

## Mental Semantic-Speech Oppositions in the Structure of the Text-Referent Situation with the Concepts "Russia" and "Bolshevism"

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to analyze the content-ideological and semantic-speech opposition patterns in the Russian emigre community newspapers published in Europe as well as in Manchuria and North America, during the Civil War in Russia. Research was based on the newspaper materials of the Russian diaspora, which political and ideological discourse refers mainly to the period 1917-1920 (partially to 1921-1922). Selection of the war time interval (World War I and the Civil War ) was predefined both by the growing dynamics of the migration process in Russia, and the important period in the formation of the Russian diaspora under the influence of several key events referring both to the Russian and world history of the last century. Overall, the author analyzed more than 1,500 texts of various publications. Research results: the analysis of texts in terms of alternation of linear speech sequences in statements gave the possibility to determine the role of constructions with actualization of logical inconsistencies. Their function was iconic - to symbolize the Russian Bolshevism "disease". The idea of mental and psychological disorder characterizing participants of many events was found in the structure of messages having factual nature (notes, correspondence) due to lexical and syntactic contrasts, semantic inconsistencies as well as different types of syntagmatic oppositions. At the same time, different kinds of "non-compliance" accentuate abnormality and soreness of the described situation. Status and its evaluation might be hidden by opposite structures in presuppositions. They were implied or "proofread" additionally.

### KEYWORDS

Discourse; opposition; mental schemes; modality;  
reference concept; Russia

### ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 21 January 2016  
Revised 9 May 2016  
Accepted 11 June 2016

### Introduction

The complex nature of the discourse-generating process, non-uniform nature of the object made it necessary to describe the conditions of linguistic formation related to the newspaper discourse with regard to the two stages - the pre-text (context) stage, and the text (shaping) stage of discourse.

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The pre-text stage of discourse formation implies the following:

1) The presence of ideological preconstruction and attitudinal message in the form of a conceptual definition of pro-Bolshevism, anti-Bolshevism and neutral policy of commercial and industrial publications (Arutyunova, 1982);

2) The presence of cognitive conditions of discourse - the mental- psychical modus with "acceptance" or "rejection" concepts of (Krasnova, 2012). This mental state is transferred to the speech, being expressed in the modal character of statements.

Pre-text analysis stage is essential for understanding that causes of the speaker's acceptance or rejection are determined by the following two reasons (Gurevich, 1998):

1. Extralinguistic pattern, in other words, the facts of opposition attitudes in reality (the world of events and the world of ideas, social and cultural situation).

2. Intentionality and its mental-modal patterns - an indication of the status quo, its assessment, experience of non-compliance of the desired or expected with reality.

In the text, discourse analysis implies consideration of the proper linguistic, semantic-speech, cognitive and mental patterns. The opposition mechanism implies language operations as part of the communicative act, including a "hardened" model of modal opposition (Hamilton & Pitt, 2011). Research observation and analysis were focused on the types and methods of mental representations in the newspaper discourse, the organization of linguistic and non-linguistic knowledge based on semantic opposition.

Politicized newspaper texts are considered in terms of different mental schemes (frames, scripts, genre schemes) that conceptualize the "world" in the anti- or pro-Bolshevik publications, being included in the reader's mind as opposite models of understanding and communication (Chudinov & Solopova, 2015). At the same time, the author considered the opposition discourse in its material expression (Ruming, 2014). It was expressed as a sequence of speech acts having local and global connectivity (diagonality), which implied opposition in a vertical context (Lukanina, 2003).

The author of this paper considers broad definition of modality, as a single semantic category of language and speech, serving as a set of modes, which represent the message from the speaker's viewpoint (both collective and individual speakers). The subjective-modal aspect forms the basic grammar meaning of sentences (statements) including their predicative value (Korneyko, 2003). The so-called "objective position" should be understood as only one of the presentation modes, in which the expression of personal principle is kept to a minimum (Sheygal, 2004). In turn, ideological modality is stressed as well (Stepanov, 1995). The author proceeds from the assumption that the ideological sense of modality is determined by "the way of the referent's mental image" (Greismas, 2004), related to the political value basis of the message.

