Peter Reimer - Restructuration des répertoires langagiers de migrant-e-s de la République du Congo en Lorraine

Abstract

The present study examines the plurilingualism of migrants of the Republic of Congo in Lorraine through the prism of the concept of restructuration of linguistic repertoires. Introduced in the 1960s by John J. Gumperz, the notion of linguistic repertoires is central in

languages appropriated in migration. The French resources are restructured from the migrants by appropriation of the common resources in different social situations in Lorraine and by marking and/or relegating inappropriate resources appropriated elsewhere. A the same time, knowledge of differentiating resources, which include classification schemes and communicative strategies, are developed as linguistic (in)security manifests. The resources associated with Congolese languages, their social functions and their representations are restructured in processes of attrition, actualization, transformation and linguistic elaboration. Moreover, resources associated with other European languages are relegated and slowly lost because of a lack of use. Finally, knowledge of management in plurilingualism, cultural diversity and otherness, appropriated in the same situations of diversity, helps internal treatment of experiences of spatial and social mobility along the restructuring of linguistic repertoires.