



Contemporary Linguistic Trends in the Evolution of Romance and Germanic Languages in an Intercultural Context

Tendencias lingüísticas contemporáneas en la evolución de las lenguas románicas y germánicas en un contexto intercultural

Nailia Khairulina¹ \square \square , Svitlana Shekhavtsova² \square \square , Liudmyla Tyshakova¹ \square \square , Tetiana Kamyshova³ \square \square , Iryna Skliarova¹ \square \square

¹Luhansk Taras Shevchenko National University, Educational and Research Institute of Philology and Journalism, Department of Romance and Germanic Philology. Poltava, Ukraine.

²Matej Bel University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Slavic Languages. Banská Bystrica, Slovakia.

³Bogdan Khmelnitsky Melitopol State Pedagogical University, Department of Germanic Philology. Zaporizhzhya, Ukraine.

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Corresponding author: Nailia Khairulina 🖂

ABSTRACT

Objective: the article addresses a pertinent issue in contemporary linguistics: language diffusion, which arises as a result of globalisation processes in the modern world. The aim of this article is to explore the main linguistic trends in Germanic and Romance languages, analyse key challenges, and outline strategies for the preservation and development of Romance-Germanic languages within an intercultural dimension.

Method: the article is based on a comprehensive combination of comparative-historical and cognitive methods, systematic analysis, critical analysis, and sociolinguistic analysis.

Results: the article described the tendency in the development of modern Romance and Germanic languages, taking into account the features of technological progress and globalisation processes in the world. It analysed the challenges faced by Romance and Germanic languages in the context of international communication, explored the potential and possible impact of information technologies on the expansion of intercultural contacts between these languages within the framework of international interaction, and offered the authors' recommendations for strengthening the positions of Romance and Germanic languages in the modern world. The study has established that the main trends in the evolution of Romance and Germanic languages are the intrinsically opposite trends of globalisation and de-globalisation, social changes (political correctness of terminology, in particular), technological progress, the influence of subcultures and their sociolects, and the development of new forms of communication.

Conclusions: the key factors affecting the Romance and Germanic languages were such modern norms and values as the desire for equality and diversity, the democratisation of communication forms, and the formation of neologisms that have arisen as a result of a change in the hierarchy of values under the influence of various types of political correctness.

Keywords: Romance And Germanic Languages; Intercultural Communication; Information Technology; Cultural Exchange; Language Education.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: el artículo aborda un tema de actualidad en la lingüística contemporánea: la difusión de las lenguas, que surge como resultado de los procesos de globalización en el mundo moderno. El objetivo de

© 2025; Los autores. Este es un artículo en acceso abierto, distribuido bajo los términos de una licencia Creative Commons (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0) que permite el uso, distribución y reproducción en cualquier medio siempre que la obra original sea correctamente citada este artículo es explorar las principales tendencias lingüísticas en las lenguas germánicas y románicas, analizar los desafíos clave y esbozar estrategias para la preservación y el desarrollo de las lenguas románicas y germánicas en una dimensión intercultural.

Método: el artículo se basa en una combinación integral de métodos histórico-comparativos y cognitivos, análisis sistemático, análisis crítico y análisis sociolingüístico.

Resultados: el artículo describe la tendencia en el desarrollo de las lenguas románicas y germánicas modernas, teniendo en cuenta las características del progreso tecnológico y los procesos de globalización en el mundo. Analiza los desafíos que enfrentan las lenguas románicas y germánicas en el contexto de la comunicación internacional, explora el potencial y el posible impacto de las tecnologías de la información en la expansión de los contactos interculturales entre estas lenguas en el marco de la interacción internacional y ofrece recomendaciones de los autores para fortalecer las posiciones de las lenguas románicas y germánicas en el mundo moderno. El estudio ha establecido que las tendencias principales en la evolución de las lenguas romances y germánicas son las tendencias intrínsecamente opuestas de globalización y desglobalización, los cambios sociales (en particular, la corrección política de la terminología), el progreso tecnológico, la influencia de las subculturas y sus sociolectos y el desarrollo de nuevas formas de comunicación.

