

Multilingual Education of European Union – Backstage of Ideology

Olena Oleksiyenko,
olena.oleksiyenko@gmail.com

Ilona Wysmulek
ilona.wysmulek@gmail.com

Institute of Philosophy and Sociology
Polish Academy of Science

Outline

- Inequalities and multilingual education
- Post-communist context: main ideologies concerning education
- European Union language recommendation
- Context of Poland - field for language improvement
- Ascriptive factors and foreign language proficiency in Poland

Inequalities and Multilingual Education

- *Main research questions:*

- ~ Is there a strong relationship between the declared ability to speak FL and socio-economic status of parents in Poland in the context of present FL ideologies?

- ~ What changes have occurred in this issue in 2013 compared to 1993?

- *Definitions:*

- ~ FL education – part of compulsory curriculum in Poland, key competence in EU policies

- ~ Socio-economic status of parents – Polish sociological occupational categorization (SKZ) and education levels

Theoretical standpoint

Butler (2013): socio-economic dimensions – one of the factors that determine FLA, but rarely studied

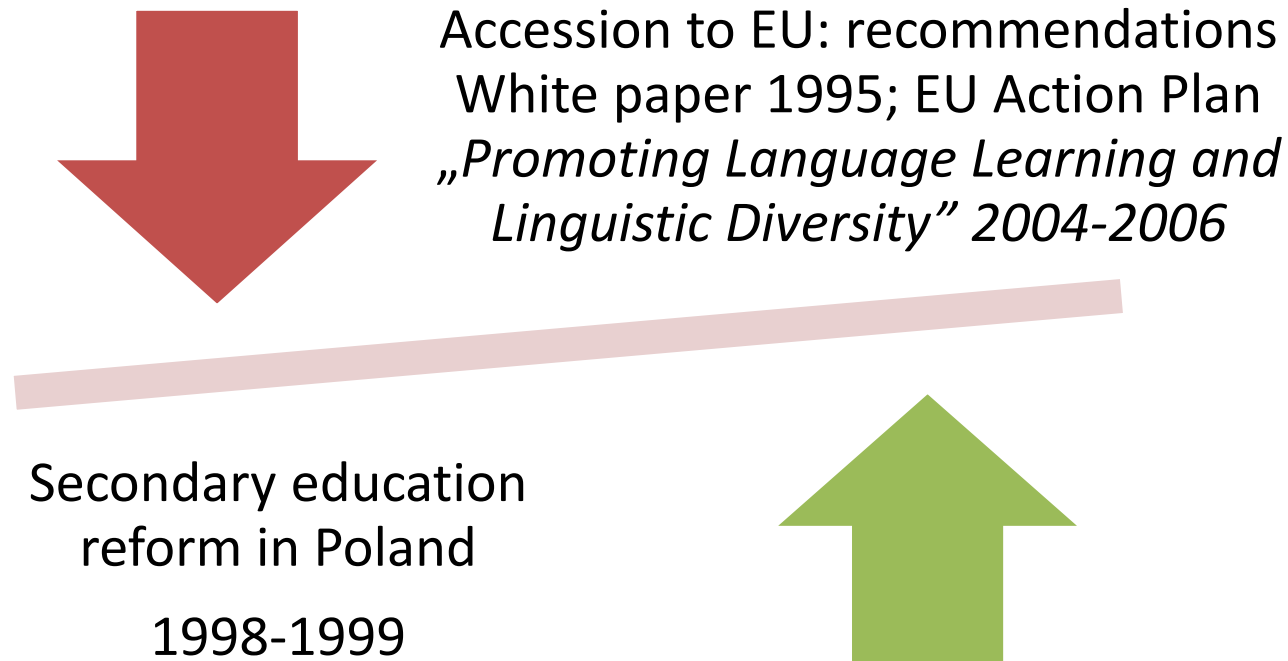
Enever (2011): parental educational levels significantly correlate with young learners' comprehension in FL

Hampton, et al. (1995): poor academic achievements among low SES students explained by
1) *cultural deficiency theories* 2) *cultural conflict theories* 3) *institutional deficiency theories*

Contexts of Inequality Reproduction

- Focus: Poland as a post-communist country and member of EU
- Before: Communist period - educational inequalities reproductions (Heyns, Bialecki, 1993; Simonova, Antonowicz, 2006)
- Change after the fall of communism?

