

**Translation, Interpreting, and Culture IV (2025):
Translators, Interpreters, and Society**

Book of Abstracts

EDITED BY ANITA HUŤKOVÁ & EVA REICHWALDEROVÁ

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**Translation, Interpreting, and Culture IV (2025):
Translators, Interpreters, and Society**

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About the Conference

Translation and interpreting are deeply intertwined with society. The relationship between translators/interpreters and society, shaped by both field-specific and more general factors such as economic models, geopolitical shifts, and political decisions, is a complex one, and translation and interpreting, being social activities, are deeply embedded in the fabric of cultural exchange and influenced by broader social dynamics. Research into the connections between the social and translation/interpreting in recent decades has yielded rich findings, and translation has increasingly come to be viewed as a “socially situated relation with difference” (van Doorslaer & McMartin 2022, 1). Translation and interpreting practitioners and researchers are then understood as “complex, situated agents acting within and across the social spheres that condition cross-cultural, multilingual exchange” (1).

Following what some have termed the social or sociological turn in translation studies (cf. Angelelli 2014; Doorslaer & McMartin 2022) and Andrew Chesterman’s (2009) proposal for translation studies, there has been a growing focus on the habitus of translators and interpreters. The issues surrounding both the experienced and perceived habitus of these professionals, along with other agents involved in the process and the factors shaping it, have attracted significant research interest. However, the steady stream of new publications looking into these issues (cf. Atefmehr & Farahzad 2021; Chen 2024; Djovčoš et al. 2020; Kolb & Pöllabauer 2023), including the concentrated revisiting of Lawrence Venuti’s concept of invisibility (Freeth & Treviño 2024) suggests that many questions about how translation and interpreting practitioners navigate the world, as well as how society perceives them, remain unanswered (and undiscovered).

The fourth instalment of the conference series Translation, Interpreting, and Culture, titled “Translators, Interpreters, and Society”, invites contributions that explore the complex interplay between translators/interpreters and the societies which shape them and are shaped by them. We aim to highlight the societal positioning, perceptions, and evolving roles of translators and interpreters engaged in social processes which inevitably change them (Bielsa 2022, 404) and to explore how they both influence and are influenced by the cultural, political, and social forces surrounding them. The goal of this conference is to explore the reciprocal relationship between translators, interpreters, and society – how they shape societal dynamics and, in turn, how they

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are shaped by social forces, perceptions, and expectations. We aim to address questions including, but not limited to:

- perception of translators and interpreters by society, perception of society by translators and interpreters, and self-perception of translators and interpreters
- translators' and interpreters' role in responding to societal challenges and societal polarization
- translating futures: shaping the profession in this age of social and technological transformation
- translators in periodicals as society-shaping agents: formation of actor-networks that establish periodicals as nodes in transnational networks; translation agents in periodicals and activism
- activism in translation/interpreting and the evolving role of translators/interpreters
- constructing viable professional narratives (not only) in the classroom
- translation and interpreting for social equity: addressing access and inclusion disparities
- the evolution and diversification of translation and interpreting studies in response to social changes and transformations
- the social and cultural impact of translation and interpreting in this age of technological transformation
- images and roles of literary translators (among others) across the history
- training new generations of translators and interpreters and adjusting curricula to meet new challenges

Local organising committee:

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- Eva Reichwalderová (Matej Bel University)
- Lucia Tonková (Comenius University)

Keynote Speakers

Renée Desjardins

The Social Relevance of Translation: From Reach and Engagement to Life and Death



Renée Desjardins is an associate professor at the Université de Saint-Boniface, Winnipeg [Treaty 1], Canada. She is the author of *Translation and Social Media: In Theory, in Training, and in Professional Practice* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017) and the co-editor of *When Translation Goes Digital: Case Studies and Critical Reflections* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2021).

She has been researching and writing about translation and social media for over fifteen years and has published on the subject in a number of other outlets, including *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*, *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Pragmatics*, and in a special issue of *Translation Studies* on “Social Translation”. Her most recent work, which has been funded institutionally and nationally, examines translation in the creator, influencer, and gig economies. She currently holds two national research grants from the Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada: an Insight grant for a project titled *TikTokers, Instagrammers, Podcasters, Livestreamers – and Translators: Translation in the Creator Economy*, and a Connection grant as a team member for the LINET, a francophone research group focused on translator education, translation pedagogy, and new technology.

Keynote speech

The Social Relevance of Translation: From Reach and Engagement to Life and Death

A mega-influencer wanted to increase their reach and engagement and decided the solution was to create an in-house dubbing company (Wyndham 2023). A language professional viewed professional coaching as a viable option to increase their professional visibility on social media and increase content monetization (Desjardins, forthcoming). A small business owner and content creator, conflicted as to whether to use machine or AI translation, opted for human

translation upon understanding that automated output could not do their product or brand justice (Desjardins, forthcoming). News no longer travels primarily through legacy channels; increasingly, journalists and content creators have turned to creating multilingual and subtitled news content, upending many long-held paradigms (Lorenz 2025). Reporting and research that took place both during and after the pandemic indicated that a lack of multilingual communication exacerbated an early Covid-19 outbreak (Baum et al. 2020) and contributed to confusion and inequitable access to key public health information in some Canadian provinces throughout the pandemic (Desjardins 2022; Desjardins & Laczko, forthcoming). In late spring and early summer 2025, wildfires raged through the Canadian Prairie provinces, displacing many citizens and leaving lasting effects ecological effects in their wake (Durrani 2025; CBC News 2025). Crisis communication during the wildfire crisis, notably in Manitoba, was, perhaps unsurprisingly, primarily in English (Radio-Canada 2025).

These are all real events that took place over the last five years or that are still occurring at the time of writing. While they all speak to translation's invisibility or visibility to varying degrees, I argue that the visible/invisible binary – which has been rightly critiqued and nuanced (Freeth & Treviño 2024) – does not adequately describe what it is I believe most TS researchers and language professionals are actually advocating for, i.e. translation's social relevance. In this presentation, I will present each of the previous examples and show how, when taken together, they demonstrate how relevant and necessary translation and multilingual communication are and continue to be for society. I will further argue that this relevance is not just disciplinary, abstract, or academic: it can be a matter of literal life or death, which echoes the work of various crisis translation researchers over the years (O'Brien 2016; Federici & O'Brien 2019; Lee & Wang 2022; Declercq & Kerremans 2024; Córdoba Serrano 2025).

Perhaps it is time to reconsider how we talk about translation's (in)visibility, particularly beyond our discipline and beyond our campuses. The issue with visibility is that, in some cases, it centres translators, the language industry, translation programmes. This is justifiable and understandable, especially given the fact that we have had to face cyclical threats (including artificial intelligence, most recently) and continuously justify our *raison d'être* as some argue for our obsolescence. However, what if we flipped the script? What if, instead of insisting on visibility, we opted to show citizens, who are taxpayers, the social (and economic) relevance of translation? And, not just of translation, but of humane translation more specifically (Desjardins & Florentin 2022; 2024)? This, I believe, shifts the discourse from translation as a sort of victim

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(“we need more visibility”) to translation as socially, culturally, linguistically, and equitably essential for society at large.

In the final part of the talk, I will share some knowledge mobilization ideas that we as translation and interpreting studies researchers, language professionals, trainers and educators can implement to engage citizens in continued multilingual advocacy.

Luc van Doorslaer

City Translation Research: Illustrating the Societal Impact of Translation Studies



Luc van Doorslaer is Full Professor of Translation Studies at the University of Tartu (Estonia), the former President of CETRA (2014–2018), the Center for Translation Studies at KU Leuven (Belgium), and Professor Extraordinary at Stellenbosch University (South Africa). Since 2016, he has been Vice President of EST, the European Society for Translation Studies. He is editor of the journal *Translation in Society* as well as co-editor of the *Translation Studies Bibliography* and the five volumes of the *Handbook of Translation Studies* (John Benjamins).

Van Doorslaer has published widely in the field of translation studies, mainly on his research interests of journalism and translation, the sociology of translation, imagology and translation, and the institutionalization of translation studies. His most recent book is entitled *The Situatedness of Translation Studies: Temporal and Geographical Dynamics of Theorization* (Brill, 2021).

For more information about Van Doorslaer's publications and academic career, see:

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0487-0663>

Keynote speech

City Translation Research: Illustrating the Societal Impact of Translation Studies

Spurred primarily by the pioneering work of Sherry Simon, city translation research has emerged as a significant subfield within translation studies. While Simon approached the subject largely from a literary perspective, the field more broadly investigates how cities function as spaces of cultural and linguistic exchange. This includes the negotiation of meaning and the influence of both majority and minority languages and cultures within urban environments. Methodologically and epistemologically, the focus on cities also challenges

conventional frameworks that analyse language within fixed territorial or linguistic boundaries. As earlier research has shown, Central European cities – from Tallinn and Lviv to Trieste – offer particularly fertile ground for city translation, owing to their complex historical layers and diverse perspectives. Translation can be examined in (multilingual) cities, but cities can also be approached as translations (representations). This is evident in the diversity of (street) naming practices, as well as in museums and city branding – varied mechanisms through which urban identities are constructed and translated. This presentation will demonstrate the central role that different forms of translation play in the urban meaning-making process.

Ivana Čeňková

I Still Don't Have a Clear Answer to the Concept of Interpreter (In)Visibility – Do You?



Ivana Čeňková is Professor at the Institute of Translation Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic. Chair of the MA programme in Interpreting. Course Leader of the European Masters in Conference Interpreting (EMCI) module. Graduate of the Institute of Translation Studies, Charles

University, with Czech, French, and Russian (1978), PhDr. (1980, Prague) and CSc/PhD. (1986, Prague), both in theory of interpreting. Docentship in Translation Studies in 1993. Professorship in the same field in 2008. Regularly cooperates with Czech non-profit organizations and trains their community interpreters and intercultural workers.

Practicing conference interpreter since 1979. Conference interpreter (EU accreditation – in 1993) and local coordinator of interpreting training for the European Commission, DG SCIC, temporary contract (2003–2005).

Author of numerous articles and publications on conference and community interpreting (theory, practice, didactics, reviews, reports), mostly in Czech, Russian, French, and recently also in English.

President of the EMCI Consortium (III/2013–IX/2016). Member of the EMCI Consortium Governing Board (X/2016–IX/2022), currently a member of the EMCI Consortium Research and Innovation Committee and of the Projects committee.

Member of ASKOT (Czech Association of Conference Interpreters), EST (European Society of Translation Studies), JTP (Union of Interpreters and Translators), Gallica (Association of Teachers of French language in Czech Republic), Jazykovědné sdružení (Association of Czech linguists).

Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes académiques (2004), received the 2023 Danica Seleskovitch Award at ESIT (April 2024).

For more information about Čeňková's publications and academic career, see: <https://utrl.ff.cuni.cz/cs/ustavkatedra/lide/zamestnanci/prof-phdr-ivana-cenkova-csc/>

Keynote speech

I Still Don't Have a Clear Answer to the Concept of Interpreter (In)Visibility – Do You?

In this keynote contribution, we will reflect together on how the perception of interpreter (in)visibility has evolved over time and across various political, social, and cultural contexts. Together with the participants, we will attempt to define the interpreter's specific (real or potential) role and status.

We will examine two contrasting views: the interpreter as a mere conduit for communication, and the interpreter as an actively engaged intercultural mediator. I will briefly present the views of scholars who have addressed this issue, such as L. Venuti (1995), A. Kopczyński (1994), C. Angelelli (2004), C. Wadensjö (1998, 2008), F. Straniero Sergio (2012), G. Mullender (2014), U. Ozolins (2016), F. Pöchhacker (2004, ed. 2015), V. Duflou (2016), M. Bartłomieczyk (2017), J. Trzeciak Huss & J. E. Huss (2021), M. Kadrič, S. Rennerts, & C. Schäffner (2022), R. Li, K. Liu, & A. K. Cheung (2023), and E. Diriker (2004, 2025), among others.

We will be looking not only at the role and status of modern professional conference interpreters – whether elite consecutive interpreters at a high level or simultaneous interpreters working in booths or through RSI – but also at the work of non-professional (volunteer) interpreters, media interpreters, court and healthcare interpreters, sports interpreters, and interpreters of national sign languages and International Sign.

Through a short interactive quiz with the audience, we will examine how new technologies and the Internet have influenced interpreter (in)visibility – through social media, personal websites, targeted online marketing – and, most importantly, ethical considerations. We will also reflect on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the emergence of AI on this issue.

Together, we will aim to understand and better define interpreter (in)visibility in the face of the turbulent social, political, and technological challenges of the 21st century.

Esperança Bielsa

The Translating Animal



Esperança Bielsa is Associate Professor of Sociology of Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain. Her research is in the areas of cultural sociology, social theory, and translation. Her most recent books are *Benjamin y la traducción* (2024, with Antonio Aguilera), *A Translational Sociology* (2023), and *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Media* (ed., 2022).

Keynote speech

The Translating Animal

The exclusion of non-human animals is a common feature in both sociology and translation studies. I will employ the conceptual and methodological framework of a translational sociology to examine interspecies encounters, focusing on the role of language and translation in relation to distinct cognitive, ethical, and aesthetic dimensions. In this context, new issues regarding translation across the human–animal linguistic divide emerge that require a reconceptualization of our received notions about translation and the role of the translator.

My presentation will offer a first attempt to address these questions and their significance for the present. More broadly, I will also argue that a translational sociology allows us to relate different types of knowledge, normative commitments and artistic pursuits from a more-than-human perspective.

Sessions

Güliz Akçasoy

Citationality in Periodicals: Building Feminist Narratives through Translational Encounters across Borders

Translation plays a pivotal role in transferring political theories and practices across borders. As a shaping factor in the formation of narratives, translated publications (books and articles generally) have always served to fuel the epistemological conflicts, and even clashes, among different political camps in Turkey. With that in mind, my study problematizes the citational practices undertaken by feminist activists in periodicals and their role in establishing and “reframing” (Mona Baker 2006) anti-feminist narratives in Turkey. I take citations as unconventional sites of translation, importing information from foreign texts, and embedded in a local text surrounded by local epistemological material. To this end, I cover a number of periodicals published in Turkey in the 1980s, which marked the birth of a new feminist movement, distinct from the past trials. I offer my own citation categories, each crafted out of my corpus data. With these, radical, socialist and liberal feminists could challenge the established notion of equality and fight back against left- and right-wing anti-feminism. A close analysis of citationality in the selected periodicals reveals the selection criteria behind the narrative transfer – which narratives were transferred and which were not – across borders. This also shows how citational preferences of each activist relate to their specific political agency, thus illustrating the positionality and relationality of different political agents in the network of feminist activism.

Rafat Alwazna

The Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Rendition of Certain Articles of Ḥanbalī Sharī‘a Code into English: A Comparison of Automatic and Human Evaluation of Translation Output Quality of ChatGPT and Gemini in Arabic–English Legal Translation

Based on Alwazna (2024), this paper seeks to assess the translation output quality of two AI software applications, namely ChatGPT and Gemini, using certain articles of Ḥanbalī Sharī‘a Code through both automatic evaluation with its TER, BLEU, and ChrF3 metrics and human evaluation with two criteria, namely adequacy and fluency. Following the automatic evaluation, the human evaluation tests the reliability of both scores of the automatic evaluation metrics in evaluating the two AI-generated translations and whether or not such AI-generated translations are reliable within the Arabic–English legal translation context. The paper argues that AI software such as ChatGPT and Gemini have made a considerable advancement in Arabic–English legal translation, though they still encounter certain challenges, particularly in the rendition of Islamic legal terms. The paper also claims that the use of automatic evaluation metrics cannot be depended on individually in assessing AI software translation output quality with regard to Arabic–English legal translation; instead, human evaluation should be carried out after undertaking automatic evaluation to test whether or not the scores of automatic evaluation are reliable. Finally, the paper concludes that AI-generated translations should not be relied upon individually in Arabic–English legal translation as they are unreliable; however, they can still be used as a supplementary tool for the legal translator to help them perform the translation task with considerable pace, playing the role of the expert translator, evaluator, or post-editor, rather than undertaking the whole work. This paper offers a baseline for assessing AI software translation output quality in Arabic–English legal translation, which may have implications for other similar language-pair contexts.

