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## **THE IMPACT OF MULTILINGUALISM ON TOLERANCE FORMATION IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

This article examines the impact of multilingualism on the formation of tolerance in the context of intercultural communication in higher education institutions.

In the context of globalization and intensive international cooperation, higher education institutions are becoming spaces for intercultural communication. Education is turning into a platform where young people from different cultures and linguistic backgrounds have the opportunity to exchange not only knowledge but also cultural experience. This interaction creates the preconditions for tolerance, which in turn contributes to the formation of sustainable intercultural understanding.

According to Olena Matiienko, PhD in Education, tolerance is a complex and multifaceted formation, an important moral quality of a personality, thanks to which communication between people becomes balanced, which, in turn, contributes to finding the truth even in a conflict situation; it is a quality that manifests itself primarily in respect for the feelings, customs, beliefs, political preferences and interests of other people; tolerance is mutual respect through mutual understanding and the basis of civilized relations [1]. This concept was officially recognized by Resolution 5.61 of the UNESCO General Conference of 16 November 1995, which approved the Declaration of Principles on Tolerance. It defines tolerance as respect, acceptance and proper understanding of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, ways of expression and manifestations of individuality. Tolerance is based on knowledge, openness, communication and freedom of thought, conscience and belief. This is not only a moral obligation, but also a political and legal necessity that makes it possible to achieve peace and replace the culture of war with a culture of peace.

Multilingualism, as a tool for intercultural communication, stimulates tolerance, because for effective communication, people from different linguistic communities are forced to open up to other cultural contexts, which contributes to their greater understanding. [2] Each culture has its own peculiarities in terms of social behavior and worldview, which is reflected in its language forms. For example, English-speaking countries attach great importance to politeness, personal autonomy and the right of every person to express their opinions. Learning a language automatically teaches students to adapt to this cultural context, teaches them to be tolerant, reserved and open to new things. Multilingualism also provides access to different cultural traditions and customs, which foster respect for otherness and personal differences. In the process of learning another language, students realize that there is no single, universal culture; they are all unique and deserve respect. [3]

It can be argued that multilingualism in higher education is not only a tool for improving communication skills, but also an important factor in building tolerance. By learning other languages, students acquire a deeper understanding of cultural peculiarities, which helps them to accept and respect the cultural diversity of the world.

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