Ideology in democratic Poland: equal opportunities for „everyone”



First European Survey on Language Competences (2012)

Percentage of students at each CEFR level by educational system using composite index (First target language)

Educational system	Pre-A1	A1	A2	B1	B2
France (EN)	31	40	15	9	5
Flemish community of Belgium (FR)	16	41	20	15	7
Poland (EN)	24	34	17	15	10
Spain (EN)	22	35	17	14	13
Portugal (EN)	20	33	16	16	15
French Community of Belgium (EN)	11	36	24	19	10
Bulgaria (EN)	20	28	16	16	19
German Community of Belgium (FR)	9	29	21	21	19
Greece (EN)	13	22	16	22	26
Croatia (EN)	11	23	18	24	23
Slovenia (EN)	6	22	19	25	29
Estonia (EN)	7	20	12	20	41
Netherlands (EN)	2	14	18	30	36
Malta (EN)	2	7	9	22	60
Sweden (EN)	1	6	11	25	57



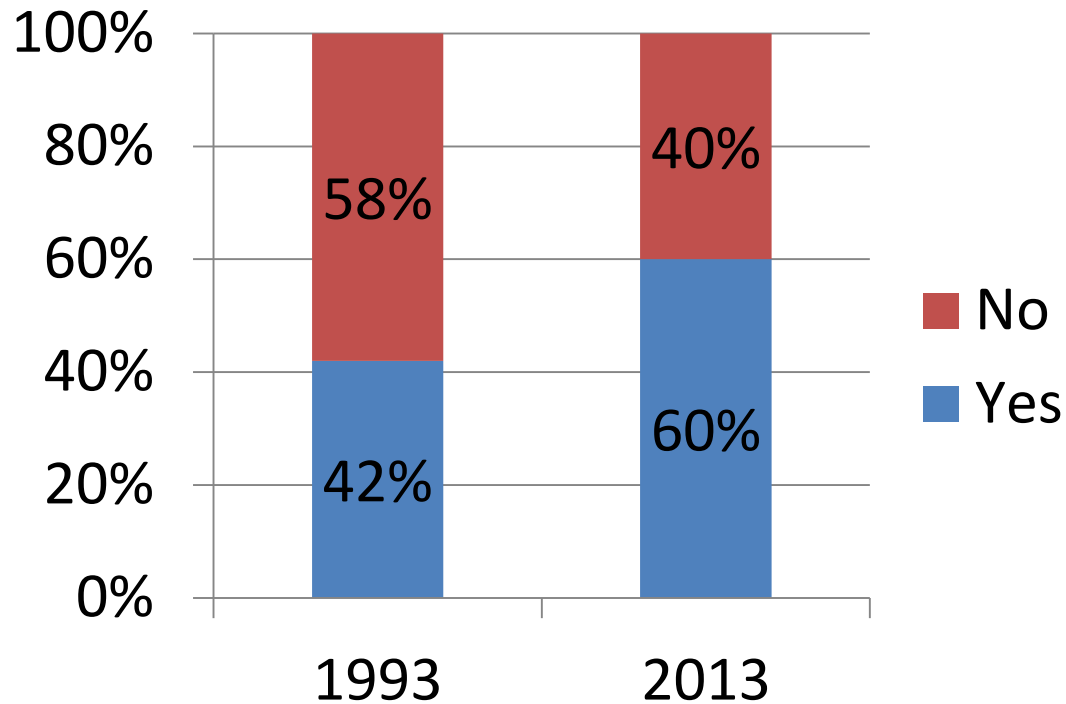
POLPAN

POLSKIE BADANIE PANELOWE
POLISH PANEL SURVEY

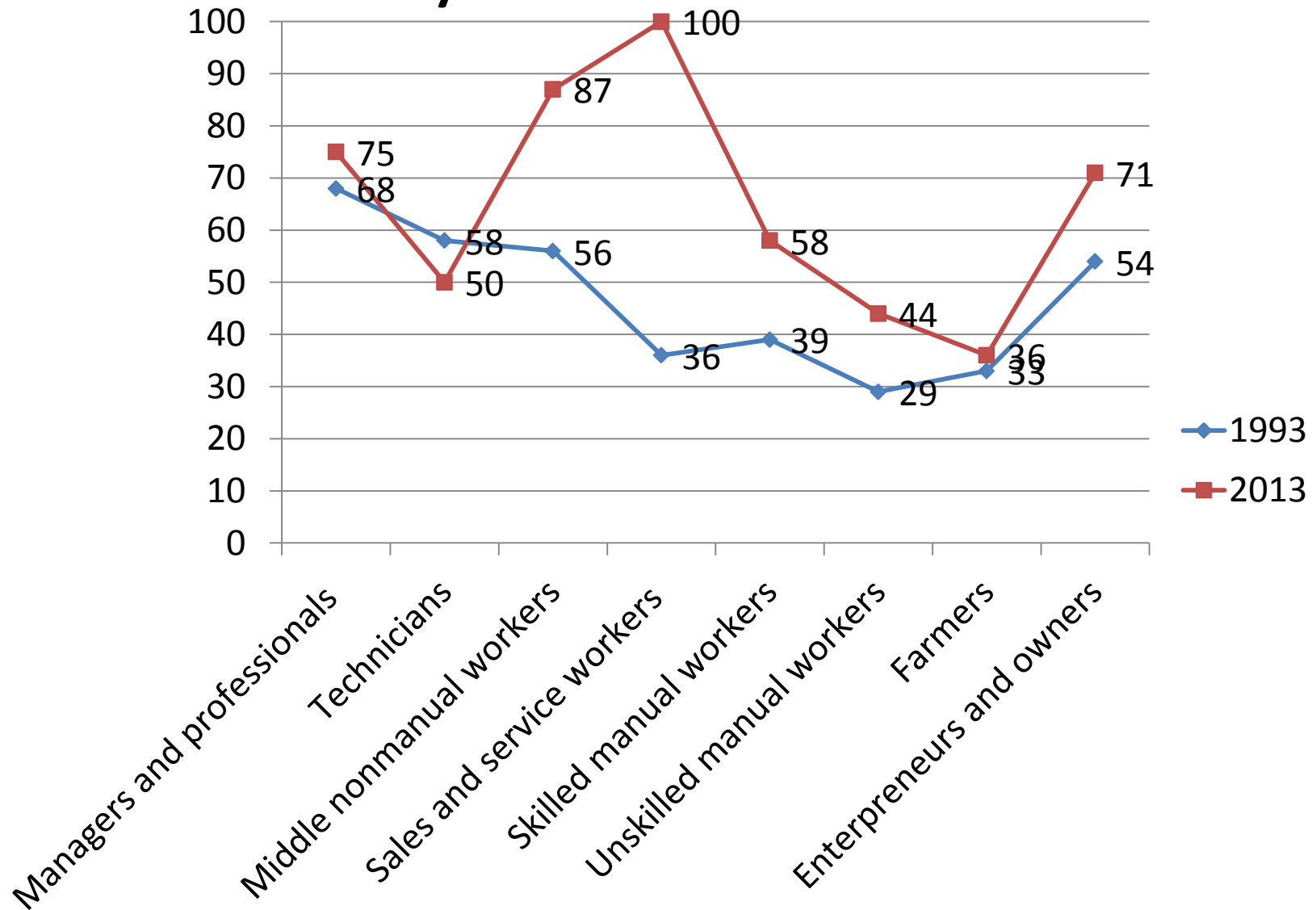
the Polish Panel Survey

- Time span: since 1988 in 5-year intervals
- Main focus: social structure and its change in Poland
- Carried out by the Team for Comparative Analyses of Social Inequality (IFiS PAN)
- Sample: 2259 respondents (1993)
2196 respondents (2013)
- Panel sample in all 5 waves - 711 respondents

Declared FL Proficiency – 26-35 age group



