

entered parliament, and in Italy where Matteo Salvini led his coalition to victory, give the impression that France is an exception. From this point of view, the European elections will be a decisive test of the pro-European orientation of Emmanuel Macron's foreign policy [4, p.7-8].

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Подсекция 5.3 ГЛОБАЛЬНЫЕ И РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЕ ТЕНДЕНЦИИ В УСЛОВИЯХ ДУХОВНОЙ МОДЕРНИЗАЦИИ

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WHY ENGLISH BECAME THE GLOBAL LANGUAGE, BUT CHINESE WOULD NEVER DO?

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The end of Cold War gave impetus to the collapse of bipolar system and caused considerable changes in global governance. Today's world order has struggled to cope with power shifts, especially rising position of China that is greatly challenging the USA global dominance. This competition has significant impact on everything starting with international politics and ending with daily life. In all the areas, the language is an essential tool of communication, carrying on business and even control at the international and domestic levels. As both the USA and the PRC have global ambitions, their national languages – English and Chinese respectively – claim for the role of the world language. However, the latter has done minor success in achieving this goal.

This paper intends to answer the question why English became the world language, but Chinese would never do. The main objectives are following:

- to examine key concepts of linguistics that determine the world language,
- to track linguistic histories of the English and Chinese languages from perspective of the world language,
- to compare English and Chinese under auspices of the countries they are mostly spoken – the USA and the PRC respectively,
- to make projections of the English and Chinese languages possible development.

Most importantly, this paper will give detailed reasons why Chinese would not become the world language and provide with potential solutions to change the current state of things.

Every language is constantly changing and may either lose or obtain capacity to be the world language. Nevertheless, if the language involves big number of speakers, get special status and

standardized along with active usage in the world's entities, it has a greater chance to claim for the role of the world language.

By so far with the English language, it was the United States influence that gradually conditioned and gave the status of global lingua franca to English in the second half of XX century. This is especially true in Europe, where English has largely taken over the former roles of French and (much earlier) Latin as a common language used to conduct business and diplomacy, share scientific and technological information (*academic community*), and otherwise communicate across national boundaries.

Up to now, the grievances of the previous century's wars are backing down, but the role of the USA and, hence, its national language – American English – are still predominant all over the world. Partially due to the tendency of globalization forced by the US, the positions of American English in science and technologies, education, media and entertainment industry are being strengthened. Some would call globalization *Americanization*.

Overall, British colonialism to the United States of America has the side-effect. Industrious British men and women who settled in North America took the lead in the right place in the right time. This has resulted in American dominance and American dialect that covered almost the entire world.

Regarding the Chinese language, it has always been native for its speakers (unlike English) and has been acquired by foreigners as *the second language* to survive within China. Chinese influence was especially strong on Korea, Japan and Vietnam each developed writing systems for their own languages by transforming or supplementing the use of Chinese characters. So, their languages became full of Chinese loan vocabulary, modified for their own pronunciation, and have remained so ever since. Chinese was the language quite unrelated to its discipline languages, and totally unlike them structurally. Nevertheless, its writing system became the root of their literacy, its words became incapable for any sort of educated discourse, and its literature was adopted as the foundation for their own education system (*academic community*). These days, the origin of the Chinese language – the People's Republic of China – is expanding its influence at the global level, especially in trade, and, therefore, trying to impose learning Mandarin among non-Chinese speakers.

Regarding English speakers, there are almost twice as bigger second language (L2) speakers as native (L1) speakers. As stated above, this situation is mainly due to geographical expansion of British Empire. Otherwise, the number of L2 speakers of Chinese is only one-fifth of that of L2 speakers. This phenomenon is explained by extreme isolationism and negative attitude of Chinese towards foreign influence. So, in this case, there will be implied behavioral aggregation because the quantity of L2 speakers is by far more important in defining the world language. To define possibility of the languages to be considered the world language in accordance with the number of speakers, here will be used the author's made-up estimate – points. 1 point is the ratio of L2 speakers to L1 speakers. The bigger points, the bigger possibility of the language to be the world language. For English, this ratio is accounted to ~1.99 points, while for Chinese, this indicator refers to ~0.22 points. In sum, English has 9 times as bigger possibility to claim for the role of the world language than Chinese. The difference is considerable. To conclude, taking number of speakers as the characteristics of the world language, it becomes obvious that English wins.

English acquires official status in 14 out of 17 most popular international organizations provided, whilst Chinese is the official language in only two. In this case, it is relevant to use mathematical aggregation. To determine how much status the languages have, the author will again use her estimate – points. Now, it is the ration of the international institutions where the language is official to the one where official status is not present. The bigger points, the bigger the status the language has, For English, the ratio is ~4.67, whereas this index is ~0.13 for Chinese. So, English is almost 36 times more 'official' than Chinese. Yet again, regarding language status by its officiality in international organizations, English leads.

