

Abstract

Arabic is currently the latest official language of the United Nations. It acquired this remarkable language status in 1973, opening a debate on the role of this language in the United Nations. This bachelor's thesis analyses the position of Arabic among the other five official languages of the UN, the most important events of its development and growth in this organization, as well as its function within the language services of this multilingual environment. The thesis provides an overview of the common and different features of the UN languages, it outlines the most important factors surrounding the introduction of Arabic into the organization, and it describes the scope of work of the UN language departments and language professionals. Additionally, the excursus of this thesis examines specific traits of Arabic observed in the speeches given by prominent individuals addressed to the UN via diplomatic correspondence. Lastly, the thesis offers to the reader a list of basic Arabic-English-Czech UN terminology.

Keywords: UN, multilingualism, Modern Standard Arabic, Arabic in diplomacy, Arabic terminology of the UN, translation, interpretation