

INTRODUCTION TO VOLUME 6 ISSUE 3

Dmitry S. Khramchenko, Editor-in-Chief

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present Volume 6 Issue 3 of *Professional Discourse & Communication*. It features a range of articles that enhance our understanding of communication in various professional and academic spheres. These articles highlight emerging trends and challenges in the field of professional discourse.

As we review the contents of this issue, several key themes emerge, each with significant implications for professional communication. These themes include promoting inclusivity and cultural sensitivity in professional environments, the impact of digitalization on communication, developing cross-cultural competence, building relationships through structured yet flexible interactions, and evolving assessment and skill development in professional language use.

The opening article, “*Comparative Analysis of Inclusive Writing in University Discourse: Case Studies from France and Italy*” by Maria Miretina and Anna Zarubina, highlights the growing importance of gender-inclusive language in professional communicative situations. This research shows how institutional policies and cultural environments influence the adoption of inclusive writing practices, a trend that extends beyond academia to various professional areas. The findings emphasize the need for professionals to be aware of and adapt to evolving linguistic norms that promote inclusivity.

Similarly, “*Ethnic and National Identity in Russian Research: A Scoping Review*” by Natalia Ostroglazova and Natalia Starostina explores the complexity of identity constructs which are crucial for professional discourse. Their work underscores the importance of understanding multiple and fluid identities in professional interactions, particularly in multicultural international work environments.

The comparative analysis in “*Family Concept Representation in English and Chinese Media: A Cognitive Matrix Modelling Approach*” by Yulia Filyasova and Hairun Long demonstrates the need for cross-cultural understanding in professional discourse. Their findings on cognitive asymmetry in concept representation across cultures show the importance of cultural competence in global professional communication.

Opeyemi Emmanuel Olawe’s exploration of interaction patterns in “*Analyzing Interaction Patterns on Dating Sites: A Generic Structure Potential Approach*” offers perspectives on strategies of structured communication. The identified stages of interaction (discourse initiation, introduction, question and response, etc.) have clear parallels in professional networking, client relations, and team communication. This article reveals the importance of strategic language use in building and maintaining professional relationships.

The article “*Integrating Hybrid Learning into the Higher Education System: Challenges and Opportunities*” by Angelika Mirzoeva et al. reflects a broader trend of digitalization in professional discourse. The challenges and opportunities identified in this study mirror those faced by professionals adapting to remote and hybrid work modes. The research

results suggest that effective communication in the digital age requires not only technical proficiency but also the ability to maintain engagement and motivation while working on the Internet.

Aida Rodomanchenko and Elena Sorokina's study on EFL Olympiads in "*A Road to Success in Language Olympiads: A Comprehensive Analysis of EFL Olympiads in Russia from Inception to 2023*" is connected with conspicuous trends in the assessment and development of language skills for both everyday language use and professional purposes. The shift towards integrated skills tasks and cultural knowledge in these competitions goes hand in hand with the increasing demand for professionals who can successfully operate in challenging culture-specific work-related situations.

Lastly, in the "Conference Report" section, Nikolay Simakov provides an overview of the main discussions presented at The International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) biennial conference held in June 2024.

The implications of these trends are significant. As professionals adapt to new technologies and communication channels, they must also develop the skills and competencies needed to communicate effectively across cultural and digital divides. This requires a deep understanding of the functional-pragmatic properties of current discourse, as well as the ability to tailor communicative strategies to different situations and media. By staying informed about these emerging patterns and continuously refining their communication practices, professionals can ensure that professional discourse remains an effective tool for collaboration, innovation, and mutual understanding.

Moreover, the boundaries between different communication skills—whether writing, speaking, or cultural literacy—are becoming less distinct. Instead, we're seeing gravitation towards integrated competencies that allow professionals to adapt their communicative style to various situations. This evolution in the functional-linguistic aspects of international professional discourse necessitates continuous refinement of speech strategies and tactics.

These ideas demonstrate the transformative nature of professional discourse and emphasize the critical need for ongoing research and dialogue in this field. As scholars and practitioners, our challenge is to stay informed about these emerging patterns and constantly improve our communication practices. By doing so, we can ensure that professional discourse remains successful.

The editorial team would like to thank the authors who have contributed to this issue, as well as the reviewers who have generously given their time and expertise to help maintain the high standards of the journal. We hope that readers will find the selected articles thought-provoking, engaging, and informative. As always, we welcome your feedback and look forward to continuing this important dialogue in future issues.