Given diverse content and forms, modality is considered comprehensively in discourse analysis: as predicative relation describing interconnection between the message and reality determined by the subject, as the relevantly expressed mental, emotional and volitional attitude to the message, as the social moral and axiological judgment in the mode of ideological attitude to the reported object. In

this respect, “inclusion” of modality into the dictum (Bally, 2011) occurs at the level of linguistic expression. During the analysis, the author used letter abbreviations related to modality types that were traditionally used in the description (Kakorina, 1996): communicable modality (CM) associated with characteristics of a sentence according to its purpose focused on the destination of the message; grammar modality (GM), associated with subjective indicators of the reality / unreality of the reported message; the evaluative lexical modality (LM) and rhetorical modality (RM), which is often represented as tonality in stylistics, according to the characteristics of the speech subject.

The textual referent situation as part of the discourse on Russia is notable for common reference concepts (Karaulov, 1987). These are the key references - "Russia" and "Bolshevism". They trigger a discourse with specific structural elements (semantic frame, gestalt) and typical ideological interpretation. The entire rather extensive text situations can be reduced to a single "sememe" - Russia. In terms of the generalized structural and semantic understanding (Zelenshchikov, 1997), sememe presents a unit of content that does not depend on its lexical shell (although it may be implied) and on its contextual environment in a speech (this is conceptual category characterized by higher-order generalizations). This interpretation is supported by the idea of discourse coding complexity. For example, lexicalization can be understood as the transformation of sememe in what is sometimes called "the word in the context" (Arutyunova, 1978), and not into the lexical unit. Then, the analyzed communication unit comprises, on the one hand, the lexical unit, the core of which is being specified, and on the other hand - the class of contexts compatible with that lexical unit.

### **Research purpose**

The purpose of this study was to analyze the content-ideological and semantic-speech opposition patterns in the Russian emigre community newspapers published in Europe as well as in Manchuria and North America, during the Civil War in Russia.

### **Materials and Methods**

Research was based on the newspaper materials of the Russian diaspora, which political and ideological discourse refers mainly to the period 1917-1920 (partially to 1921-1922). Selection of the war time interval (World War I and the Civil War ) was predefined both by the growing dynamics of the migration process in Russia, and the important period in the formation of the Russian diaspora under the influence of several key events referring both to the Russian and world history of the last century. Overall, the author analyzed more than 1,500 texts of various publications.

The investigated material was taken from the St. Petersburg newspaper repositories of the National Library of Russia (NLR) and partially – from the library of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS).

The study focused on the Russian diaspora press printed in the states bordering Russia, and in far abroad. The studied editions included two newspapers, identifying themselves as non-partisan democratic body ("Warsaw speech": Warsaw, "Call": Berlin); five newspapers having party affiliation ("Voice of Russia": Berlin, "Russian Socialist": Berlin, "Labor": Harbin, "The Worker's

Voice,": Chicago, "Narodnaya Gazeta": New York); two newspapers, with the worker-peasant orientation ("New World": New York, "Free Russia": Chicago); four socio-political periodicals ("New Word": Chisinau, "Journal of Manchuria": Harbin, "Manchuria": Harbin, "Life News": Harbin); military-political periodical ("Bulletin of the North-West Army": Narva); commercial and industrial periodical ("Scandinavian leaflet": Stockholm). The rest of the newspapers did not identify their affiliation ("Common Business": Paris, "Russian Gazette" Berlin, "Russian Business": Prague, "Call": Harbin, "New Russian Word": New York, "Free Russia": Buenos Aires), although the names of the three newspapers accentuated the ideology by the words "business" and "free" ("Common Business", "Russian Business", "Free Russia").

Research methodology was based on the combination of descriptive and functional analysis: descriptive and analytical method, which included observation, generalization and classification techniques; context analysis, elements of psycholinguistic approach, involving attention to speech generation and perception; cognitive modeling.