However, presence in the list of official languages by international institution is not enough to fully cover the concept of language status. Globally, English is associated with the quest to get

rich, the deliberate acquisition of wealth, often by quite unprecedented and imaginative schemes. Nicholas Ostler says that English is ‘the ally of freedom of individual’ [1, p. 517]. Yet there are two billionaires born every week in China [2, p. 2] that makes it possible to say that Chinese also means richness. This fact is conditioned by the PRC’s rapid economic growth. Nevertheless, this rise has its side-effect: sharp inequality is still a huge problem in China where over 50 million people live in the Third World conditions. Taking annual income, numbers are once more against China: \$2.500-17.000 per person in China with \$40.000 for the US citizen.

In sum, English has more prestige rather than it does Chinese due to acceptance of the former by international community and economic indicators.

It is clear that in accordance with the features of the world language, the Chinese language significantly concedes to English. In other words, English can be called the world language, whilst it is not true for Chinese.

The current status of English has three following main pillars that support its population, position and prestige: 1) Average income, status and global location of the English speakers give English very much the edge. For example, learning English is a majority school subject in the People’s Republic of China. Chinese, by contrast, remains off the syllabus in all English-speaking countries’ schools; 2) Effective competence in any foreign language continues to elude the vast majority of those who are made competent in the technical basis of modern civilization; 3) English is consciously associated with technical progress and popular culture in every part of the world.

Yet all these pros cannot guarantee the constant position of English as the world language. Like Latin, English might become a language family. It is especially true because English grammar and vocabulary are getting simpler as well as great variety of accents can result in the loss of original dialect.

The last aspect that this paper will cover is learnability. Robert Dixon, an Australian and British linguist, distinguishes three types of languages in accordance with the ease of its study. First type is *isolating* language where each meaning element makes up a distinctive word (for example, Old Chinese). Second type is *agglutinative* where a word is likely to contain several meaning elements but these are clearly separable like Turkish. Third type is *fusional* where a word will contain several meaning elements some of them being fused together, so that a single vowel may simultaneously mark, say, tense, voice, and person and number of subjects such as Latin. [3, p. 41-42] Concerning learnability, isolating is the hardest type to learn, while fusional is the easiest. The author will describe all the types as clock where the bigger time, the easier language to learn. (see Picture 1)

Picture 1. Three language types and positions of English and Chinese in accordance with the ease of learnability



To sum up, Modern Chinese is somewhere between isolating language because of great influence of Old Chinese and agglutinative as standardization took place and resulted in up-to-date Chinese. On the other hand, English is nearly close to fusional type of the language as its basis is taken from Latin.

Overall, the language with no immediate neighbors is likely to change relatively slowly. It is proved by the example of Chinese that has had minor changes throughout the history of its

development due to China’s isolationism and rejection of any foreign influence. Lucky geographical position with plenty of natural resources have conditioned biggest number of people, their self-sufficiency and, most importantly, natural emergence of indigenous Chinese language. That is why Chinese people had neglecting attitude towards foreigners calling them barbarians. The situation was escalated even more in time of European arrival on the mainland of China that provoked Opium wars. The whole point here is the status the Chinese language had during all those

times. Chinese was always perceived as the mark of elite, the language of Imperial China – Zhong-guo, “central state”. The language experienced standardization with minor changes in its roots. Most importantly is that Chinese remained *native* for its speakers and *second language* for those who wanted to adopt the writing system (for example, Japan, Korea, Vietnam).

Up to now, Chinese language communities are increasingly apparent as masters of investment and look likely at last to work in concert with their fellow Chinese in the rapidly developing People’s Republic.

In sum, the main reason why the Chinese language is not the world language is the absence of the language, not CCP, at the global stage. The language itself does not possess freedom as it is first associated with communist control; especially in Confucius Institutes that would obtain more popularity and, hence, spread of the Chinese language if they were not state-controlled. In addition, this control prevents the language to acquire prestige among not only native, but also second language speakers, as the latter comprise an important feature of the world language. Finally, due to Chinese isolationism, the language has not gone further from isolating language that makes Chinese extremely hard to learn for non-Chinese speakers.

In contrast, English was originally the second language for the inhabitants of Britain. Likewise, it has experienced numerous changes because of foreign invasions and evolved into what is now called Modern English. The forcing factor of forming English as the world language is the rise of British Empire and colonizing most important areas of communication – governance and education. That is why the spread of English is harder to map geographically than the expansion of British colonies. English tends to be best example of a language spread by the sheer prestige of the culture associated with.

Another crucial moment of the English language development is the shift from British English towards American English. Among the native speakers of English, the USA’s 231 million are clearly the largest single group. Thanks to American contribution, the English language is now the language of modern business and global popular culture. The whole point here is that American aspirations towards liberal world order result in freedom the language has. Furthermore, American entertainment industry promotes English as well as makes it universally accessible. And lastly, English as nearly fusional and creole language is relatively easy to learn for non-English speakers.

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THE TRAVEL BAN THE TRUTH, THE FICTION, AND THE IMPLICATIONS

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In January 2017, President Trump issued a temporary travel ban targeting seven majority-Muslim countries. The travel ban suspends entry of people from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan,