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### ON THE SEMANTIC CHANGE OF “UTSKHO” (FOREIGN) RELATED TO LANGUAGE IN THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL SPACE

The paper discusses the question of the artificial change of the word semantics by the influence of the Soviet language policy.

During the Soviet period the term: *foreign language* lost its original meaning and in the conformity of the Imperial background it became the antonym of the Soviet language/languages. The opposition: Native – foreign was replaced with the pair: Soviet –foreign. Consequently, as opposed to the term “foreign” the terms “Soviet” and “native” appeared in the single semantic field; on the other hand “soviet” had logically come near the “native” that brought the narrowing of semantics of the word “utskho”(foreign): “utskho” – non-Georgian >“utskho” – non-Soviet.