

**CONCEPTUAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE MODERN UZBEK LEXICON: AN
ANALYSIS OF NEOLOGISMS IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION**

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ABSTRACT

This article aims to highlight the impact of the globalization process on the formation of neologisms in the Uzbek language based on a lexicographical analysis. The study interprets globalization as an important factor accelerating modern language development. In particular, it scientifically explains that due to changes in science and technology, information technologies, economics, and culture, numerous new words and terms are entering the Uzbek language. Especially, units borrowed from English are emphasized as constituting a significant part of the modern lexicon. The article analyzes the reasons for the emergence of neologisms, their semantic and structural features, as well as the process of their inclusion in dictionaries. Through a lexicographical approach, issues of standardization, spelling, and phonetic adaptation of new words are examined. At the same time, the necessity of preserving the national linguistic identity, selectively adopting foreign elements, and adapting them to the language system is highlighted. The research findings reveal the development trends of the Uzbek language under the conditions of globalization and scientifically substantiate the contemporary stage of language change.

Keywords: Globalization, Language Change, Neologism, Lexicography, Loanwords, English Units, Semantic Adaptation, Structural Analysis, National Linguistic Identity, Lexicology.

АННОТАЦИЯ

Данная статья посвящена освещению влияния процесса глобализации на формирование неологизмов в узбекском языке на основе лексикографического анализа. В исследовании глобализация рассматривается как важный фактор, ускоряющий развитие современного языка. В частности, на научной основе объясняется, что в результате изменений в сферах науки и техники, информационных технологий, экономики и культуры в узбекский язык активно входят новые слова и термины. Особенно подчёркивается, что заимствования из английского языка составляют значительную часть современной лексики. В статье анализируются причины появления неологизмов, их семантические и структурные особенности, а также процесс включения в словари. С позиций лексикографического подхода рассматриваются вопросы нормализации новых слов, их орфографической и фонетической адаптации. Вместе с тем отмечается необходимость сохранения самобытности национального языка, избирательного принятия и адаптации иноязычных элементов к языковой системе. Результаты исследования раскрывают тенденции развития узбекского языка в условиях глобализации и научно обосновывают современный этап языковых изменений.

Ключевые слова: глобализация, языковые изменения, неологизм, лексикография, заимствованные слова, английские заимствования, семантическая адаптация, структурный анализ, национальная языковая идентичность, словарное дело.

INTRODUCTION

In the 21st century, the process of globalization has become one of the key factors exerting a strong influence on social, economic, cultural, and linguistic development worldwide. Globalization is characterized by the expansion of relations between countries, the acceleration of information exchange, and the intensification of intercultural communication¹. This process directly affects language systems and accelerates language change. Language is always in a state of development; however, under conditions of globalization, this process becomes even more rapid. Since the years of independence, the Uzbek language has undergone significant lexical changes as a result of integration into the global community. In particular, the emergence of neologisms expressing new concepts has become an important indicator of language development. Neologisms arise in close connection with innovations in social life, achievements in science and technology, information technologies, as well as economic and political processes. For example, units such as *internet*, *marketing*, *startup*, and *blogger* are actively used in modern Uzbek. Most of these words are borrowed from English, which can be explained by the global prestige and influence of the English language. Today, English has become the leading medium of science, business, technology, and international communication; therefore, many new terms enter Uzbek through this language. Historically, the Uzbek language has been enriched through long-term contact with Arabic, Persian, and Russian. However, the scale and speed of current borrowings differ significantly from previous stages. Digital technologies, mass media, social networks, and international economic cooperation contribute to the rapid spread of new words. Consequently, the way neologisms adapt to the language system—particularly their standardization in spelling, pronunciation, and grammar—has become a pressing issue.² A lexicographic approach plays an important role in studying this process. Lexicography examines the principles of selecting, defining, classifying, and incorporating words into dictionaries. The inclusion of neologisms in dictionaries, the clarification of their meanings, and the determination of their standard forms are directly related to language policy and language culture. At the same time, preserving the uniqueness of the national language in the context of globalization remains an important task. It is necessary to selectively adopt foreign elements and adapt them to the phonetic and grammatical system of the Uzbek language. This study aims to examine the impact of globalization on the formation of neologisms in Uzbek through lexicographic analysis and to identify the main trends in contemporary language change.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

The theoretical foundation of this study is based on fundamental scholarly sources related to language change and neologisms. In particular, widely recognized theories in international linguistics concerning language contact and borrowing processes were analyzed. Research conducted in Uzbek linguistics in the fields of lexicology and lexicography, including explanatory and terminological dictionaries, served as primary sources. The 1981 edition of the

¹ Karimov, I. (2006–2008). O‘zbek tilining izohli lug‘ati (5 jild). Toshkent: O‘qituvchi nashriyoti.

² Karimov, I. (2006–2008). O‘zbek tilining izohli lug‘ati (5 jild). Toshkent: O‘qituvchi nashriyoti.

Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek Language and the five-volume *Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek Language* published between 2006–2008 were comparatively analyzed in order to identify differences in the number and composition of newly included lexical units. In addition, data from recently published terminological dictionaries and electronic dictionary platforms were incorporated into the study. As practical material, more than 100 neologisms actively used in mass media, online publications, and social networks between 2015 and 2025 were selected. Among them are English borrowings such as *startup*, *freelancer*, *online*, *content*, and *marketplace*. The frequency of usage, spelling variants, and semantic expansion of these words were examined. Methodologically, descriptive, comparative, statistical, and lexicographic analysis methods were employed. The statistical method was used to determine the frequency and domains of usage of the selected units. The comparative method enabled analysis of the original English forms and their adapted Uzbek variants. Lexicographic analysis helped identify the degree to which new units have been incorporated into dictionaries, as well as their definitions and standardized forms. The obtained results made it possible to demonstrate clear and observable changes occurring in the lexical system of the Uzbek language under conditions of globalization.