Sofía Antequera-Manzano, Candelas Bayón Cenitagoya, & Carmen Pena Díaz

The INTERCOMSALUD Project: Migrant Women Care in the Healthcare Context

Migrant populations' access to healthcare is often hindered by factors such as linguistic and cultural differences, unfamiliarity with foreign healthcare systems, and the power differences that exist between healthcare providers and migrants themselves (Valero-Garcés & Wahl-Keiser 2014). Access inequality increases in female patients (Kawar 2014), which makes intersectional research in public-service translation and interpreting (PSIT) more relevant than ever. In this vein, the presence of intercultural interpreting and mediation is one of the determining factors in guaranteeing equality of care and the rights of migrant patients. In the present research, carried out as part of the project INTERCOMSALUD, an observational study of the functioning of mediation services in a public Spanish hospital was conducted to tackle the deficiencies experienced by migrant women in a healthcare context.

The main objective of our research is to find out the patients' perception of their treatment in terms of doubts, fears, and level of (dis)comfort throughout medical care. The methodology followed will include interviews and surveys addressed to female patients of Arabic, Chinese, Philippine, East-European, and Sub-Saharan origins who are receiving care in the Spanish public hospital. Additionally, consultations will be observed and recorded to enable the posterior analysis of the hospital's interpreting protocols, the communication strategies followed by healthcare staff, and the impact of the presence of interpreters and mediators. Other aspects analysed included prevalent linguistic and cultural issues that translation and interpreting must account for when female patients seek healthcare services. Preliminary results show poor interpreting assistance and difficulties caused by cultural differences that hinder the quality of care. In response, INTERCOMSALUD proposes the creation of training courses that improve intercultural competence for healthcare workers and thus promote quality healthcare for all citizens.

Marianna Bachledová

World Literature Revue: Reconstructing the History of Translation through Periodicals

Research into translation history illuminates the profound impact of translation and translated literature on literary canons, publishing practices, and sociological aspects of literature across different countries. This paper examines the role of *Revue svetovej literatúry* (*World Literature Revue, WLR*), a Slovak literary magazine dedicated to translation which served as a vital platform for introducing international literary works to Slovak readers. Established in 1965, *WLR* played a prominent role during socialism, a period marked by strict ideological control, and continued its publication for nearly two decades after the 1989 Velvet Revolution, maintaining its significance until it ceased operations due to the editorial board's capacity constraints. The study highlights the agency of translators who contributed to *WLR*, focusing on how their selection of texts introduced alternative perspectives and amplified marginalised voices. As part of a larger research project examining four Slovak periodicals specialising in translated literature, this paper deals with a specific decade of *WLR*'s history (1995–2005). This period is particularly significant as it was a time when Slovakia was grappling with authoritarian tendencies under its prime minister and a decline in press freedom, but, on the other hand, also saw a rise in civic activism. This research seeks to identify translators who collaborated with *WLR* during this time and analyse their choices of authors and source texts in terms of provenance, genre, and thematic focus, anchoring these findings within their historical and sociopolitical context.

Mária Bakti, Eszter Sermann, & Mátra Lesznyák

**Explicitation Operations in From-Scratch Human Translation
and in the Post-Editing of Neural Machine Translation**

Explicitation is one of the universals of translation (Laviosa-Braithwaite 1998) and encompasses compulsory and optional operations that translators carry out in order to make what is implicit in the source language text explicit in the target language text (Englund Dimitrova 2005; Vinay & Darbelnet 1958/1995). Explicitation has become an umbrella term referring both to these operations or strategies and the resulting structures in the TL (Englund Dimitrova 2005).

Even though there is an extensive body of research into explicitation in translation, especially after the seminal work of Blum-Kulka proposed the explicitation hypothesis (1986/2000), there is to date a limited body of research into explicitation in machine translation or explicitation carried out during the post-editing of neural machine translation (Khoury 2024; Krüger 2020). From the rich TS literature on explicitation, Robin's (2019) investigations into explicitation operations carried out by revisers is of relevance here.

The aim of this paper is to present the results of a work in progress, one in which explicitation operations carried out by masters' students of translation during the post-editing of neural machine translation output and during human translation are compared and contrasted.

28 first-year master's students of translation post-edited and 29 first-year master's students of translation translated from scratch the same SL text, a research article abstract on bilingualism, from English into Hungarian. An analysis of the explicitation shift carried out by human translators and post-editors of NMT was conducted, using the categories of lexical insertion, lexical specification, and relational specification (Krüger 2020).

Our presupposition is that human translators explicitate more, and that the pattern of explicitation operations of post-editors will resemble those of revisers (Robin 2019), rather than those of translators.

Klaudia Bednárová-Gibová

Surveying the Profession: What Do We Know about Translators' Mental Health in Slovakia?

Despite some evidence that professional translators experience stress at work, their mental health and well-being have largely been disregarded. As a result, the necessity of addressing the mental health issues of translators is becoming more widely recognised in the contemporary translation profession. To better understand the mental health of translators, this paper will concentrate on factors that affect their stress levels, degree of job satisfaction, and general psychological well-being. The study aims to investigate the effects of organisational factors including workload, professional support availability, and participation in professional groups on translators' mental health, using a structured survey with 81 participants.

The study reveals that significant obstacles such as excessive workloads, unstable finances, and social isolation are encountered by professional translators in Slovakia. Mid-to-late-career professionals seem particularly vulnerable to burnout due to the cumulative demands of their work. While many translators report high levels of job satisfaction, a significant number remain only moderately satisfied, often due to job insecurity and insufficient remuneration. The findings highlight the need for industry-wide improvements in workload management, compensation, and support networks to promote translators' mental well-being. This study exposes notable deficiencies in the translation industry standards regarding the mental well-being requirements of Slovak translators. It is hoped that this research can contribute to the comparison of results across different translation landscapes, offering a deeper understanding of translators' mental health globally through a localised perspective.

Andrej Birčák

Remote Interpreting as a Part of University Training in Slovakia: Challenges and Suggestions

Remote interpreting first appeared in the 1970's (Mikkelson 2003), but the real expansion came with the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 (Yuan & Binhua 2024). Remote interpreting became the most popular type of interpreting, with 95% of all interpreting contracts being carried out remotely (Nimdzi Insights 2023). In Slovakia, half of the interpreters had to cancel 70% to 100% of their scheduled on-site interpreting contracts (Djovčoš & Šveda 2022).

Today, there are no anti-pandemic restrictions in Slovakia, but the market is not the same as it was before the pandemic. In our previous research, in which we focused on the professional aspects of providing remote interpreting services in Slovakia, we learned that around two thirds of interpreters provide remote interpreting services (Birčák 2024). In the proposed paper, we are dealing with the university training of remote interpreting in Slovakia. Our goal was to explore the position of remote interpreting in the university setting in order to pinpoint the areas that could be further improved in the future. We have conducted a total of four semi-structured online focus group interviews with academics teaching interpreting-oriented subjects from four universities in Slovakia. In the interviews, we asked about the presence of remote interpreting in the curriculum, its extent, forms, changes caused by the pandemic, etc.

The recordings of these interviews were qualitatively analysed and compared with each other. The results offer an overview of the current state of university training of interpreting in Slovakia and highlight the trends and tendencies of each institution. Based on this information, we have prepared suggestions on how to better implement teaching of remote interpreting, both theoretically and practically, which should lead to improvements in the training of future interpreters, thus improving their readiness for real-life situations.

Kateryna Bondarenko & Oleksandr Bondarenko

From Translation Memory to AI Ethics: A Corpus-Based Analysis of Industry Discourse and Social Dynamics (2014–2024)

The evolution of translation and interpreting is deeply intertwined with societal shifts, technological advancements, and ethical considerations. This study employs a corpus-based approach to trace how industry discourse has adapted to changes in machine translation (MT) and automation over the past decade. Analysing a two-million-word corpus from multilingual magazines (2014–2024) using Sketch Engine, we examine the terminological evolution, discourse patterns, and attitudinal shifts toward AI-driven translation.

Findings reveal a transition from early skepticism about MT quality and reliability (2014–2016) to the cautious integration of neural machine translation (NMT) (2017–2019), culminating in discussions around large language models (LLMs), AI ethics, and human-in-the-loop workflows (2020–2024). Collocation analysis highlights the shifting role of human translators – from post-editing and efficiency concerns to quality assurance, ethical oversight, and augmented translation. Sentiment analysis further demonstrates how industry professionals have navigated tensions between automation and human expertise, reflecting broader societal debates on technological dependence, bias mitigation, and regulatory frameworks.

This study situates translation technology discourse within the broader social context, emphasizing the role of translators as agents of ethical decision-making and cultural mediation in an AI-driven landscape. The findings contribute to discussions on the habitus of translation professionals, their evolving agency, and the ethical responsibilities shaping the future of multilingual communication.

Mariam Bouaoud

Al-Andalus and the Power of Translation: Knowledge, Culture, and Influence

The translation movement in Al-Andalus (the Islamic kingdom located on the Iberian Peninsula in the Middle Ages) served as a mediator in knowledge transmission and the intellectual exchange between the Islamic world and medieval Europe. Due to the diverse cultures and languages existing there, Al-Andalus facilitated the transfer of scientific, philosophical, and literary knowledge not only from Persian, Sanskrit, and Greek into Arabic but from Arabic to Latin and Hebrew as well. The unique thing about this transfer is the development of this knowledge and the production of scientific theories, inventions, cures, and new forms of literary works. Using the historical approach to trace the Andalusian translation movement within its sociopolitical and intellectual context, and the analytical approach to critically evaluate its impact on scientific, literary, philosophical, and social advancements either in Al-Andalus or Europe later, this paper studies how the Andalusian translation movement transmitted knowledge cross-culturally, influencing scientific and literary advancement, social life, and the European intellectual traditions through patronage and intercultural collaboration.

To explore these dynamics, this paper addresses the following questions:

- How did political and religious patronage, if any, impact the translation movement in Al-Andalus?
- To what extent did the coexistence of Muslims, Jews, and Christians contribute to the flourishing of the translation movement?
- How did translation impact the social and scientific sphere in the Andalusian period?
- In what ways did the translation of literary works like *Kalila wa Dimna*, *One Thousand and One Nights*, and *Hayy ibn Yaqzan* affect European literature?
- How did the translation of scientific, philosophical, and academic resources into Latin play a role in the European Renaissance?

To answer these questions, the paper will have three main divisions:

- The Social, Cultural, and Political Context of the Andalusian Translation Movement
- The Role of Translation in Advancing Science, Society, and Literature
- The Intellectual Legacy of the Andalusian Translation Movement and the European Renaissance

Eda Burcu Çetinkaya & Atalay Gündüz

The Reception of Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* in Turkish: A Digital Analysis

This study aims to conduct a thematic qualitative analysis of how Turkish translations of Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* (1929) were received by Turkish readers using digital tools. First, semi-structured and open-ended survey questions were administered to 42 readers, and the collected data was recorded in numerical and graphical form. Secondly, the collected data was subjected to qualitative thematic analysis using the software program MAXQDA. As the first step of our thematic analysis, the readers' responses to nine open-ended interview questions in the qualitative data category were scrutinized to become familiar with the data. MAXQDA was used to encode the data. Following a few rounds of readings, 613 initial codes were created. During coding, reader responses to open-ended interview questions were employed for the analysis. By adding other variables with quantitative data characteristics, the degree of consistency in the data and the degree of sociological patterns were checked. After the unorganized raw codes were reviewed in search of themes, sub-headings and headings were created. We specified five main themes: the sociology of translation, reader profiles and awareness, the problem of defining feminism, translation and transfer, and *A Room of One's Own* and Woolf's reception. The number and frequency of responses related to each theme were thus determined. Despite the criticism that a popular feminist text will be read by people who are perceptive to women's issues and will not contain opposing viewpoints, the data obtained through the thematic analysis revealed that Woolf and her translation were read by readers with a critical diversity.

Lucia Campanella Casas

Reading Translation in Periodicals with Machines: Exploring the Anarchist Press of the Americas Using Digital Humanities Tools

As Özmen (2019) recently proposed, the press serves as an ideal medium for recovering “buried” literary translations that have never been republished. Periodicals played a central role in the global spread of anarchism, which became the first widespread internationalist political movement (Moya 2009). However, scholarship analysing the anarchist press has largely focused on literary texts produced by militants (Litvak 1981; Asolabehere 2011; Vidal 2021), often overlooking literary translations in anarchist periodicals. While recent research has highlighted the importance of translated political texts in this context (Müller-Saini & Benton 2006; Ferretti 2016; Carminatti 2017; Dornetti 2020; Michelat 2021), few studies have examined literary translations. However, at the turn of the 20th century the press often featured both original and republished literary translations, not solely for prestige and differentiation (Pagni 2014), but also as a central element in constructing their political profiles. With their inherently heteroglossic nature, the politicized press connected diverse languages, literary systems, authors, and genres, thus creating new literary and political geographies while offering readers a unique experience of world literature (Damrosch 2003).

Translation studies have increasingly explored digitized periodical corpora, opening new avenues for research with digital humanities tools (Fólica, Roig-Sanz, & Caristia 2020). For this paper, I propose to focus on the results of my current research project, *Anarchist Translation Flows and World Literature* (Argot), which demonstrates how the use of digital humanities tools, such as automatic transcription, large-scale exploration and extraction, named entity recognition, and diverse filtering processes, can facilitate the discovery of literary translations in political press on a large scale. Combined with close reading, these computational techniques yield new insights into the politicized translation practices (Tymoczko 2010) adopted by these magazines and help illuminate the politics of literary translation at work in these publications.

Vasiliki Chelidoni

Inclusive Translation: A Reality or an Illusion of Social Equity?

This paper presents corpus-based examples from EU administrative text corpora to investigate the actual (or not) equal representation of all genders. In particular, to answer the research question of the adequacy of EU inclusive-language guidelines for reflecting society's gender diversity, Sketch Engine's (a corpus management and text analysis software) frequency lists, word sketches, and concordances of the created EU corpora are used to observe and analyse the adoption of gender-neutral terms, feminised word choices, and double forms (i.e. the combination of masculine terms and their feminine equivalents) when drafting and/or translating administrative texts in official EU languages. At the same time, the processing of these corpora can reveal inconsistencies in the implementation of EU inclusive-language guidelines. In other words, specific corpus-based examples are presented to illustrate the prevalence of underlying sexist linguistic phenomena across multilingual administrative documents (e.g. English, French, Greek, and Spanish administrative documents) within the EU framework.

In brief, special emphasis is put on identifying and commenting on gender-neutral terms interpreted as masculine in cases of ambiguity, generic masculine references, lack of widely accepted feminine equivalents, masculine-first double forms, absence of double forms for non-noun parts of speech, and gender-specific references for traditional job titles as well as gender role norms. Thus, in an attempt to shock well-established gender conventions and eliminate all forms of sexist biases in different EU languages, alternative linguistic formulations are proposed to appeal for real social change towards actually embracing diversity and inclusion in the administrative sphere and beyond.

Schedar D. Jocson

Translating from/to the Indigenous: Contentions and Confluences of Translating Learning Materials for Distance Education

Committed to the Millennium and Sustainable Development Goals, the Philippines boasts its progress by pursuing mother-tongue-based multilingual education.

The paper discusses the role of translation and the translators in developing materials that are culturally sensitive and appropriate to the indigenous communities of Mindoro. Collectively named Mangyan, there are seven different ethnolinguistic groups inhabiting the mountainous part of Mindoro, one of the islands in Central Philippines.

In order to develop learning materials, potential translators needed to study the Indigenous Peoples Core Curriculum (IPCC) of the Bureau of Alternative Learning Systems of the Department of Education in the Philippines. Localizing the curriculum was spearheaded by a consultant and selected by several Education graduates from the communities. The consultant and the translators thus became cultural researchers tasked at bridging essential skills and knowledges and cultural sensitivities of the communities.