## Results

### Key concept "Russia"

The content of the term "concept" has a cultural basis. Concept is a cluster of culture in human consciousness; that, in the form of which culture enters the person's mental world. In contrast to notions, concepts are being not only thought, but also experienced. They are the subject of emotions, likes and dislikes, and sometimes collisions. That is how the most used concepts "Russia" and "Bolshevism" are thought and experienced in the Civil war period emigre press.

The concept of Russia, Rus' in the cultural-historical tradition is associated with the three meaning levels:

1. Ethnicity, nation = Russian
2. Area = the Russian land,
3. State = political education.

Of course, in the emigre texts the concept of Russia includes all three meanings, but most often it is present in the form of transparent descriptions – the Russian cities' geographical names, North and South settlements, Siberia, etc. Pragmatics and semantics of these items in the text referent-situations composition has a well-defined constant: the space where the destruction (disorder), violence, hunger, death take place. The main idea on the background of the reasonable past is the idea of Russia suffering from Bolshevism. It has identified the reference character in the texts. Moreover, in the anti-Bolshevik press understanding of the "Russian disease" prevails as a psychic and mental disorder, which is associated with spontaneous, aggressive behavior and confusion. Let us refer to the texts, serving significant in our analysis.

I. Correspondence "The Sickness inside" (Varshavskaia rech'. Warsaw. August 28, 1919) is the developed text, telling about the violence situations, with elements of plot and comments. The text does not contain descriptions directly related to the theme of Russian disease (except for the headline that has a subtext in its secondary understanding, after reading the correspondence). However, speech coherence in the text is built on logical inconsistencies, which

should symbolize the disease. Modality: grammatical – real (CR); communicational - allegation, confusion, compassion; rhetorical – in the form of subjective-author's speech built on logical inconsistency with the foreign language signals.

The disease idea in the text is associated with the behavior evaluation (course of action and mode of thinking) of actors (actants) as unhealthy. As we shall see, this estimate is implemented in the framework of conceptual oppositions that are defined in the text due to the alogism, the violence semantics and the normative concepts existing in the reader's mind:

1. On the proper in the speculative relations' sphere in elementary logic – logical / illogical (clear / unclear);
2. On the positive in human (social) relations' sphere in reality – violence / non-violence, agreement / disagreement, confrontation.

Note that the oppositions from the speculative sphere (logical/illogical, clear/unclear) are relevant not only to the rational, but also to the emotional evaluation (logical is accepted, illogical is negated; clear satisfies, not clear – surprises, raises confusion or interest). Oppositions from the substantial sphere (violence/nonviolence, agreement/disagreement (confrontation)) have a more pragmatically complex semantics of axiological evaluation that depends on the point of view (ethical, aesthetic and other social). Any member of the diad may be condemned or encouraged. In this text, the violence is condemned and the confrontation stirs up sympathy.

In the text below, the logical inconsistencies transmit attitudinal understanding of the CR as abnormal, causing confusion. The confusion is tainted by doubt and is expressed with:

1. Punctuation marks: ellipsis or dash, which create pauses of confusion and/or suggestiveness in the narrator's speech;
2. LM means: adverbs with the semantics of indefinite questionable knowledge (apparently, for some reason).

Let us turn to the text, where the dividing sign // delivers the logical-semantic mismatch of statement's fragments. The record also shows the text's logical composition.

(1) According to the latest information, in Sviatoshin camp near Kyiv Red Army soldiers ... // were interned [RM: logical inconsistency; CM: confusion; sem.: Violence].

Semantic result 1 (2) About 40 thousand of "owned" // were removed to a concentration camp. All of them are mobilized peasants. Guilty of // counter-revolution. In fact, they// did not want to fight.

Semantic reason [RM: element of author's inconsistent speech, logical inconsistency; CM: confusion].

Refusal to go on-station // almost ended with the battle, to prevent which the ruse was almost used. The loyal Latvians disarmed [element of author's inconsistent speech; RM: logical inconsistency; sem.: Violence].