Conclusiones: los factores clave que influyeron en las lenguas romances y germánicas fueron normas y valores modernos como el deseo de igualdad y diversidad, la democratización de las formas de comunicación y la formación de neologismos que surgieron como resultado de un cambio en la jerarquía de valores bajo la influencia de varios tipos de corrección política.

Palabras clave: Lenguas románicas y germánicas; Comunicación intercultural; Tecnologías de la información; Intercambio cultural; Enseñanza de idiomas.

INTRODUCTION

In the era of globalisation, a range of integration processes takes place. Initially, these processes occur in the economic and cultural spheres, subsequently extending into language. Linguistic contacts and migration processes undoubtedly influence the linguistic landscape, enriching languages on the one hand, while on the other hand, provoking some resistance from speakers against linguistic expansion. The study of these processes is a relevant linguistic issue as it helps to track trends and monitor deep changes in languages.

The aim of this article is to examine the main linguistic trends in Germanic and Romance languages, analyse key challenges, and outline strategies for their resolution to preserve and develop Romance-Germanic languages in an intercultural context.

Particular attention is paid to English as a global communication language, the digital age, and the problems of language mediation in intercultural communication, which are also investigated. An adequate understanding of current linguistic trends in developing Romance and Germanic languages is important for intercultural dialogue and language integration. The directions of development of Germanic and Romance languages through the prism of globalisation changes in the modern world have been studied.

The dynamics of changes in the grammatical structure of Germanic languages and the coherence between modern linguistic trends and traditional forms of Germanic languages are considered in the works of Bieliaieva et al.⁽¹⁾ Researchers Kazhan and Karpiuk⁽²⁾ investigated the use of interactive tools to improve the effectiveness of German language teaching, confirming the importance of modern technologies in the educational process. Khurtak and Tayyem⁽³⁾ examine the interlingual and intercultural approach to the training of Germanists, emphasising the importance of cultural context in language learning. Konisov^(4, 5) analyses the grammatical features of Romance and Germanic languages in an introduction to philology course that is the basis for students and researchers. Didactic problems and approaches to teaching foreign languages were examined by Ukrainian scholars Korolova and Popova.⁽⁶⁾ The historical development of Germanic languages and their syntactic structures were the subject of research by Brandtler and Breitbart,⁽⁷⁾ Bizzocchi,⁽⁸⁾ and Oberste-Berghaus.⁽⁹⁾

The problems of cultural representation and cross-cultural expressiveness in Romance and Germanic languages are addressed in the works of Kuzmenko et al.⁽¹⁰⁾ and Guillot.⁽¹¹⁾ The scholar Fleischhauer⁽¹²⁾ focuses his scientific attention on the study of semantic and pragmatic aspects of linguistic expression in Germanic languages (animation and affectivity). The works of Cooper⁽¹³⁾ are devoted to the syntactic structures of Old Germanic languages. Nedoma,⁽¹⁴⁾ Haddican and Holmberg⁽¹⁵⁾ conducted a detailed analytical review of the comparative grammar of Early Germanic languages for a deeper understanding of the genesis of syntactic structures. Edzard⁽¹⁶⁾ investigated the specifics of imperatives in modern Germanic languages, and the scholar Botsman et al.⁽¹⁷⁾ studied evolutionary changes in the grammatical structure of Germanic languages (analytic tenses).

Linguistic didactic problems of teaching Germanic languages and issues of intercultural communication are

3 Khairulina N, et al

analysed in the scientific studies of Sultanova and Saidova,⁽¹⁸⁾ Tarasenko et al.,⁽¹⁹⁾ Shamsutdinova,⁽²⁰⁾ Pryimak et al.,⁽²¹⁾ Maydanyk et al.⁽²²⁾ Their scientific achievements are significant in developing new methods and approaches to teaching foreign languages of the Romance-Germanic group. Scientists Westergaard and Kupis⁽²³⁾ and Belyaeva et al.⁽²⁴⁾ have investigated various aspects of the category of modality in the context of linguistic expression. The influence of cultural factors on the lexical composition of Romance-Germanic languages is presented in the studies of Čepienė,⁽²⁵⁾ who analysed the lexical group of religious and mythological topics in Germanic languages.

