

Summary

The aim of the study was to show the role of socio-cultural conditions in shaping attitudes towards "the Others", understood as people of other nationalities. The diagnosis of attitudes towards "the Others" was carried out against the background of two comparative groups: Polish and Ukrainian students. The theory of attitudes was adopted as the theoretical basis of S. Nowak with its three-component structure. The research was carried out by means of a diagnostic survey, using the author's Poll Questionnaire for Poles and Ukrainians, in which two independent research tools were distinguished: the scale of social distance, and the semantic differential. Such construction of the study allowed to define the attitudes as positive, neutral or negative.

The study included 480 students from Eastern and Central Poland (Maria Curie Skłodowska University in Lublin, University of Life Sciences in Lublin, Vincent Pol University in Lublin, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz and the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań), and 491 from Central and Western Ukraine (the National University of Ukraine on Physical Education and Sport in Kiev and Ivan Franko National University of Lviv)

The study consists of six chapters:

1. "The Other" as an object of scientific reflection
2. Attitudes towards "the Others" - theoretical considerations
3. Methodological foundations of own research
4. Attitudes of the Poles surveyed against "the Others"
5. Attitudes of the surveyed Ukrainians towards "the Others"
6. Differences in attitudes of the studied groups of people towards "the Others"

The results of the surveys carried out are included in the part "Completion and conclusions".

The first chapter defines the concept of "foreign" and "foreignness", defines the sources and criteria of alienation. The issues of stereotypes and the emergence of social distance as a consequence of strangeness are discussed. The last of the subsections is dedicated to cultural education understood as a challenge of modern times.

The second chapter deals with the analysis of the concept of "posture", the structure of attitudes and the compilation of each of the components of the concept of S. Nowak's attitudes with the notion of stereotype, prejudice and social distance. In the following, the mechanisms of shaping attitudes are described, as well as the current state of research on attitudes towards strangers.

The third chapter describes the subject and purpose of research, research problems, working hypotheses, methods, techniques and research tools. The research area is defined as well as their organization. The last of sub-chapters contains the characteristics of the subjects.

The fourth chapter contains an analysis of beliefs and stereotypes about "the Others" in the opinions of Poles surveyed, examines the level of their emotional attitude towards "the Others", and their social distance.

The fifth chapter is analogous to the fourth chapter with the fact that it concerns the surveyed Ukrainians.

The sixth chapter deals with differences in beliefs and stereotypes about "the Other" groups of people being studied, their differences in the level of emotional assessment of "the Others", as well as differences in the social distance of both groups surveyed.

The completion and conclusions contain the results of the conducted research, which showed that the adopted variables significantly differentiate attitudes towards "the Others". However, many common areas can be seen in this diversity. Generally, it can be assumed that the analyzed attitudes are similar. Statistically significant differences occur only in the area of one of the three accepted levels: neutral. Positive and negative attitudes were not found.

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