

Summary

Subject matter: Socio-pragmatic interpretation of the semantic disbalance of arguments «for/against Europe»

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Topicality of the research: The political situation resulting from the formation or disintegration of allied combinations in Europe, each time receives a corresponding linguistic expression, semantically interpreted as "for/against" Europe, which allows us to speak about the importance of linguistic facts in reflecting the significance of the political situation. Special works on assessing attitudes towards reality of Europe through the semantic opposition "for/against" in German hasn't been presented yet.

Goal of the research consists in analysis of the use of the lexeme "Europa", its actual semantic diversity with following socio-pragmatic interpretation of the results of the study.

The tasks of the research:

1. describe modern methods of studying vocabulary;
2. to determine and substantiate the relevant method of work with vocabulary;
3. analyze the corpuses of texts and identify variations in semantic relationships;
4. to present a variety of positions on the basis of the principle "for/against" of Europe (pro/contra Europa).

Theoretical significance of the research lies in identifying the essence and problems of semantic research and methods of studying semantics; in examining the relationship between semantics and pragmatics; in determining the relevance of the socio-pragmatic approach in this study.

Practical significance of the research lies in the selection of cases created on the basis of journalistic texts of the German language and carrying out a semantic and socio-pragmatic analysis of the selected corps in order to identify the prevailing semantic emphasis in relation to Europe.

The results of the research:

The relevance of the socio-pragmatic approach to the description of linguistic phenomena is justified by the fact that it is a natural and perspective stage in the development of communicative-oriented linguistics. This approach implies the study of interactive human speech activity, taking into account linguistic, pragmatic and sociolinguistic categories, as well as conventional and institutional features of the sociocultural context. Socio-pragmatics reveals socio-cultural trends that affect the use of language, ensuring the acceptability of the statement and its adequacy of the situation. Thus, political realities are a sociocultural component in the study of the German language. The presented research, carried out with the purpose of revealing of semantic variations in German-speaking speech practice with the application of the lexeme "Europe" (for / against), is recognized as valid justified.

Based on the analysis of examples of the use of the lexeme "Europa" in German-language publicistic texts, new trends in the actual semantics of this lexeme were revealed and the corresponding conclusions were formulated.

In the contextual use of a lexeme, two groups are distinguished: a group with the semantics of geographical reality and a group with metonymic use. Analysis of modern usage has revealed a tendency towards a semantic alignment of Europe with the European Union, which indicates a process of analogizing two different terms (Europe and the European Union/Europa and EU) at the semantic level and contributes to securing the politically marked use of the lexeme "Europe".

Proceeding from the revealed semantic connotation in the examples of the use of the lexeme, it is possible to consider and classify groups of supporters of the integrity of Europe (the "pro" group) and groups opposing the united Europe ("contra" group), which is confirmed by statistical data and a table with the classification of the connotative accompaniment of the lexeme "Europa" on different parts of speech and within the framework of sustainable expressions (phraseological units). The revealed semantic imbalance in the usage of the lexeme "Europe" is manifested in the fact that the sociological statistics "pro" and "contra" show practically equal connotative evaluation, while the use of the lexeme

observes a much more negative support for the lexeme, which in the light of the socio-pragmatic interpretation testifies to the mentality split in the united Europe.

Ultimately, considering the possibility of the existence of the New and Old Europe ("Neues und Altes Europa"), it was discovered that, despite all the disagreements and strife that exist in modern European society, Europe is still perceived as a complete entity.