Problem statement

Active word-formation processes accompany dynamic globalisation to denote increasingly new phenomena and concepts of this general phenomenon. In linguistic terms, the deepening of globalisation is accompanied by an increase in the compatibility of keywords and the emergence of new words and phrases. Language policy is the primary means of linguistic anti-globalism, implemented with varying degrees of success in different countries. The main goal of language policy in the context of globalisation is to preserve linguistic identity and protect against excessive penetration of English-language borrowings.

Even though the European Union encourages the development of cultural and linguistic diversity and equality, according to the European Union Statistical Office, English is the most popular language. France has the most consistent and effective language policy. It is officially implemented at the governmental level and aims at francisation - replacing English borrowings, including terminology, with their French equivalents. The first attempts in this direction were made in the 1960s. Branches of American firms were responsible for translating Anglo-American terminology into French and using French equivalents as a priority. In the early 1970s, 15 ministerial terminology commissions were developed to develop official recommendations for replacing English-language terms in various sciences. The Délégation générale à la langue française et aux langues de France (DGLFLF), together with the Commission générale de terminologie et de néologie (Commission general de terminologie et de néologie), recommends French-language equivalents for many English-language lexical items. These recommendations are published in the Journal Officiel de la République française, the official gazette of French legislation. In particular, several lexemes can refer to the global computer network, including the French-language Toile and the English-language Internet. As both lexemes coexist and are used in French, anglicisation is not necessary; its use is due to its widespread use.

Research objectives

1. To investigate the influence of English as a language of international communication on the lexical and grammatical composition of other languages of the Romance-Germanic group.

2. To trace the main directions of the functional development of Romance and Germanic languages in globalisation and de-globalisation processes.

3. To formulate specific recommendations and strategies for strengthening the positions of the functioning of Romance and Germanic languages in the intercultural dimension.

4. To identify a range of problems and challenges in the development of Romance and Germanic languages.

METHOD

To achieve the set objectives, a complex combination of the following scientific research methods was used:

• Historical-comparative method (when studying historical changes and analysing linguistic phenomena in diachronic development, when comparing the grammatical features of Germanic and Romance languages.

• System analysis method (for studying structural and systemic features of Romance and Germanic languages);

• The method of cognitive analysis (to analyse the linguistic pictures of the world that underlie the perception of speakers of Romance and Germanic languages);

• The method of critical analysis (in the study of language policy in European countries aimed at defending the linguistic boundaries of their national languages and counteracting the influence of English as the language of world domination);

• A method of sociolinguistic analysis that facilitated a holistic study of the cultural and social factors of language interaction in various spheres of society, as well as in the digitalisation processes of the world and intercultural communication.

The research is based on German-language articles from the newspaper Deutsche Welle for the year 2024 (www.dw.com), including "Deutschland und die Klimapolitik: Ein Jahr nach der COP29" (Article number: 2024-05-15), "Künstliche Intelligenz: Chancen und Risiken für die Arbeitswelt" (Article number: 2024-07-22), "Europäische Union: Neue Handelsabkommen im Fokus" (Article number: 2024-09-10), "Bildung in der digitalen

Ära: Herausforderungen und Lösungen" (Article number: 2024-11-05), and "Gesundheitssysteme weltweit: Lehren aus der Pandemie" (Article number: 2024-12-20). The key topics of the articles include health, work, economy, artificial intelligence, technology, and education. The articles were analysed using the method of sampling Anglicisms in German-language texts, examining the peculiarities of their functioning in journalistic discourse.

RESULTS

One of the dominant language trends in the modern world is the growing influence of English as the language of science, technology, culture and modern business communications. This has led to lexical borrowings of Anglicisms by other Romance and Germanic languages. These processes are called "anglicisation". English is an important tool for international communication in academic and professional life, a means of access to knowledge, and a condition for effectively integrating young people into the global community. Graduates of most European universities are required to have a level of English that will enable them to participate fully and adequately in the educational process and professional life both at the national and international levels (they must have a B2 level or higher).