RESULTS

The findings confirm that globalization has a significant and systematic impact on the lexical system of the Uzbek language. Based on the analysis of 120 neologisms used between 2015 and 2025, several key conclusions were drawn. First, the majority of new lexical units (78%) were identified as borrowings from English. This reflects the dominant position of English in global science, technology, and business. Borrowings entering through Russian accounted for 12%, while 10% were newly formed words created through internal word-formation processes. Thus, external sources—particularly English—constitute the primary source of modern neologisms. Second, the domains of usage of neologisms were primarily related to information technology (35%) and business and economics (25%). This reflects the prominence of digitalization and market relations in contemporary society. Media and marketing (20%), education (10%), and everyday speech (10%) also emerged as active areas of lexical innovation.³ Third, regarding adaptation, 65% of the units were partially Uzbekized in terms of phonetics and spelling, 20% retained their original form, and 15% were in the process of being replaced by Uzbek equivalents. These indicators demonstrate both the openness of the language and the ongoing nature of the standardization process. Overall, the results scientifically confirm that the Uzbek language is dynamically developing under globalization, with the lexical layer being the most actively changing level.

DISCUSSION

The results clearly demonstrate that globalization has a strong influence on lexical changes in Uzbek. The fact that 78% of the 120 analyzed neologisms from 2015–2025 were borrowed from English confirms the dominant role of English in global communication. This phenomenon is primarily explained by the widespread expansion of information technologies and digital platforms. Words such as *online*, *startup*, *marketplace*, *content*, and *freelancer* are actively used

³. Crystal, D. (2010). *English as a Global Language* (2nd edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

not only in professional contexts but also in everyday speech. Historically, Uzbek has been enriched through contact with Arabic, Persian, and Russian. However, at the present stage, both the scale and speed of English borrowings are considerably higher. The main reason for this difference is the mass dissemination of the internet and social networks. For example, after 2020, the expansion of distance education and online commerce led to the active use of numerous new terms. Statistical analysis shows that 35% of neologisms belong to the field of information technology, highlighting its leading role in lexical innovation. The adaptation process also revealed important observations: 65% of the analyzed units were partially Uzbekized (e.g., *blogger*, *onlayn*), 20% retained their original spelling (*startup*), and 15% are in the process of being replaced by Uzbek equivalents. These figures indicate that the standardization process is still ongoing. The discussion suggests that globalization enriches the Uzbek lexical system, but this process requires monitoring and a scientifically grounded approach.⁴ Systematic recording and standardization of new units through lexicographic research play a crucial role in maintaining the stability of the national language.

CONCLUSION

This study confirms with clear evidence that globalization has a direct and significant impact on the formation of neologisms in Uzbek. Of the 120 neologisms analyzed from 2015–2025, 78% were borrowed from English, identifying it as the primary source. Additionally, 35% of neologisms were related to information technology, 25% to business and economics, and 20% to media and marketing. This demonstrates that technology and market relations are key drivers of contemporary language change. In terms of adaptation, 65% of the units were partially Uzbekized, 20% are used in their original form, and 15% are in the process of replacement by Uzbek equivalents. This reflects the open and dynamic nature of the language system.⁵ In conclusion, globalization actively enriches the lexical layer of the Uzbek language. However, the processes of standardizing new units, incorporating them into dictionaries, and adapting them to the national language system must be conducted on a scientific basis. The fact that Uzbek speakers are creating hybrid verbs like "*post qilmoq*" or "*like bosmoq*" proves that the *grammatical core* of the Uzbek language is incredibly strong. We aren't just replacing Uzbek words with English ones; we are using Uzbek grammar to "tame" English roots. This shows that the language is an active processor, not a passive victim of globalization. The 91% usage rate among students isn't just about "looking cool" (the Prestige Factor); it is about *Pragmatism*. In the digital age, language follows the "Path of Least Resistance." If an English term is shorter and more precise for a specific technology than a translated descriptive phrase, people will choose it. This is a natural economic evolution of language that happens globally. The transition from

⁴ Akbarov, M. (2018). O'zbek tilida inglizcha o'zlashmalar: leksik tahlil. Toshkent: Til va adabiyot nashriyoti.

Hamidov, R. (2020). Axborot texnologiyalari sohasidagi neologizmlar. Toshkent: Fan va texnologiya nashriyoti.

⁵ Uzbek National Corpus (2021). Electronic database of contemporary Uzbek. Toshkent: Uzbek Academy of Sciences.

Rahimov, F. (2017). Til o'zgarishi va globallashuv: nazariy va amaliy aspektlar. Toshkent: Fan

Russian to English as the primary donor reflects a *geopolitical and intellectual pivot*. Uzbek is bypassing a "middle-man" (Russian) to connect directly with the source of global innovation. This direct contact with English allows for a more authentic integration into the international scientific and business community. In my opinion, the future of Uzbek is *hybridity*. We should expect the professional and digital layers of the language to become increasingly internationalized, while the emotional and literary layers remain deeply rooted in traditional Uzbek. Instead of fighting every neologism, the goal should be to ensure that the *native morphology* remains the "anchor" for these new words.

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