Isadora Victorino Evangelista – Universidade Estadual Paulista - UNESP, Brazil
Thiago Henrique Bragato Barros – Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul – UFRGS, Brazil

Ethical Aspects in Knowledge Organization
A Discourse Analysis at ISKO International Events

Abstract:
The present research intended to analyse what is the perception from International Society for Knowledge Organization (ISKO) about Ethical studies in the field. To do that, was applied a discourse analysis in the papers with social contents presented in the international events of the society. Was possible to see a criticism to misrepresentation in languages considered universal, the exclusion of marginalized groups in society, and the change of paradigms of information access from the technological development.

1.0 The aim and scope of the study
Considering the relevance of ethical studies in knowledge organization, facing an increasingly globalized and multiple world, this study intended to analyze how the International Society for Knowledge Organization, while an important representative in knowledge organization studies, sees the Ethical studies in the field.

The study aimed to produce a theoretical framework about the main researches in this theme and reveal what is their point of view and ideas not declared expressed in their articles.

2.0 Methodology
For methodological aspects, we used the discourse analysis, arising from Pechêux studies and related to Foucault texts. This methodology aims to highlight the ruptures of ideologies and regards dialectical relations between dominated and dominant. The analysis was made from a search in ISKO international events papers, using the terms ethic*, gender, privacy, culture, prejudice, and bias, presents in the titles and abstracts of the articles. 72 articles were retrieved and analyzed using the Sketch Engine qualitative analysis software. This tool allows explore how language works, from the analysis of terms present in the text and the forms that they were found - as nouns, the verbs that accompany them, as an object, or as a subject, among other aspects. To discourse analysis, we also based on works by Barros (2012; 2017).

3.0 Results
Regarding the radical "ethic*," was observed that the highest incidence of a modifier of the term is "transcultural," primarily due an article by García-Gutiérrez (2002), who proposed the use of transcultural ethics for KO. The author states that a culture of border is necessary, in which rigid systems are rejected, approaching and accepting the perspective of the permanent mutation of individuals and societies. In this sense, the different cultures are accepted by the representation scheme, which is configured openly and horizontally, in contrast to the traditional systems, viewed hierarchically.

The relationship cloud of the term "gender" was more dispersed. One of the criticisms found is about the dichotomous perspectives and binary oppositions. In repre-
sentation languages, these conceptions are adopted: either belonging to one class or to another, usually in opposition. However, the discourse that legitimates this binary view is detrimental to those who find themselves in the middle between two notions, who do not feel represented by either. Besides, the opposition view itself is harmful, since it puts the terms in an antagonistic way, reinforcing the difference between the concepts. In this sense, those who escape legitimized rules by systems are once again excluded, considered as abnormal, wrong, or not belonging to the group.

The concept of prejudice is discreetly addressed in the articles. The emphasis is placed on the connection between the term analyzed with the concepts of bias and preconception, the first concerning the biases that can be found in the languages of representation and the second, the preconceived ideas on a given subject, representing that group in a pejorative way. In the analyzed documents, these ideas are worked in line with issues such as justice in the treatment of people or with the prejudices that can be spread on social networks, which justifies the highlighted presence of the term with technology.

The last term analyzed and which has a strong relationship with the term prejudice, is the concept of bias. It was noticed that the term bias has a strong relationship with the first term analyzed, related to cultural aspects. These relationships can be identified in investigations about the concepts of cultural hospitality and warrant in representation languages inserted in multicultural contexts and in how classifications can lead to a culturally biased view of knowledge, even those considered universal, can be considered harmful in specific contexts.

4.0 Conclusions

From this analysis, it was possible to identify that these concepts have had their presence since the first congress and that the main vision of the society is the criticism to marginalized groups, and new perspectives from the technological context. More specifically, the investigations evidenced how harmful the use of tools considered universal to specific contexts could be, since the construction of these tools starts from an anglo-Saxon view, excluding aspects that escape this so-called normality, marginalizing individuals considered as "other."

References

