatable. It should be noted that migrants' adaptation processes, in particular, their socio-linguistic adaptation, are determined by the individual's psychological characteristics, level of personal development, behavior, as well as age, the purpose of migration, type of activity, etc., all of which provide prospects for further research [4, p. 231].

The problem of forced migration is one of the most difficult in today's world and it requires an integrated approach from the international community to solve this issue.

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