

The strategies of language and social adaptation of old and new Polish diaspora in Turkey. Preserving language and culture in the short and long term.

Poles form one of the smallest minorities on the ethnolinguistic and cultural map of Turkey (depending to the source 500-1000 people). Polish community in Turkey is usually associated only with Adampol/Polonezköy, a settlement founded on the initiative of Prince Adam Czartoryski in 1842 in the surroundings of Istanbul (the old diaspora), but there are also Poles in Alanya, Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir (the new diaspora). Although the unusual and colorful history of Adampol has sparked the interest of the representatives of various disciplines, which bore fruit with several monographs and numerous articles, the labour migrants from Poland who settled in Turkey in the last quarter of the 20th century and in the 21st century have remained beyond the scope of interest of Polish and Turkish scholars.

The aim of the project is to analyze the social and language adaptation strategies of both parts of Polish diaspora in Turkey. We are going to compare the strategies of long-term multigenerational integration in Adampol and short-term in Alanya, Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir, and characterize their various aspects, such as the language choice in specific communicative situations; total amount of linguistic borrowings and other instances or Turkish influence on the Polish language in the specific domains of life (family life, education, professional activity); the relationships between old diaspora in Adampol and the new one in other cities; the impact of Turkish surroundings on the cultural identity of Polish minority.

The research will be based on linguistic and sociolinguistic field material collected using the questionnaire survey and interviews (non-structured and semi-structured). The gathered data will be subjected to qualitative and quantitative analyses oriented at the characteristics of the types of system, social and language integration in the Polish community in Turkey, as well as the correlations of social and linguistic data, such as the dependency of the child's bilingualism on the parents' education level or the amount of lexis of Turkish origin depending on the professional activity of the given speaker.

We are going to present the comprehensive sociolinguistic characteristics of both parts of Polish diaspora in Turkey and to check the validity of the hypotheses resulting from preliminary research and literature analysis, for instance, whether the degree of attachment to language positively correlates with attachment to cultural values. The results of our research will not be limited to the community in question, because most of the research questions fall within the mainstream discourses of contemporary sociolinguistics, contact linguistics and migration studies.