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**The Armenian Language in the Linguistic Diversity**

**of Moscow Urban Setting**

### Introduction

Moscow is one of the most densely populated cities in Europe, and as any other urban setting it is a clear example of co-existence of various languages and ethnicities within one urban context. Being multiethnic and multilingual metropolis, it has more than 160 languages being spoken there [Коряков Ю. Б., 2017].

It is important to note that the Armenian diaspora in Moscow plays a significant role in forming such an ethnic and linguistic diversity in Moscow because it is rather numerous and old one, and at the same time it is now well integrated into the local population. The article describes the linguistic behavior of the Armenian language heritage speakers in urban context and examines the strategies of the ethnic language preservation. [Galkina T., 2006]

### Methodology

The collection of data for further research represented a standard question-answer interview. An interview itself was divided into 3 blocks based on the type of questions. The first block consisted of the questions considering some personal background. The second part of an interview was firstly devoted to the languages usage, where I was interested in finding with whom and in what social situations the respondents prefer using a particular language. The questions from the third block were designed to elicit the information about various institutions, places and events in Moscow where the ethnic language and culture can be learned and practiced. Additionally, with the use of the questions from the third block I tried to estimate the importance of ethnic language acquisition for Armenian heritage speakers. There were 30 twenty people at the age of 18-30-year-old who were subjected to an interview.

### Results

The results show that Armenian heritage speakers prefer using the ethnic language at home with relatives and inside the religious institutions. In the borders of the city our respondents mainly speak Russian but in some cases they can switch to Armenian if they find themselves in the company of other representatives of the diaspora, whenever it happens at university, work or any other public places.

Armenians of Moscow find it of great importance to have a good command of the ethnic language. Some even claim that is vital for them to force their children to study the heritage language. It is highly likely, that for these reasons there are quite a lot of educational and social institutions that provide the representatives of Armenian diaspora with the language courses.

To conclude I may say that the Armenian language is an essential part of the Armenian diaspora that is highly unlikely to be lost. Almost all of respondents have no doubt transmitting their knowledge of the language to their children, and do appreciate the using Armenian among themselves.

### References

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