Semantic result 2 (3) This // counter-revolutionary corps, due to the Denikin proximity, was drew out by parts and now is positioned over the Moscow in several camps. The investigation continues:

there were executions [sem.: Violence].

Semantic identity (4) The other camp is located near Korosten. There are two regiments. They were not given weapons. They warned that they would not fight. And so, to avoid noisy disarmament, // unarmed were rounded up to a back-country near Korosten [RM: element of author's inconsistent speech; logical inconsistency; sem.: Violence; CM - compassion]. Of course, the investigation continues and there were executions. But the regime there appears to be milder than in Sviatoshin camp: counter

Semantic distance revolutionists // drink, play cards, riot and... // commit plunder. [RM : element of author's inconsistent speech; logical inconsistency; sem.: Violence; CM - compassion]

Semantic result 1 (5) Shooting for counter-revolution, the Bolsheviks // somehow look indulgently at the brigandish behavior of their rebellious troops [RM: element of author's inconsistent speech; logical inconsistency; sem.: Violence].

Semantic reason The reason for this connivance is desperate situation of food business [sem.: Hunger].

Semantic result 2 (6) From conversations with the "military internees", who, by the way, // piroot around the neighborhood [RM: logical inconsistency; sem.: Violence], it is clear that in the North there also exist

Semantic identity concentration camps for "counter-revolutionally" sensitized // Red Army soldiers [RM: logical inconsistency; sem.: Violence]

Semantic distance (7) Only there the food business is even worse. [sem.: Hunger]

At the level of the text logical composition (labels on the left) inconsistency is missing. As intended, the logical consequences stem from causes, but similarities and dissimilarities alternate. However, with the aim of enhancing evaluative perception, the text is based on the composite inversion principle: speech unit expressing semantic result precedes a speech unit that expresses a semantic reason, etc. Semantic identity of fact-generating situations with different diatopical references (near Kiev, over Moscow, near Korosten) is expressed in identifying repetitions (concentration camp, another camp, disarmament, result, executions) and in the general narrative similarity of facts' statement. The semantic distance lie in the introduction of new attitudinal information associated with paradoxical behavior of agents and Red Army soldiers (Refusal to go on-station) and military internees (piroot around the neighborhood, play cards, riot and... commit plunder).

As it can be seen, the disease idea is expressed in terms of the modality rhetorical means and with the viewpoints' composition. There appears a subjectified speech, which includes signals of alien (non-native author's) speech.

As a result, the accordance to two perspectives is revealed:

1) wooden ideological Bolsheviks' point of view, who act as agents-rapists (in par. 1-4 it is implied, but the narration is suggested in the indefinite-personal form);

2) simple compassionate point of view belonging to unidentified party in the role of observer (4, 5 par.). Par. 4 is figurative, because alogisms and repetitions in a logically disordered narrator's speech imitate the suspense of a person, sympathetic to the victims.



Compare: They were not given weapons...// And so, to avoid noisy disarmament, // unarmed were rounded up to a back-country near Korosten.

The idea of psychic and mental disorder of events' participants is consistently found in the fact-generating situations' structure due to the contrast method or syntagmatic opposition. The predicate semantics that conveys the characters' actions or thoughts, falls out of their names as individuals and groups, whose behavior is defined ideologically (in presupposition). As a result, in the text there are following "informal" relationships.

1. There are logical inconsistencies in the actions and thoughts of rapists (Bolsheviks):

a. Red Army soldiers ... // were interned. About 40 thousand of "owned" // were removed to a concentration camp. The semantics of the Red Army soldiers and "owned" is equivocated (hence the effect of the initial confusion), indeed the speaker's linguistic competence includes connected relationship, collaboration, public beliefs in the interpretation of the meaning "owned".

b. Shooting for counter-revolution, the Bolsheviks // somehow look indulgently at the brigandish behavior of their rebellious troops. Compare with the next comment phrase, where a rational correspondence relationship is established between the mindset of rapists and the situation: The reason for this connivance is desperate situation of food business.

