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### **The Impact of Official Bilingualism in Ethnic Republics of Post-Soviet Russia on Language Attitudes**

The paper assesses what impact the language policies in the ethnic republics titled after the ethnic groups speaking Finno-Ugric languages had on language practices. I will present the data on the development in the sociolinguistic situations of the republics and the policy effects on their titular communities along the indicators that reveal language practices. While it may take a generation for change in patterns of language knowledge and some years to those of language use, language attitudes may change very quickly, especially in times of rapid social transformations and, thus, can serve as a more sensitive indicator of policy impact. The main policy tool in the republics became the designation of de facto minority languages with a co-official status in order to extend their compulsory use in the public sphere. However, official bilingualism of the titular languages on par with Russian became also the major constraint that limited the policy scope. The research problem is topical in the light of a larger theoretical debate about the scope and limits of language policy of the state.