The development of human potential is a priority strategic task, determining the degree of development of both the state and its individual regions. Therefore, the problem of the formation of human potential, its preservation and enhancement is included in the category of the main tasks of the state socio-economic policy [2]. The targets of state regulation of the economy for the formation of regional human potential are laid down in the Constitution, as well as the program of socio-economic development of the Republic of Belarus for 2021-2025. The current state of human potential requires the introduction and integration of effective organizational and economic mechanisms for its expansion at all levels (macro, meso and micro levels), as well as interaction at all stages of its management process within the socio-economic policy of the regions.

Conclusion. Therefore, it is necessary to develop methodological support for the rating assessment of the development and return of human potential in order to determine its management algorithms, build a step-by-step practice-oriented mechanism for its management at the regional level, predict the processes of qualitative and quantitative accumulation of human potential, and therefore be based on the calculation of demographic, educational and research indices. a component of the human potential of regions.

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# PROBLEMS OF LEGAL SUPPORT OF BILINGUALISM IN CANADA: HISTORY AND MODERNITY 

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Keywords: bilingualism, official language, discriminatory language policy.
The bilingualism of Canada is one of the basic cornerstones of the Canadian state, defining its identity and geopolitical specific position in the global space. Today, English is the mother tongue of about $57 \%$ of Canadians, and French is the mother tongue of $21 \%$. At the same time, not everyone speaks two official languages at once. About $15 \%$ of the country's residents do not speak English, and about 70\% speak French. The remaining 22\% of the population do not speak French or English at all - almost 6,5 million people use the language of immigrants: Chinese, Hindi, Ukrainian, Eskimo, Cree, etc.

The purpose of the study is to characterize the current problems of modern Canadian language policy and the peculiarities of its legal regulation.

Material and methods. The main material of the work was the constitutional legislation of Canada. The formal legal method and specific legal analysis were used in the analysis of the NPA.

Findings and their discussion. Canada has a multicomponent exoglossic language situation with 2 official languages - English and French. By demographic weight, the language situation in Canada is not in equilibrium. English dominates almost the entire territory of the state: for example, in the maritime provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, the number of anglophones reaches $90 \%$ of the population, and in other provinces, with the exception of Quebec, New Brunswick and the territory of Nunavut, anglophones make up $70 \%$ of the total population. The largest number of Francophones is concentrated in three border provinces: Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, where their total number reaches $96,8 \%$ of the total French-speaking population of the country [1].

In addition to the two officially recognized official languages, the languages of the autochthonous population and immigrants also function on the territory of Canada. The Constitution of Canada recognizes 3 categories of the indigenous population: American Indians ( $59,5 \%$ ), Mestizos $(33,2 \%)$ and Innuit Eskimos $(4,3 \%)$. The existence of most indigenous languages is in danger of extinction, since the number of native speakers in some cases is only a few dozen people, in addition, some peoples have interrupted the tradition of language transmission from older generations to younger ones. In addition, as many researchers note, there is a high level of bilingualism among the younger generations of the indigenous population, and in some cases, a preference for English or French as their native language, especially in urban settings [2, p. 32].

The increase in the number of immigrants also contributes to the spread of other languages and dialects in Canada. The number of so-called allophones has now reached more than 5 million people. The Federal Population Census of 2018 demonstrated that Chinese is the 1st most widely spoken native language for immigrant residents of Canada, Italian is the 2nd, German is the 3rd, Punjabi is on the 4th.

The French language is in continuous contact with English, as a result of which a situation of bilingualism and diglossia of English and French has been established in the country. In modern Canada, English and French have unequal communicative power. Of the 33 million Canadians, English is the native language for 18 million, French is for 7 million residents. The official status of two official languages guarantees the right of the Canadian population to receive services in federal administrative institutions, judicial authorities in any of the official languages [1].

However, services in 2 languages are not provided in municipalities and private enterprises located in English-speaking provinces. Francophones, whose number is less than $5 \%$ in such provinces, are forced to use only English in administrative institutions. Consequently, the legally established equal status of English and French is actually valid only in those territorial units where it is justified by a sufficient proportion of linguistic minorities. The requirement of equal opportunities for the use of 2 state languages in various spheres of life is legally fixed: on labels and packages of manufactured products, on monetary units, postage stamps, at airports, in the media. However, it should be noted that the services provided by post offices, the police and the armed forces are carried out to a greater extent in English. A different situation in favor of creating a right-wing lobbying regime in favor of the French language has developed in Quebec, the only province where only French is actually the official language of office work. It is spoken by $85 \%$ of the inhabitants. Quebec was once a bilingual region, but in recent decades there has been a trend of legal "displacement" of the English language. FrancoQuebecers have organized their own path of development thanks to the large-scale
language policy pursued by both the provincial authorities and the entire Quebec society. Quebec's language policy was based on a large number of regional language laws that defined the main ways to implement this policy. A language police was created here, and in 2022 a regional law was introduced prohibiting the use of English in business, in courts, when providing public services, and so on. Even immigrants are not allowed to receive services in English, and their children are required to go to French-speaking schools [3].

The question of the prestige of the official languages of Canada is connected with the history of the long Anglo-French conflict and the formation of national identity. The period from the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which meant the annexation of Canada by Great Britain, to the independence of Canada was marked by the continuous struggle of French Canadians for freedom, preservation of national culture, native language and identity.

Preservation and development of bilingualism is a priority direction of the federal policy of the state, as evidenced by a sufficient number of institutions whose activities are related to the settlement of the interlanguage conflict. Thus, in 1963-1970, the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism was established, an important result of which was the first Law on Official Languages, adopted by Parliament in 1969, which secured for French and English the equal status of official languages of federal authorities. Law of 1988 It is aimed at developing and supporting Anglophone and Francophone communities in a minority situation, as well as ensuring equality of the two languages in Canadian society. Control over the implementation of the abovementioned resolutions, as well as the observance of the language rights of citizens, is carried out by the Commissariat for the Official Languages of Canada.

Conclusion. Currently, despite the officially equal status of the two languages in the state, English occupies a dominant position in society and poses a serious threat to the spread of the French language. At the same time, a partially discriminatory language policy towards the English language is carried out by the authorities of Quebec. As a result of the conflict between French-Canadians and Anglo-Canadians, the French language has become a mandatory marker for the entire community of residents of the province of Quebec from the marker of the ethnocultural identification of FrenchCanadians. The Federal Government has repeatedly made efforts to address issues related to the legal and law enforcement provision of equal status of English and French, as well as the language rights of citizens of other minorities.

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