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The volume *Research Methods in Legal Translation and Interpreting. Crossing Methodological Boundaries* edited by Łucja Biel, Jan Engberg, M. Rosario Martín Ruano and Vilelmini Sosoni provides a comprehensive insight into the need to diversify and explore the existing theoretical models from different perspectives and construct new methodologies within the field of legal translation and interpreting (LIT).

In the introduction, the editors of the volume provide an overview of the latest developments in legal translation studies and appoint to the growing maturity of the field as the main indicator which calls for a more rigorous research able to diversify and cross boundaries in terms of research angles and disciplines. Further on, the editors highlight the relevance of the studies presented in this volume and how they share the goal of exploring and stimulating new possibilities of research in LIT.

The first chapter studies the interaction between corpora, methods and legal translation and explores the avenues of corpus research in terms of binary dichotomies and a combination of different angles which can be combined simultaneously: local versus global levels of analysis, quantity versus quality analysis, corpus-based versus corpus-driven approaches, monolingual versus multilingual corpus data, comparable versus parallel corpus data and translated versus non-translated. The author, Gianluca Pontrandolfo, a freelance translator and Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Trieste, highlights the relevance of triangulation by a selection of effective methods and he draws the attention about the intersection between Natural Language Processing and corpora for the automatic processing of legal texts.

The second chapter written by Fernando Prieto Ramos, Director of Centre for Legal and Institutional Translation at the University of Geneva, stresses the pivotal role of text categorization by focusing on institutional translation in three international institutions (the European Union, the United Nations and the World Trade Organization) and demonstrates that an adequate text categorization starts from the compilation phase and continues with the classification into higher-functional categories which are later adjusted into a categorization matrix structured around four main categories: (1) law-making and policy-making, (2) implementation and compliance monitoring, (3) adjudication and (4) administrative functions. At the same time, the author alerts about the significant methodological implications and research validity of the internal organization of a large corpus into dynamic and multi-layered constellations but, on the other hand, he considers the categorization matrix as a dynamic system that can evolve and allow for a better calibration of the corpus, which would facilitate our understanding regarding the context of translation production.

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In the third chapter, Justyna Giczela-Pastwa, a translator researcher and trainer and Assistant Professor at the University of Gdansk, reveals the findings of a corpus-driven study which analyzes the inverse legal translation by triangulating data gathered from comparable and parallel corpora of Polish legislation translated inversely by three major publishing houses and non-translated English statutes. The analysis is performed by analyzing translated multi-word units connected with the content of the statutes by frequency of keywords and untypical collocations. The conclusions of the study confirm that legal translations show a great resemblance between them and that the phraseological discrepancies are caused by source language interference.

The forth chapter illustrates the connection between language and political relations by means of corpus-based analysis of interstate treaties. For this purpose, the authors Miia Santalahti and Mikhail Mikhailov from the University of Tampere, make use of the Finnish and Russian section from the Parallel Electronic Corpus of State Treaties by combining quantitative (keyword searches) and qualitative methods (lexical, morphological and syntactic levels). The findings of the study point to the central idea that language is not immune to ideology, but it rather reflects social systems and power relations explored in correlation with linguistic features expressed through the language of treaties as a synonym of a language of powers.

In the fifth chapter, Anja Krogsgaard Vesterager, a Research Assistant at the School of Communication and Culture at Aarhus University, provides experimental evidence regarding the differences between expert and non-expert translation through the research of explicitation. The experiment was set up with five expert translators and five non-experts asked to translate a Spanish judgment into Danish. The methodological approach was based on a mixture of quantitative analysis and qualitative synthesis (contrastive text analysis). Even though the study has a limited sample of participants, it highlights the relevance of the background of legal translators as it demonstrated that two non-experts with considerable professional experience perform almost as many explicitations as the experts. Therefore, the study indicates that explicitation, especially in the legal context, depends more on the translation culture rather than on the expertise.

Karolina Nartowska, a researcher, trainer and practitioner with a PhD from the University of Viena, shifts the attention in the sixth chapter from translation to interpreting and questions the interpreter's action in the courtroom through the lens of the Critical Discourse Analysis from an audio-recorded trial at the Regional Court for Criminal Matters in Vienna. The study analyses not only the interpreter's self-perception but also the lawyers' expectations of the interpreter during the triadic exchanges. The study reveals that the interpreter does exert power in the courtroom and that he identifies himself with the role of the institution's representatives. Moreover, the interpreter, despite having completed interpreting studies, sometimes takes on the role of court-assistant and deviates from the professional ethical standards.

