

## MODELING THE «POLITICAL LIFE» FRAME CONCEPT ON THE BASIS OF A POLITICAL-APHORISM CORPUS

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*The article deals with revealing mechanisms of modeling a frame structure of the POLITICAL LIFE concept on the basis of a corpus of aphorisms whose authors are famous politicians of the past and present, which is implemented by means of the formula «notion – proposition – slot». Illustrative frame-model schemes of the researched concept and respective tools of verbalizing their elements are represented as well.*

**Key words:** *concept, frame, basic frames, aphorism, corpus.*

In the modern computer-technology era linguistics provides a great applied potential of its usage for researching certain phenomena of our world that are generalized and modeled in the form of special schemes called concepts. The given article reveals mechanisms of reproducing a cognitive frame model of the POLITICAL LIFE concept on the basis of political aphorisms collected in a single linguistic set – corpus. That defines **the subject matter of our research** – the POLITICAL LIFE concept – while **the specific research topic** is constructing a frame model of the above-mentioned concept by engaging political aphorisms as a tool of verbalizing its constituent slots. **The research objective** is providing a final visual frame model of the POLITICAL LIFE concept with an accompanying list of aphorisms used for constructing and verbalizing its structure network. To achieve that objective we accord it necessary to complete **the following tasks**: 1) to reveal essence of research theoretical points: what is concept, frame, aphorism, corpus, etc.; 2) to represent an algorithm that can be used as a fundament for constructing the POLITICAL LIFE frame concept; 3) to illustrate the constructed frame model with aphorisms that verbalize its structure. Among **research methods** we engage in our article a registering method (selecting and arranging units into a single linguistic corpus) as well as modeling and thesaurus methods (generating a frame model of the researched concept). **Research practical relevance** consists in using the stated frame-modeling mechanisms for producing similar models when researching other concepts on the basis of aphorism corpora.

Cognitive linguistics is a linguistic branch that considers ways of collecting, keeping and using verbalized knowledge. It is a science about language itself as well as about a reflected world picture.

In its broadest meaning, world picture is regarded as a knowledge set about reality that was generated by public, group or individual consciousness [1, p. 51]. World pictures are divided into objective-reality, cognitive and linguistic pictures.

An objective-reality world picture is an object of human's cognizing the world, which further provides individual and collective consciousness with a cognitive world picture that becomes a certain result of perceiving and considering the environment. The most important cognitive-picture elements are reflected in a linguistic world picture that is interpreted as a total information set about inner and outer worlds fixed in a colloquial language [2, p. 108]. Linguistic world pictures verbalize results of human-consciousness considered reality facts creating certain units that are called concepts.

Concept is one of the main cognitive-linguistics notions. However, there is no single definition in describing concepts. Difficulties in interpreting concepts are conditioned by several circumstances. Firstly, concept is an interdisciplinary formation and is used in many sciences. Secondly, the concept phenomenon itself is a complex issue. Therefore, today

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concepts are researched in terms of psychological [3, p. 4], logical [4, p. 3], philosophical [5, p. 36], culturological [6, p. 43] and integrative [7, p. 9] approaches.

Nowadays the concept notion is also actively used in two branches — cultural and cognitive linguistics. Within each branch the notion is interpreted differently; therefore there is a great tendency to distinguish cognitive and cultural approaches to defining concepts [8, p. 58]. Such approach differentiation is traced in works by V. I. Karasik, G. G. Slyshkin, Y. D. Tilman, etc.

The cognitive approach (A.P. Babushkin, N. N. Boldyrev, O. S. Kubriakova, Z. D. Popova, I. A. Sternin) considers concepts in terms of knowledge and cognition defining it as a mental formation, a certain world-knowledge focus, a cognitive structure comprising multi-substrate consciousness units. The cultural approach (N. D. Arutyunova, A. Vezhbytskaya, S.V. Vorkachev, V. I. Karasik, M. V. Pimenova, G. G. Slyshkin, Y.S. Stepanov) regards concepts from language and culture perspectives as a consciousness element with focusing on its national-cultural originality and unique values for certain communities.