An analysis of the current linguistic situation in Germany shows that the growing role of the English language cannot leave indifferent not only the so-called purists, at the forefront of which is the German Language Association, which is trying to artificially regulate the types and proportions of anglicisms in the German language, In particular, in the German-language segment of the Internet, the codified standard, national language variants, German scientific, parliamentary and managerial discourse, as well as the impact of false Anglicisms on some European languages, including Italian, Spanish, French, German, Danish, and Norwegian. German is considered the most susceptible to the influence of English among European languages and is characterised by the most significant number of Anglicisms." The exceptional susceptibility of the German language to English words is explained, on the one hand, by the genetic proximity of the languages and, on the other hand, by the tolerance of German speakers who actively use English in their everyday communication, which allows scientists to talk about a new German language (Neudeutsch, Denglisch). English words penetrate all spheres of German usage: this is especially true in subjects such as computer science, economics, finance, sports, social life, and everyday communication. Today, it is impossible to imagine a German-speaking discourse space without such foreign language lexical items. The expansion and dominance of English is only one aspect of the impact of globalisation on language processes. Another aspect of this influence is that the language is being replenished with new lexical items that reflect the processes of globalisation.

One of the current trends in Romance languages is a significant increase in the number of neologisms. For example, modern German is replete with neologisms dictated by Willkommenskultur (the policy of a friendly open society): these include politically correct terms for people from other countries: ausländische Mitbürger (foreign citizens), Bürger mit Migrationshintergrund (citizens with a migration background), and euphemistic names for attributes of traditional Christian holidays: Feiertagsbaum (festive tree) instead of Weihnachtsbaum (Christmas tree), and designations of artefacts that have become part of everyday German life with Muslim migrants: Burkini (der), Hidschab/Hijab (der), or joking nominations such as Biodeutscher (authentic/ethnic German), which indicate an ambiguous assessment by native Germans of the government's overly tolerant attitude towards refugees and people with a migration background. Thus, German linguistic culture is also characterised by changing the composition of communication participants and language users and adding foreign language lexical items to the vocabulary.

Another socio-cultural feature of modern Germanic languages is the active promotion of the ideas of gender equality and diversity, which is expressed not only in court decisions, legalisations, and generalisations only in court decisions legalising the third gender, but also in everyday life, becoming the result of the imposition of artificial recommendations. The policy of equal opportunities supported by the German authorities and the legalisation of civil partnerships have not only made adjustments to the traditional definition of family but also led to the emergence of a whole series of neologisms associated with forms of living together that differ from the established concept of family: Homoehe (same-sex marriage), On-offBeziehung (unstable relationship), Regenbogenfamilie (non-traditional family); they also led to innovations in a gendered new language: zu Fuß Gehende (those who walk) instead of Fußgänger (pedestrians, plural of masculine noun), Putzkraft (technical staff responsible for cleaning) instead of Putzfrau (cleaner, feminine).

The idea of linguistic gender equality, which is implemented at the official level through the introduction of gender-neutral language and instructions to use gender-neutral nominalisations, is seen by the governing circles as a necessary measure to ensure gender equality in society. At the same time, many linguists and native speakers consider it absurd. Political correctness in its various manifestations (racial, civic, social, ethical, physical, and gender) has become a part of social life, politics, and communication in Germany. However, it often takes on grotesque forms, and some innovations in the language field contradict established language and speech norms.

5 Khairulina N, et al

In the modern educational paradigm, there is a growing interest in learning foreign languages. This, in turn, has increased academic mobility and cultural interpenetration, as well as expanded language exchange programmes, which contributes to a deeper understanding of the differences and similarities between Romance and Germanic languages. These educational processes are greatly facilitated by the development of innovative technologies and the creation of social networks, which help to bring intercultural communication to a new level. In this context, the role of translation and language mediation in intercultural contexts is growing, which in turn is activating the role of linguists and intercultural communication specialists to eliminate language and cultural barriers in international communication.

The dominant role of English in the world may threaten languages and dialects with fewer speakers. This brings to the fore the issue of preserving linguistic and cultural diversity. Trends in the influence of the English language, the development of new ways and means of communication, and the digitalisation of the world and education in particular are shaping a new linguistic reality. The table below shows the main trends and markers of the development of Romance and Germanic languages in the intercultural dimension.

