

# Political Communication in Multilateral Diplomacy: Linguistic Dimension

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## Abstract

Conceptual approaches to the study of the text as phenomenon are highlighted; its place and role in the communicative activity of the individual, social groups, state, international actors are determined. The peculiarities of political communication in the political and diplomatic activities of states in the international arena are analyzed. The importance of linguistics in diplomatic relations cannot be underestimated. Diplomatic etiquette and norms of the negotiation process significantly affect both the success of the process in international relations and the positions of the parties and their willingness to cooperate. The relevance of this study lies in the attraction of sources of different origin for a comprehensive analysis and processing of this little-studied aspect of international relations. The aim of the article is to analyze the issue of political text in political linguistics and its place in political communication within political and diplomatic activities of multilateral cooperation. The methodological basis of the research is a multidisciplinary approach, which includes both general and specific scientific research methods. The methodology is based on a systematic approach, which is to study the political text as a single system of interconnected elements (linguistic, communicative, discourse), which are characterized by interconnectedness and interdependence. This allows us to consider the text as a set of speech and writing activities to create a text as an element of communicative activity and the result of political communication, which creates a text as a result of the political willing of the state in the international arena.

**Keywords:** text, political text, political communication, international agreement, interstate relations, political and diplomatic activities

## 1. Introduction

The problem of language aggression, hostility, and contempt is one of the most acute in the modern world. The rapid spread of this phenomenon is associated with the development of the Internet and social networks, which led to revolutionary changes in people's communication and the emergence of new types of socio-political interaction. Political communication in the modern globalized world ranks one of the key places and it is widely represented nowadays. Expansion of multilateral interstates relations, involvement a wide range of international actors as a state (government) and non-governmental nature poses to linguists the issue of effective interpersonal and interinstitutional communication (Amangeldiyeva et al., 2020; Issabayev & Issabayeva, 2020). Whereas international relations are not purely intergovernmental cooperation and increasingly acquire features of the political process, it is obvious to consider communication as the field of politics or political communication. At the same time, the analysis of interactions in international relations certifies the multicomponence of international political communication. At first glance, it seems that international communication is a purely political process aimed at achieving (realization) of certain political goals in the international arena (Jeong et al., 2022b).

However, if you take into account the institutional and functional analysis of communicative activities in the international arena, then in this process, at least participating is a person, who acts as a communicator and source of certain information. As information is transmitted by various means and ways, it can be assumed that the linguistic component is one of the basic instruments of communicative activity on the interstate level. Consequently, the negotiation, compromises and consensus, the conclusion of two- and multilateral international legal documents certifies the involvement in this process of speech through language communication tools. The role and place of the texts of international documents in the process

of intergovernmental communication in the political and diplomatic level are of great importance in this context, as the clarity and accessibility of the transmission of successful agreements determines the effectiveness of the implementation and the authentic interpretation of the provisions of political arrangements on the interstate level (Nurtazina et al., 2018). Thus, political linguistics becomes a very important sphere of research as the purely linguistic aspects of political communication, as well as written communication through the very language and texts of international documents. In this case, it is obvious to understand the identity of the text as a phenomenon of communicative activity, as its integral component and the result of achieved decisions.

The development of text issues in linguistics allows us to consider the issue of determining the object and the subject of the text theory. Text as socially and politically significant phenomenon in various manifestations and aspects occupies a special place in a number of scientific researches on philology in general and in linguistics in particular (Li et al., 2022). The actualization of political activities and the emergence of political linguistics, which is one of the main directions of speech, human communicative activity, lead to the political text as a phenomenon and result of political communications.

## 2. Concepts of Linguistic Text Analysis

Nowadays, text is an object of study of linguists, focusing on the functionally communicative qualities of the language, the means of expressions of which make the basis of the text. The concept 'text' is often included in grammar text, text stylistics, text syntax, text linguistics. However, in the linguistics the concept 'text' is not defined properly. Apparently, by virtue of its multi-term, it is impossible to reduce this concept only to categories of linguistics. Therefore, the definition like 'sequence of sentences' is incorrect, as it focuses only on its structural elements, leaving out its linguistic aspects, in particular the role of communication participants. Moreover, taking into account the semantic component of the text, it is necessary to agree that the text is not the usual set of sentences, but due to it is implemented (Chuvakin, 1999; Selivanova, 2002; Kochan, 2008).

