

Ekaterina O. Zubareva✉, **Ekaterina S. Lozhkina**
Perm State University
Perm, Russian Federation
fialka21-85@mail.ru

Combinatorial potential of the concept MIGRANTE in Argentinian Spanish

Abstract

This study is performed within the framework of migration linguistics whose tasks include modeling migration discourse and images of its major social agents in order to study the attitudes of the host society towards migrants and to timely develop necessary measures to maintain a tolerant attitude towards them. Language is the major and most effective tool to accomplish the tasks. We aim to examine the semantic modules comprising the structure of the concept of MIGRANTE in Argentinian Spanish. The study uses corpus method. The authors selected the corpus designed at the Laboratory of the University of Leipzig. As the material for this study, 7351 contexts containing the lexeme *migrante* were selected by automatic continuous sampling. The material was processed using the methods of syntagmatic modeling together with semantic and component analysis. The results enabled to identify 33 micro-modules grouped into 19 modules. Four modules comprised the nucleus of the concept including over 10% of collocations with *migrante*, close periphery included seven modules with 1%–10% of collocations, and far periphery contained eight modules with less than 1% of collocations. The obtained results contribute into deeper understanding of migration trends. Knowing the evolution of verbalized ideas about migrants and migrations can provide a powerful tool to help harmonize the relationship between migrants and the hosting countries.

Keywords: migration linguistics, migration discourse, concept, syntagmatic modeling, semantic module

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