One of the findings in localizing the curriculum is how the IPCC, crafted by non-indigenous peoples, has become contentious in its depiction of the indigenous peoples. For one, the English version of the curriculum has mentioned slash-and-burn farming as a threat to the environment. However, the Mangyan people look at it as responsible farming by limiting their farming to their needs. Another is concerning physical wherein lowland culture differs from that of the indigenous. Instructing learners to use over-the-counter medicines, translated materials would instruct learners to use herbs for ailments. One more instance covers the images used. While IPCC outlines modernity, the learning materials developed used the immediate surroundings of the indigenous peoples, making them more realistic to learners.

In view of these experiences, the role of the translators in educating the indigenous becomes twofold: developing materials appropriate to their communities and acting as culture bearers responsible for continuing indigenous knowledge through education.

Jing Deng

The Role of Translating Agents in Building *TKP* Literary Supplements (1933–1937) as a Site for Knowledge Transfer

Existing studies on the intersection of translation and periodicals have mainly explored the form and function of translations in periodicals. Rather than taking a product-oriented approach, this research focuses on translating agents in building periodical agency in cultural and social shifts. It presents a case study on two consecutive literary supplements of the Chinese newspaper *Ta-Kung-Pao (TKP)* – *The Literature and Art Supplement* and *Literature and Art* – published between 1933 and 1937. They not only played a significant role in the development of modern Chinese literature, but given the gathering of university-affiliated editors and translators and the publication of academic texts, served as a public space communicating knowledge beyond the confines of university walls.

I apply actor–network theory to uncover the multiplicity of translating agents and analyse their dynamic roles in the formation of *TKP* literary supplements as a site of knowledge transfer. The research reconfigures the representation of translating agents by discussing the involvement of both human (translators, editors, typographers, and illustrators) and nonhuman entities (source texts and publication frequency, page space, layout, etc. of literary supplements themselves). Based on textual analysis of translations, their paratexts in the periodicals, and biographies and memoirs by and about translators and editors, it examines the ways in which different translating agents facilitated or constrained the transformation of university resources for public accessibility. Translators of the literary supplements, for instance, tended to add abundant and easy-to-understand annotations to translated texts, enhancing readers’ knowledge of foreign literature and culture, while editors facilitated the transformation by supplementing the translations with introduction and commentary. Nonhuman actors, in comparison, determined material and medial resources at disposal. The limited page space of the supplements, for example, restricted the types of literary genres translators could introduce, focusing primarily on short forms like short stories and poems.

Valentina Di Francesco

Voice-Over Styles and Vocal Performances in Italian Television Newscasts: Analysing Audiences' Attitudes

This paper aims to understand how Italian audiences perceive screen translation modalities in Italian television newscasts. A previous study by Di Francesco (in press) has revealed that ordinary people, witnesses of war zones of the Ukrainian–Russian and Palestinian–Israeli conflicts who were interviewed by Italian journalists, were voice-overed with various speakers' voice attitudes. The qualitative analysis of the small database (49 interviews) underlined a balanced distribution of the speech delivery styles: on the one hand, there were the 'dramatized' voices of the Italian voice actors, characterized by histrionic attitudes, while, on the other hand, there were the 'undramatized' voices, characterized by a 'flat' tone of voice. Therefore, the 'dramatized' voices can be interpreted as conveying 'emotional' content, while the 'undramatized' voices are seen as conveying 'informative' content.

Drawing on Darwish (2006), Darwish & Orero (2014), and Ameri & Khoshsaligheh (2018), who investigated the use of voice-over in news reports, I will investigate how audiences are affected by the "actors' style of performance" in which "voice itself (incorporating vocal tone, timbre, dynamic and pace) and what is said both change in dubbing, which will have a potential, perhaps notable impact on characterization" (Bosseaux 2015, 15). This study will answer these research questions: a) Do audiences recognize different voice attitudes? b) Are audiences' attitudes influenced by how the Italian speakers voice-over people in news reports? c) Do 'dramatized' voice-overs risk making the news less credible because they are perceived as exaggerated and histrionic, thus too 'emotional'?

To answer these questions and obtain the audiences' perception feedback, I will use small focus groups and/or individual interviews, during which I will show participants the audiovisual content with dramatized and undramatized voices.

In conclusion, understanding the role of audiovisual translation in news media is crucial. Valdeón (2022, 373) observed that "news or journalistic translation is no longer discussed as part of AVT research even though the convergence processes that characterize news production in the new millennium involve a variety of materials". Audiences' perception of different voice-over delivery styles can contribute to enlightening researchers and operators in journalism.

Elif Digirolu

Teşrifatçılık in the Abdülhamid Era: The Example of Münir Pasha

As is well known, Divan-ı Hümayun Tercümanı (the role of official court interpreter) and Teşrifatçılık (the imperial department responsible for organizing ceremonies, diplomatic meetings, and related administrative duties, including ceremonial protocol management) played significant roles in the Ottoman Empire. This duty can be defined as representing the world in the court and representing the court in the eyes of the world. Teşrifatçılık, which combined translation and diplomacy, underwent significant changes during the reign of Sultan Abdülhamid II due to the growing complexity of diplomatic issues and demands. Additionally, the transfer of state power from the Bab-ı Ali (Sublime Porte) to Yıldız Palace reshaped the role and responsibilities of Teşrifatçılık. Abdülhamid II established a private telegraph system for the palace and created a new department for translation known as Mabeyn Mütercimliği. Through these he monitored developments and situations directly. These new workflows transformed the formal and traditional role of the Divan-ı Hümayun Tercümanı, fostering a dynamic and productive environment.

During Abdülhamid II's reign, Münir Pasha served as Teşrifatçı Nazırı and Divan-ı Hümayun Tercümanı for an extended period. Münir Pasha, who liaised between the palace and embassies and hosted foreign guests, also collaborated directly with the Mabeyn translators/interpreters on occasion. This paper seeks to examine the nature of the tasks assigned to the Nazır of Teşrifat during Abdülhamid II's reign and the Nazır's role in these diplomatic processes. Münir Pasha played an important role not only in translation but also in diplomatic decision-making and the representation of the palace.

One of the most challenging issues encountered during my archival research was the confusion in the literature regarding two individuals named Münir who were active during the same period. It became evident that Münir Salih, who liaised with Yıldız, worked in the Hariciye Nezareti (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), and later served as Ambassador to Paris, was frequently confused with Münir Pasha. Although other officials named Münir existed, these were distinct figures. By distinguishing between these two individuals, this study will clarify Münir Pasha's responsibilities, the types of tasks handled by the Teşrifatçılık office, and the role of other

translators/interpreters within this workflow. The findings will highlight the crucial importance of translation processes and their agents in the conduct of diplomacy.

They will also demonstrate that Abdülhamid II operated not only through the Foreign Office and embassies but also directly via the office in the palace.

Denisa Drabantová

“Some Series Already Have Their Own Translator, So Please Choose a Free One”: The Perceptions of Translation by Translators Collaborating in Web 2.0

The advent of the interactive Web 2.0 has brought about many changes to how translation is carried out and perceived by translators. One of these changes is the development of the various forms of online collaborative translation (OCT) such as fansubbing, fandubbing, translation crowdsourcing, and Wikipedia translation (Zwischenberger 2022; 2023). Translators engaged in these new translation practices do not seem to fit the traditional image of a translator: typically an individual with a translation degree who works alone and receives financial remuneration. These translators also seem to have developed their own notions of *translation*. This paper therefore aims to explore how translators collaborating in Web 2.0 perceive their translation activities.

The existing literature on this topic is scarce, with only two studies addressing it directly (Rogl 2016; 2022). These studies, along with indirect empirical data from other research on OCT (McDonough Dolmaya 2012; Mesipuu 2012; Dombek 2014; Li 2015), suggest that translators engaged in OCT practices tend to develop three main (and seemingly contradictory) perceptions of their translation activities: they view translation both as a playful and enjoyable endeavour, yet also as a form of (hard) work despite the lack of financial compensation. They also seem to perceive translation as a social and community-like activity.

In my talk, I will begin with a brief overview of the OCT practices and then review the existing literature on how OCT participants perceive translation. I will complement the findings from the literature with data from my ongoing PhD project, where I am conducting a netnographic analysis of the formation processes of social identity in one fansubbing group. Insights into how translators in Web 2.0 perceive their activities will contribute to our understanding of the evolving nature of translation in the age of fast-pacing social and technological transformations.

Tomáš Duběda

Evaluating the Quality of Translated Contract Law

Through legal translation, the reality of a legal system is opened up to the foreign public, responding to the needs of international legal communication. A typical feature of the Czech translation market is that legal translation into foreign languages is carried out mainly on the domestic scene and by Czech actors. This situation, symptomatic of cultures speaking languages of limited diffusion (Pavlović 2007; IAPTI 2015), leads to a high tolerance towards non-native translation and difficult quality self-regulation in this area (Duběda 2018).

CS_FR_LEX_CORP is a parallel corpus of Czech legal texts translated into French, built since 2023 and currently comprising 0.7M words. It provides empirical insights into the way Czech law is translated into French. This presentation focuses on one of the legal genres represented in this corpus, namely the terms and conditions of Czech companies (39 texts, 130k words).

Extracts of 100–150 words selected from each of the texts were assessed by native experts. The analysis shows that most translations are perceived as non-native (average rating between “clearly non-native” and “probably non-native”) and show limited comprehensibility and low stylistic quality. The perception of non-nativeness is strongly correlated to comprehensibility and stylistic quality. The quality of the original Czech texts turns out to be better (though not ideal) both in terms of comprehensibility and stylistic quality. Elements marked as indicating non-nativeness include terminological errors, excessive literalism, interference of the source language, register mismatches, and grammatical errors.

The analysis of the “visible face” of Czech contract law translated into French confirms the hypothesis that non-native translation clearly predominates in this segment, with all the risks that it entails. With machine translation invading all translation sectors, non-native postediting may soon become a norm, creating a new situation in which the shortcomings of these two suboptimal translation types combine.

Serap Durmuş

Visualizing the Translator/Interpreter: Undergraduate Students' Perceptions through Photography

The perception of the translator and interpreter among undergraduate students provides valuable insights into the evolving role of language professionals in contemporary society. This study investigates how undergraduate students conceptualize the translator/interpreter by utilizing visual data alongside textual reflections. The research aims to explore students' implicit and explicit perceptions of translation and interpreting, shedding light on their understanding of the profession's complexities, challenges, and significance. To achieve this, a qualitative methodology was employed, integrating participant-generated visual data with written narratives.

Undergraduate students enrolled in translation studies and related programmes were asked to take a photograph that, in their view, best represented the role of a translator or interpreter. They then provided a short paragraph explaining their chosen image. The collected visual and textual data were analysed thematically, following an inductive approach to identify recurring patterns and conceptual frameworks. Through this method, the study sought to uncover how students perceive the translator/interpreter beyond traditional stereotypes and whether they associate the profession with creativity, technical expertise, invisibility, or other attributes.

Preliminary findings indicate that while some students view translators as linguistic mediators facilitating cross-cultural communication, others emphasize the cognitive and technological dimensions of the profession, reflecting the increasing influence of artificial intelligence and machine translation tools. Additionally, certain images highlight the invisibility of translators, reinforcing traditional notions of their role as neutral conduits, whereas others depict them as active agents shaping meaning. The study contributes to the field of translation studies by providing empirical evidence on how future professionals conceptualize their own field, offering pedagogical implications for translation training. These findings underscore the importance of fostering a more nuanced and realistic understanding of the translator's role among students.

Sascha Essl

Mapping the Translational Dynamics of *al-Muqataṭaf*: Actor-Networks and the Dissemination of “Western” Knowledge during the Nahḍa

This paper explores how translational networks shaped the Arabic encyclopaedic journal *al-Muqataṭaf* during its formation phase (1876–1896) in Beirut and Cairo, facilitating the dissemination of “Western” knowledge through translation (Elshakry 2013, 28). Described as “a monumental work of the Nahḍa” (Glaß 2004, 12), *al-Muqataṭaf* spanned nearly 80 years, producing a corpus of approximately 80,000 pages (ibid.), making it integral to the socio-intellectual movement of the Nahḍa.

Founded in Beirut in 1876 by the Christian intellectuals Ya‘qūb Ṣarrūf, Fāris Nimr, and Ṣāhīn Makāriyūs, with support from missionary, translator, and director of the American Syrian Mission Press Cornelius van Dyck (Glaß 2004, 199; Elshakry 2013, 60), *al-Muqataṭaf* sought to disseminate positivistic scientific knowledge aligned with Victorian ideals of progress among arabophone audiences in the Ottoman Empire (ibid., 30). Drawing on materials from anglophone journals like *Scientific American* and *American Artisan* (ibid. 28), the editors Ṣarrūf and Nimr relied on translation to disseminate knowledge in a network characterised by negotiations between diverse perspectives on science, modernity, tradition, reform, nationhood, and coloniality (Hill 2020, 3–16). While *al-Muqataṭaf* has been studied from various perspectives (cf. Farag 1969; Med’er 1996; Glaß 2004; Elshakry 2013), it has yet to be explored from translation studies perspectives.

To address this underexplored dimension, this study applies actor–network theory (Latour 2005) to describe the network of human and non-human actors including translations, translators, publishers, authors, editors, and both anglophone and arabophone periodicals involved in shaping *al-Muqataṭaf*. This approach conceptualises these actors as dynamic, interacting entities within a translation-driven network, illustrating how translation was organised in a scientific periodical in an attempt to support the socio-intellectual movement of the Nahḍa.

Furthermore, this study responds to calls in translation studies to focus on non-Western translation practices (Tymozcko 2006) and reconstruct non-Western translation histories (Roig-

Sanz 2022), positioning *al-Muqataf* as a pivotal site for understanding the translational dynamics of the Nahḍa.

Anna Förster

Theory, Text, Translation: French Theory in Polish Periodicals (1960s–1990s)

That periodicals are relevant, if not key spaces of theory translation and its history, has been noted repeatedly in research literature in recent years. Nevertheless, it has hardly ever been systematically discussed. At best, periodical translations have been viewed as preparatory stages of the later and more comprehensive translations that the historiography of both theory and its translation tend to focus on. Yet, as I argue, the most important feature of periodicals with regard to the translation of theory, is what some have called their “discursive universality” (Lüthy) or their “multimodality” (Scheidig), i.e. the fact that they are composed of different authorships, genres, discourses, and sign systems that are not only juxtaposed but also interact with each other, thereby creating levels of signification that go beyond the isolated element. With regard to theory, this means the potential bringing-together of source texts and translated texts or the confrontation of local and foreign theory, including its history and language but also the juxtaposition and interplay of different perspectives on translated theory itself: as theory, as text and writing, and as translation.

This paper discusses this, drawing on the translation of French theory in three Polish periodicals from the 1960s to the 1990s: 1. *Pamiętnik Literacki* [Literary Notebook], which approached translated theory primarily as theory; 2. *Teksty* [Texts], which focused on the translation of theory’s textuality and *écriture* and 3. *Literatura na świecie* [Literature in the World], which combined both approaches with a strong emphasis on the very translatedness of the theory it presented.

Maria Friedlová

Culture and Dialects in Wartime: The Translation of Jindřich Šimon Baar into German

This presentation will examine the translation challenges faced by Josef Blau in 1941 when translating *Jan Cimburá*, a novel by Jindřich Šimon Baar, from Czech into German. The focus will be on the linguistic and stylistic difficulties that arose in the process, such as translating regional dialects, idiomatic expressions, and the unique narrative voice of Baar, which is deeply rooted in Czech culture and regionalism. Blau had to navigate the complexities of preserving the original tone and atmosphere of the text while adapting it for a German-speaking audience with different cultural references.

In addition to linguistic challenges, the broader historical context of the time also shaped the translation process. The political atmosphere of the early 1940s, marked by the Second World War and its impact on occupied countries, created an environment where literary works were often subjected to various pressures. These historical conditions influenced how Blau approached the text, ensuring the translation would be both accurate and accessible, while maintaining the integrity of Baar's work.

This presentation will analyse selected passages from both the original Czech and the German translation, highlighting how Blau tackled these challenges. By examining his translation strategies, such as the adaptation of cultural references and the use of language that resonates with German readers, the talk will provide insight into the delicate and often challenging art of literary translation in a politically and culturally charged period.

