

Discursive construction of the 'Other' in the Polish press articles on the migration crisis

Julita Śmigielska
University of Warsaw
e-mail: julitasmigielska@uw.edu.pl

The mass influx of immigrants and refugees from North Africa to Europe (current 'migration crisis') has become a topic of the ongoing debate in the public discourse. The issue of immigration, social inclusion and exclusion as well as identity construction has been an object of many studies within (critical) discourse analysis (e.g. Krzyżanowski and Wodak 2008, Krzyżanowski 2010, Van Dijk 1984, 1991, 2000, Van Leeuwen 2008). The aim of the present paper is to analyse the discursive construction of the „Other” in the Polish press articles related to the migration crisis in Europe. In the view of the traditional division into „Us” and „Them” in the discourse (Duszak 2002), the present research seeks to investigate linguistic strategies of the group identity construction with the use of methods of corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis. The new trend reflecting increased use of methods of corpus linguistics in the discourse studies is aimed at gaining more credible and comparable linguistic data for the analysis. The special focus of the corpus analysis in the paper is the investigation of frequency lists, keyword lists, collocations and concordances. The quantitative analysis is combined with the qualitative study of discursive strategies of in-group and out-group construction based on the positive self-presentation and negative other-presentation. The important role of the time, space and personal relations in the analysed discourse is reflected in the use of personal, spatial and temporal deixis (Cap 2013).

References

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