Parallel Corpus as a Tool for Investigating Strategies of Translating EU Law

Bajčić, Martina; Lončar, Maja

Download date / Datum preuzimanja: **2024-12-18**

Repository / Repozitorij:

Repository of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law
- Repository University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

Parallel Corpus as a Tool for Investigating Strategies of Translating EU Legislation

Martina Bajčić, Maja Lončar
University of Rijeka

Parallel corpora have long been recognized as an indispensable source of term candidates for building various specialized resources. What is more, they have a great potential in translation studies and terminological research focusing on semantic and syntactic analysis, since they provide knowledge-rich contexts for terms and their constructions. This study sets off from a parallel corpus of English and Croatian texts in the domain of air transport that has been compiled within the research project UIP-2017-05-7169 titled Dynamicity of Specialized Knowledge Categories (DIKA), financed by the Croatian Science Foundation. The corpus consists of 178 legislative acts (in both English and Croatian versions) from the Directory of legal acts of the European Union from the chapter "Transport policy", subchapter Air transport. By analyzing the latter corpus, we aim to pinpoint the translation strategies used in the creation of the Croatian versions of EU legislative texts in the domain of air transport.

Empirical studies using corpora are likely to provide more insight into the research of EU legal translation, as a still relatively unknown field (cf. Biel 2019: 35). Moving away from the traditional notions of translation studies such as source text and target text, EU legal translation is marked by multilingualism and equal authenticity of all language versions. Consequently, EU texts have to be standardized to reflect the voice of EU institutions (cf. Koskinen 2008: 22) and to ensure uniform application and interpretation of supranational EU law, which is the ultimate goal of EU legal translation.

Emphasis is put on identifying those translation strategies which may be described as source-oriented or foreignizing, in contrast to domesticating, as famously termed by Venuti (1995), and more recently applied to legal translation (e.g. Paolucci 2017). Notably foreignizing translation strategies have been in vogue among scholars of EU law and legal translation (e.g. Baaij 2018). Foreignizing translation involves retaining something of the foreignness of the original and breaking the conventions of the target language (Yang 2010: 77), thereby yielding high visibility of the translatedness and hybridity of texts. In effect, the Croatian versions of EU legislative texts depart from both the institutional style guides and national drafting guidelines, as will be demonstrated by means of the conducted parallel corpus-based study.

References

BAAIJ C. J. W. (2018), *Legal Integration and Language Diversity. Rethinking Translation in EU Lawmaking*, New York, Oxford University Press.

BIEL L. (2019), "Theoretical and methodological challenges in researching EU legal translation". In: Simonnæs, I., Kritiansen, M. (eds.), *Legal Translation. Current Issues and Challenges in Research, Methods and Applications*, Berlin, Frank& Timme, 25-39.

KOSKINEN K. (2008), *Translating Institutions. An Ethnographic Study of EU Translation*, Manchester, St. Jerome.

PAOLUCCI S. (2017), "Foreignising and domesticating strategies in translating legal texts", *International Journal of Legal Discourse,* 2(2), 243–263.

VENUTI L. (1995), *The Translator's Invisibility: A History of Translation*, London & New York, Routledge.

YANG W. (2010), "Brief Study on Domestication and Foreignization in Translation", *Journal of Language Teaching and Research*, 1(1), 77-80.