Réka Rebeka Gabányi

The Impact of Non-Professional Interpreters in Medical Interpreting Situations

Due to the possibilities in mobility and travel, many people find themselves in need of healthcare in a country where they do not speak the language of care. In these cases, a non-professional interpreter (NPI) is the one who may help them out. In a medical setting where the patient does not speak the language of the healthcare provider, NPIs have an unintended effect on the patient (be it stress, emotional state, direct impact on their health, etc.) (Lesch 2020). Therefore, the aim of my research was to identify which differences can be found in the work of qualified interpreters vs. NPIs, and to show why language mediation is a key factor for effective healthcare.

In my paper, I will reflect on the effects (Chesterman 1998) of interpreters in a medical situation, identify the undesirable effects on patients and the communication situation that occur when NPIs are involved, and propose possible ways of counteracting the identified undesirable effects that may occur due to the presence of a NPI in a medical setting. The research is based on a form completed by 67 respondents in total and on personal interviews (including patients, professional interpreters, and medical staff). The participants are non-Hungarian speaking patients seeking healthcare in Hungary (31 non-Hungarian respondents) and Hungarian patients seeking medical help in a foreign country (36 Hungarian respondents), both groups aided by a non-professional interpreter (family member or friend) or no one. The personal stories shared during the interviews illustrate the biggest differences between a professional and a non-professional mediator from the point of view of the patients and the medical staff. According to the research, non-professional interpreters can have deficiencies in terminological knowledge and professional demeanour, sometimes exclude the patient from the communication itself, and have other, possibly disturbing behaviour for patients.

Ján Gavura & Ema Palková

Journal Presentation of Poetry Translation: Status, Opportunities, Advantages, and Limitations (Vertigo 2013–2024)

This paper analyses the presentation of poetry translation in *Vertigo*, a Slovak journal that has published mainly poetry, often in translation, for 12 years. Based on the analysis, it offers observations on all the actors and aspects related to translated poetry. The research focuses on the typology of writers and translators in terms of geopolitical perspectives, language diversity, historical period and cultural background, forms of presentation, and the overall complex of information provided. As one of the authors of the study is also the editor-in-chief of the journal, he has access to information that would otherwise be unavailable. This includes the direction of the initiative, the motivation of the translators, and other background details that are not obvious but play an important part in the final presentation.

Along with the quantitative analysis, the article tries to characterise the journal's overall contribution, the general preferences shaped by the internal movements of translators' policies that either aligned or conflicted with editors' policies, which eventually leads to answering further questions about the status of a translator and the role of editors.

Poetry and poetry translation are often considered peripheral, even in comparison with other literary translations; therefore, the status of translated poetry is juxtaposed with a quantitative and qualitative survey of Slovak poetry published in the journal. This also has its pragmatic side in terms of consequences for the journal's readers (number of copies sold, feedback, etc.). The preliminary results partly confirm general hypotheses about poetry in translation, e.g. less interest in translated poetry and pessimism about poetry translation, but also suggest that the medium of a journal plays an important role in introducing unknown poets and poetics and in overcoming barriers to understanding unique forms of expression such as poetry.

Patience Haggin (A)

Finding Ortese's Voice for Ferrante Fans: A Stylometric Study of Neapolitan Chronicles

The research in this paper uses digital stylometry to examine a 2018 translation of Anna Maria Ortese's 1953 *Il mare non bagna Napoli*. It scrutinizes the traces left by a collaborative translation, which I conclude was influenced by a desire to appeal to fans of best-selling author Elena Ferrante.

The paper uses stylometric methods originally developed to resolve disputed authorship to compare *Neapolitan Chronicles* to English translations of Ortese and Ferrante. These methods classified nearly the entire book as more like Ferrante, rather than Ortese.

Neapolitan Chronicles is a collaboration between McPhee and Ferrante's acclaimed translator Goldstein. This paper scrutinizes their claim to have "merged into yet another translator, who was at once invisible, and at the same time, had a style all her own."

I conclude:

(1) The style of *Neapolitan Chronicles* is more similar to Goldstein's Ferrante than to other English translations of Ortese. Goldstein and McPhee essentially "Ferrantized" Ortese's work to appeal to Ferrante fans. They subdued the original stories' unique, "feverish" style.

(2) Goldstein and McPhee's blended translator doesn't have "a style all her own." The pair essentially adopted the style of Goldstein's Ferrante translations.

My presentation will explain the stylometric studies and present them in visualizations, including: a rolling classifier trained on translations of Ferrante and Ortese, a rolling classifier trained on Goldstein and McPhee's translations, and a bootstrap consensus tree that visually plots the texts based on stylistic similarity.

This research investigates institutional factors that influence literary translation, including: publishers' commercial concerns, target audience, and the time that has passed between original text and translation. It investigates how translation practice remediates an author's identity – in this case both because Ortese was translated by a collaborative team of translators and because one was a star translator who had become known for rendering the very particular voice of a blockbuster author.

Patience Haggin (B)

“Virtually No Rights at All for Herself”: Anna Maria Ortese and Her Translators

This paper examines two translations of Anna Maria Ortese’s fiction in light of her unpublished correspondence with the translators, held at the Archivio di Stato di Napoli.

In letters Ortese (1914–1998) explicitly told each translator that she deeply respected their understanding of her work, endorsed them to create work all their own, and renounced her financial rights to the translations’ proceeds. These translators then masculinized her style and suppressed some of her work’s most original qualities.

The paper examines Henry Martin’s English translation *The Iguana* (1987) and Claude Schmitt’s French translation *Le chapeau à plumes* (1997) in light of the translators’ correspondence with Ortese. These letters are examined through the lens of Jeremy Munday’s framework for studying translators’ decision-making in light of author–translator correspondence.

Ortese was one of the twentieth century’s most original voices. Both Martin and Schmitt’s translations enjoyed critical success – particularly *The Iguana* – in part because the translators domesticated (to use Lawrence Venuti’s term) Ortese with respect to their target literary cultures. Furthermore, both translations masculinized Ortese; Martin did so to a greater extent. The paper concludes that both translations suppress features characteristic to women’s writing and insert features characteristic to men’s writing. This paper relies on gender and language research by Robin Lakoff and other linguists.

Martin and Schmitt omitted many of Ortese’s expressions of uncertainty and other rhetorical tics associated with women’s writing. This effectively imbued Ortese’s contemplative narrator with more certainty than she had in the original works. This paper also draws on Vanessa Leonardi’s research on the tangible differences in how men and women translate.

This paper investigates identity, gender, and representation in literary translation. It looks at the effect of a man translating a woman, and how that influences the voice and reception of a text.

Tatsiana Haiden

Austrian Small Publishing Companies Specialising in Translations: Exploring the Field

This paper presents the latest findings from my ongoing postdoctoral project on small publishing houses in Austria that specialise in translating fiction from specific languages. The study highlights their crucial role in bridging cultures and shaping cultural exchange.

The theoretical framework draws on Bourdieu's two-scale dichotomy (1999, 2008), Sapiro's analyses of global literary flows (2014, 2016), Wolf and Bachleitner's contributions to the sociology of translation (2010), and Roig-Sanz's recent research on cultural diplomacy and soft power (2025). While my larger project investigates contemporary Austrian translation culture at different levels (Prunč 2008; Haiden 2023), this paper focuses on the organisations that produce translations.

Building on Bourdieu's two-scale dichotomy, I hypothesise that small publishers prioritise symbolic and cultural capital over economic capital, in contrast to the larger companies. Their mission is to set cultural trends and provide high-quality literature to a selective "elite" readership (Sapiro, Bourdieu, Watson), rather than positioning themselves as producers of bestsellers for mass consumption. They search for a certain niche and cover the narrow field and the needs of their selected audience. In Austria (in contrast to Germany) this niche is often defined through translation.

In this paper, I trace how geographical location, funding structures, and self-presentation shape these publishers contribute to transcultural connections. Using a combination of epitextual analysis with media and online representations, I explore the motivations behind establishing such companies, their selection of source languages, financial strategies, and book sales figures. This research not only maps translation flows in and around Austria, but also sheds light on the broader cultural and societal significance of small-scale translation publishing.

Angela Hefty & Michal Hefty

Community Interpreting of Slovak Sign Language: How Well Do We Know It?

Community interpreting for deaf users of Slovak Sign Language has undergone changes in the last 20 years. Changes, improvements, efficiency of functioning, and, on the other hand, difficulties have been influenced by legislative changes themselves, the most famous of which is Act No. 448/2008 on Social Services, where interpreting service for persons with hearing impairment was classified as a social service. As the law stipulates, the provision of interpreting services has been since administered by the regional authorities (known as VÚC), and such services can be provided by legal entities on the basis of their own decision, interest, professional growth, and education.

Interpreters who interpreted in the early 1950s were primarily family members of the deaf persons without continuing education in interpreting and translation. Changes in the education of qualified interpreters have only occurred since the 2020/2021 academic year due to the four-year professionally oriented bachelor's programme Slovak Language in Communication of the Deaf at the Faculty of Education, University of Trnava. The programme is intended for all interested students (both beginners and advanced), but students who have no previous experience with sign language are especially represented among the applicants. Thus, they study Slovak Sign Language as a foreign language.

Are interpreting services for the deaf effective today? Will they find a fixed place for the needs of every deaf user of Slovak sign language? What changes and challenges has this type of community interpreting experienced in the past 20 years?

We discuss the answers to these complex questions through an interdisciplinary lens that includes translation studies, cultural anthropology, legislation, linguistics, and sociology. Finally, the provision of quality interpreting services can also be viewed from the perspective of “nothing about us without us”.

Soňa Hodáková

The Training Needs of Future Interpreters within the Context of Their Own Mental Wellbeing

Interpreters in different genres, including conference or public service interpreting, are confronted with various forms of cognitive and/or emotional demands and negative stress (Moser–Mercer, Künzli, & Korac 1998; Valero-Garcés 2005; Hodáková & Ukušová 2023). Effective emotional regulation and stress management are therefore one of the key prerequisites for high-quality interpreting performance and mental well-being of interpreters, with both situational and individual factors of experiencing and coping with stress playing a role. In Slovakia, the issue of interpreters' mental health started to receive increased attention only with the outbreak of the war in Ukraine and the related increased demand for public service interpreters (Hodáková & Ukušová 2023), with interpreting students often finding themselves in the role of interpreters in crisis situations in the field (Hodáková & Ukušová 2023; Yakunkina 2024).

This paper therefore focuses on the individual determinants of stress perception and coping in the context of university training of future interpreters. The results of a questionnaire survey among interpreting students and teachers at Slovak universities, conducted by Kodajová (2024), also speak in favour of the need to include work with personality traits and emotional regulation in the interpreting education. Based on the findings of empirical research and drawing in particular on González Campanella's (2024) model of emotion regulation training, reflecting work with emotions in the cognitive (e.g. knowledge of one's own emotions and triggers of emotional reactions, reducing stigma, developing emotional literacy), physiological (e.g. stress reduction, improving emotion management at both the body and mind level), and holistic dimension (e.g. practical use of emotional intelligence, self-reflection, self-care), I formulate recommendations for interpreting training applicable in the Slovak context and beyond.

Eva Höhn

Arad Dabiri's Translation of the Novel *Drama* and Vienna Critical Discourse Analysis

Arad Dabiri's debut novel *Drama*, published in 2023, offers a rich text to explore through the prism of translation theory and Viennese critical discourse theory. The construction of the identity of a literary character with a migrant background is a central motif of the work. Dabiri's work questions the idea of "expected integration" and the impact of failed integration on young people. The novel highlights the challenges faced by marginalised communities.

The main aim of our paper is to analyse the language used in the novel. This includes the way in which individual characters speak, which reflects their social status and the cultural narratives that shape their perceptions. An examination of the range of possible translations of specific passages reveals how translators may address or reword the main themes of the text. As a theoretical approach, Viennese critical discourse analysis focuses on how language and discourse shape social reality in Vienna.

Overall, an analysis of the novel *Drama* using translation theory and Viennese discourse analysis theory will reveal the complexity of translating a culturally specific text and expose its critical engagement with Viennese society. This approach will enable a comprehensive understanding of the literary, cultural, and socio-political significance of the novel.

Ivana Hostová

Figures in the Fabric: Actor-Networks of the Periodicals *Aspekt* and *Revue svetovej literatúry*

Translation is a crucial component in the shaping and sharing of political, social, and cultural practices. In some spaces and at certain moments, the ramifications of translation are particularly strong: recently, Jinxin Qi (2024), for example, has applied media system dependency theory (Ball-Rokeach 1985) to the study of translations, demonstrating how renditions in periodicals shaped late Qing China, a time marked by social upheavals.

The focus of my paper is East-Central Europe during the turbulent period at the turn of the 21st century, when newly post-totalitarian countries entered historical contemporaneity (Osborne 2013), and the population increasingly turned to media – still relying to a significant extent on print media – to make sense of the world. I will study two periodicals produced in Slovakia, a country which, at that time, had not only recently undergone the collapse of state socialism but had also separated from Czechoslovakia. The informational space of this newly independent small state was flooded with translations from English (Pliešovská & Popovcová Glowacky 2020) – welcomed as a sign of freedom by readers and as a source of commercial success by publishers.

The near-exclusive mediation of information through a single language was partially counterbalanced by cultural and political periodicals. I will focus on the actors (human and non-human, including institutions such as Pro Helvetia or Frauen-Anstiftung; format, periodicity, etc.) that constituted the actor-networks (Latour 2005) of two periodicals: the feminist cultural-political journal *Aspekt* (1993–2004), founded and edited by two activists and translators from German and English – Jana Cviková and Jana Juráňová – and the literary magazine *Revue svetovej literatúry* [World Literature Review], under the editorship of Jarmila Samcová (1995–2016), a translator from Serbian, Croatian, and English. The magazine translations, though of limited readership, were invaluable to politically and culturally aware people and young readers.

Blanka Jenčíková & Adriana Koželová

**Applying Translation and Interpreting Graduates: Acquired Competences
Versus the Challenges and Needs of Professional Practice**

The evolving labour market, rapid technological advancements, and increasing demands for both linguistic and professional competences are significantly shaping the career trajectories of translation and interpreting graduates. Despite the broad spectrum of career opportunities available to them, precise data on the specific professions in which these graduates find employment remain scarce. This study seeks to bridge this gap through a questionnaire-based survey, focusing on the career paths of graduates from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Prešov.

The primary objective of this research is to examine the professional destinations of graduates, assessing how many pursue careers in translation and interpreting and how many enter other economic sectors. The second aim is to evaluate the extent to which their academic training has prepared them for professional practice and to identify the competences they most frequently utilise. The third objective is to highlight the key skills that graduates consider essential and to determine which areas of study they recommend for greater emphasis in translation and interpreting curricula. The findings of this study will offer valuable insights for curriculum development, aiming to enhance translator and interpreter education in response to the evolving demands of the labour market. These recommendations will contribute to aligning academic training with industry needs, ensuring that graduates are better equipped for professional success in a dynamic and technology-driven environment.

Romana Jurigová, Emília Perez & Andrej Zahorák

Deficient Subtitling in TV, Cinema, and Streaming: The Accessibility Divide and Social Exclusion

Subtitling is a crucial tool for ensuring media accessibility, not only for users of a language other than the original but also for D/deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers. However, subtitling practices across TV, cinema, and online streaming platforms often fail to reflect the specific needs of hearing-impaired audiences. Subtitles frequently reveal significant deficiencies, remain inconsistent, or are absent altogether (Pedersen & Aspevig 2014; Uzzo 2020; Perez, Jurigová & Zahorák 2025). Existing research on D/deaf and hard-of-hearing audiences shows that deficient or partial efforts to provide access to audiovisual content and/or film events lead to feelings of discomfort and exclusion, which, in the long term, result in mistrust toward film culture in general (Pedersen & Aspevig 2014; Uzzo 2020; Perez 2023). This state of affairs contributes to a significant accessibility divide, where D/deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers who rely on subtitles are excluded from fully engaging with media, cinema, and film.

In this context, the proposed paper aims to highlight how the absence of access to information, entertainment, and social participation can lead to the social exclusion of hearing-impaired viewers. It explores how deficient subtitling practices contribute to social exclusion for Deaf young adults and older Deaf viewers, presenting results from semi-structured exploratory interviews with Slovak Deaf audiences. The findings are further interpreted by examining the state of affairs in Slovak TV broadcasting, online streaming, and cinema, discussing the broader implications for both sensory and social inclusion.