Text is a multifunctional phenomenon. In semiotics, the text implies a meaningful sequence of any signs, any form of communication. In philology, in particular in linguistics, text is a sequence of verbal signs (Valgina, 2004). As the text bears a certain meaning, it is primarily communicative, so the text is both a unit, and the communicative form. Verbal text, as artistic, political, scientific is something more than phrase, paragraph or some amount of components. This is primarily organized semiotic communication system with certain elements for different types of text and their relations. The verbal text is characterized, as communication in general, by multifunctionality, that it is not only the structure of the interaction of its elements, but also predetermines the rules for their interaction (Anđić et al., 2021).

One of the key properties of the text can be considered its functioning in a particular environment, the ability to be a mechanism of human activity. It can be assumed that due to the text, its socialization and politicization, it is possible to communicate between certain individuals and social, public, political and other institutions. Accordingly, there are no objections that the object of text theory is the communicative activity of a person in terms of functional features of the text. It follows for determining the object of the text theory that is the recognition of the modern science of the communicative role of the text, while there is a wide spectrum in its interpretation. For example, the German researcher P. Hartman (1978) notes: "all speakers speak only texts, and not in words or sentences". At the same time, the French researcher, the representative of the concept of structuralism R. Barthes (1989) considers that the text "is felt only in the process of creation. The very text is in progress, that is, constantly in dynamics and must move through something and display activities". Thus, the text can be viewed as a method and communication tool. According to the communicative approach, text is considered as a speech phenomenon that is transformed into a new phenomenon due to the combination of individual elements of the language structure. In other words, we are talking about the system of communicative elements (connected and complete sequence of signs or images), functionally combined into a single closed hierarchical semantic structure with general concept (Ivanov, 2020; Miethlich, 2022).

The traditional model of the communicative act, that is, for example, communications, text, speech processes and its perception, the situation of the communicative act, pragmatic and communicative goals, is by its nature a linguistic model of communication in any social or public sphere (Suchanek & Pawłowska, 2018). Therefore, the study of such a model (its components, structures, speakers) in different areas is the task of a wide range of philological sciences (linguistics, literary studies, journalism, advertising), and the development of the general theory of the presented model is the task of the philological theory of communication as philology spheres. The communicative entity of the text allows us to estimate its availability for all the participants of communicative activities and is the basis of the entire combination of its functions (social, regulatory, cognitive, emotional, maintaining and transmitting information) (Chuvakin, 2004; Toktagazin et al., 2016). Such understanding of the communicative entity of the text determines interest by the humanities.

The concept of communication and communicative activities is much wider than the concept of actually speech activity. Speech is a part of communicative activity and, therefore, its component. In content, they are similar, as their character is determined by the exchange of information. However, language activities are carried out only by means of a language,

but communicative activity uses other means. On this occasion, the famous linguist R. Jakobson (1985) noted: "When we say that language or any other system of signs is means of communication, we should not forget that in the communication study, it is impossible to impose restrictions on communicative situation or its participants". Appealing to the concept of communicative activities, which is in trends of modern science, it has several consequences, which makes it possible to consider the text as a combination of the process and the result of communicative activity. That is why it is indicated in lexicography that the text is "any recorded speech", and the examples are documents, publications (Chuvakin, 2004). The difficulties of determining the concept of text is thus quite understandable: various texts are difficult to identify in a single system of sufficient characteristics as well as it would be generated by the categories of generally acceptable type, mandatory for text. It is noted that an important element of the text formation is the environment of the creation of the text, its communicative context.

The study the existence of text in different forms of reflection is the main task at the present stage of its development. This task is solved mainly in functional approach, which is based on the recognition of the communicative nature of the text. Text is considered not only as the result of human communicative activity, but it is an integral part of it.

To conclude, we state that text is complicated phenomenon. This is predetermined not so much by the presence of many scientific approaches to the definition of text and not even a wide range of criteria applied to determine it. As text is simultaneously manifesting social and political feasibility, a tool for social and political activities of a person, it must be considered as a living substance that is in constant development (motion).

### **3. Political Text as Means of Communicative Activity**

The analysis of approaches to the definition of text makes it possible to consider the text as a complex linguistic phenomenon. On the other hand, the diversity of spheres and the forms of human activity and its display in speeches and documents make it possible to ensure the need to elevate such methods of studying texts that are used in the specific spheres of human activity as political.