Table 1. Main trands and their subsections characterizing the development of remands and germanic languages in

| the intercultural dimension Trends | Aspects characterising the development of Romance and Germanic languages |
|---|---|
| The influence of the English language | - Anglicisation - Borrowing words and expressions - Dominance of English-speaking culture |
| 2. Increased interest in learning foreign languages | Increased mobility Increased travel opportunities Expanding language programmes and cultural initiatives |
| 3. The use of languages in intercultural communication | Development of information technologies Multimedia platforms and social networks Multilingual communication and cultural exchange |
| 4. The growing importance of translation and language mediation | Professional linguists and intercultural communication specialists Removing language and cultural barriers |

Summarising the range of problems and challenges to the functioning and development of Romance and Germanic languages on the modern linguistic map of the world, we can identify the following three challenges: the dominant position of English as a language of international communication, the preservation of the linguistic identity of Romance and Germanic languages, and the need for cultural adaptation of these languages through migration programmes.

Thanks to the development of information technology, intercultural relations are expanding, and the importance of Romance and Germanic languages in international communication is increasing. Information technology is leading to the creation of online platforms and mobile applications for language learning that provide convenient access to resources and practical training, the introduction of machine translation technologies, and the development of multilingual web resources and platforms that facilitate cultural exchange and global access to information. In the educational paradigm, we can observe an increase in attention to the linguistic and cultural heritage of the countries of the Romance and Germanic languages in the world, we offer the following recommendations (table 3) aimed at overcoming challenges and strengthening the position of the Romance and Germanic languages in the position of the Romance and Germanic language initiatives and developing intercultural exchange).

| Table 2. The main problems and challenges faced by romanic and germanic languages in modern international communication | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| General problem statement | The essence of the problem | Possible consequences | | | | |
| The dominance of the English language | | This can give English speakers an advantage and limit access to information and opportunities for those who speak Romance and Germanic languages. | | | | |
| The need for cultural adaptation | | Insufficient understanding of the cultural characteristics of other countries and peoples can lead to misunderstandings and conflicts in interaction. | | | | |
| Preserving linguistic diversity | Globalisation and the dominance of English can threaten smaller communities and minority languages. | The disappearance of Romano-Germanic dialects and language variants, the loss of linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. | | | | |

| Practical recommendations | Focus |
|---|--|
| Formation of language education | Implementation of innovative teaching methods focused on the practical use of language in real-life communication situations. Creating multilingual educational programmes to promote the study of Romance and Germanic languages. |
| Development of language programmes | Financial support for language courses and programmes that teach Romance and Germanic languages to native and foreign audiences. Establishment and expansion of the network of centres for studying Romance and Germanic languages as foreign languages |
| Stimulating intercultural exchange | Organising intercultural exchange and academic mobility programmes for students, teachers and professionals to improve language competence and cultural understanding. Supporting and developing international projects and events that promote active interaction between representatives of Romance and Germanic languages. |
| Use of modern information technologies | Creating and maintaining online resources and programmes for learning Romance and Germanic languages, including interactive lessons, games, audio and video materials. Use of social media and digital platforms to promote language practice and |
| Creating favourable conditions for mobility and cultural exchange programmes | intercultural communication. Support for international cultural events, festivals, exhibitions and conferences that promote the exchange of experience, culture and language in the Romance and German-speaking countries. Organisation of language and cultural courses and seminars for a broad audience to introduce the cultural heritage and languages of the Romance and Germanic countries. |

| Table 3. Practical recommendations and strategie | es for overcoming | challenges and strengt | hening the position of ro | oma and |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| german in the intercultural dimension | | | | |

The above recommendations can significantly strengthen the position and role of Romance and Germanic languages in intercultural communication in various spheres of their functioning - from everyday life to academic levels.

DISCUSSION

The primary vector of scientific debate today is around the process of anglicisation and its impact on the linguistic diversity of Romance and Germanic languages. Therefore, we can partially agree with the position of Khairulina et al.⁽²⁶⁾ that "the increasing borrowing of English words in Romance and Germanic languages poses a challenge to the preservation of linguistic and cultural identity, especially for languages with fewer speakers". Therefore, the arguments of linguists about the need to actively support Romance and Germanic languages to balance international language relations are valid. There is a divergence between the Romance and Germanic languages show a gradual convergence due to a common historical and cultural context".⁽²⁷⁾ Dedio's scientific observations⁽²⁸⁾ have a scientific basis, as he notes that "Romance languages show the integration of borrowings from different languages, such as Arabic or local languages of Latin America, which forms the unique linguistic mosaic of each language. Germanic languages retain a more traditional structure, although they are also influenced by English globalisation".