Natalia Kolchugina

Beyond the Sidelines: Exploring Football Interpreters' Roles and Perception

Football interpreters play a vital role in team communication, yet their professional identity remains ambiguous and understudied. This paper explores how football culture, societal expectations, team dynamics, and self-perception shape their roles. It examines how these factors influence their professional performance, perception, and the expectations placed upon them.

By analysing a corpus of 13 interviews with football interpreters published between 2015 and 2024, this study identifies key aspects related to their responsibilities, role expectations, and challenges. The research corpus is complemented by the results of a survey conducted among players, coaches, and administrative staff of a female football team, providing insight into how interpreters are perceived within the team. The findings reveal that football culture significantly influences interpreters' professional image, often placing them in demanding and high-pressure roles that extend beyond linguistic mediation. They are expected to be multilingual, manage time efficiently, mediate conflicts, and act as a “magic wand” for players, addressing both linguistic and interpersonal challenges. Confidentiality also emerges as a crucial issue, as interpreters frequently access sensitive team information. Therefore, given the difficulty of obtaining firsthand accounts, this study relies on a corpus of interviews to provide a comprehensive analysis of football interpreters' roles.

By shedding light on the specifics of football interpreting, this research highlights the need for greater professionalisation, clearer role definitions, and explicit communicative strategies. The findings offer practical recommendations for recognising interpreters not only as linguistic specialists but also as integral contributors to football teams, ultimately helping to establish a more balanced framework for this profession.

Marie Krappmann

An Unstable Playing Field with Unclear Rules: The Situation of Translators of Yiddish Literature in Communist Czechoslovakia

Translators of Yiddish literature into Czech in former communist Czechoslovakia faced numerous challenges resulting from the paranoid attitude of the communist regime towards Jewish and, consequently, Yiddish culture and literature (Soukupová 2010). It is no coincidence that after 1948 the majority of translations of Yiddish literature were not published in book form, but in periodicals, mostly Jewish periodicals such as *Židovská ročenka* [Jewish Yearbook] or *Věstník židovských náboženských obcí v Československu* [Bulletin of Jewish Religious Communities in Czechoslovakia].

Besides the limited number of readers, this publication platform had further specific features that had a decisive influence on the initial and preliminary norms in the translation process: i) The articles and essays on Yiddish culture and profiles of prominent figures published in the newspapers shaped the representation of Yiddish, which influenced the choice of translation norms when dealing with literary translations (Krappmann 2024a); ii) The space limitation influenced the selection of texts and thus genre preferences (Krappmann 2021); iii) The choice of the source text and the shifts in the target texts (even the change of the title) sometimes depended on current events that were discussed in the newspaper (Krappmann 2025).

Translators from Yiddish into Czech thus had a limited field of play, defined by the socio-political background on the one hand and the specifics of the primary publication medium on the other.

In this paper, I will introduce three mediators of Yiddish literature, namely Jakub Markovič, Stanislav Taraszka and Hana Náglová, on the basis of their translations published in periodicals in the period between 1960 and 1980. I will only be able to answer the section's key question – What role did these translators play as society-shaping agents? – indirectly, starting with further related questions: How did the various phases of the development of communism in former Czechoslovakia shape the presentation of Yiddish culture and literature? What possibilities did translators of Yiddish have at all in this restricted, unstable playing field? Did

the translators expand the given boundaries and redefine the rules of the game through their individual strategies? If so, then how? (Krappmann 2024b)

The aims of my paper are therefore as follows: 1. To show, on the basis of examples, how the different phases of the communist regime's development might be reflected in the work of translators; 2. To outline, by comparing with translations in book form, how the publication platform itself influenced the preferred norms; 3. To compile the translators' biographical profiles in order to present them as individual personalities who develop their translation strategies from a biographically determined background (among other things).

Michaela Kuklová

Identity Construction of Future Translators

This paper presents the results of a transdisciplinary project carried out since 2024 at the Centre for Translation Studies of the University of Vienna. Combining insights from translator studies, biography and identity research, and sociology, the Literar Mechana-funded project *Identity Construction of Future Translators* is exploring the identity formation of future translators. The project idea is based on empirical data that the author has been collecting since 2013 through project-based teaching with real assignments.

In this learning environment, working on real assignments for real audiences has professionalised a range of translator skills. Several key aspects that required further investigation were identified: (i) students did not engage sufficiently with the resources they had acquired through their life experiences, and (ii) they were often unaware of these in professional communication situations.

This discrepancy led to the central research question: *How do future translators construct their identities?* To explore this, the study focused on the following aspects:

- What elements and factors shape their life stories?
- How do they portray their own cultural imprint and individual life experiences?
- What role do they ascribe to social skills?
- What experiences and contacts have been formative for them?
- How do they reflect on their role as individuals and future experts in various transcultural communication situations?
- How do they perceive their multilingualism?
- How do they reflect on diversity based on their individual experiences?

The paper outlines the course of the project, presents its results – analysis of narrative biographies and the creation of language biographies of the participants – and highlights its contributions to translation studies and translation didactics.

Jana Lauková

New Challenges and Trends in Conveying Specialized Knowledge in Contemporary Interpreting Training

The Covid-19 pandemic profoundly impacted interpreter training, accelerating its digital transformation and reshaping pedagogical approaches. This paper examines the key challenges associated with the shift to online teaching and explores emerging post-pandemic trends in the development of specialised expertise. It focuses on innovative methods such as virtual conference platforms, digital interpreting practice tools, and simulated conferences, while also addressing the challenges of practical training and the development of essential interpreting skills. The pandemic and its aftermath have raised several critical questions regarding interpreter training:

- Which new, digitally driven teaching methods have been implemented or could be introduced?
- Which digital tools and technologies have proven particularly effective and could be integrated into future in-person instruction?
- How has interpreter training evolved in the post-pandemic era?
- What are students' expectations for interpreting classes in the 21st century, and what are their practical needs?

This paper presents the results of a micro-empirical study conducted via a questionnaire among undergraduate and graduate students of philology (translation and interpreting – German studies). The study focuses on the integration of new technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) in translation and interpreting training with the German–Slovak language pair. Based on these findings, the paper offers a discussion on future perspectives and trends in interpreting education.

Robin Lee Nagano

Culture-Specific Items in Newspaper Articles: Student Translator Awareness and Strategies

It is widely acknowledged that in translation and interpreting, knowledge of a language (target and source) must be accompanied by knowledge of the culture. This can be especially challenging when the translator is working with a language that is used in a variety of cultures, such as English. For comprehension of texts in a particular cultural setting, it is important to be able to recognize when a word or phrase is referring to knowledge specific to that culture or country. Interpreters must make split-second decisions on how to deal with such references, but translators have the option of searching for background information and deciding what (if any) supplementary information should be provided, and how best to do so.

This presentation focuses on a case study of student translators (Hungarian) reading and translating newspaper articles in English from countries they are less familiar with (Ireland, New Zealand). I focus on what they identify as being specific to the local context and whether and how they seek further information, including through the AI options now available to them. Furthermore, I ask them to explain how they decide on their translation strategies for these culture-specific items. Through this project, I identify aspects to target in translation training when focusing on translating culture-specific items. Another aim is to foster novice translators' appreciation of cultural and social knowledge as an essential tool in their translation toolboxes.

Martin Lizoň

Modelling Russia: Depictions of Russian History in Historiographical Publications Translated into Slovak from Russian and English after 1989

This paper examines the contemporary image of Russia in Slovak media culture, focusing on scholarly literature and popular non-fiction on Russian history published after 1989 and translated into Slovak from English or Russian. The qualitative analysis explores the themes addressed in these works, while the quantitative analysis considers their presence in the Slovak book market. The research adopts a non-textocentric approach to literature, viewing it as a social system shaped by economic, social, political, historical, and cultural factors. This perspective aligns with constructivist literary theory (primarily the works of Siegfried Schmidt and Niklas Luhmann), Pierre Bourdieu's theory of the literary field, and Pascale Casanova's concept of world literature. Within this framework, book production is regarded as both a media offering and a relatively open social system influenced by its intersections with broader social realities and market dynamics. The study explores how Slovak literary publishers' intentions shape the translated historiographic literature on Russia and examines selected examples of discourse used to present or evaluate Russia. Rather than focusing on translation itself, the analysis investigates how the paratexts of these books interpret reality, conveying explicit value judgements and the publishers' and booksellers' perspectives, which may shape readers' perceptions of Russia. Finally, the research highlights a fundamental discrepancy in the portrayal of Russia – ranging from criticism to idealisation – and seeks to explain why and how these contrasting depictions enter the Slovak literary market.

Christine Lombez

Translators and Translations of Foreign Poetry in French Collaborationist Periodicals (1940–1944)

Our recent studies on literary translation in France during the German Occupation (TSOcc and TranslAtWar programs) have, among other things, highlighted the significant volume of literary translations published in periodicals between 1940 and 1944, especially poetry, which was then the most translated genre in French and the most commented upon. In addition, poetry in translation was then the only genre that appeared in full-text quotations in newspapers and periodicals – unlike foreign novels or plays, which were generally only reviewed or briefly summarized.

This presentation will examine the Collaborationist periodicals – that is, publications that openly supported the policies implemented by Marshal Pétain after the 1940 armistice. Unlike more “resistant” journals (such as *Fontaine*, *Poésie*, *Confluences*, published in the free zone or the Colonial Empire), poetry translations in far-right publications remain so far unstudied, even though the phenomenon is undeniable. What role did foreign poetry play and by whom was it translated? Which poets were selected? For what purpose?

Based on a sample of five periodicals (*Je suis partout*, *L’Appel*, *L’Atelier*, *Présent*, and *Panorama*) published in Paris or in the provinces (Lyons), we will analyse the profiles of the translators and their translation strategies. We will also explore the framing discourses and paratexts of the translated texts (introduction, editorial remarks), which reveal in many ways their political orientation – making translation, in this context, a highly ideologized activity.

Robert Looby

Translations from Behind the Iron Curtain

In the 1950s and 60s, *News from Behind the Iron Curtain*, and later *East Europe: A Monthly Review of East European Affairs*, kept readers informed about events in the Soviet Bloc in Europe. In addition to political and economic news, it also published articles about culture in Eastern and Central Europe as well as translations of contemporary fiction.

This proposed paper examines the role of the magazine's Polish literary translators and editors in facilitating cultural and political shifts in post-war Europe and is an exploration of the tension between authorial and editorial intention. It will show how this tension affected the translation of texts transplanted from their home soil to foreign climes. Specifically, the paper studies the selection of texts for translation as well as the way in which they were presented to Western readers: as signs of rebellion or of quiescence, as works of value in their own right or as weapons in a propaganda war. Paratextual apparatus such as introductions and accompanying articles are analysed in an attempt to discern the overriding editorial considerations that steered readers towards certain works of literature. A close reading of selected translations and comparison with the originals will show if and how readers were directed towards particular interpretations of the literary work according to the political outlook of the translators and editors.

Carmen Merino, Belén Llopis, & Bianca Vitalaru

Enhancing Communication Rights in Healthcare: Addressing Linguistic and Cultural Barriers for Migrant Patients

National¹ and European Union² regulations recognize patients' rights to information and communication. In this context, academic studies (Vitalaru 2023) have explored the distinction between these two rights, emphasizing that they involve different actions from stakeholders. Additionally, these studies highlight the crucial role of interpreting in ensuring effective communication.

Nowadays communication between foreign patients who neither speak nor understand Spanish and healthcare professionals in Spanish hospitals and medical centres remains ineffective. A substantial body of research (Roman-López et al. 2015; de Casadevante 2021; Abril Martí 2011) has documented the challenges faced by migrants in accessing healthcare services, as well as the difficulties experienced by medical professionals in communicating with them due to cultural and linguistic discrepancies.

The project *intercomsalud* focuses precisely on overcoming cultural and linguistic barriers. Our study is conducted as part of Stage 3, the asymmetry analysis of the project, and posits that an interdisciplinary approach – integrating linguistic and healthcare perspectives – is essential to addressing communication challenges between medical professionals and non-Spanish-speaking migrant patients.

This paper aims to identify challenges associated with the rights to information and communication based on a mixed methodological approach and triangulation. Thus, it starts with the analysis of the national legal framework concerning the rights to understand and be understood and is complemented by semi-structured expert interviews, although there is also a wider study that involves public perception surveys and direct observation.

The paper highlights persistent linguistic and cultural barriers that hinder effective interactions and identifies gaps in the legal framework regarding the right to understand and be understood. It underscores the necessity of an interdisciplinary strategy integrating linguistic and healthcare perspectives and the promotion of cultural competence training for healthcare providers.

1 Ley 41/2002, de 14 de noviembre, básica reguladora de la autonomía del paciente y de derechos y obligaciones en materia de información y documentación clínica. «BOE» núm. 274, de 15/11/2002. Disponible en: <https://www.boe.es/eli/es/l/2002/11/14/41/con>

2 Directive 2011/24/EU of the of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare. ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2011/24/oj>

Simo K. Määttä

Social and Individual Constraints and Affordances in Interpreter-Mediated Asylum Interviews

In this paper, I examine the impact of social and individual factors having an impact on the narrative produced by the asylum seeker in interpreter-mediated asylum interviews. To this end, I analyse three key sequences in a dataset of ten audio-recorded asylum interviews, the written reports of the interviews, and the decisions made in each case. In five interviews, interpreting was provided between Finnish and French, and in another five, between Finnish and English. The data were obtained from the Finnish Immigration Service (research permit #MIG-2012091).

I analyse three sequences that are particularly important with regard to achieving inclusion and linguistic justice in interpreter-mediated asylum interviews. These include (1) the beginning of the interview, where the immigration agent explains the rights and obligations of the asylum seeker, (2) the sequence where the asylum seeker is asked to provide information about his or her identity, family, and ethnolinguistic background, and (3) the beginning of the sequence where the asylum seeker is given the opportunity to freely narrate the events that triggered his or her exile. My goal is to assess the role of social and individual *affordances* that contribute to achieving inclusion and linguistic justice, as well as the social and individual *constraints* hindering their realization.

The analysis is interdisciplinary, drawing on three research traditions, namely interpreting studies, interactional sociolinguistics, and linguistic anthropology. Tools developed within interpreting studies predominate the analysis of the interpreters' strategies and their relation to professional deontology, whereas the analysis of the primary speakers' (immigration agent and asylum seeker) speaking styles is mostly informed by interactional sociolinguistics. The concept of language ideologies, coined within linguistic anthropology, is used throughout the analysis as it represents a major social force governing all meaning-making and the interpretation thereof.

Lívia Kodajová

The Role and Potential of Public Service Interpreting and Translation in Eliminating Barriers for Vulnerable Groups in Slovakia: Views of Personnel from State Offices, NGOs, and NPOs

Currently, the importance of examining the use of public service interpreting and translation (PSIT) in the context of migration and vulnerable groups of population in Slovakia can be reflected particularly in the light of the recent refugee crisis caused by Russia's war against Ukraine. However, the availability of interpreting and translation services in Slovakia is considered insufficient, resulting in difficulties in providing assistance for communication with authorities, health care providers, psychological support, or support in accessing job opportunities on the labour market (Hodáková 2024; Šveda & Štefková 2022).

International frameworks emphasize linguistic accessibility as a fundamental component of human rights and social inclusion (UNHCR 2016). According to World Migration Reports from the IOM (2022; 2024), the lack of language accessibility contributes to emotional distress and complicates the integration process of migrants globally. This paper aims to provide an analysis of obstacles caused by language barriers, which limit the access to the abovementioned services as well as to identify additional obstacles faced by vulnerable populations, including migrants, asylum seekers, and socially marginalized groups, in Slovakia. The primary objective of our research is to examine these barriers from the viewpoint of relevant stakeholders and to explore the current state of using PSIT in the context of state institutions and non-governmental (NGO) or non-profit organizations (NPO) as well as the potential of eliminating or reducing the impact of the identified barriers through the implementation of various forms of PSIT. The proposed paper presents the results of a questionnaire-based survey (N=171) conducted among participants from the Central Office for Labour, Social Affairs, and Family and relevant NGOs and NPOs, which suggests that more than 50% of participants encounter clients with a language barrier. The survey further seeks to identify effective solutions for overcoming these barriers.

