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CONCEPTUAL SPACE OF VOCABULARY IN THE SPHERE OF NATIONAL SECURITY IN CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH MEDIA: CASE STUDY OF PUBLICATIONS ON WAR IN UKRAINE

The article deals with the issue of the conceptual space of vocabulary in the sphere of national security in contemporary English media based on publications on war in Ukraine. The relevance of the research is justified by the fact that analyzing the vocabulary in the sphere of national security in contemporary English media helps can uncover key themes and pivotal points in the portrayal of the war by media. Moreover, the specialized vocabulary of the sphere of national security is today becoming important for an increasingly wide audience, and the importance of texts related to national security in Ukraine and the world is growing.

The aim of the research is to present the conceptual space of vocabulary in the sphere of national security in contemporary English media as a basic frame model. In the process of the research, the author determines specialized vocabulary as a means of communication between specialists employed in certain field, presents the definition of the vocabulary of national security, and, based on the analysis of current English media articles on the war in Ukraine, builds the basic frame model of the concept of national security.

The research results demonstrate that specialized vocabulary in the sphere of national security is words or phrases denoting the concepts in the field of special knowledge in security of public and state, their participation in international and global security, are recognized by the experts in the sphere of national security, are stable, reproducible elements in this system occupying certain classification places in it. Specialized vocabulary of each sphere including national security has certain conceptual space which can be presented in the form of frame including conceptual domains and parcels. In the course of the research the basic frame model of the concept of national security presented in current English media based on articles about the war in Ukraine was structured. It includes conceptual domains "government entities in national security" (parcels "political positions", "political entities", "political alliances"), "national security policies" (parcels "political documents", "political events", "political actions"), "military realization of national security" (parcels "military technology", "military infrastructure", "battlefield", "military support", "military actions"), "national security economics" (parcels "economic actions", "economic actors", "economic indicators"), "national security law" (parcels "legal actions", "legal actors", "legal documents").

Key words: *specialized language, specialized vocabulary, national security, war in Ukraine, frame model, conceptual space.*

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КОНЦЕПТУАЛЬНИЙ ПРОСТІР ЛЕКСИКИ СФЕРИ НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ БЕЗПЕКИ В СУЧАСНИХ АНГЛОМОВНИХ МЕДІА: НА ПРИКЛАДІ ПУБЛІКАЦІЙ ПРО ВІЙНУ В УКРАЇНІ

Статтю присвячено вивченню концептуального простору лексики сфери національної безпеки в сучасних англomовних медіа на прикладі публікацій про війну в Україні. Актуальність дослідження обґрунтовується тим, що аналіз лексики сфери національної безпеки в сучасних англomовних медіа дозволяє розкрити ключові теми та головні моменти у відображенні війни в медіапросторі. Крім того, спеціальна лексика сфери національної безпеки сьогодні стає важливою для все більш широкій аудиторії, а значення текстів, які стосуються національної безпеки в Україні та світі, зростає.

Мета дослідження – представити концептуальний простір лексики сфери національної безпеки в сучасних англomовних медіа у вигляді базової фреймової моделі. У ході дослідження автор визначає спеціальну лексику

як засіб спілкування між фахівцями певної сфери, подає визначення лексики національної безпеки та на основі аналізу сучасних англомовних статей про війну в Україні будує базову фреймову модель концепту національної безпеки.

Результати дослідження демонструють, що спеціальна лексика у сфері національної безпеки – це слова чи словосполучення, які позначають поняття спеціальних знань у сфері безпеки суспільства та держави, їх участі в міжнародній та глобальній безпеці, визнані експертами у сфері національної безпеки, є стійкими, відтворюваними елементами в цій системі, займаючи в ній певні класифікаційні місця. Спеціальна лексика кожної сфери, у тому числі національної безпеки, має певний концептуальний простір, який можна представити у вигляді фрейму, що включає концептуальні домени та парцели. У ході дослідження структуровано базову фреймову модель концепту національної безпеки, представлену в сучасних англійських медіа у текстах публікацій про війну в Україні. Вона включає концептуальні домени «суб'єкти державної влади в національній безпеці» (парцели «політичні посади», «політичні утворення», «політичні союзи»), «політика сфери національної безпеки» (парцели «політичні документи», «політичні події», «політичні дії»), «військова реалізація національної безпеки» (парцели «військова техніка», «військова інфраструктура», «поле бою», «військове забезпечення», «військові дії»), «економіка національної безпеки» (парцели «економічні дії», «економічні діячі», «економічні показники»), «право національної безпеки» (парцели «юридичні дії», «юридичні діячі», «юридичні документи»).

Ключові слова: мова для спеціальних цілей, спеціальна лексика, національна безпека, війна в Україні, фреймова модель, концептуальний простір.

