



“Russian language: a means of association or disassociation in modern Russian society”

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My University



Peoples' Friendship University of Russia

Created in 1960 for students from Asia, Africa, Latin America and USSR

First year, 539 foreign students from 59 countries

Today

- 97,000 alumni work in 165 countries around the world
- 57 programs with 35,000 students of 450 nationalities
- 15,000 current students from outside Russia
- 732 Professors and Doctors of Science; 807 Associate professors and candidates of science; 91 Academicians



Moscow ethnic groups



Nationality	Number	Percent
Russian	8,808,009	84.83
Ukrainian	253,644	2.44
Tatar	166,083	1.6
Armernian	124,425	1.2
Azeri	95,563	0.92
Jewish	79,359	0.76
Byelorussian	59,353	0.57
Georgian	54,387	0.52
Moldovan	36,570	0.35
Tadjik	35,385	0.34
Uzbek	24,312	0.23
Mordovian	23,387	0.22
Chuvash	16,011	0.15
Vietnamese	15,616	0.15
Chechen	14,465	0.14
Chinese	12,801	0.12
Ossetian	10,561	0.10
Undetermined	417,126	4.2

Data:
Census 2002

By December 31, 2012, the results will be finalized on migration, housing, birth rate, as well as demographic and socio-economic indicators of certain ethnic groups





Migrants in Russia



Exact data on migration are difficult to find

However, according to the Russian Federal Migration Service:

-  There were 3 to 3.5 million illegal migrants in Russia in 2010
-  And the Russian labor market is oversaturated with migrants who have
 - “low professional qualifications;
 - no profession or work experience;
 - do not speak or hardly speak Russian;
 - and cannot adapt to society.”



Structure of Presentation



“Russian language: a means of association or disassociation in modern Russian society”

PART 1: New symptoms of segregation based on language and the ethnic divide

PART 2: Some possible solutions/ideas



I. Language & new symptoms of segregation



1. Language & new forms of segregation
2. Language & challenges of assimilation of migrants into Russian society
3. Language & school problems
4. Language & culture
5. Language & criminal groups
6. New words reflecting attitudes towards migrants in Russia
7. Language & how Russians and migrants perceive each other



Polarizations



- Black vs. White (ethnic non-Russian vs. Russian)
- Rich vs. Poor
- Employer vs. Employee

+ Russian speakers vs. non-Russian speakers



Perceptions of each other



Russian nationals say:

- “They speak a foreign language.”
- “They are foreigners/strangers.”
- “They came to our country and took our jobs, trying to earn money quickly and are deceiving us continuously.”
- “They don’t respect our traditions and cultures.”
- “There is no place for them in our country.”



Perception of each other / 2



Migrants say:

- “I speak Russian only in cases of professional necessity.”
- “In Russia, I am a stranger, I live in Russia temporarily and I don't need to know their language and their culture well.”
- “Communication with Russian people is always unpleasant; they hate me, and do not respect me and my culture.”
- “If my children and I mainly speak Russian, we will lose our language and our national culture.”



II. Breaking the vicious circle



A multi-pronged approach:

1. Language & cultural preparation of migrants outside of Russia
2. Language & cultural tutoring of migrants in Russia
3. The new Law about the Russian language
4. Developing a “Code of the Russian citizen”



Breaking the vicious circle/2



5. Tutoring migrants' children
6. Special preparation of teachers
7. The “uniting” role of the mass media
8. Organization of special events for migrants



...thank you!