Katarína Motyková & Nina Cingerová

Reception of Translations from German-Speaking Countries in the Journals of the Institute of Philosophy of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (1940s to 1970s)

(Die Rezeption deutschsprachiger Übersetzungen in den Zeitschriften des Instituts für Philosophie der Slowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (1940er–1970er Jahre))

This conference paper is dedicated to the analysis of the roles and positions of translators and translations in the journals of the Institute of Philosophy of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. The material analysed consists of two types of documents: reviews of German-language works in Slovak translation and articles in which these works were received. The study focuses on the 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, as it is hypothesised that these years exhibit a high degree of ideologisation.

The methodology of the study is based upon the tools of interactional stylistics and discourse linguistics, as well as the postulates of discourse and textsemiotics of A. J. Greimas, in particular on his actantial model, and on the approaches of E. Goffman, which facilitate the identification of the interaction roles. The two-stage understanding of the review as a form of communication facilitates analysis of the various roles involved at the level of the genre (e.g. author of the review, recipient, medium, etc.) and at the level of the text (e.g. author of the translation, translation, recipient of the translation, various other instances, etc.). This enables analysis of the roles assigned to translators and translations in the public sphere.

This study was conducted as part of the research project entitled *Translation and Aspects of the Reception of Humanities and Social Science Texts as Cultural and Literary Transfer in the 20th Century* (APVV-21-0198). The project encompasses the analysis of the conditions that prevailed when translations were produced in a historical context, the status, function, and mediating role of translators, and the institutional context and function of translations in the broader framework of literary and cultural transfer. The objective of this paper is to contribute to a more comprehensive picture of the translation of philosophical (among other) texts from German-speaking countries published in journals in the humanities and their significance within the history of translation.

Joanna Nachman

In Translation We Trust: The Role of Volunteer Interpreters in Supporting Ukrainian Refugees at Kraków Główny Train Station

Translation and interpreting are vital for ensuring social equity in humanitarian crises, where language barriers obstruct access to essential services. This study examines the contributions of Polish volunteer interpreters assisting Ukrainian refugees at the Kraków Główny train station following the outbreak of war in Ukraine. These interpreters facilitated communication between refugees and authorities, ensuring access to shelter, medical care, and legal assistance.

Despite extensive research on humanitarian interpreting in conflict zones (Ruiz Rosendo & Martin 2024) and refugee contexts in Spain (Jiménez-Ivars & León-Pinilla 2018; Relinque & Vigier-Moreno 2023; Valero-Garcés 2018), Scotland (Moskal et al. 2024), France (Gibb 2014), (Gibb & Good 2014), South Africa (Khan 2013), the US (Nyerges et al. 2022), Slovakia (Šveda & Štefková 2022, 2023; Tužinská 2024), and Ireland (Ciribuco 2020), Polish scholarship remains scarce. Key contributions include works by Tryuk (2006, 2007, 2023), Springer (2009, 2010), and NDiaye (2014), yet only Tryuk (2023) directly addresses interpreting for Ukrainian refugees, and no studies focus on non-professional interpreting.

Grounded in humanitarian interpreting theory (Inghilleri 2019; Tipton & Wilkins 2021), this research employs qualitative methods, analysing interviews with volunteer interpreters and refugee support workers. Findings highlight interpreters' emotional burden, cultural mediation challenges, and the need for institutional support. The study emphasizes disparities in interpreting access and advocates for structured training programmes to enhance volunteer effectiveness.

By examining linguistic mediation in crisis settings, this research contributes to discussions on interpreting for social equity and humanitarian response. It underscores the essential role of volunteer interpreters in bridging communication gaps and informs policies aimed at improving language services for refugees in emergency contexts.

Lukáš Nagy

On the Translation of Texts with Historiographic Issues: The Example of Eva Umlauf's Autobiography

This article addresses the translation of texts dealing with historiographic issues, using the Slovak version of German-Slovak author and Holocaust survivor Eva Umlauf's (b. 1942) interdiscursive autobiography, *Číslo na tvojom predlaktí je modré ako tvoje oči. Spomienky* (2018) (*Die Nummer auf deinem Unterarm ist blau wie deine Augen. Erinnerungen*, 2016) as an example. The focus is on examining how historiographic discourses are transformed in translation and what effects these transformations have on the reception of the work. Some challenges in translation are discussed, particularly regarding precise country names and historiographic terms, arising from the fact that neither the author nor the translator had studied history, although Stefanie Oswalt, co-author of the German original, had. The importance of accurate translation related to historical contexts, especially on sensitive topics such as the Holocaust, is emphasized. Additionally, strategies are presented that translators can apply when dealing with historiographic issues to ensure the accuracy and authenticity of the translation. The aim of this article is to promote discussion on the translation of historiographic texts in autobiographical works and to highlight their relevance for engaging with Holocaust memories.

Elena Ostrovskaia

“Black and White”: Translation and Mediation of African-American Poetry in the Magazine *International Literature*

International Literature (Internatsional'naiia literature/Интернациональная литература) (1931–1945), a Moscow-based multilingual publishing project, was conceived as a literary mouthpiece of the Comintern and produced four eponymous magazines in Russian, English, French, and German with different target audiences, editorial policies and sometimes periodical codes. Highly ideologically engaged magazines of literature in translation, the four *International Literatures* faced the challenge of shaping a model of world literature for their respective audiences by means of “rewriting” (Lefevere). While the usual institutional division of labour and the pressure and censorship constraints put on literature by the Soviet regime suggest that the work would mainly be done by the editors and critics, in reality, in the constantly short-staffed magazine, translators were essential agents of rewriting practices and, at some stages, members of the cosmopolitan literary community, interacting with the authors and forming the text in ways beyond the strictly translational.

This paper addresses the magazine’s publications of Afro-American literature and focuses on the figures of translators Lidiia Filatova, Iulian Anissimov, and Robert Magidoff, who worked in the magazine at different periods and represented very different types of the translator as a society-shaping agent. Filatova’s and Anissimov’s work was closely associated with the famous American poet Langston Hughes, who spent a year in the USSR, established personal relations and friendships, and in his memoir provided a glimpse into the habits of translators in 1933 Moscow. Magidoff, with his adventurous biography of an ex-émigré American journalist, is a very different translator figure. A study of the translators’ work and their networking practices, supported by archival materials, attempts to explore roles played by translators as well as discuss the ways in which Afro-American literature was presented in the Russian and English editions of *International Literature*.

Tünde Paksy

Variations on *The Nutcracker*

Translators have to make numerous decisions (linguistic and otherwise) in their work that strongly influence the output. In the case of older literary texts, they not only have to bridge the gap between the linguistic usage of the time of origin and the present of the translation, but also take into account the changed conditions of reception, including the knowledge, expectations, and attitudes of the recipients, as well as the expectations and possible guidelines of the respective publisher. Using the example of Hungarian translations of E.T.A. Hoffmann's "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King", this paper examines which extra-linguistic aspects could have influenced the translators in their decisions.

The reception of E.T.A. Hoffmann's fairy tale was strongly influenced by its adaptation as Tchaikovsky's ballet *The Nutcracker*. Driven by the success of the Christmas classic, numerous different editions, adaptations, abridged, simplified, and illustrated editions have been produced. The first part of the study attempts to outline the ramified network of various intra- and interlingual translations. In the main part, the two most popular Hungarian translations are compared with each other and with the German original. Between the two translations almost 40 years passed, during which time radical social and political changes took place. György Sárközy's translation was published in 1930, during the Horthy era, when Hungary was ruled by a regent. In 1979, Ede Tarbay reworked part of this translation and it was published by Móra Publishing House, which specialised in children's and youth literature and was subject to the social and political expectations of the socialist regime. The reworking was not only linguistic and stylistic, but also included many other aspects and was at a considerable scale. The paper formulates hypotheses concerning the specifics of the publisher's policy behind this.

Stavroula Paraskevi Vraila

Journalists as Dual Agents in Political Translation: Navigating Cultural Mediation and AI Integration

The increasing globalization of political discourse has positioned journalists at a critical intersection of cultural and linguistic mediation. In an era when artificial intelligence in political text translation is rapidly evolving, these challenges demand urgent scholarly focus. This study examines how journalists critically enable cross-cultural political communication while possibly introducing unintentional or intentional bias through selective translation, ideological framing, and content simplification (Bánhegyi 2013; 2017). With its analysis of journalistic translation influence on public perception, international relations, and political discourse, the study seeks to discover successful ways of improving translation accuracy and transparency (Baumann, Gillespie & Sreberny 2011; Johnson 2019). The proposed methodological framework includes training in translation ethics, collaborative methodologies with language specialists, and the incorporation of AI-assisted technologies (Ahmed 2024). The study contributes to our comprehension of how journalists' translational practices can either foster mutual understanding or inadvertently perpetuate misinformation and political polarization. Through qualitative analysis of case studies and interviews with practicing journalists, this study aims to provide significant insights for both academic debate and professional practice in political translation.

Eudmila Pánisová

Behind the Iron Curtain: Ideology and Manipulation in Slovak Translations of Western Philosophy in 1948–1989

During the Cold War, there were restrictions on freedom of speech and censorship, which greatly affected access to Western philosophical works. Therefore, the works of North American and British philosophers were available to Slovak readers only in edited or selectively translated forms, modified and interpreted in accordance with the doctrine of the ruling Communist Party. Unsurprisingly, some of the works were not translated from their English originals, but were translated second-hand from Russian with modifications resulting from the cultural and political context. This paper is therefore focused on looking at the relationship between translation and history, society, and culture and their role in the process of non-literary translation. It is based on the theory of Susan Bassnett and André Lefevere, which has been further developed by Edwin Gentzler (2016), who in the same way sees translators as rewriters, as mediators who contribute to cultural circulation. As a result, the paper also addresses the translator and editor's roles in the process of translation (and manipulation) of the texts through the analysis of paratexts. According to Lefevere's (and later Gentzler's) approach, translation is a rewriting or manipulation of an original text, and all rewritings reflect a certain ideology and patronage. Through the critical discourse analysis of Slovak translations, the aim is then to reveal the extent of Communist ideology influence in the translation of Western philosophy, including the choice of the authors and works translated, as well as the translation strategies applied in the texts.

Milan Pišl

Translation Studies in the Era of Disinformation: Challenges and Ethical Aspects of Translating Manipulative Economic Texts

In the era of digital media and the rapid dissemination of information, disinformation is perceived as a global phenomenon influencing public opinion and societal discourse. Special attention is given to economic disinformation, which can influence financial markets, business decision-making, and public trust in economic institutions. Translation and interpreting play a crucial role in this process, as they facilitate the transmission of such content across languages and cultures. Translators and interpreters are thus positioned not only as linguistic mediators but also as actors in the mediation between truth and manipulation. This paper focuses on the issue of translating economic disinformation from a translation studies perspective.

Linguistic and pragmatic strategies employed in economic disinformation narratives and their translational implications are analysed. Particular attention is paid to how manipulative linguistic structures, ambiguities, and deliberate distortions of reality are rendered in translation. Additionally, the ethical dilemma of translators working with texts containing economic disinformation is examined – should such content be translated neutrally, or should translators take responsibility for identifying and possibly rejecting it?

Based on an analysis of specific translation cases and strategies, possible approaches to the responsible translation of problematic economic content are proposed, and the role of translation studies in combating the spread of economic disinformation is discussed. The paper thus contributes to the discussion on the responsibility of translators and interpreters in a society shaped by information flows and economic narratives.

Ivo Poláček

Voices of Change: Documenting the Oral History of Slovak Interpreting (1980s–2000s)

This paper outlines an ongoing project aimed at documenting the oral history of Slovak interpreting, with a particular focus on the significant moments of several transformations of the profession between the 1980s and 2000s. In this period, interpreting in Slovakia shifted from a centralized framework dominated by Prague to a more autonomous Slovak context, where the Slovak language (and Slovak interpreters) gained more prominence. The profession also underwent a linguistic change of focus immediately after 1989, as Russian gradually lost its role to English, reflecting broader geopolitical changes. Slovakia's accession to the European Union in 2004 introduced a completely new era.

This project builds upon existing scholarly papers, including Čeňková's (2019) historical study of conference interpreting in former Czechoslovakia, Djovčoš, Hostová, Perez, and Šveda's (2021) analysis of interlingual transfer economics in Slovakia, Bednářová's research on Slovak translation history, e.g. *Dejiny umeleckého prekladu na Slovensku* (2013) and Kusá and Kovačičová's *Slovník slovenských prekladateľov umeleckej literatúry* (2015). However, it seeks to add a critical perspective by documenting the experiences of interpreters who actively participated in or witnessed these changes. The project investigates how interpreters responded to shifts in professional organisation, linguistic priorities, and institutional demands, but also how their perception of one's own role in society (and the image of an interpreter in society) changed – as the area made its transition from a centralised, autocratic regime to a global and democratic one. This unique experience has already begun to fade away, perhaps irreversibly.

This paper will describe the project's objectives, the methodological framework for collecting and analyzing oral histories, and its preliminary findings. Particular attention will be given to the selection of participants, the structure of interviews, and the thematic areas covered. By documenting the personal experiences of interpreters, the project aims to complement existing historical and social studies of Slovak translation and interpreting, contributing to a more comprehensive understanding of the interpreter's profession during a period of significant societal change.

Eva Reichwalderová & Anita Hut'ková

Taboo Language in the Series *Las Azules*: Differences among Spanish Versions and Its Translation into Slovak Subtitles

This study analyses taboo language in the Mexican series *Las Azules* (2024) available on the streaming platform Apple TV and its translation into Slovak subtitles. It focuses on identifying differences in the use of vulgarisms, euphemisms, and other taboo expressions across Spanish language versions and the translation strategies applied in the Slovak subtitles.

Drawing on sociolinguistic and translation theories of taboo language (Díaz Cintas & Remael 2021; Ávila Cabrera 2023), the study examines whether censorship, mitigation of expressiveness, or an equivalent transfer of the original dialogue occurs in the Slovak subtitles. It compares lexical and pragmatic solutions in selected scenes from the series and analyses how expressions are adapted based on cultural and linguistic contexts.

Taboo language in audiovisual works varies according to film genre and social context. Research on the translation of taboo language suggests that socially realist films use linguistic and visual cues to preserve genre authenticity. In subtitling such works, taboo language is often adjusted to conform to genre conventions, affecting character speech and leading to a potential homogenization of language. This study investigates whether these trends appear in the Slovak translation of *Las Azules* and considers differences in taboo language usage between European and Latin American Spanish.

The study also examines how language norms and cultural factors influence taboo language in audiovisual production and the challenges of translating it (Ljung 2011). The results shed light on the perception of vulgar language in a multicultural context.

Adrian Rexgren

Revamping Learning Activities Implemented in the Digital Translation Classroom: Classic and New Lessons in Beguiling Augmented Cyber-Wear

Artificial Intelligence (AI) innovations have positioned HeyGen as a significant leader in augmented video localization. This tool generated a real-time English version of Argentinean President Milei's speech, preserving his accent, prosody, and voice, during the World Economic Forum (Cultinno 2024). Not only has this technology shown it has the potential to permeate private and public spheres, but that multilingual communication can be made more appealing and dynamic.

In the realm of translator education, AI is used to a certain extent, as translation evolves to adapt to several technological (Gambier 2025) and social turns (Bielsa 2022). Pym & Hao (2025) propose a distinctive list, integrating some AI tools to support learning activities in the translation and language classrooms. Based on a comparative study design conducted across three universities in Finland, Lithuania, and Sweden, my research has focused on identifying new activity formats that meaningfully incorporate augmented communication into tertiary education instruction. The data, collected in higher education institutions, were transcribed and analysed using conversation analysis techniques. The findings indicate that digital tools have been widely adopted and included into regular teaching, but the teaching activities led in the classroom do not include many cutting-edge digital applications.