Proportion of Youth Speaking FL by Father's Class



Ascriptive Factors and Foreign Language Proficiency (26-35 age group)

Father's occupation	1993	2013
Managers and professionals	0.79	0.75
Technicians	0.56	0.5
Middle nonmanual workers	0.52	0.87
Sales and service workers	0.4	1
Skilled manual workers	0.37	0.58
Unskilled manual workers	0.31	0.4
Farmers	0.3	0.36
Entrepreneurs and owners	0.4	0.71
F	5.51	2.04
Prob > F	0.00	0.05

Significant Predictors of FLP?

Logistic regression

Number of obs = 476
 LR chi2(4) = 45.77
 Prob > chi2 = 0.0000
 Pseudo R2 = 0.0789

Log likelihood = -267.20753

lang_21_25	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
rural2013	.6788105	.1432988	-1.84	0.066	.4488049 1.02669
sex	.5713334	.1203737	-2.66	0.008	.3780514 .8634327
mom13_tert~y	3.855087	1.771659	2.94	0.003	1.566219 9.488898
dad13_tert~y	4.539387	2.871756	2.39	0.017	1.313714 15.68532

AGE group 21-25

Rural -33% less likely to know foreign language

Females – 57% more likely to speak foreign language

Tertiary education of mother – 4 times more likely to know FL

Tertiary education of father – 4.5 times more likely to know FL

Thank you!

Comments and questions
are warmly welcomed

Olena Oleksiyenko
olena.oleksiyenko@gmail.com



Ilona Wysmulek
ilona.wysmulek@gmail.com