In terms of linguistics, psychology and psycholinguistics, the text is the main unit of communication; this is a reality phenomenon and a method of displaying reality due to language system elements (Byk & Kuchyk, 2015; Jeong et al., 2022a). The political text is the element of human communicative activities in socio-political groups, states and international institutions. Researchers agree that linguistic definitions of texts are unlawful, because the text combines both linguistic and social or social and political aspects. Political speeches, political advertising, political commentary are the types of political text. Because of the expansion of human political activities, to the political text also belong the documents expressing the result of political negotiations, such as memorandums, statements, charters, and statutory documents of international organizations. Analyzing the texts of international documents, which reflecting the political commitment in interstate communication, in the context appears the peculiarities of the texts of such documents (Kuchyk & Kuchyk, 2017). It is necessary to compare the concept 'political text' with the concept 'context'. As already mentioned, the concept 'text' is wider than the understanding of the 'phrase' or 'paragraph', although they are the basic elements of the text. On the other hand, the phrase and paragraph, paragraph and text, by defining the researcher T. van Dijk (1973), are such elements of the text that can be qualified as a 'microstructure' and 'macrostructure'. This approach can be denoted in other terms, such as 'microcontext' and 'macrocontext'. The difference in functions between microcontext and macrocontext can be explained as follows: "If the main mechanism of microcontext is to specify words in phrases, then in macrocontext, the defining factor is the previous knowledge and condition of both words and phrases. In this case, the situation and knowledge programming unambiguous meaning of both separate words inside the phrase and the phrase in general" (van Dijk, 1973). Moreover, in the study of political text, it is necessary to use the concept "context" which means text in terms of its influence on a certain language phenomenon and their interactions. The interaction of the context and language phenomenon in the text can occur on any speech levels: phonological, semantic, stylistic, as well as compositional and ideological-thematic. Therefore, in principle, it is possible to release phonological, semantic, syntactic, stylistic, as well as composite and ideological and thematic contexts (Kuchyk, 2015).

In other words, the author of the text is trying to convey to the addressee and the meaning of information due to the context. Therefore, there are parallel structures, rhetorical issues in the political text to enhance the emotionally psychological action, as a rule, in the texts of internal policy. Between the parts of the text, it is used repetition that binds different parts. It also strengthens the emphasis on significant words specifying this or that statement. Thus, the statutory documents of international organizations often encounter the formulations such as the foregoing, in question, the said, same, so, such for the importance and concision of text. This makes it easier to understand the content of the same type of texts, while the structural features of each of them are caught. Thus, the political text is characterized by a clear structure (Kuchyk, 2015).

It seems obvious to determine the criteria for political text such as consistency, integrity, clarity, and accessibility. The consistency of the political text is declared in the logic of thinking, reality and linguistic expression. The integrity of the

text is the connections between the components of the text at the semantic level. It is used repetitions, clichés, keywords, etc., which enhance the perception of the document as a whole, united by a common meaning. The accessibility of the political text closely related to the contextual characteristics of the document, and is focused on the recipient. The information should be not only accessible, but also understandable (Kuchyk, 2015). At the same time, we should note that there are different target attitudes in the process of political communication and different contexts. Thus, the existence of a political context can also be attributed to the criteria of a political text. Therefore, text and context are interrelated spheres.

A characteristic feature of a political text is progress. Because of the interactions of the text and context, there is a continuous rethinking of units, elements and parts of the text on different levels and as a result, the text appears as a complicated structure. Moreover, it reflects the communicative process of political activity. Considering the political text as an integral structure we should poses certain research tasks for linguists:

- 1) the study of groups of semantically related sentences combined into a complex syntactic unit;
- 2) the study of semantic and structural properties and their relations, including the analysis of the characteristics of different types of connections between the components of the political text.

As a rule, political text is a structure that acts as a unifying element between the author and the ultimate goal. In this case, we can assume that the political text is the middle element of the three-element of communication scheme, which appears in the following form: (Figure 1).

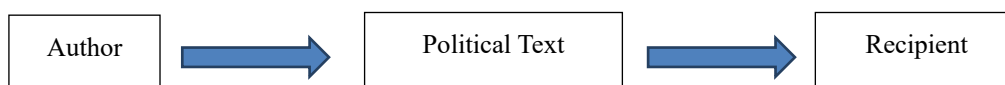


Figure 1. Dependence of semantic meaning in diplomatic speech

As the middle element of the communicative act, the text reveals its specificity in coding and decoding. As for the author, the text is a coded one because the speaker encodes certain information determined by political attitudes. To perceive the information presented in the text, the recipient needs to decode it (Zagnitko & Monastyrtska, 2009; Kharytonov et al., 2021). Speaking about the political text, we should note that the text also reflects the communicative activity as it conveys information with the political process. The author in accordance with his intention generates the text. This aspect is especially important from the point of view of the political process, as identical perception (encoding and decoding) provides the same interpretation of one or another information.

