Abstract

This thesis analyses the political influence on the linguistic situation in Ukraine and also analyses the position of the Ukrainian and Russian languages in Ukrainian society and state policy, its changes in the period from 1991 to the beginning of 2022. The thesis deals with the basic theoretical concepts used in the study, such as: national language, national identity and state integrity. It explores the foundations of theoretical approaches to understanding the role of language for linguistic minorities and the role of language in the state. The thesis examines two main strands of language policy: the policy of a single national language and the policy of linguistic dualism. The theoretical part of our thesis also deals with the historical development of the language situation on the territory of Ukraine.

In the analytical part of the thesis we will analyse the political and socio-cultural factors influencing language policy through a historical-comparative analysis. We will also focus on the analysis of normative documents, including the 1996 Constitution of Ukraine, international agreements, the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages, the 1991 Declaration of the Rights of Nationalities of Ukraine, as well as important laws that have influenced language policy in Ukraine. Another important step was the analysis of the position of the state language in different spheres of society and its influence on the language situation in the country, as well as an assessment of how social and political factors have influenced the language situation in the period 1991-2022. Special attention is paid to the analysis of the different periods of the presidency. The conclusion summarizes the thesis and, among other things, answers the research questions.