Language classification remains a problematic issue in modern linguistics. We support Friedman and Joseph's⁽²⁹⁾ position that historical classifications of Romance languages often do not consider the latest dialects and cultural borrowings, while Germanic languages face challenges related to the influence of English as a language of intercultural communication.

The ambivalent role of advanced technologies and their impact on the development of Romance and Germanic languages is controversial. Innovative technologies facilitate multilingual communication. However, they reduce the depth of intercultural exchange due to the simplicity and one-dimensionality of information transfer.^(23,30)

Historical trends in linguistic and cultural adaptation are also debatable. For example, borrowings from Arabic to Spanish have impacted its vocabulary and changed its traditional structures.^(31, 32) It is difficult to disagree with Al-Khatib⁽³³⁾ that "interlingual contacts, such as the influence of French on English or Arabic on Spanish, often create hybrid structures that challenge traditional language classifications". Educational methodologies that ignore cultural specificities can distort ideas about language and its socio-cultural significance.⁽¹⁸⁾ The influence of literature on the formation of cultural and, consequently, linguistic identity deserves a separate study. For example, according to Chistyakova,⁽³⁴⁾ the literature of the Romance languages (works by Dante or Garcia Lorca) enriched cultural identity and contributed to the formation of national identities.

CONCLUSION

The analysis of linguistic facts and linguistic examples in the context of socio-political transformations, changing social norms and conditions of communication, and rethinking of values allows us to draw the following conclusions, to state specific trends in the evolution of the Romance and Germanic languages, in particular, globalisation and de-globalisation, social changes, including political correctness, technological progress, the influence of subcultures and their sociolects, and the development of new forms of communication. A feature of Germanic languages has always been the leading role of order as one of the most important values. The key factors influencing the Romance and Germanic languages are modern norms and values, such as the desire for equality and diversity, the democratisation of communication forms, and events taking place in the world. One of the trends in the Romance and Germanic languages is the formation of neologisms that have arisen due to a change in the hierarchy of values under the influence of various types of political correctness.

The linguistic aspect of modern civilisation is reflected in the expansion of the English language, which is facilitated by several factors: the political and military power of English-speaking countries, strong economies, and the development of transnational corporations; the majority of scientific research in the world is published in scientific and technical journals published in English; the cultural expansion of the English language and Anglo-Saxon traits of mentality, facilitated by the American film industry and pop music, the Internet and search engines; and the development of multimedia. The globalisation of the modern world poses various challenges to the Romance and Germanic languages, including the risk of assimilation and dominance of English as the language of international communication, which may lead to a loss of linguistic and cultural diversity and identity among the Germanic and Romance languages. The digitalisation of the world and the rapid development of social media have led to the emergence of new forms of information exchange and new forms and methods of communication.

Prospects for further research include the peculiarities of translating gender-neutral linguistic units into other languages and studying the perception of language speakers and representatives of other cultures of the language policy of individual states. The study of neologisms of the Romance and Germanic languages and their genesis requires a separate study. It is also worth studying the impact of information technology on language learning. All of this can significantly deepen our understanding of modern linguistic processes of the trend towards multilingualism and contribute to establishing intercultural dialogue.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

AUTHORSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Conceptualization: Nailia Khairulina, Svitlana Shekhavtsova. Data curation: Liudmyla Tyshakova. Formal analysis: Liudmyla Tyshakova. Research: Tetiana Kamyshova, Iryna Skliarova. Methodology: Nailia Khairulina, Svitlana Shekhavtsova. Project management: Tetiana Kamyshova. Resources: Liudmyla Tyshakova, Iryna Skliarova. Software: Iryna Skliarova. Supervision: Tetiana Kamyshova. Display: Iryna Skliarova. Drafting - original draft: Nailia Khairulina, Svitlana Shekhavtsova. Writing - proofreading and editing: Nailia Khairulina, Svitlana Shekhavtsova.