Although the fields of audio-visual translation and interpreting continue to rely on computer-aided human workflows for dubbing production worldwide, tools such as HeyGen and HumanPal enable the creation of parallel video material in different languages at a significantly faster rate. For these reasons, the conference constitutes a compelling opportunity to discuss learning activities' future revamped structures and goals that harness augmented communication's applicability. Teachers could use them to complement their own pedagogical materials. In turn, augmented dubbing tools can be used, for instance, for learners' self-assessment and peer feedback. Besides this, AI-generated video showing somebody fluently speaking a language they have not yet mastered can inspire and enable them to visualize their future multilingual selves, and thus enhance learning goal projections and motivation.

Julia Richter

Shifting Boundaries: Arendt, Translation Networks, and the Translation Culture of Exile and Post-Exile

Translation processes do not begin when the translator starts rendering words into the target language. They begin much earlier, with the selection of the source text and the motivations of the initiator. In this context, the work of Hannah Arendt is particularly significant. Arendt developed a far-reaching international network of translation that not only initiated a number of key translations but also identified and connected suitable translators, facilitating the intellectual transfer of ideas across linguistic and cultural borders.

This paper explores the complex network of translation processes that unfolded in the wake of exile and post-exile, emphasizing the role of these processes in intellectual and political transfer. I will examine the intricate contexts in which these translators operated, the role of these networks in shaping translation culture, and the distinctive challenges faced by translators working in the exile context. Arendt's efforts to foster and initiate this intellectual circulation offer a unique perspective on how translation can act as a tool for both cultural preservation and political engagement.

At the heart of this translation network is Arendt herself, whose work emerged during a critical time of political upheaval – an era marked by dramatic reversals, exile, and migration. Through her involvement in these processes, she was able to shape the intellectual landscape and facilitate the exchange of ideas in a period of immense political and cultural transition. This lecture will not only delve into the translation processes she initiated but also highlight the actors and networks involved, offering a comprehensive view of how translation functions as a dynamic, context-dependent phenomenon in times of crisis and migration.

Laura Robaey

Fostering Gender-Sensitive Interpreting: Bridging Social Inclusion and Pedagogy

Ensuring equitable language access in gender-sensitive settings – such as psycho-medical environments and consultations in gender clinics – requires interpreters to navigate cross-linguistic and interactional challenges related to gender-fair communication. However, many interpreters report not always feeling sufficiently prepared to accurately interpret gender-sensitive consultations, despite the growing importance of this competence in professional practice. This is often due to a lack of formal training and standardized (cross-)linguistic strategies.

This study examines firstly how both professional interpreters and interpreting students engage with gender-fair language, shedding light on their challenges, strategies, and perceptions of their role in fostering equitable and transparent communication. Interviews with professional interpreters reveal their difficulties in maintaining both linguistic accuracy and fluency when confronted with gender-neutral references, particularly in languages with rigid grammatical gender structures. The findings indicate a demand for concrete tools and guidance to ensure respectful and inclusive communication.

In response to these concerns, secondly, this study developed and empirically tested a blended-learning training module on gender-fair interpreting for master's-level interpreting students. Using a pre-test/post-test design, the study assessed the module's effectiveness in enhancing students' competence in gender-sensitive interpreting. Additionally, retrospective interviews with the students provide insights into how the training impacted their awareness, confidence, and professional development in using gender-fair language. Reflecting on their experiences, the students discuss the extent to which targeted training strengthens their sensitivity to gender-fair intercultural communication.

By addressing the need for structured guidance in gender-sensitive interpreting, this study underscores the importance of supplementing interpreter professionalisation to better equip both current and future professionals for the evolving demands of the field. Raising awareness of gender diversity and gender-fair linguistic strategies empowers interpreters to promote equitable multilingual communication in gender-sensitive settings.

Mónica Sánchez Presa & Eva Palkovičová

Vladimír Oleríny: Translator, Literary and Cultural Diplomat

Vladimír Oleríny (1924–2016), a native of Banská Bystrica, is considered the founder of Slovak Hispanic studies as a modern scientific discipline. His name is associated with the beginnings of teaching Spanish at the Faculty of Arts of Comenius University, as well as with translations of the most important literary works of Spanish and Hispanic authors (Federico García Lorca, Antonio Buero Vallejo, Nicolás Guillén, Jorge Luis Borges, Pablo Neruda, and Gabriel García Márquez, among others). However, his works and his contribution to the broader formation of Slovak translation studies have not yet been adequately researched.

During his long professional career, he visited Spain and Latin America many times, participated in conferences, gave lectures, met many very influential figures of Spanish and Hispanic culture and, whenever possible, promoted Slovak culture and especially literature. In this paper, we offer a view of Vladimír Oleríny's life and work against the backdrop of the domestic and foreign social, political, and cultural context of the time. Our intention is to present the scope of his activities (pedagogical, translational, scientific, cultural) and his influence on contemporary Slovak socio-political, cultural, and literary life. The information presented in this paper is the result of a study of source material, including published and unpublished works (archives, correspondence, literary heritage). Oleríny's personal and professional history will help us to understand the weight of his exceptional position and his influence on Slovak-Hispanic relations since the mid-1950s, and at the same time, it will enable us to better understand the ideological, political, and social factors that influenced his research, translation, and literary work.

Taras Shmiher

**Queer Identity in Text and Translation: The Case of Seán Hewitt's
All Down Darkness Wide and Its Slovak Translation by Michal Tallo**

Queer identity is often seen as a desire to challenge societal norms, especially those opposing gender and sexuality. It is also connected with the values of freedom and the bias of discrimination or prejudice. Although queer represents a rejection of conventional ways, its speakers have to deploy the traditional tokens of language and diction. This is why the search for “standard” queer signs in text is still valid.

Hewitt's style in the queer novel *All Down Darkness Wide* is characterized by its lyrical intensity and deep emotional resonance: he frequently employs rich metaphors and explores personal experiences, inviting readers to connect with both the specific and the universal. The author debates the bodily images of masculinity as behavioural symbols of chastity or existence. His aesthetic descriptions are targeted at stereotypical pictures of ethical male characters, and the option for describing a socially typical antihero demonstrates how masterly and overtly it is possible to trigger personal resistance, which, in the long run, influences wider strata of society.

Hewitt's novel was translated into Slovak by translator and author Michal Tallo, who influences the future of Slovak translations and their options of tools for reproducing bodily perception, emotions via values, and visions of man and masculinity in the target culture.

The basic shifting between two languages and between two cultures should drive either to domestication or to foreignization, but the practical delineation for a translator is even more difficult in a queer text where experientiality plays a decisive role for the reader and the re-encoder. The fundamental question is how queerness is ideally demonstrated textually. Hewitt's text indicates the extensive use of emotion terms, consisting predominantly of the image of fear. Bodily vocab is thus a *sine qua non* of a text describing gay relations. The study of stereotypes opens the way to enquire if foreignization is generally possible in queer translation, when gay communities, being closed communities, have developed their own, unique axiological picture of the world.

Eva Spišiaková

Translating *Kapitál*: Mapping Slovakia's 21st-Century Left-Wing History through Translation Networks

Conceived as a platform for left-wing journalism, the magazine *Kapitál* occupies an intriguing position in Slovakia's post-communist publishing landscape. From its inception in 2017 until 2025, when it shifted from a monthly magazine to a critical online platform, *Kapitál* published more than 1500 articles, interviews, essays, and reviews on a variety of topics pertaining to literature, film, theatre, art, and politics, building on sources both local and global. However, unlike well-established Slovak literary magazines with a clear focus on translation, such as *Revue Svetovej Literatúry*, *Kapitál* is rarely perceived as a medium shaped by translations and translating agents, despite the fact that nearly every issue includes some form of translated text. These are frequently translated by journalists, artists, activists, or academics, many of whom are themselves regular contributors to *Kapitál* or are in other ways intimately associated with the topics they are working with.

This paper explores how the content of *Kapitál* was shaped by translations from other languages as part of a larger project mapping the publishing landscape in Slovakia's democratic and independent history. Using a combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods together with Latour's actor-network theory (1966), the paper traces the various mediators involved in the production of *Kapitál*'s translated content and considers the role their varied backgrounds, qualifications, and specialisations impacted the translations within the broader context of institutions, funding bodies, and other distribution channels impacting the production of the magazine. Ultimately, the paper asks how translations and, more importantly, the actors standing behind these translations have impacted the political, literary, and activist landscape in recent Slovak history.

Kanja Susan van der Merwe

Social Interpreting-Learning Strategies from Language-Learning Strategies for Process-Oriented Interpreter Training

Translation is an essential social process in which a translator must constantly make choices within a social environment (Van Doorslaer & McMartin 2022). Since interpreting is a socially constructed communicative and intercultural activity (Yuan 2022), interpreters perform interpreting tasks in order to achieve a communicative or social goal. This paper reports on a PhD investigation into creating social interpreting-learning strategies for process-oriented interpreter training from Oxford's (1990) indirect social language-learning strategies, one of six strategy types for learning in collaboration with others. Interpreting learners (interpreting students *and* practicing interpreters) hone their interpreting skills throughout their career, therefore determining which social language-learning strategies holding potential for learning interpreting can facilitate lifelong learning. The paper explores how interpreters influence and are influenced by social factors, leading to a potential novel curriculum for process-oriented interpreter training.

The study is situated within a qualitative descriptive research methodology. After careful discussion and motivation with examples and associated interpreting concepts, six interpreting-learning strategies were recreated from the six social language-learning strategies. Amongst others, the concepts considered include invisibility and role (Davidson 2000), interaction (Wadensjö 1998; Hale 2007), socioculturalism (Arumí & Esteve 2006; Cañada & Arumí Ribas 2012) and emotional intelligence (Çoban & Albiz Telci 2016). These social interpreting-learning strategies in three categories are: *ask questions (ask for clarification or verification and ask for correction)*; *cooperate with others (work in a team and cooperate with competent working-language users and mentors)*; and *empathise with others (develop a cultural understanding and become aware of others' thoughts and feelings)*. Social interpreting-learning strategies can be used before, during, and after the interpreting task (as well as life-long) to focus on external social factors in interpreting and to improve communicative and interpersonal competence. Interpreting learners can apply social interpreting-learning strategies in the interpreting classroom, practice, and throughout their life-long interpreting careers.

Xiaoyan Tan

Translation and Image Construction: An Agent-Oriented Comparison of Two English Translations of *Beijing Ren*

Translation and image creation has only recently emerged as a focal point in translation studies. This paper explores how translation constructs narratives and mediates national images, adopting (re)framing strategies from socio-narrative theory and notions of imagology to examine two English translations of *Beijing Ren*, a compilation of interviews with ordinary Chinese people, published by the state-funded Chinese Literature and American Pantheon Books. It aims to disclose how the two kinds of publishers and their translation agents (e.g. translators, editors, and reviewers) mediate text, formulate narratives, and project images of China.

The research finds that through diverse (re)framing strategies, Chinese official agents tend to highlight the promising aspects of Chinese governmental policies and people's lives within a humane society. The framed narratives formulate a positive auto-image of China as evolving, promising, and humane, countering Western hegemonic narratives and strengthening China's nation branding. Conversely, American agents are apt to overshadow China's promising changes while critically commenting on Communist policies, controversial issues, and social systems. Their narrative construction formulates a negative hetero-image of China presenting it as chaotic, divided, and repressive, essentialising it as a dystopian Other. Such divergent narratives and images highlight the ongoing social and national tensions and (anti)imperial practice within a postcolonial battleground. In this context, translation extends beyond mere linguistic transfer to encompass knowledge production and image construction, which potentially impacts readers' attitudes and behaviour towards the translated nation and its culture, and ultimately shape social reality.

Dilruba Temuçin, Pelin Şulha, & Gizem Yaren Kutlu

Translating “Tastes” Across Cultures: Culinary Concepts in the Subtitling and Dubbing of *Young Sheldon*

In translation studies, the demand for audiovisual translation (AVT) continues to grow due to digitalization, globalization, and the increasing production of audiovisual content. This study examines how culinary terms specific to the American South – food/beverage names, cooking techniques, and food/beverage brand names – are transferred into Turkish in the subtitles and dubbing of *Young Sheldon*.

Using a case study and audiovisual corpus approach, seven selected episodes (E1, E2, E3, E4, E7, E12, E17) from Season 1 are analysed to compare subtitled and dubbed versions. The selection of these episodes is interconnected with the categorization defined for the case study. Food and food translation (Cronin 2015) serves as a cultural bridge, facilitating the transmission of Southern and Texan culture (Lane 2023) in our case. As *Young Sheldon* is a multi-genre series (period drama, situational comedy, coming-of-age, family comedy) set in 1980s–1990s Texas, enriched with food, it provides a rich context for exploring how food and culinary related concepts reflect cultural identity. Furthermore, *Young Sheldon* features a diverse cast of characters – from conservative or sarcastic to gifted, neurodiverse, and witty individuals – which elevates its humour and representation of culture. Given *Netflix*’s policy of global standardization via institutional standards and guides for AVT content and the availability of both Turkish subtitles and dubbing, the platform was chosen as a suitable corpus source. Drawing on Aixela’s (1996) model of cultural translation strategies, the study finds that food- and culinary-related concepts are more frequently preserved in the Turkish subtitles, whereas in the Turkish dubbing, they tend to be adapted and altered in line with Turkish culture. By revealing and analysing these shifts, the study contributes to discussions on translating food and culture in AVT and AVT’s main modes, dubbing and subtitling, and emphasizing the role of food in cross-cultural, interlingual communication.

Lucia Tonková

Technical Competence Requirements for Translators and Translator Training in a Changing Industry

As translation technology and the industry continue to evolve, both language service providers (LSPs) and academic institutions must adapt. This paper examines the technical competence requirements set by LSPs when initiating collaboration with translators and investigates how translator training programmes at universities reflect these changing expectations. It explores these issues in the Slovak context and thus offers insights into how the evolving demands are perceived by different stakeholders and what it communicates about the industry.

The first part of this paper explores how Slovak LSPs assess the technical competence of translators, the tools they expect them to use, and how they address possible skill gaps. It also examines the impact of generative AI (GenAI) and other technological advancements on translation services, particularly whether LSPs differentiate between translation, machine translation post-editing (MTPE), and proofreading in terms of compensation for translators and pricing for clients. Data was gathered through an online questionnaire answered by LSP representatives.

The second part focuses on translator training and curriculum development. Structured interviews were conducted with eight teachers from four Slovak universities currently training future translators and interpreters, i.e. two teachers per university, one responsible for curriculum development and the other teaching practical translation courses in the English-Slovak language combination. The interviews investigated technical skills' integration into training programmes and the main gaps in students' technical competence.

The aim of this research is to identify potential misalignments between market needs and translator training by combining industry and academic perspectives. The findings can contribute to discussions on how universities can better prepare future translators for a profession increasingly influenced by technology.

Arthur Tworek

Phonological-Phonetic Alternations as a Means of Translation: The Example of Central European Toponyms

Phonologisch-phonetische Alternationen als Übersetzungsmittel – am Beispiel mitteleuropäischer Toponyme

Alternations are usually those processes (and their effects) that initiate phonetically realizable changes within the phonological substance of a lexeme, with the aim of marking content differentiations at the morphological level. They are used intralingually as mechanisms of inflection and word formation, and they also enable interlingual forms to be created that, on the one hand, establish new languages and, on the other hand, make their etymological relationship recognizable.

As early as 1895, Jean Baudouin de Courtenay pointed out that alternations are psychophonetically motivated phenomena, which guarantees the effectiveness of their use in the interlingual area thanks to intensive language contacts. These contacts are favoured not only by genetic but also by spatial proximity of the languages. This is particularly evident in Central Europe, where active languages still include Slavic (e.g. Slovak, Polish, Czech, Croatian, and many microlanguages), Germanic (especially German), and Ugro-Finnish (Hungarian) languages. The diversity of language contacts is visible in toponymy: the specific significant points (e.g. cities, rivers, mountains) in jointly accessible areas are verbalized by illustrating the natural and cultural characteristics on the one hand and the interlingual relations on the other. In this sense, the alternations that make this possible can be viewed as a means of translation, since although they do not completely eliminate the common language roots, they develop the forms that arise as a result of the translation into identity-forming features of the respective language, as can be seen in the city name: De. *Käs(e)mark(t)*/Hu. *Késmárk*/Sk. *Kežmarok*/Pl. *Kiez(ż)mark*. In this paper, such examples are analysed from the perspective of phonetic change mechanisms including their degree of systematicity.

