

ABSTRACT

The present diploma thesis deals with the co-relation of language situation in Belarus and the educational system. The first chapter is devoted to historical relations of Polish, Russian and Belarusian in the period starting from the 19th century up to the present moment, to the country's language question and the role of religious affiliation in the choice of the language. The second chapter analyzes primarily the reflection of changes in the language policies at the turn of 1980's and 1990's, as well as the position of Belarusian in the educational system and the comparison of presence of both languages on all educational levels. The third chapter contains the description of the significant role of bilingualism in contemporary world, presentation of Belarusian bilingualism, as well as possible use of the thesis for various academic purposes.

KEYWORDS

Belarusian, Russian, bilingualism, education, language policy, school