11th EST Congress 2025

Panels
Contents

Panel 1: Adapting to Change: The Impact of Generative AI on Translator Education. 5
Panel 2: Affect(s) and Translation ................................................................. 7
Panel 3: AI-enabled accessibility: promoting societal inclusion via multilingual and multimodal translation ........................................................................ 9
Panel 4: Archives in Translation: Inquiring on the Past, Understanding the Present, and Informing the Future ................................................................. 11
Panel 5: Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal ....................................... 12
Panel 6: Behind the Protective Shield of Neutrality: Interpreter Positionality in Mental Health Care in Spaces of Crisis ......................................................... 13
Panel 7: Changes to the economic value of translation in the face of AI ............... 15
Panel 8: Changing models of translation cognition and the challenge of AI .......... 17
Panel 9: City Museums as City Translation ........................................................ 19
Panel 10: Conference interpreting practice and research in the technological era: business as usual or next level? ................................................................. 21
Panel 11: Contemporary Chinese Literature in the Anglophone World: Translation, Reception and National Image Building ......................................................... 23
Panel 12: Cultural Diversity and Literary Translation Policy-Making in the 21st Century ........................................................................................................... 25
Panel 13: Disruption or facilitation? Teacher development and HE responses to language-industry (r)evolutions in the AI age ......................................................... 26
Panel 14: Diversifying Discussions: The Feminist and Queer Production, Translation and Reception of Media in a Global Context ......................................................... 28
Panel 15: Easy-to-Understand Languages in Translation Studies: from Written to Audiovisual Texts ......................................................................................... 30
Panel 16: Embodied voices: Gesture in interpreter-mediated communication ........ 31
Panel 17: Ethics and Multilingual Communication Using Generative AI ............. 33
Panel 18: Evolving approaches to Cognitive Interpreting Studies: From psychological to socio-cognitive perspectives ................................................................. 35
Panel 19: Exploring translators’ archives from a gendered perspective: methodologies and deontology ................................................................. 37
Panel 20: Fostering Human-Centered, Augmented Machine Translation..........................39
Panel 21: From Local to Global: Interdisciplinary and Transnational Perspectives to 
Global Food Translation........................................................................................................41
Panel 22: GenAI in Domain-specific Translation and Interpreting Studies..............43
Panel 23: Global Visions, Local Voices: Translation as a Catalyst for Human Rights..44
Panel 24: How do we train translators and interpreters for emergency contexts?....45
Panel 25: Interpreting and Translation in Armed Conflicts........................................46
Panel 26: Linguistic vulnerabilities in translation and interpreting in transnational 
patient mobility.........................................................................................................................48
Panel 27: Literary Texts and Audiovisual Translation Practices...............................50
Panel 28: Literary Translation in Transition: Disruptions in Central and Eastern Europe 
in the 20th and 21st Century ..................................................................................................51
Panel 29: Multimethod Research in Cognitive Translation and Interpreting Studies: 
Constructs and Indicators........................................................................................................53
Panel 30: Quality assessment in multilingual, multimodal, and multiagent translation 
and interpreting: Exploring human and automatic evaluation approaches ............55
Panel 31: Role diversity in the language industry: conceptual and educational 
implications.................................................................................................................................57
Panel 32: Seeing, hearing, changing faces: what perspectives can game accessibility 
bring to translation and interpreting studies?.................................................................59
Panel 33: Shaping the future of interpreter training: extended reality and new digital 
tools in the interpreting classroom.......................................................................................61
Panel 34: Testing the Changing Faces of Translation Reception: Challenges and 
Approaches.................................................................................................................................63
Panel 35: The (De)Humanising Factor in Automation Technologies for Audiovisual 
Translation.................................................................................................................................65
Panel 36: The Changing Face of Literary Translation (Studies)...............................67
Panel 37: The Changing Face of Literary Translator Studies: A Dialogue between 
Academia and the Profession.................................................................................................69
Panel 38: The Changing Face of the Literary Translation Classroom.....................71
Panel 39: The Changing Face of the Translation Studies/Linguistics Interface.........73
Panel 40: The changing faces of Relevance Theory applied to translation and 
interpreting: novel insights at the interface between pragmatics and cognition........74
Panel 41: The changing faces of surveys and interviews as methods and text genres 
...............................................................................................................................................76
Panel 42: The changing landscape of literary translation and/as soft power ..........78
Panel 43: The Mediated and Multimodal Nature of Song Translation .................. 80
Panel 44: Translation (in/for) Minority Languages in Europe ............................. 82
Panel 45: Translation and Infrastructure ................................................................... 83
Panel 46: Translation in Multilingual Research 1: Translation as Method and the
Construction of Knowledge .............................................................................................. 85
Panel 47: Translation in Multilingual Research 2: Translation Ethics Meets Research
Ethics ............................................................................................................................... 87
Panel 48: Translatorial practices in contexts of low institutionalization of translation 89
Panel 49: Video remote interpreting: Interaction, professional practice and training 91
Panel 50: What are corpora good for? The new faces of corpus and digital
humanities research in translation and interpreting studies ............................................. 92
Panel 1: Adapting to Change: The Impact of Generative AI on Translator Education

