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Transnational Competence: Understanding Occupational Demands

This research paper aims at exploring the issue of transnationalism through the concept of intercultural communication competence. This paper illustrates a project by the Academy of Finland, "Recognition of Cultural Diversity in Everyday Life in Finland: Case Studies in Intercultural Interaction Arenas" the purpose of which is to analyze the transformation processes surrounding the increasing cultural diversity and the emergence of transnational social spaces. The diversification as well as the implications of participation and membership will be addressed. The focus of this research article is on individual respondents, their daily living conditions, experiences and conceptions. This includes questions about the social positions and political-social-cultural-economic activities as well as the well-being of the respondents on different arenas. The aim is to try to find out how successful intercultural interaction can be fostered in different interaction arenas. Respondents from various areas of the society, who have been interviewed, were also encouraged to approach the issues connected with communication, language skills and culture, especially their own conceptions of self-perceived intercultural communication competence, identity and the role of language in it.