

# **“ADULT LEARNING & COMMUNITIES IN A WORLD ON THE MOVE: BETWEEN NATIONAL TENSIONS AND TRANSNATIONAL CHALLENGES”**

UNIVERSITY OF LOWER SILESIA, FACULTY OF EDUCATION,  
WROCLAW, STRZEGOMSKA ST. 55

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## **Discourses of power in the symbolic nature of language the reflection of adult learners' viewpoint**

This article aims to present an analysis of the use of economic crisis metaphors in times of widely social changes, connected with the last political actions in Poland. Moreover, it focuses on the influence of these metaphors on the changing, everyday knowledge of adult learners. The article tries to examine the public discourse as reflected in the Polish press and in the latest TV interviews and how it is perceived by the group of 50 adult learners, attending the course of the frames of reference in political discourse at the University of Zielona Góra. It is also the example of analysis of the conceptual metaphors, the use of them in the economic and financial discourses and their particular categorization to make sense of the crisis situation. What is more, it tries to present this categorization in the speculum of adult learners' perspective. The data, showing the adult learners attitudes, was gathered in the questionnaires and during the action research.

The research approach is focused on general hypothesis that one can expect a fairly common use of the same metaphors and with the same importance of using them despite of their journalistic diversity. The empirical research design is described in the second part of the paper. Finally, the main results of the research are stated. The visible uniformity while the usage of the main metaphors is treated by the author as a critical and problematic interpretation of the social changes and economic crisis on the Polish market. This kind of conception is also presented in the adult learners' approach and in their style of dealing with this subject.

Keywords: metaphors, the latest social changes in Poland, economic crisis, Polish newspapers' and "national" TV news, frames of reference in political discourse, adult learners, action research

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