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**Bilingual Education in the Discourse of Identity  
(Soviet and post-soviet experience)**

**ABSTRACT**

Bilingual education can completely alter a person, and build up an individual's psychology and attitudes. It's a well known fact that while receiving bilingual/multicultural education, a person gets to know and applies the culture of a foreign language. And this, in its turn, creates another new identity within a person.

During the Soviet era the bilingual education developed a soviet identity. The Russian language, having been used as a second and in certain cases as a first language, became so important and compulsory that in some former USSR states or ethnic groups it still remains as influential as ever.

The identity crisis was clearly evident during the post-soviet period. This severe crisis was directly related to the bilingual education.