In our article we find it reasonable to accept the cognitive approach and define concepts as a discrete mental formation, a basic human-thinking unit with a relatively arranged inner structure that comprises results of individual or public cognitive activities containing complex encyclopedic information about certain items or phenomena, about interpreting this information by public consciousness and about public-consciousness attitude to the given item or phenomenon [1, p. 34]. From our point of view, such a concept-notion definition is the fullest and most meaningful one.

A difficult problem in the cognitive-research theory is also defining a concept typology. In the above-mentioned approaches researchers propose different principles of their classification, which allows distinguishing such concept types as thinking pictures, schemes, hyperonyms, frames, insights, scripts, kaleidoscope concepts, feeling images, ideas, notions, prototypes, propositions, gestalts, symbols, etc. [9, p. 43–67; 10, p. 8; 1, p. 117–119; 11, p. 5]. Each of these concept types has own features differentiating them among other concepts and conditioning their role for representing world pictures.

A great representing potential of researched-concept essences is provided by frames that are generally regarded as a single category uniting different human knowledge and experience; an arranged representation of a certain reality situation; a structure containing linguistic and extralinguistic information about a notion or stereotype situation [12, p. 224]. As a separate concept type frame actualizes issue of its research methodology. Thus, S. A. Zhabotynska accords it reasonable to engage the thesaurus method that is usually used for constructing thesaurus-dictionary conceptual models [13, p. 75–80]. In particular, in terms of modeling frame concepts she offers to apply propositions of five basic frames (thing frame, action frame, possession frame, identification frame and comparison frame) that are represented by corresponding schemes.

Any frame (by M. Minsky) is graphically reproduced as a network of nodes and node connections [14, p. 212]. Among frame nodes there are notions and slots. Notions are top nodes as main invariable frame elements. Notion levels are usually called frame core. Lower levels consist of nodes whose information is variable, namely it changes depending on a situation. Such nodes are called slots, or periphery. A basis for understanding a stereotype situation is provided by notions that are connected with slots by means of propositions. Concretizing and agreeing slots with notions allows understanding a certain situation.

In our article frame concept representation actualizes an issue how concepts can be modeled in a frame form on the basis of aphorisms. Aphorisms are regarded as brief laconic statements that have a deep generalized thought by a certain author [15, p. 324]. For researches they can be reasonably applied as an arranged set rather than as separate units. Such arranged sets are called corpora.

In terms of corpus linguistics corpora are interpreted as a set of texts that is stored in a computer-readable form, contains over thousand words and is arranged for maximal language representation [16, p. 48–49; 17, p. 197]. The given article bases on this definition of the corpus notion.

As a single text set, any corpus is characterized by certain features distinguishing it from other random text collections. These features include: representativeness, e-format,

annotation (layout), data computer processing and over-1000-word volume [18, p. 26]. For our research the most important of them is representativeness, namely corpus ability to represent certain language properties that occur in each text of an arranged corpus. Such properties can be a common genre of all corpus texts, their common language style, etc. and they are used as a base for constructing corpora for certain practical purposes.

In our case corpus representativeness is realized by the POLITICAL LIFE concept that will be a key criterion to construct our own corpus for modeling its frame structure. From this perspective, the given concept can be represented in a corpus of political aphorisms each of which reveals certain features of political life giving us an opportunity to analyze and combine all these features in a single POLITICAL LIFE concept. The concept will be produced in a frame-model form, which is implemented according to the following algorithm: 1) Arranging a political-aphorism corpus;

2) Defining inner structure of each corpus aphorism (themes and rhemes) and its analyzing;

3) Modeling a frame network of the POLITICAL LIFE concept on the basis of theme-rheme relations where a frequently-occurring similar rheme will be a tool for generating slots while a frequently-occurring similar theme will be a tool of frame-network hierarchical division into notions and slots;

4) Reproducing a graphical scheme of the modeled concept by basic frames and illustrating its slots by means of aphorisms from the arranged corpus.