Formulation of the problem. The vocabulary used in media reflects and potentially influences national security policies. It sheds light on threat perception and how these threats are communicated to the public. Understanding this discourse can offer valuable insights into the priorities and concerns of both policymakers and the public. From a linguistic perspective, analyzing the vocabulary in the sphere of national security in contemporary English media helps can uncover key themes and pivotal points in the portrayal of the war by media.

After the events of 2014, and especially after Russia's full-scale invasion in Ukraine in 2022, the sphere of national security has become extremely important for the world community. The specialized vocabulary of the sphere of national security, which was previously considered relevant only for only certain groups of people, is today becoming important for an increasingly wide audience. In addition to this, special vocabulary is a necessary tool in ensuring professional communication in any field, and the importance of texts related to national security in Ukraine and the world is growing; however, the conceptual space of vocabulary in the sphere of national security in contemporary English media is not sufficiently researched yet.

Analysis of recent research. The cognitive approach in linguistics currently interests numerous researchers including Y. Boiko (2023), A. Hutsol (2013), M. Ivanchenko (2017), A. Martyniuk (2011), V. Nikonova (2012). Specialized vocabulary was the object of the research of numerous scholars, among which are A. Damasio (1999), L. Hoffmann (1985). The vocabulary of national security was presented from lexicological perspectives by L. Zaiats (2023). However, further research is needed in order to understand the vocabulary of national security, in particular, from cognitive perspective.

Aim of the research. The aim of the research is to present the conceptual space of vocabulary in the sphere of national security in contemporary English media as a basic frame model. According to the aim, the following research objectives have been set: 1) to determine specialized vocabulary as a means of communication between specialists employed in certain field; 2) to present the definition of the vocabulary of national security; 3) based on the analysis of current English media articles on the war in Ukraine, to build the basic frame model of national security.

Presenting main material. Vocabulary in the sphere of national security belongs to language for specific purposes understood as “a set of all language means used in a certain specialised field of communication for ensuring mutual understanding between specialists employed in this field” (Hoffmann, 1985: 53), where the set of language means includes not only phonetic, morphological and lexical elements and rules of syntax, but also their interaction. Accordingly, language for specific purposes includes language means that are presented in all sublanguages, those presented in all specialised languages, and those presented only in one specialised language (Hoffmann, 1985: 53).

The sphere of national security today encompasses protection of society (regardless of ethnic, ethical, racial, or ideological backgrounds of its members) and the state, along with their involvement in international and global security. It includes ensuring the safeguarding of their essential interests and values through the coordinated efforts of both military and civilian sectors, as well as state and non-state entities within the national security system. This system also relies on numerous international (both governmental and non-governmental) organizations to facilitate various aspects of international security cooper-

ation. All levels of security – individuals, societies, states, and the global community – are involved in protecting national security (Mijalković, Blagojević, 2014: 52). Thus, specialized vocabulary in the sphere of national security is understood as words or phrases denoting the concepts in the field of special knowledge in security of public and state, their participation in international and global security, are recognized by the experts in the sphere of national security, are stable, reproducible elements in this system occupying certain classification places in it (Заяць, 2023: 243).

Specialized vocabulary of each sphere including national security has certain conceptual space. The word “concept” was borrowed by linguists from mathematical logic. The term “concept” has been experiencing a “linguistic renaissance” since the early 1990s thanks to the scientific works that gave it its thorough interpretation, the study of concepts becomes one of the central aspects of cognitive linguistics (Бойко, 2023: 67).

Given the fact that objective reality becomes accessible to a person only through subjectivation in one’s mind (Іванченко, 2017: 117), in the research, the definition of the concept as a minimal structural unit is taken as a basis, so the concept is understood as “a dynamic entity that arises in the process of interactive discursive interaction of subjects and constitutes the content and, ultimately, the goal of this interaction is the preservation of the ecological system of ‘individual – world’ knowledge” (Мартинюк, 2011: 38). The concept is the basic unit of structured knowledge in the human mind. The content and structure of the concept can be established through the analysis of the meaning of the language units that represent it (objectify / verbalize / actualize). Such an analysis is not exhaustive, because it is not possible to establish the entire set of means of verbalizing a concept: on the one hand, a concept can have a non-verbal meaning, and on the other hand, not all concepts (as well as not the whole concept) are objectified by the linguistic means (Мартинюк, 2011: 39).

In the process of recognizing objects, a person does not passively copy, but constructs their images, which correspond to, or rather, are conditioned by one’s, the person’s, consciousness (Damasio, 1999: 315), and therefore, the lexical unit involved in the transfer of the concept activates the corresponding cognitive context, or frame as a model of everyday knowledge about basic concepts. And therefore, given the object of the study, it can be assumed that the conceptual model of the extralingual phenomenon can be presented in the form of a frame, which is a multi-component hierarchically organized structure (Бойко, 2023: 69).

