SUMMARY

This doctoral thesis is a study of broadly understood intercultural communication in the context of political correctness and glottodidactics applied to Polish as a foreign and second language. The purpose of consideration and the conducted survey is to learn the state of social awareness about the phenomenon of PC (*political correctness*) in Polish language and culture. The social and educational perspectives (here: glottodidactic) adopted in the description, as well as the cross-cultural range of political correctness, enabled its analysis and provided the answer to the question about the legitimacy of introducing political correctness content to Polish language education.

The dissertation consists of five chapters (theoretical and analytical), introduction and conclusion, bibliography (including: netography), list of tables and graphs and an appendix (in the form of a questionnaire). It employed a non-systemic approach due to the variety of issues (sociolinguistic, pragmalinguistic and cognitive) constituting a point of reference in the description of political correctness – this contributed to the creation of a more precise to an already multidimensional linguistic image.

The introductory chapters are dedicated to the theoretical foundations of the PC phenomenon and glottodidactics applied to Polish as a foreign and second language. The first one indicated various ways of defining the concept of political correctness, the process of its formation against the background of historical and ideological changes and its importance in the modern world. The second of them presents a description of glottodidactics in the context of communication science, where, against the background of the historical outline of glottodidactics applied to Polish as a foreign and second language, the current state of research is shown, especially the expansion of its research areas with new areas, among which the concept of the didactics of multilingualism was considered the most important for consideration. As a goal to be achieved within intercultural education, it enriches and makes the Polish language education process more effective, which affects the development of intercultural communicative competence in the language user.

The next part is of an analytical nature, it indicates the relationship between selected elements of culture and their practical implementation in the language. The third chapter reflects on three phenomena: taboo, linguistic politeness and political correctness as well as compares their

similarities and differences and the nature of their mutual relations. The participation of new media in popularizing knowledge about the PC phenomenon has also been taken into account, which makes it still one of the more willingly quoted points of reference in public discussions. The fourth chapter is an overview of the linguistic determinants of political correctness – from the theoretical foundation, through references to the issue of language policy, to examples of politically correct language (including its textual implementations).

The last chapter presents the results of the author's own research, which were obtained using a questionnaire and interviews with respondents. The first part outlines the contemporary dimension of the title phenomenon and behaviors (including linguistic ones) recognized as politically correct or incorrect – references to euphemization, contextual understanding of meanings or the category of expressiveness of the linguistic message turned out to be important here. The second part is devoted to the analysis of the answers given to the survey questions, which concerned social awareness of the PC phenomenon, the activities undertaken in its field and the legitimacy of their practice in the glottodidactic process (here: Polish language education).

The non-systemic approach used in the description of political correctness made it possible to create its comprehensive view in the socio-cultural-educational perspective. It appears today as a phenomenon that evokes extreme emotions: on the one hand, the need for its presence in multicultural societies is indicated, thanks to which tolerance, respect, equality, openness and politeness towards other people are maintained; on the other hand, concerns are expressed about maintaining the sincerity and appropriate clarity of the transmitted messages, hierarchizing social groups, as well as unlimited intellectual development in the process of language education. Observing the Western world and the interpersonal relations occurring in it, one must admit that despite the noticeable controversy over the principles and content of political correctness, the PC phenomenon invariably has a real impact on building the so-called intercultural bridges of understanding.