The given frame-modeling algorithm is derived from a similar algorithm for modeling concepts on the basis of proverbs, which was researched by us previously [19, p. 72]. We find it reasonable to apply exactly this algorithm because proverbs and aphorisms are identical notions with the only difference in their authorship: while the former have unknown folklore origin, the latter are created by certain famous persons (writers, public figures, politicians, etc.) at certain time in history. That is why this algorithm is well-applicable for current frame-modeling reasons.

Before implementing the above-mentioned algorithm we arrange a political-aphorism corpus. Our corpus is constructed on the basis of the virtual corpus (the Internet) where we find two websites dedicated purely to aphorisms – <http://lib-quotes.com/citaty-politikov-1.php> [20] and <http://www.aphorisme.ru> [21]. These websites contain many political aphorisms which we read and select among them the most suitable ones for frame-modeling aims. All selected aphorisms are saved in the *Microsoft Word* text editing program and translated into English because the two above-mentioned websites are in Russian. Then we proceed to frame-modeling itself according to the algorithm.

Analyzing themes and rhemes of separate aphorisms gives an opportunity to establish what features are typical for political life (rhemes) and in what political spheres these features are shown (themes). Thus, frequently-occurring themes generate three branches, or subframes, of the POLITICAL LIFE frame concept that are filled with slots representing certain proper politicians' qualities defined on the basis of frequently-occurring rhemes. Finally, we get a POLITICAL LIFE concept whose network is reproduced in a hierarchical order with propositions of thing and possession frames. Firstly, the POLITICAL LIFE frame notion is divided into three constituent subframes – WORKING RELATIONS, VALUES and CONCLUSIONS, – which is performed according to thing-frame propositions «SOMETHING (POLITICAL LIFE) exists AS (WORKING RELATIONS, VALUES and CONCLUSIONS)». Then these three political branches embodied in subframes are further divided into constituent slots representing what human qualities are usually traced in the given branches, which is performed according to possession-frame propositions «SOMETHING (WORKING RELATIONS, VALUES and CONCLUSIONS) has SOMETHING (SETTLING WARS BY NEGOTIATING, KEEPING ONE'S WORD, ABOUT ELECTION LIE, etc.)». The modeled POLITICAL LIFE frame concept is graphically reproduced in a scheme form (Figure 1), which is accompanied by a list of corpus political aphorisms that verbalize the frame-concept slots (Table 1 – <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4bPc2s3vyCEYTlxMm5ib0dhV2M/view?usp=sharing> [22]).