The frame serves as a structural canvas of the concept representing the main part of the conceptual space which embodies the information associatively connected with the given concept. The content of each conceptual space is revealed through the semantic fields available in it (Ніконова, 2012: 121). As processing and formation of information is carried out through the generation of mental simulations (visualizations) based on connections between frames, the visualization of frames is appropriate for this study (Бойко, 2023: 69).

Creating a frame model of knowledge representation involves the classification of entities of the subject area with a defined hierarchy of all classified categories. As the previous research (Zaiats, 2023: 146) reveals, the vocabulary of the national security belongs to different spheres of life of the state and the society, in particular, government, political sphere, military sphere, economics, and law. On the basis of the above, it is relevant to build a frame model of the conceptual sphere of the vocabulary in the sphere of national security according to the structure of “networks-within-networks”. Within a certain domain, connections between lexical units are presented in the form of constitutive parcels (Гуцол, 2013: 175).

The language material studied in this way makes it possible to single out the following domains within the framework of the national security: government entities in national security, national security policies, military realization of national security, national security economics, and national security law, which are considered to be cognitive structures based on categorical knowledge about national security.

In particular, the conceptual domain “government entities in national security” includes parcels 1) political positions: *Dick Schoof, the prime minister of the Netherlands, and Mette Frederiksen, his counterpart from Denmark, said the “transfer process” of F-16s to Kyiv was under way after months of pilot training and political negotiations* (Sabbagh, 2024); 2) political entities: *Now that it has been passed by the parliament, the mobilisation bill has to be approved by the speaker and signed into law by Zelenskiy* (Sabbagh & Mazhulin, 2024); 3) political alliances: *On Tuesday night, Joe Biden, the US president, announced that Nato members would supply four Patriot anti-missile batteries, while Italy would supply a similar Samp-t, which could be used to protect airbases from Russian attacks* (Sabbagh, 2024).

The conceptual domain “national security policies” includes such parcels as 1) political documents: *“This increases the threat Russia poses to its neighbours and to Euro-Atlantic security,” they declared in the summit communique* (Sabbagh, 2024); 2) politi-

cal events: *An announcement on F-16s had been expected at the same time as the summit, and the hope is that the fighters will be able to stifle Russian glide bomb attacks launched from warplanes operating up to 43 miles (70km) away that have been devastating frontline positions* (Sabbagh, 2024); 3) political actions: *It ends a lengthy wait for Ukraine, whose president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, has been lobbying for at least 18 months for western jets to complement its small and ageing Soviet standard air force, which is no match for Russia's* (Sabbagh, 2024).

The conceptual domain “military realization of national security” includes the following parcels: 1) military technology: *The first F-16 fighter jets are on their way to Ukraine and will be flying sorties this summer, according to a statement from the Dutch and Danish governments that was released by the White House at the Nato summit* (Sabbagh, 2024); 2) military infrastructure: *This month, Russia said it had destroyed five Ukrainian Su-27 jets in an Iskander missile attack on an airbase in Myrhorod* (Sabbagh, 2024); 3) battlefield: *The two leaders said that “Ukraine will be flying operational F-16s this summer” – the first of about 85 of the combat aircraft that have been committed to Kyiv to turn around its fortunes on the battlefield, and Ukraine signalled more may be to come* (Sabbagh, 2024); 4) military support: *The long-awaited supply of F-16s is part of what Nato's secretary general, Jens Stoltenberg, said would be “a substantial package” of support for Ukraine, which includes the donation of four Patriot air defence systems, Nato-led training for Ukraine's troops – and a commitment that Kyiv's eventual path to Nato membership is “irreversible”* (Sabbagh, 2024); 5) military actions: *Allies also criticised China, with stronger language than used before, for assisting Russia's invasion of Ukraine, calling it a “decisive enabler” of the war by supporting Moscow in its “no limits” partnership, and supplying components for military equipment and chemicals for explosives* (Sabbagh, 2024).

The conceptual domain “national security economics” includes parcels 1) economic actions: *Debt Justice said a two-year suspension of Ukraine's debt payments was scheduled to expire on 1 August, and that action was needed to protect Kyiv from the possibility of legal action from its creditors* (Elliott, 2024); 2) economic actors: *Ukraine is in negotiations with bondholders and is seeking a debt writedown of 60% on the \$24bn (£18.7bn) it owes to private creditors*

(Elliott, 2024); 3) economic indicators: *The relief offered by private creditors is worth around 12% of Ukraine's annual national output (GDP)* (Elliott, 2024).