Jana Ukušová & Mária Koscelníková

Taboo Language Transfer across Audiovisual Modes: The Slovak Dubbing and Subtitles of *The White Lotus* under Review

With the advent of online streaming platforms in Slovakia, strong taboo language in dubbed (or subtitled) audiovisual products has begun to emerge. Slovak dubbing creators no longer have to take into account legislation applicable to Slovak TV broadcasting, which penalises the use of taboo language during primetime. Therefore, Slovak dubbing with abundant taboo language is emerging on the market, e.g. *Euphoria* (2019), *Yellowjackets* (2021), *The Last of Us* (2023), etc., and has started to attract the attention of translation scholars (Bendík 2023, 2024; Koscelníková & Ukušová 2025, etc.).

In this paper, we focus on both types of audiovisual translation (dubbing and subtitles), with the aim of assessing different approaches to taboo language transfer (Alsharhan 2020; Ávila-Cabrera 2023) in the series *The White Lotus* (2021), available on the streaming platform Max. We thus test the hypothesis that a higher occurrence of taboo words is more likely to be found in dubbing compared to subtitles, since uttering taboo words is different from writing them down, especially if they are to appear on screen (Díaz-Cintas & Remael 2021).

As we have already explored in our previous research (Koscelníková & Ukušová 2025), omitting or toning down taboo words may not always be a result of censorship, as one might expect given the approach to taboo language in Slovak TV broadcasting, but a result of various other factors, e.g. taking into account differences in taboo language tolerance in the source and target culture (Díaz-Cintas & Remael 2021), formal constraints of dubbing and subtitling (Díaz-Cintas & Remael 2021; Zahorák & Perez 2024) as well as the subsequent work of the dubbing director and actors. In this paper, we aim to discuss primarily formal requirements of dubbing and subtitling and how they condition taboo language transfer in the Slovak dubbing and subtitles of the series *The White Lotus*.

Agnese Upīte

Periodicals as a Gateway to Ancient Cultures: Translations of Works by Lucian of Samosata in Latvian Periodicals

Translations from influential and established languages of culture are of significant importance in the creation and development of Latvian national literature, which actively took place at the end of the 19th century. In this process, periodicals served as a gateway for the dissemination of translations to the wider public. Along with various articles on ancient culture, which also include retellings of works by ancient authors, explicitly indicated translations from ancient languages also appear. The overwhelming majority of early translations of ancient prose were published in periodicals during 1881–1921, when books were not yet available to wider audiences and the active development of Latvian literary thought and language was taking place. Although the translations published in periodicals have been assessed as being of lower quality than those published in books, the same cannot be said of translations of ancient prose into Latvian. Not only the translators' education, but also the carefully provided notes on the content and the recognition that not everything can be explained in a periodical edition, testify to the quality of the translation process.

Unlike translations in books, where the range of represented authors is diverse, in periodicals only translations of Lucian of Samosata's works appear. In the early translations, this choice of source text could be justified by the author's light and playful writing style, which is not only convenient for translators, but also has the potential to accustom the Latvian reader to the realities of ancient Greek culture using humour. The role of the periodicals as a place to publish translations that have not passed censorship is also significant – 1990 saw the publication of one dialogue from *Dialogues of the Hetaerae* which an editorial board had not allowed to be published in a book 10 years earlier, citing its obscene nature. The translations of Lucian's works published in the press were not later republished or included in any anthology, though a small number of them have been translated anew.

Charlotte van Hooijdonk

Are Belgian Journalists Always Translators? Translational Motives in Belgian Literary Periodicals (1800–1830)

Belgian literature of the early 19th century has long been overlooked, largely due to its overshadowing by the political context – first as part of the French Empire (1795–1814) and later the United Kingdom of the Netherlands (1815–1830) – and its perceived lack of original literary production. However, closer examination reveals that translation played a central role in Belgian literary culture, as reflected in contemporary periodicals. Journals discussed the role of translations, featured dedicated sections for reviewing translations, published bilingual poems, or focused entirely on translating Old Dutch and Old French texts. Translation, however, was not merely a literary act but also a journalistic one: the adaptation of foreign information and journalistic models served as a tool for shaping a new, “national”, journal. This is especially relevant in Belgium’s multilingual and multicultural context, where translation was often a necessity.

This study identifies four main motivations driving translational activity in Belgian literary journalism: 1) socio-linguistic motives, reflecting a historical shift to a translational paradigm, 2) aesthetic motives, reflecting shifts in literary taste and the appreciation of foreign and historical works, 3) socio-professional motives, as translation was part of the journalist’s education and career, and 4) socio-geographical motives, highlighting Belgium’s role as a cultural crossroads.

Yet, these motivations were accompanied by linguistic and political tensions, particularly regarding the “national” language and literature. Translators’ stances reflected political ideologies. Translators may have chosen to hide their translational practice while developing elaborate theories on literary translation; a Flemish journalist may have avoided translating from French. These paradoxical practices reveal the unique challenges of translating and reviewing in Belgium compared to other regions. Through an analysis of such discourses and motivations, this paper reexamines the Belgian literary field before the country’s independence, uncovering how journalists used translation to shape competing visions of “Belgian”, “Flemish”, “French”, or “Dutch” literature.

Vanessa Van Puyvelde

From Page to Place: Translation and Literary Networks in *Het Taal-, Dicht- en Letter-Kundig Kabinet* (1781–1784) and *Den Vlaemschen Indicateur* (1779–1787)

Despite their contemporaneous revolutions and interconnected literary history, recent scholarship on literary journalism in the 18th-century Low Countries is marked by a distinct lack of comparative research. Challenging this assumption of a fundamental disconnect between the Northern and Southern Netherlands, this paper analyses the role that translation played in the discursive delineation of “Dutch” and “Belgian” cultural identity, as reflected in contemporary periodicals. The periodical press was the medium *par excellence* in which journalists mobilised foreign(-language) news and literary models so as to construct a cultural community for their readers, the contours of which became increasingly national over the course of the 18th century. By juxtaposing *Het Taal-, Dicht- en Letter-Kundig Kabinet* (1781–1784) and *Den Vlaemschen Indicateur* (1779–1787), this paper analyses the literary networks behind these periodicals as well as the place accorded to translated literature in the search for a cultural identity. Translation played a crucial role in the literary culture of the Low Countries, where it intersected with political and linguistic tensions, meaning that these journals’ sensitivity to language reveals much about writers’ personal feelings of cultural allegiance. The two aforementioned literary journals also provide insight into their respective cultures’ understanding of authorship and the concepts of “translation” and “original”, whether through the explicit thematisation of their translational practices (as with the *Kabinet*) or their insertion of pseudotranslations (in the case of the *Indicateur*). From this perspective, this study offers a deeper understanding of the emergence of cultural nation-building as well as changing conceptualisations of literary authorship in the Low Countries, all while showing how these developed at the crossroads with (more established) literary traditions (from France and even England, although to a lesser extent).

Barbora Vinczeová

Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* under the Undifferentiated Patronage of the Slovak State (1939–1945)

The fascist regime assumed power in Slovakia in 1939, subsequently functioning as a satellite of Nazi Germany until 1945. The journal *Živena* survived the regime. Although divided into pro-regime and pro-democratic factions, the journal's fascist content increased, which is often cited as a survival mechanism. On the other hand, the regime did not stop the publication of books under the *Živena* imprint, and several classic works were thus published (Kodajová 2019).

Wuthering Heights was first published in Slovak translation in 1944, under a totalitarian regime which affected every aspect of the citizens' lives. It is thus necessary to consider two research questions: Did the fascist rhetoric under this "undifferentiated patronage" (Lefevere 1992) seep into the journal *Živena*'s reflections on the publication of *Wuthering Heights*? And: Was the translation itself "contaminated" by such "undifferentiated patronage"?

To answer these two questions, this paper examines articles in *Živena* whose authors, together with the *Živena* publishing house's translators and editors, worked as agents of translation (Buzelin 2011). Three such articles appeared at the time of the novel's publication, written by the novel editor's Zora Jesenská, the author Marta Kalická, and the translator Ľudmila Pikulová.

The second research question is answered by conducting an analysis of the translation itself. Considering the undemocratic practices of the fascist state, it is valid to ask if the novel's ideologically non-compliant scenes were affected. Thematically these can be categorized based on Brontë's parody of religion and anti-Christian motives in light of prevailing clerofascism, "unfeminine" characters in light of pushing for the "traditional roles" for women, and themes of freedom and refusal of higher authority in light of the totalitarian regime.

This research will shed more light on the existence of possible limitations faced by both the journal and the publishing house or, as the case may be, their absence or avoidance.

Bianca Vitalaru & Carmen Pena Díaz

Multilingual Information for Users of Public Services: Translation as a Social Tool to Address Access and Inclusion Disparities

In Spain, the access of foreigners to public services is established under the same conditions as for Spanish citizens, with rights and obligations (Law 4/2000, Art. 3) depending on their administrative situation. However, problems such as the scarcity of multilingual information (Vitalaru 2023), the lack of professional translation and interpreting services in various contexts (Fernández de Casadevante Mayordomo 2020; Raga Gimeno 2023), and linguistic difficulties impede their full access to various public services (Vitalaru 2025) such as healthcare, social benefits, or administrative services in general.

In this context, the translation of the information available for users of these public services (including foreigners) acts as a tool that guarantees a minimum access to information and thus has a social impact by enabling communication and action. However, as studies such as Vitalaru's (2023) have shown, the languages in which translations are available in healthcare settings, for example, depend on the autonomous communities and their specific needs. Since there are no similar studies regarding legal-administrative settings, a general internet search shows that information that is critical for foreign users is available in very few languages or only in Spanish.

Therefore, our proposal presents the results of a research project conducted at the University of Alcalá entitled JURI-LENGUA-LMD¹, which focuses both on establishing the current availability of translated information on legal and administrative services useful for foreign users and on taking action to fill gaps related to languages of lesser diffusion. This proposal is three-fold. Our main aim is to present current linguistic tendencies considering the information available for users. Moreover, we aim to facilitate access to multilingual information through a unique database easily accessible to anyone. Finally, we propose the translation of a selection of representative materials taking into account immigration tendencies in Spain. An exploratory and descriptive methodology is used, based on the collection, classification, and description of

¹ “Legal-administrative services and the right to information in languages of lesser diffusion”.

the data obtained through general and specific intentional internet searches on public service websites in Spain.

Barbara Quaranta

Molisano to English: AI-Translated Culture-Specific Terms in Migration

What happens when AI-powered translation tools are prompted to process a paper rich in culture-specific terms? How are little-known terms and concepts rendered? In this paper, I will give an account on how cultural terms specifically originating or used in Southern Italy (Molise) are processed and translated in English through an online AI-powered translation platform, namely Lara by Translated. Following my translation of a paper by Norberto Lombardi, a migration scholar and expert in the history and culture of Molise, I will outline a tentative analysis of AI translation protocols and trends in cases where culturally situated, uncommon terms are to be processed. To this end, Lombardi's paper on Frank Monaco, an Italian-American photographer of Molise origins, lends itself well to an analysis of a range of translational challenges posed by dialectal expressions, Italianised terms, and theoretical concepts on migration that are deeply ingrained in the local narratives on migrants and migration, and that may show themselves to be between two or more cultures. In light of the latest developments on the translator's visibility and interconnectedness with society, AI renderings will be analysed to consider how and to what extent they could influence the construction of narratives that may impede the foreigner's visibility or foster the conveyance of otherness.

Li Weiyang

**An AI-Enhanced Microhistorical Analysis of Isaac Taylor Headland:
Uncovering the Translator Identity of a Chinese Expert and Missionary**

This paper employs a novel archival method augmented by AI tools to delve into the relatively understudied translator and missionary Isaac Taylor Headland. Headland, a pioneer in introducing *Chinese Mother Goose Rhymes* to the West, significantly impacted both Chinese and American history. Despite his significant role in the translation and dissemination of Chinese texts into English, his translator identity often gets overshadowed.

The study aims to identify and delineate Headland's translator identity within the sociocultural and political context of his time. To accomplish this, a tailored five-step archival method for translator studies is introduced, grounded in a three-dimensional framework that encompasses literature, history, and text. This framework integrates three key elements: archival mining and cataloging, the bridging of macro- and micro-historical contexts, and text analysis guided by comparative cultural theory. LLMs facilitate cross-language archival mining and cataloging, while GPT-4 aids in analyzing the stylistic and tonal nuances of Headland's translations.

Guided by this framework, the study delves into Headland's family background and life, discussing his early translation and authoring practices against the backdrop of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It suggests that Headland adopted a pro-China stance in his work. Furthermore, the study examines Headland's translator identity through illustrative examples, demonstrating the influence of his multi-faceted roles on shaping China's image and introducing Chinese children's literature to the world. This exemplifies the potential of AI tools in deepening our understanding of translators' identities and contributions in their historical and cultural contexts.

Ol'ga Wrede & Lenka Žitňanská

**The Changing Competence Profile of Sworn Translators in Slovakia:
The First Findings of an Empirical Study**

Sworn translators and interpreters are a special group of language service providers. Their special status stems from their legally defined role in legal transaction (see the Slovak Republic's Act No. 382/2004 Coll. on Appraisers, Interpreters, and Translators). The translations and interpreting acts of sworn translators and interpreters must be accurate, comprehensible, and neutral, as they directly affect rulings and thus have a special evidentiary weight in court proceedings that cross national borders. For this reason, high requirements are placed on sworn translators and interpreters, as they are an integral part of the legal and administrative system. However, like the entire translation and interpreting sector, sworn translators and interpreters must adapt quickly to the societal and technological changes of recent years. These are mainly linked to developments in artificial intelligence and neural machine translation, which are also changing the very profile of sworn translators and interpreters.

This paper focuses on the competence profile of sworn translators in Slovakia and its changes in the context of the technological and social developments of the last two decades. The authors of the paper present the results of two empirical surveys conducted among sworn translators and clients in Slovakia (2024–2025). The aim of these surveys is 1. to summarise the subjective views on the skills of sworn translators and the current professional, technical, and methodological requirements placed on sworn translators by clients, 2. to analyse the findings quantitatively and qualitatively, and 3. to draw recommendations for the practice and tertiary education of future translators.

The first results of the conducted surveys show that the competence profile of sworn translators is changing in comparison with other similar surveys conducted in Slovakia in the last two decades. On the one hand, this change is mainly related to the increased use of translation technologies in legal translation, but on the other hand, the “traditional” components of the sworn translator's profile, such as linguistic skills and thematic knowledge, remain significant for ensuring the quality of sworn translation. These components of the competence profile form the basis for the acquisition of the skills necessary for the critical evaluation of machine-generated translations such as post-editing.

Elena Zemskova

**Translators of Western Crime Fiction in Late Soviet Periodicals:
Smuggling Mass Literature through the Iron Curtain**

This paper examines Russian translations of Western crime fiction published in Soviet periodicals, ranging from thick literary journals to popular magazines and weekly newspapers, during the Cold War. For this purpose, I have compiled an extensive bibliographic dataset that includes information about authors, original and translated titles, source languages, translators, and publication venues of detective and spy stories from 1956 to 1989. Using this data, I challenge the established research approach to Soviet translation history, which has focused primarily on the reception of canonical texts while overlooking how popular literature reached and influenced the broader Soviet readership. This paper demonstrates how and why bourgeois mass literature flourished in the USSR despite communist ideology's explicit rejection of its value.

My dataset contains approximately 150 names of translators, and, unfortunately, I have no reliable biographical information for many of them. Most of these translators of mass literature, as opposed to those who translated canonical texts, were not the members of the Writers' Union, some lacked formal linguistic education, and many were professionals in some other field. Nevertheless, they often played a crucial role in the process of publishing translated fiction in Soviet periodicals. Given the limited access to foreign-language books in the USSR, translators were often individuals who had privileged access to foreign publications. As many participants of the process recall, translators frequently selected works for translation themselves and recommended specific authors to editors. In this paper, I will highlight several of the most interesting figures from my dataset and analyse how their work influenced changing attitudes toward the capitalist West in late Soviet society.

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