

## **BARRIERS IN PROFESSIONAL OTHER-LANGUAGE COMMUNICATION IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY**

KIRYAKOVA, OLENA  
PILISHEK, SVITLANA

Today foreign language as a subject is increasingly becoming a language for the profession and is intended to ensure the readiness of future specialists for adaptation and self-determination in the world of new information technologies, for long-life education, and personal development. Foreign language is an organic component of such training. The knowledge of it broadens the professional context of specialists, makes their professional field wider due to availability of foreign information. International foreign language communication has become an essential component of professional activity of specialists [1].

Communicating effectively in a foreign language is a challenge faced by many of professionals. Therefore, foreign language training should be profession-oriented as services of professional other-language communicators are needed in a number of subject areas.

Evidently, successful professional communication depends not only on perfect knowledge of grammar, syntax, phonetics and lexicon of foreign language, but on culture of language as well [4].

Progresses in efficient travel and the rise of the Internet have made it easy for diplomats to conduct business with their colleagues from all over the world. However, more opportunities for intercultural communication may lead to an increased risk of committing cultural or linguistic error. Studying international diplomacy prepares individuals to effectively navigate cultural customs and clearly communicate intent, qualifying them for administrative positions within international branches of companies, government agencies and financial institutions. Successful diplomacy requires both deep and abiding advocacy of one's own interests and an appreciation of another party's goals and aims in order to devise a mutually beneficial resolution and build a foundation upon which to base future interactions [2].

Nevertheless, in other-language diplomacy there are places for language barriers, which are the root causes of many problems or obstacles. For example, miscommunication can result in grievous offense or confusion to such an extent that diplomatic initiatives may be compromised. These barriers can be identified as inner and outer barriers.

Inner barriers are the barriers, which involve diplomats knowledge of foreign language, their abilities to make themselves understood, their behaviors, actions towards colleagues and their belonging to some type of cultural group. The latter three barriers can be described as psychocultural factors. Potential problem of inner barriers may be that neither side possesses full linguistic, cultural knowledge and mental control, leading to possible bad misunderstandings.

The first inner barrier is about diplomats' knowledge of foreign language and their abilities to make themselves understood. People who speak soft or in a small voice or heavy tongue or unclear words cannot be understood. The speaker might be saying something, whereas the receiver might have difficulty understanding the meaning of the message and the feedback [1].

The next barrier is ethnocentrism – a kind of defensive tendency of considering values and norms of native culture more valuable than of others' by perceiving the life style, thinking and behavior as the one that every person of another cultural group should adhere to [4]. People of one culture group communicate mostly within their mother-culture. Whereas in professional diplomatic communication diplomats need to be respectful to other diplomats' cultural characteristics.

The last inner barrier is prejudice. Scientists define prejudice as negative, made beforehand judgement or that point of view which makes an impact on social behavior of diplomats. Prejudice can be characterized as different types of functions (evaluation and protection of one's perceptions) and forms (from hostile unacceptance to barely noticeable signs of unacceptance) [4].

Outer barriers are those, which can have an impact on diplomats' choices; for example, faulty understanding of words, misuse of words or using impolite words, etc.

The lack of sufficient knowledge of a language in international diplomacy can cause misunderstanding, which may lead to big losses in money, effort, time, and potential good relationships between countries.

Misusing words within diplomatic practice may result in unclear or distorted messages and create a bad impression as one single word has different meanings for different people. If diplomats choose different meanings for the same word, it causes a semantic barrier.

Usage of rude language can impede all the efforts of diplomatic communication. The diplomats should not use words and expressions that belittle or hurt the feelings of their colleagues or even disgrace their culture.

To summarize everything that has been put above, professional diplomatic communication can have various problems on the way of establishing a good diplomatic relationships. However, superb and stable diplomatic relations between countries are keys to world peace. Accepting cultural differences, making oneself clear and understood, and being polite in all situations are solutions to effective professional diplomatic communication.

### References

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