The Interaction between Terminology and Translation or Where Terminology and Translation Meet

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Abstract

In this article Terminology and Translation are compared to one another on a number of points of comparison. On the basis of the results, the cooperation/interaction between Terminology and Translation are discussed. The contribution of Terminology to Translation is obvious, but that of Translation to Terminology is less evident, yet it does exist. Initially, Terminology claimed to be an independent discipline. In fact, Terminology has gradually become rather an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary discipline. It has been linked to a range of (sub) disciplines, from Lexicology, Semantics, Cognitive Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Communication, to Philosophy and Language Planning. The basis for the above claims is the comparison of Terminology with the various disciplines in search for similarities supporting and/or dissimilarities rejecting the claim of Terminology that it is an independent discipline. In this article, I will compare Terminology with Translation, not in order to draw any conclusions about the status of Terminology, whether it is a discipline and whether it is an independent discipline, but in order to find where and how Terminology and Translation cooperate and interact in the actual practice of a professional translation which is to be done accurately and perfectly.

Keywords— **terminology, translation, interdisciplinary, compare, professional, practice, arguments, subdivided, theory, basic, arguments, methods, conclusion**

I. INTRODUCTION

The interaction patterns between Terminology and Translation emerge from a comparison of the two. The criteria of comparison will be: (1) objectives, (2) working area, (3) actors, (4) type of work, (5) working methods and (6) clients and TSPs (Translation Service Providers). However, first a few basic issues have to be cleared. Both Terminology and Translation are rather general terms and may be subdivided into a number of types.

There are given mainly three definitions of Terminology in the researches dedicated to the studies about terminology. They are as following: (1) the set of practices and methods used for the collection, description and presentation of terms; (2) a theory, i.e. the set of premises, arguments and conclusions required for explaining the relationships between concepts and terms which are fundamental for a coherent activity under (1); (3) a vocabulary of a special subject field. "Presentation" of terms refers to visually representing terms in structures expressing terminological relations (equivalence, generic hierarchy, part-whole hierarchy and complex or associative relational structures). Theory – is the basis for definitions (1) and (3), where the third definition – i.e. the vocabulary – is the result of definition (1) – i.e. the set of practices and methods. Clearly, definition (2) is not appropriate for a professional translator: theory and theory-building would simply take up too much time, although he may use its principles as "(heuristic) discovery procedures" (Thelen 2002b: 194, 2012: 130), i.e. as a guidance in the direction of translation solutions. Definition (3), the

vocabulary, is the resource that the translator consults when translating, or that he may supplement, or perhaps, correct, on the basis of issues that he has to resolve while translating. The translator is not concerned with a systematic and complete mapping of a special vocabulary. Definition (1), the set of practices and methods, fits best in the actual practice of a professional translator, but recourse to Terminology in definition (2) (theory) can be of great help for the solution of terminology-related translation issues. Terminology involves, wherever needed and appropriate to solve translation issues, the application of principles of Theory-oriented Terminology as "discovery procedures", as well as the application of those practices and methods of Theory-oriented Terminology to describe, define and register terms that are deemed useful to the process of translating and in a way that is convenient and commensurate to the time given to deliver the translation.

II.   CONCLUSION

By Translation I understand the actual practical translation work done by a translator who transfers a source text into a target text. It is not to be confused with Translation Studies, which is the theory. Translation Studies is the academic discipline concerned with the study of translation at large, including literary and non-literary translation, various forms of oral interpreting, as well as dubbing and subtitling. research and pedagogical activities, from developing theoretical frameworks to conducting individual case studies to engaging in practical matters such as training translators and developing criteria for translation assessment. It appears, by the way, that Translation Studies is seen as a discipline for theory and research only and that practical translation work is not considered a part of it.

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