In the seventh chapter, Sylvie Monjean-Decaudin, Professor at the Sorbonne University and Joëlle Popineau-Lauvray, Assistant Professor at the University of Tours, seek to explore how Comparative Law can be integrated as a new conceptual framework within Translation Studies. In this regard, the authors introduce the concept of Juritraductology (the science of legal translation) and develop it based on four translational contexts such as international public law, international private law, judicial contexts and scientific contexts. The level of legal complexity is defined depending on how much legal knowledge is necessary in order to understand and translate concepts but also the legal consequences of the text *per se*. In addition, this new conceptual framework consists of a three-step process: (1) semasiological

step, in which the details of the source and target language are conveyed; (2) the comparative-law step, in which the translator looks for adequate and acceptable equivalents in the target language by paying attention to differences and overlaps between concepts; and (3) the onomasiological step, in which the translator takes the decision upon the term to be used by considering both the linguistic and the legal context.

In the eight chapter, Carmen Bestué, a trained Attorney and Lecturer in Translation at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, clarifies that the gap between comparative law and legal translation can be filled-in by systematic approaches that legal translators must take into consideration during the decision-making process and include factors such as the *skopos* of the translated text, the diatopic variation, legal field and applicable law. The author proposes the "translation-oriented terminological entry" as a tool which has been developed within the framework of two research projects and which strives to integrate a comparative analysis of legal terms and strategic choices and solutions with the aim to simplify and improve the decision-making process and help legal translators adopt the best translation techniques in different scenarios.

In the ninth chapter, Mariana Orozco-Jurotán, a Senior Lecturer in Translation at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, addresses the issue of quality in the court interpreting in criminal proceedings by using a mixed-corpus based approach of transcribed video-recording proceedings involving interpreters in three language combinations. The hypothesis of the TIPp project was set to determine whether the right of information of the accused person is being violated because of the interpreting process. For this purpose, the main objective of the study is to operationalize the quality of the court interpreting by setting two main variables (textual problems and interaction problems) and assigning quantifiable indicators to them. The findings of the study show that there is an alarming low quality of court interpreting in terms of errors and lack of complete renditions which definitively affect the defendant's rights and prove that the interpreters do not have the adequate training and, therefore, they are not aware of their role and the ethical responsibility of their performance.

Juliette Scott, an experienced independent researcher and translator, shares in the tenth chapter the relevance of using online surveys as a tool to conduct research and gather empirical data. The emphasis of this chapter falls on the advantages of using online surveys compared to other methodological approaches as interviews or focus groups and it reports on the performance of institutional outsourced legal translation which the author names the "outstitutional legal translation market". The triangulation of data is performed based on the inputs received from the ones who are outsourcing the services (lawyers) and the ones to whom the service was outsourced (legal translators). Even though the author addresses the challenges faced while conducting research in the field of corporate and legal communication, she does not report on the results of the study, but limits herself to highlighting the benefits of using an online survey as a research method which allows a researcher to reach out to participants from limitless geographical areas and profiles.

The volume ends with the eleventh chapter written by Esther Monzó-Nebot, an Associate Professor at the Translation and Communication Studies at the Jaume I University, where she pays attention to the spectrum of sociological approaches to legal interpreting and translation with the aim to describe and explain how translators and interpreters construct and interact with social structures at individual and collective level. The study focuses on analyzing factors that have an impact on translators' and interpreters' interactional and structural power and is carried out by in-depth interviews conducted among translators working for international organizations and court interpreters. The content analysis technique was complemented by the narrative analysis and the partial results of this study which is part

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of a bigger project suggest that translators and interpreters create in their interactions a projected social reality by framing themselves as high-status or low-status professionals. The subjects of the study also revealed differences in terms of perceptions, enactment of status, prestige and power. Finally, the conclusions of the chapter promote the idea of crossing borders among theoretical approaches and build innovative complex methodologies on which to base new research initiatives.

This volume is an excellent example that proves how complex legal translation and interpreting are and the challenging methodological approaches which need to be adopted in order to conduct specific research and extend the disciplinary boundaries, with the aim to address and examine the multitude of textual, contextual and social factors that must be taken into account and which shape and influence the translation and interpreting process. In my view, the main asset of this book is that it gathers valuable and interesting contributions from experienced researchers, practitioners (translators) and even mixed professionals (attorneys and researchers/lecturers) who cover a wide range of thought-provoking topics from both legal translation and interpreting perspectives. This volume is an extremely useful guide for any researcher, practitioner and trainer from the field of LIT, as it represents the point where practice meets research and it encourages not only to combine different methodological approaches, but also to expand the areas of interest and find innovative angles of addressing the challenges of this complex but very rewarding profession, which breaks down the linguistic barriers between different systems and cultures either orally (interpreting) or in a written form (translation).