2. There is a relation of logical (and ideological) inconsistency in the action course and thinking mode of victims, who also became the rapists: Red Army soldiers // did not want to fight; refusing to go on-station; "counter-revolutionally" sensitized; counter-revolutionists // drink, play cards, riot and... // commit plunder; "military internees", who, by the way, // piroot around the neighborhood.

These inconsistencies arrange understanding of the referent-situation as abnormal and unhealthy. Such understanding can only be accomplished with the help of involved holistic consciousness structures:

- a. Speculative - along the axis of concepts true / false;
- b. Ideological - along the axis of concepts owned / aliens.

The opposition "owned" / "alien" is implemented as a part of the text as an inconsistency alogism. In names, modality is highlighted by quotes: "aliens" turn out to be the false "owned", the Red Army soldiers are "counter-revolutionary-minded", that is, false Red Army soldiers, so the mobilized turn out to be internees. As a result, the true / false contrast is relevant to understanding the problems of Bolshevism in Russia as a matter of compliance / non-compliance, organicity / inorganicity of this phenomenon (of ideology) to the national practices and consciousness.

In conclusion, it may be added that the attitude to the referential situation of a disease is realized as in the predicative statement organization (rheme), as well as through its preorganization (identification, theme). The notion of Russia's disease is seen not only in the sequential deployment of the text, but also in the total chain of semantic consistency of mess – violence – hunger.

**II.** The "Petrograd News" information (Golos Rodiny. Berlin. Dec 30, 1919), in contrast to the previous material, refers to the group of texts, in which the title

is transparent in its reference and the subject of disease is not present at all. However, it can be deduced in the content of referential situation.

The notion of the disease and its associated attribute descriptions with conceptual semantics of confusion, hunger, death are expressed in the text by structures, indicating the mismatch: a) the existential, by means of GM – Was = CR / Is = CR, while was = CR, is expressed indirectly through the presupposition sentences (paragraph 1-2); b) the speculative, by means of RM – logical / illogical, is expressed through syntagmatic contrast (paragraph 2).

1. The person who came recently from P e t r o g r a d to Gelsinfors, reports on the life in the former capital all the same grim details as before. Hunger and cold in particular are the main ulcers of the half-dead and deserted Capital on the Neva [indir. Was = CR / Is = CR; sem. Death].

2. Somewhat better is the case on the Emergencies' "work" [indir. Was = CR / Is = CR; obsc. sem. Death]. Executions of intellectuals are rare. Only speculators and deserters are mercilessly shot. Recently, the company of speculators was executed, who sold Economic Council // 4000 separators, which belonged to them. The company, engaged in exemption from conscription // headed by gypsy, called Masalskaya, by Grammatikov etc. [LOGICAL / ILLOGICAL; sem. Death]

Attitude-wise, the first paragraph is very expressive. Due to the insertion into the text such names, as Petrograd – the former capital, the Capital on the Neva – the notional corpus includes the existential opposition of the following referential situations:

-----	
real Was = CR	real Is = CR
(in presupposition)	(textual)
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P e t r o g r a d	the former capital,
/the vibrant capital	the Capital on the Neva
of Russia/	

The temporal speech opposition, expressed as a part of Is = CR with circumstances of time recently / formerly, in the context is removed: here dominates the qualitative identity the same grim details as before. The attitude epithet grim details serves as an associate with the sem. illness, death, hunger and cold in particular are the main ulcers of the half-dead and deserted Capital on the Neva. Words, characterizing Is = CR, are a very generalized and judgemental attitude form: they are nouns, united by the theme of the old Russian word ulcer – "disease, pestilence", "evil", and "harm". The attitude adjectives grim, half-dead, deserted are polysemous in a range of associated notions. They are linked by a common notion of "death", "non-existence", keeping up the "pestilence" theme with the grim - dead – deserted relation. The altogether semantics provides the textual paradigm of Petrograd (Russia) - illness, death. Still, this CR scheme has a semantic dominant – the DISEASE concept, which is emphasized syntactically, morphologically, intonationally (by the mode of statement).