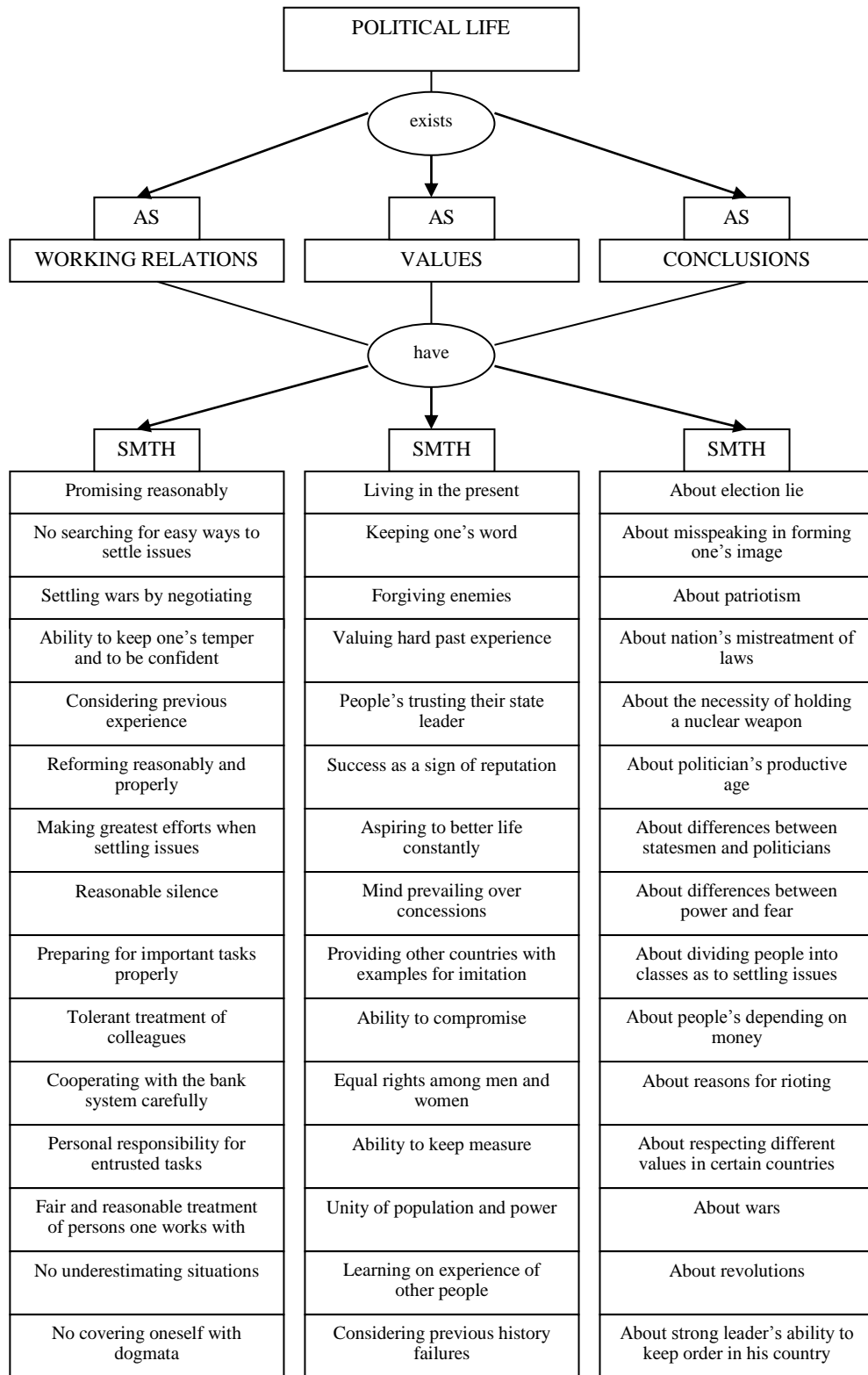
