

Abstract

This paper investigates differences in terms of linguistic integration, by looking at how multilingualism and migrants are discussed in Germany and the United Kingdom. The chosen countries are one of the most popular migration destinations and thus multilingualism is inevitable. Considering that colonialism is inseparable with language, the context of colonial experiences of migrants is an important element in order to conduct comparative research. This study primarily discusses previous findings about linguistic integration and multilingualism. Furthermore, this study delves into linguistic positions of English and German as lingua franca, discourses of multilingualism, linguistic status of migrants and policies around language in previously mentioned countries. The purpose of this research is to analyse how similar cultures see differentiated concepts of linguistic integration, depending on the colonial context, and to discuss language exposure to migrants as crucial for language acquisition and integration. Through the lens of colonial history, the study finalises the need for a complete definition of the term “migrant.”

Keywords: colonialism, Germany, linguistic integration, migrant, multilingualism, the United Kingdom