### The “Bolshevism” key concept

In the Soviet cultural and historical tradition, according to the dictionaries, the concept of Bolshevism means the same as Leninism, i.e. Marxism of the era of imperialism and proletarian revolutions, the theory and tactics of the proletarian revolution in general, the theory and tactics of the dictatorship of proletariat in particular. In emigrant newspapers, the main pragmatics and semantics constant of this word is expressed with an attitude: Bolshevism is a dangerous disease that can spread to other nations. The attitude is based on the ontological and epistemological notion of unhealthy, inhumane nature of Bolshevism.

Bolshevism is understood as:

1. An aggressive doctrine manifestation of non-democratic, totalitarian rebuilding of society, which, according to the results of its implementation, refers to the lower forms of social life, and according to the methods – to the forms of painful and / or criminal cruelty;

2. A social and human (at the individual level – psychic and mental) illness, associated with the controversial fate of the great and, at the same time, the oppressed and backward peoples, undergoing the greatest historical cataclysms within a short period.

The “Kerensky on Bolshevism” correspondence interview (Novosti zhizni. Harbin. Sep 11, 1919), was published in the “News and Facts” column. The notion of Bolshevism, as a Russian disease, is expressed most openly here, as it is the view of a private, but a reputable person. Draw your attention to the ending of the next to the last (1) and last paragraphs (2).

1. ...Another summer will pass, new winter will come, and the population will become familiar enough with Bolshevism in all its colors and shades, and disappointed with all kinds of terror, - //, and then they will be enlightened again and will nominate worthy leaders in their environment [GM - real Is = CR / again CR = Will be, i.e. indir. Was = CR; sem. Violence, Disease].

2. Kerensky, answering the reporter’s question on what he thinks about the American Bolsheviks, laughing, said: “You have nothing to be afraid of Bolshevism in the United States. Bolshevism cannot grow in a country where the population is so well fed and lives, as in the United States. Bolshevism is the disease of the tired, exhausted people, living under the heel for centuries. You are quite safe from this disease in America, I assure you,” [GM - real / unreal CR in the opposition Russia / USA; sem. Disease].

The semantic structure of the first paragraph includes an existential opposition: three referential situations are presented in a row, connected by predicates, named “population” (hereinafter nations). This name is introduced in the text, in addition to the characteristic of that time social connotations, an important quantitative component of the sense. The same semantic component is contained in the ideologeme Bolshevism. The names do not only characterize Kerensky’s speech, as an authoritative opinion in the American environment of emigration. These names act as a pivot, around which the ideological concepts, related to the fate of Russia, are formed: “the reality of R. / the future of R.”; they are comprehended under the sign of the reality / unreality opposition. The real existential situation in presupposition of the presented is doubled, and is presented as a vague Is = CR and a light Was = CR. With an unreal = must be =

will be = CR (textual situation of faith), was = PC is in opposition to the reality of the present. At the same time, Is = CR is expressed indirectly: it is easily reconstructed as a pragmatic presupposition and semantic contrast of the presented.

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real IS=CR		unreal, faith = must be
(in presupposition)		again WILL BE=CR, i.e. indir. WAS=CR
(the population, not familiar		the population will be familiar enough
enough with Bolshevism in all its		with Bolshevism in all its colours and
colours, shades,		
and shades, not disappointed		will become disappointed with all kinds of
with all kinds of terror		terror – and then thy will be enlightened
grimed by unworthy leaders)		and will nominate worthy leaders in
their environment		

In this opposition, the notion of Disease, as a mental and social illness, is expressed implicitly. It can be seen in the attributive actualizers of the Bolshevism concept, in the emphatic repeating: Bolshevism in all its colors and shades, in all kinds of terror; population, grimed by unworthy leaders, in connection with the predicate, will be enlightened again (i.e., “as before”). This means the presence of the disease in modern Russia (aggression, confusion, the narrowed, emotive sense). Paragraph (1) contains not only the opposition attitude, but also the attitude of compliance: Bolshevism - Disease (terror, insanity).