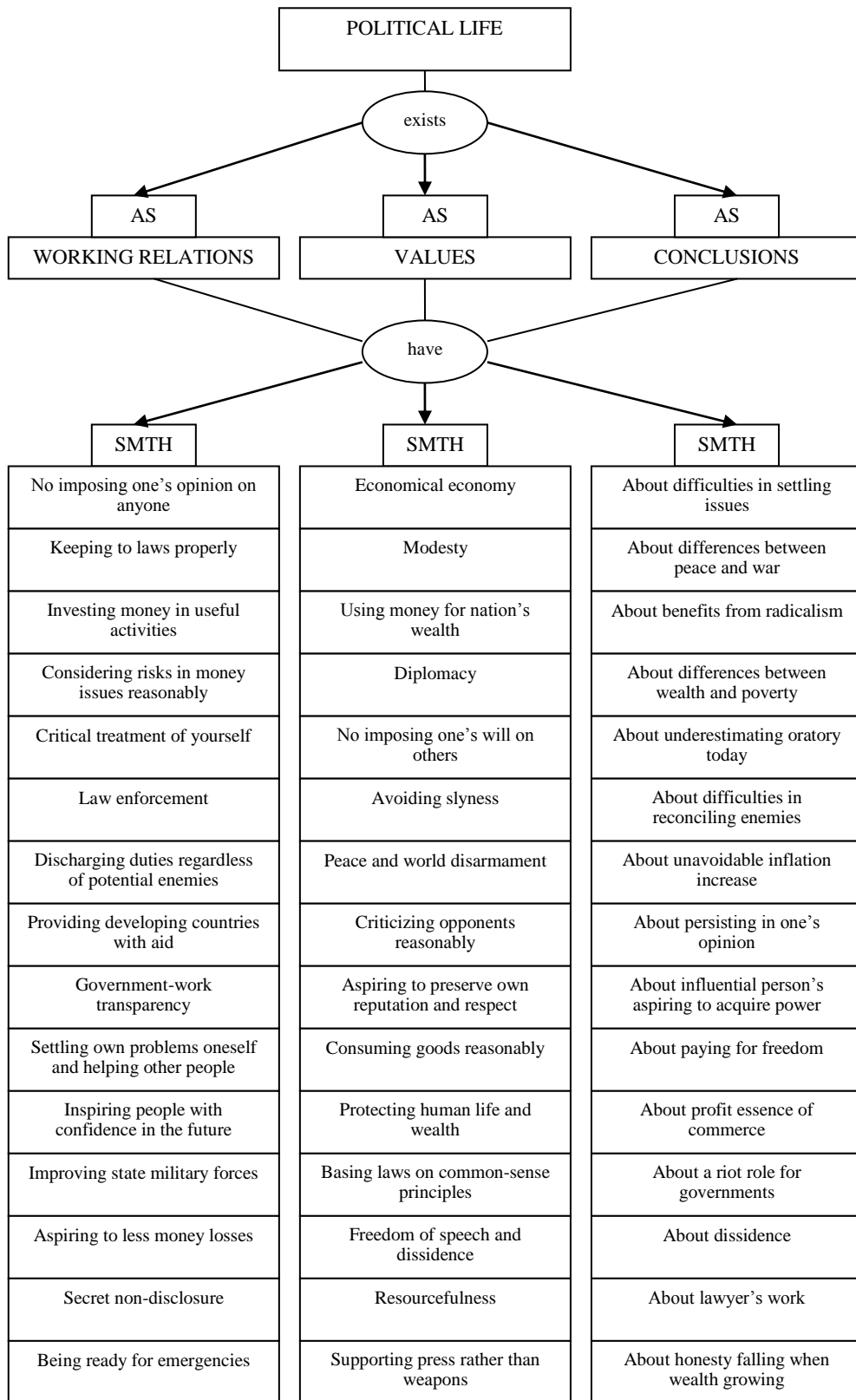


