

The hidden agendas of language policy; effects on language rights

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The paper will show how language policies, even the most liberal ones, are often only declared policies while the de facto language policy is carried out through a variety of mechanisms. The paper will discuss these mechanisms (laws and regulations, language education policies, language tests, language in the public space and myths/propaganda/persecution). It will then show how these mechanisms affect the language rights of individuals especially in the context of political contexts as in the case of Israel.