

Lexeme "aggression" in the Ukrainian, Russian and German languages

Modern media discourse demonstrates the use of lexemes with an extended meaning. However, the lexicographic definition is insufficient to interpret the lexeme in the appropriate context. Modifications of meaning are often subject to manipulative messages, and media discourse conduces to the transformation of the semantics of lexemes. The active use of the lexeme "aggression" in Russian and Ukrainian mass media is often subordinated to the goal of manipulative influence on their recipients and thus studying of its semantics is required, in particular, a componential analysis of the meaning according to lexicographic sources. The analysis of definitions in explanatory dictionaries of the German language in comparison to such of Ukrainian and Russian languages allows to trace the semantic content of lexemes in languages of different systems and in further the expansion of their meaning in discourses of various types. Identifying the peculiarities of the functioning of the lexeme "aggression" in the German, Ukrainian and Russian languages allows to reveal the general patterns of transformation of its semantics.

The aim of the research is to identify the semantic features of the lexeme "aggression" in the Ukrainian, Russian and German languages according to lexicographic sources.

Definitions from explanatory dictionaries of the Ukrainian, Russian and German languages served as material for the analysis.

Methods. We based our study on a complex of linguistic research methods: analysis of dictionary definitions and componential analysis were used to determine the semantic components of the definition of the lexeme "aggression"; comparative analysis was used to compare the semantics of the lexeme in the Ukrainian, Russian and German languages; contextual analysis was used to find out the features of the usage and contextual expansion of the meaning of the lexeme in the text.

The results of the analysis demonstrated that the semantics of the lexeme "aggression" in the Ukrainian language was transformed from the interpretation of aggression as an unprovoked armed attack on one country by another to the illegal forceful intervention of one country in the affairs of another. In the modern Russian language, lexicographic sources characterize aggression through the lexemes «armed» and «attack», and it is important that the action is directed against a "foe". In the German language, aggression is interpreted as an action that implies the illegality of any military attack on foreign territory. For German speakers, aggression takes place already under the conditions of a military attack, without additional conditions and explanations, which significantly differs its interpretation in the Ukrainian and Russian languages.

It is substantiated that the lexeme "агресія" / "агрессия" / "die Aggression" is presented in the Ukrainian, Russian and German languages with different actualization of the semes and different seme composition. In the Ukrainian language, the transformation from «unprovoked armed attack» to «forceful intervention» in context of interstate relations is fixed, in the Russian language, it refers to the «attack» and forceful actions against a "foe", and in the German language, a military attack on foreign territory is foreseen.