Here it is necessary to point out the differences in political processes, the consequence of which is the text. Activities aimed at using political manipulation will focus on the emotional perception of the text and the use of psycholinguistic features of the text. In the case of texts, for example, political statements, memorandums, the author often sets the goal of transmitting distorted information in order to achieve manipulative goals in the political process (Butyrsky et al., 2021). Moreover, when we are talking about the political documents the use of clear and strict formulations designed for the same perception, understanding and interpretation by the Parties will be the characteristic feature. Based on this, we should distinguish between different functional features of the use of a particular political text.

It is interesting to note that the study of a political text from a historical point of view makes it possible to talk about a certain style of political direction and historical era. No matter how different the 'idiolects' of political figures of a certain era may differ, the political text as a whole is characterized by invariance. It is possible to single out the "idiolects" of a certain historical period of this or that country, this or that people. The process of understanding a political text includes not only the text as a linguistic unit, as a materialized product of the socio-political process as a whole or the activities of the addressee-author of this text (in this case, a politician), but also takes into account the connection of the text with the historical era, historical situation and the reader to whom this text is addressed. The perception of the text depends on the categories that impose an extralinguistic context (Miethlich et al., 2022). The structure of the extralinguistic context intersects with the structure of the text. For the political text, the extralinguistic context of writing and reading the text changes rather quickly. The social, political and historical contexts of the decoding time, while interacting, can have a greater or lesser degree of ascent and divergence, forming a "scale" of perception. As the political process is closely related to the development of culture and is an integral part of the social life, it can be considered as a way of political socialization or communication (Derevyanko et al., 2018; Khairullayeva et al., 2022).

Hence, we conclude that the political text, as a reflection of the political process, is one of the means of communication. Based on the functional belonging of a political text to the political sphere of human activity, taking into account its different directions, political texts can be divided into oral and written, propaganda, declarative, administrative, regulatory, statutory, diplomatic, and administrative. We focus on the communication process as on the text transmission process, as

well as on the process of interaction between the author and the recipient, who act through the communication channel where information is transmitted in the form of text. Taking into account, the features of political commitment, its nature, express the assumption about the differences between political communication channels, since the pragmatic communication problems provide, and often determine the nature of the transmission channel of a particular text.

#### 4. Conclusions

Summing up the consideration of the place and role of the political text in the concept of political linguistics, we should note the following. Text as a complicated form of human communication is a multicomponent and multifunctional phenomenon in nature. The study of the features of texts is widely considered in linguistics. At the same time, pointing out the interdisciplinary nature of the problem of studying a political text, we should note its functional significance for the social and political life of a person. Because of the study, it is possible to determine the importance of the political text in political communication. At the same time, the political text is characterized by a number of peculiarities. These include the invariance of perception, coding and decoding and the very process of communication, which in the political process takes on the characteristic features of political activity. The political text is focused on the reflection of political activity and is used to achieve, as a rule, political goals, has a characteristic historical and ideological character of the era in which it was created. The criteria of a political text are clarity, consistency, integrity and accessibility. The study of ways to achieve speech efficiency in the transmission of information by a political text is one of the important tasks of political linguistics. However, we should assume that the political text plays an essential role in the life of a modern person, influencing many aspects of his life, the perception of the political situation in the world. This becomes especially relevant in the growing role of political institutions in the life of a person and a state as an institution that must solve hot issues of contemporary society through political and diplomatic activities. Because of the perception of the text, the subjective experience of the author and the recipient should converge, revealing points of contact. Scientific research of the political text must be carried out at the intersection of several sciences, such as philosophy, sociology, psychology, psycholinguistics and linguistics. This list also includes political sciences: political science, international relations.

The defining feature of political texts is their functionality, the clarity of the expression of the will of the participants in the communicative act. Considering the insufficient level of research in linguistics of the phenomenon of a political text, it seems necessary to use a multidisciplinary approach in the following developments in its analysis. This will make it possible to synthesize a political text in a single definition, taking into account its functional, communicative, linguistic and historical features.

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