In the last paragraph, the semantic opposition is expressed inexplicitly; it is rather implicit.

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S i c k Russia		H e a l t h y America
real IS=CR of Bolshevik Disease		real NO=CR of Disease,
		unreal CANNOT BE=CR
		the Bolshevik Disease
(The country with) Bolshevism		Bolshevism cannot grow
is a disease of the tired and exhausted		in a country where the population is
so		
peoples living under the heel		well fed and lives, as in the United
States.		
for centuries.		You are quite safe from this disease
		in America, I assure you.

As it can be seen in the text, an obscure opposition of concepts present/ past and future of Russia, present and future for America is realized. It is connected with the danger of the spread of Bolshevism motive and is indicated by means of CM:

1. The question to Kerensky;
2. The negative response (Kerensky’s assuring).

## Discussion

Political discourse is based on continuous dialog – a battle between the “ruling party” and the opposition, in which in the opponents every now and again attack each other, defend, deflect attacks, and counterattack (Apter, 2001). The “friend-foe” opposition in the political discourse is universal and is always organized on a firm axiological basis: “friends” are recognized on the scale of “good” and “right”, while “foes” – on the scale of “bad” and “wrong”, which basically matches the essence of power (Stapleton & Wilson, 2009). At a certain point, the fight for power can become the only type of political activity and constitute the basis of political communication; this state of affairs creates new configurations of the “friend” and “foe” division, based primarily on bipolar evaluation (Martin, 2002).

Media with a radical expression of their political orientation serve as a booster of the political discourse (Van Dijk, 2006). Such media draw the attention to this or that information and block or distort at will any other information (Cui & Wu, 2016). The attributes of newspaper text that are established in public practice, such as the principle of social evaluation, defining selection of verbal means, importance of the extralinguistic context (situational context), effectiveness of communication, etc., are modified by the very fact of opposition in texts that are oriented at opposition (Catalano & Moeller, 2013). Certain political forces act as the information broker for a certain message that is formed within the framework of the opposition discourse. Their goal is to “filter” information and interpret it appropriately. The opposition forces and the social layers that support them are divided primarily through information – by interpreting the same events differently (Ryabtseva, 1994). With that, the effect of pragmatic illocutionary and perlocutionary factors is the same in the entire space of oppositional political discourse and is subject to the universal communicative mode – to set the participation of the addressee in the changes of the surrounding world, to encourage the addressee to react to the content of the message (Paducheva, 2006). The goals of oppositional discourse – influence, persuasion, and compromise – are aimed at forming social values that support a specific ideology and justify the “rules of the game” and the political elite that shares this ideology (Tsakova, 2013).

## Conclusion

In the studied discourse, opposition acts as the main structural organizer of meaning. It is based on the focus on value (concepts, frames), on ideologically activated modes of political and humanitarian consciousness. The quantity and quality, modality and evaluation became interrelated in the emotive conflictogenic discourse. The layering modes of mental states of speaker (although they are psychologically standard), the evaluation of connotations, keeping up the meanings of accusation, compassion, hatred and love are typical.

The description of mental and extraction of the identified semantic opposites in the texts help to put the knowledge and opinions in the form of models of understanding by the subjects of the picture of reality. Syntagmatically, the oppositional unities deployment showed the variety of

options for the spatiotemporal representation of the world picture in the discourse.

The text analysis, in terms of the shift of linear sequences of statements in speech, established the role of constructions with the actualization of logical inconsistencies. Their function is iconic – to symbolize the “Bolshevism disease” in Russia. The notion of mental and psychological disorder, characterizing the participants of many events, can be found in the message structure of factual nature (notes, correspondence), due to the lexical and syntactic contrasts, semantic inconsistencies, different types of syntagmatic opposites. At the same time, different kinds of “inconsistencies” emphasize the situation’s abnormality and soreness. The status and evaluation of this situation may be hidden in the opposing presuppositions. They are either implied or further “deduced”.

### Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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