The conceptual domain “national security law” includes such basic parcels as: 1) legal actions: *Campaigners are urging Britain's new Labour government to prevent Ukraine being sued in the UK courts if the country defaults on its debts to private creditors* (Elliott, 2024); 2) legal actors: *MPs rejected an initial version of the bill in January and a revised version was submitted in February* (Sabbagh & Mazhulin, 2024); 3) legal documents: *Ukraine's parliament has passed a mobilisation bill aimed at conscripting hundreds of thousands of reinforcements, after a lengthy and contentious process to determine who next will be pressed into service* (Sabbagh & Mazhulin, 2024).

Thus, the conducted research allowed structuring the following basic frame model of national security presented in current English media based on articles about the war in Ukraine (Fig. 1).

Conclusions. Specialized vocabulary in the sphere of national security is words or phrases denoting the concepts in the field of special knowledge in security of public and state, their participation in international and global security, are recognized by the experts in the sphere of national security, are stable, reproducible elements in this system occupying certain classification places in it. Specialized vocabulary of each sphere including national security has certain conceptual space which can be presented in the form of frame including conceptual domains and parcels. The conducted research allowed structuring the basic frame model of national security presented in current English media based on articles about the war in Ukraine including conceptual domains “government entities in national security” (parcels “political positions”, “political entities”, “political alliances”), “national security policies” (parcels “political documents”, “political events”, “political actions”), “military realization of national security” (parcels “military technology”, “military infrastructure”, “battlefield”, “military support”, “military actions”), “national security economics” (parcels “economic actions”, “economic actors”, “economic indicators”), “national security law” (parcels “legal actions”, “legal actors”, “legal documents”). It should be noted that this frame model is just basic minimal one, and complementing it is a prospective field for further research.

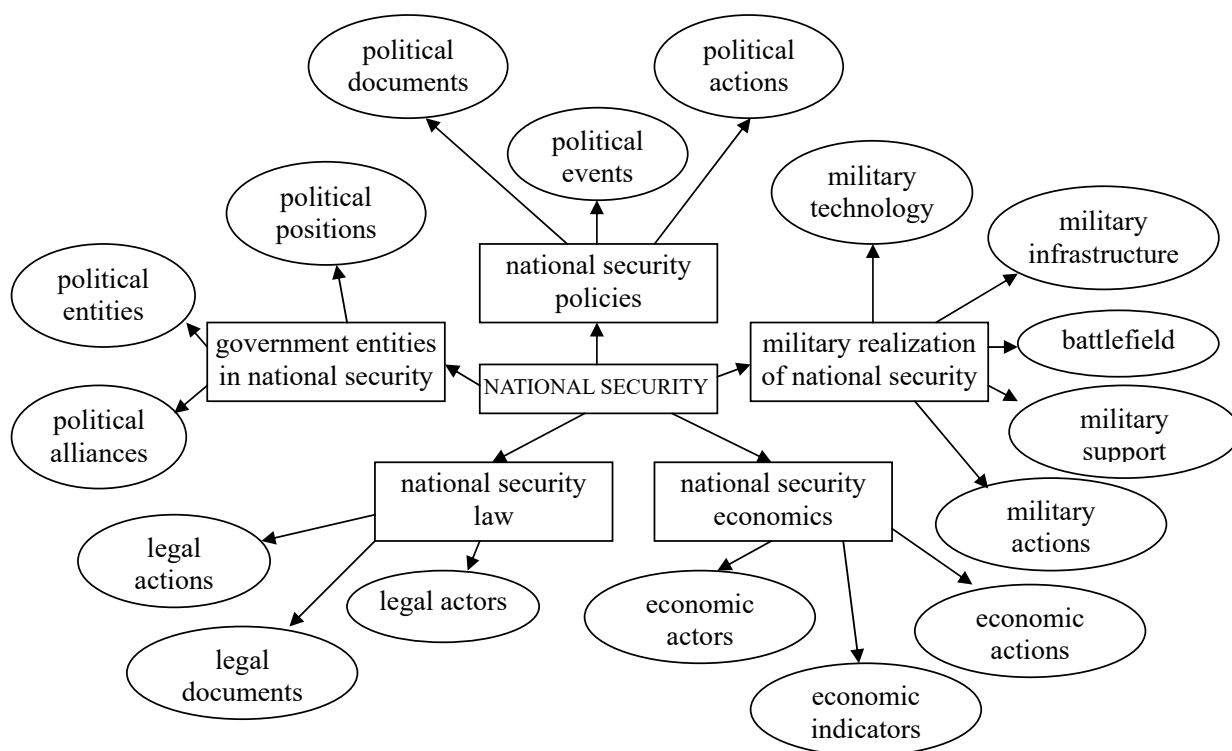


Fig. 1. Basic frame model of national security presented in current English media

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