

Letter of Appreciation

to Dr. Sándor Czeglédi for his evaluation of my doctoral dissertation

Faculty of Modern Philology and Social Sciences
Multilingualism Doctoral School
University of Pannonia

Title: Language Policies, Attitudes, and Beliefs in Kyrgyzstan

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. István Csernicskó

Candidate: Askarbek Mambetaliev

Dear Dr. Sandor Czeglédi,

Thank you for the valuable evaluation of my thesis. Your expertise on the subject was evident from your detailed and thoughtful feedback. You have investigated all the dissertation chapters and carefully delved into the critical details of the results and discussion. I am delighted with your opinion that this study is "the most comprehensive evaluation of language policies and language ideologies in Kyrgyzstan to date, as earlier studies and books were based on considerably more limited samples of statistically analyzable data." I am glad to read in your review that the conceptual framework and research design are "highly appropriate." Thank you also for confirming the relevance of the new terminology, "vague" policy, which is introduced in this study. Overall, I am encouraged with your evaluation that "the conclusion is convincing and valuable" and "the finished work is exemplary." I appreciate your idea that "its publication would represent a notable contribution to scholarly efforts focusing on language management in the successor states of the former Soviet Union and even beyond the post-Soviet sphere." Therefore, I am highly pleased and satisfied with your critical thoughts and evaluation of this study.

Regarding your question about the proposals of the Supreme Council on LP, they are available through the portal of the Ministry of Justice, the National Archive of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the National Library of Kyrgyzstan. All top-down policies were implemented through the government with the approval of the Supreme Council, and insights into top-down policies are only possible by considering these documents. Of particular interest are two failed proposals of the Supreme Council: the proposal to assign the status of the state language to both the Kyrgyz and Russian languages in the 1929 constitution, which the Kremlin silently rejected, and the Language Law of 1989, which the Supreme Council approved though it caused massive protests of Russians. However, the proposal had a short time since the USSR collapsed in 1991.

Your next question about examining social media comments is interesting since social media certainly would complement the analysis of language ecology. I recently posted a thought-provoking question on Facebook, which attracted 300 likes and 100 comments. Another article about corpus planning at <https://mnenie.ikipress.org> was visited by over 45,000 readers, who continued discussions on various other platforms. I conclude that the analysis of social networks in the future must be the source of information for the analysis "to map and monitor grassroots-level opinion changes."

Sincerely,

Askarbek Mambetaliev  April 24, 2023.