Figure 1(a) - Modeled Frame Structure of the POLITICAL LIFE Concept



*Figure 1(b) - Modeled Frame Structure of the POLITICAL LIFE Concept*

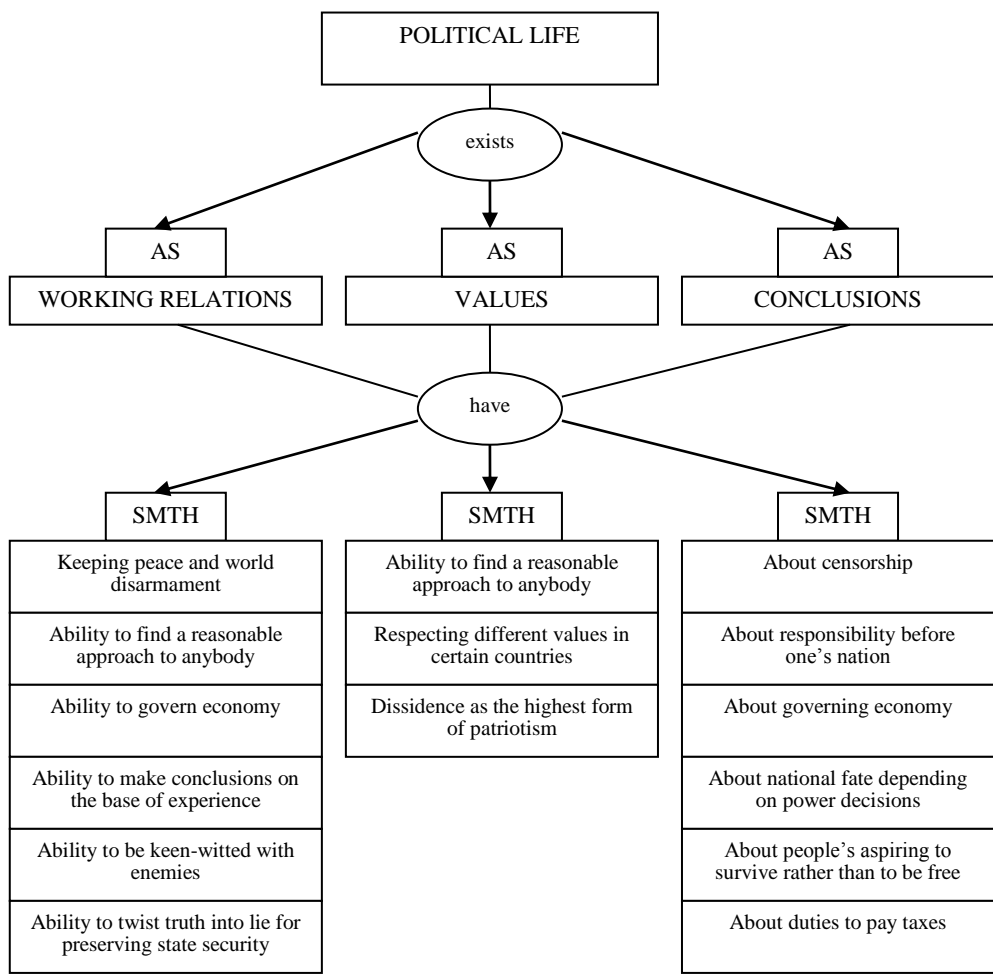


Figure 1(c) - Modeled Frame Structure of the POLITICAL LIFE Concept

Thus, the POLITICAL LIFE frame concept modeled by means of the political-aphorism corpus is revealed through thing and possession subframes representing its essence in three corresponding spheres politicians deal with. Further researches will be aimed at providing similar frame models of certain concepts on the basis of other aphorisms, for example aphorisms about wisdom.

**МОДЕЛЮВАННЯ ФРЕЙМОВОГО КОНЦЕПТУ «ПОЛІТИЧНЕ ЖИТТЯ»  
НА БАЗІ РЕСУРСІВ КОРПУСУ ПОЛІТИЧНИХ АФОРИЗМІВ**

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Стаття присвячена розкриттю механізмів моделювання фреймової структури концепту ПОЛІТИЧНЕ ЖИТТЯ на матеріалі ресурсів корпусу афоризмів, авторами яких виступають відомі політики минулого та сьогодення, що здійснюється за формулою «поняття – пропозиція – слот». Додатково наводяться ілюстративні схеми фреймової моделі досліджуваного концепту та відповідні засоби вербалізації його складових елементів.

**Ключові слова:** концепт, фрейм, базові фрейми, афоризм, корпус.

## МОДЕЛИРОВАНИЕ ФРЕЙМОВОГО КОНЦЕПТА «ПОЛИТИЧЕСКАЯ ЖИЗНЬ» НА БАЗЕ РЕСУРСОВ КОРПУСА ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИХ АФОРИЗМОВ

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*Статья рассматривает механизмы моделирования фреймовой структуры концепта ПОЛИТИЧЕСКАЯ ЖИЗНЬ на материале ресурсов корпуса афоризмов, авторами которых являются известные политики прошедшего и современного времени, что осуществляется по формуле «понятие – предложение – слот». Дополнительно приводятся иллюстративные схемы фреймовой модели искомого концепта, а также соответствующие средства вербализации его составных элементов.*

**Ключевые слова:** *концепт, фрейм, базовые фреймы, афоризм, корпус.*

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