

## **Introduction**

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Translation studies is a diverse field of research with an interest in any translatorial activity from the translation of poetry to localization, from interpreting to subtitling. Thanks to its dynamic development, the discipline now has its own specific range of research methods and unique ways of theorizing translation and interpreting. Manifold theories, models, approaches and ways of conceptualizing the discipline itself have been developing, especially since the mid-twentieth century. Increasing globalization, transnational flows and technological advances constitute both challenges and opportunities not only for the translator community but also for translation researchers who are studying trends, revisiting traditional concepts and striving to explain translation intricacies. This volume of *Beyond Philology* reflects the dynamics of the field as its contributors discuss interpreting studies, literary translation, specialized translation and localization from various perspectives and focus on the translation process's product and function as well as on practical issues related to translator training.

The first theme discussed in two contributions to this volume is interpreting. Ewa Gumul analyses the level of correspondence between the issues related to increased cognitive effort as perceived by simultaneous interpreting trainees and the indicators of cognitive load identified in interpreted texts. The study is based on a corpus of recordings: 240 interpreting outputs and 5,005 retrospective comments. The results of the study indicate that increased cognitive load involved in simultaneous interpreting and the resulting cognitive effort do not have to be reflected in the product, which is likely the effect of the

interpreters' expertise and experience. Przemysław Janikowski discusses the use of religious texts in interpreter training. Spoken religious texts show a high level of metaphor saturation with an increased use of unconventional metaphors. Since the speakers sometimes employ special means of facilitating metaphor processing and at the same time marginalize other markers which are traditionally recognised as elements of religious style, the author suggests using religious texts as the second stage in thematic development. Janikowski recommends incorporating religious texts representative of various genres and denominations in interpreting programmes as they can help prepare trainees to interpret not only texts of a religious character, but also any other highly figurative and allusive speeches.

The role and the status of translators are subject to changes, such as the emerging trend to increasingly use machine translation engines and commission human translators to perform post-editing. In his article, Maciej Kur presents the methodology and results of a pilot study comparing the impact of three machine translation engines on the pace of post-editing work and on the general effort related to post-editing of raw MT outputs. The aim of the discussed pilot study was to determine whether the applied method can be successfully used in more extensive research projects focusing on the quality and impact of machine translation. The author proceeds to formulate a set of guidelines for study design, e.g. recruiting professional translators as study participants, ensuring a sizeable study group and adequate text length etc.

Another dynamic and developing area of Translation Studies is research into localization practices. Ewa Nawrocka presents problems related to multitextuality, variables and gender. The multitextuality of video game localization is a challenge for the translator as the texts include both standard forms and creative texts. The text types perform certain functions and call for different translation approaches: a standard approach, a creative approach or a mixed approach. Variables and gender need special attention in game localization as interactive entertainment software contains dynamically generated content. The author

attempts to provide some strategies for dealing with these issues.

Arkadiusz Badziński focuses on medical translation with particular attention paid to the significance of collocations as part of the linguistic competence of a medical translator. The aim of his study is to compare the problems encountered by professional and non-professional translators (physicians) with a focus on collocations. Badziński emphasises the key importance of collocations in medical translation practice and training.

The contribution by Kaja Makowska presents the state of research on young adult literature. The author provides a historical timeframe of the genre, identifies key components and characteristic features, and discusses young adult literature in translation. One of the most prominent qualities of young adult literature is code-switching between teen and adult speech, which constitutes one of the main translation issues addressed by researchers of the genre, who, until recently, have not been interested in YA literature in translation.

The last article of the volume is a study of audiovisual translation from Polish into English, written by Anna Dudek. The main focus here is the analysis of the translation techniques used in the translation of dialectically-marked proper names in *Chłopi* (The Peasants). The study indicates that dialectically-marked items are to an extent reduced in AVT and the translation is rarely foreignized.

This special issue of *Beyond Philology* is devoted to current perspectives in translation and interpreting studies. It is a sample of the dynamics of this area of research in which new trends emerge, traditional concepts are revisited and interdisciplinarity in translation and interpreting studies results in numerous approaches adopted by scholars.