In the face of the ever-changing technological landscape in translator training, educators need to adapt their teaching methodologies to prepare cohorts of translation students for their future roles as professionals. The introduction of free generative AI tools in November 2022 has evoked a spectrum of reactions among educators, ranging from denial to acceptance, but most importantly, uncertainty. While there has been some discussion on how AI technologies compare to neural machine translation (Hendy et al., 2023; Jiao et al., 2023) and on students' use of these technologies for language learning and other academic purposes (Von Garrel and Mayer, 2023; Pym and Hao, 2024), there remains a gap in the exploration of effective pedagogical approaches for integrating these tools into the classroom, especially since students are already using them.

On the other hand, translator competence models (for example, the EMT Competence Framework of 2022) predate generative AI models. This underscores the need for a critical reevaluation of these models considering the transformative impact that generative AI technologies have had on translation and language services.

This panel will engage in a discussion on the emerging role of generative AI in translator training. The discussion will encompass a range of topics, touching upon but not confined to the following:

- Theoretical considerations of translator literacies, competences, and skills in the age of generative AI
- Integration of generative AI tools in curriculum development for translator training; exploration of potential challenges and pitfalls
- Ethical considerations and responsible use of generative AI in translator education
- Development of teaching materials and resources to incorporate generative AI in translation classes
- Adaptation of assessment to the use of generative AI in translation assignments
- Student perceptions of and experiences with generative AI in translator training
- Case studies showcasing successful implementations of generative AI in translation classes
- Comparative analysis of generative AI and traditional translation methods in terms of learning outcomes
- Collaborative efforts between academia and industry to bridge the gap between generative AI research and practical applications in translator training.

References


**Panel chairs**

Nune Ayvazyan, Universitat Rovira i Virgili
Anthony Pym, Universitat Rovira i Virgili
Yu Hao, University of Melbourne
Panel 2: Affect(s) and Translation

Inspired by Kaisa Koskinen's approach to translation in Affect and Translation (2020), this thematic panel seeks to understand how “affect” is a key factor that operates and conditions translation processes. In particular, it aims to focus on literary translation, literary exchanges between systems, translation norms, actors and their networks, and to broaden the reflection on diverse subfields of Translation Studies. Taking “affect” as a starting point to not only consider the materiality of a translation regarding its construction and reception but also the role and positioning of the translators and other actors involved (i.e., intercultural mediators, editors), this seminar welcomes proposals that take into consideration the emotional and affective side of translation as both process and product.

Even though the very definition of “affect” varies depending on the field and theoretical approach employed, Koskinen understands it as a “body-mind complex that directs a person towards a desired state of affairs through a process of change” (13). This means that affect is “bodily grounded. We can only be affected by what our sensory systems register, and this is constrained by both our bodily capacities and our material location” (179). Considering that other factors such as ergonomics, tools, and the environment also intervene in the process, translation can be understood as an activity in which affect plays an important role during its various stages. This panel aims to explore the links between the individual and the social by highlighting the emotional and physiological aspects involved in translation as process and product.

This panel welcomes topics that may include but are not limited to:

- Theoretical approaches to affect and emotions in translation
- The role of affect and the value of affect theory in Translation Studies, Comparative Literature, as well as other subfields such as Genetic Translation Studies, Audiovisual Translation, Translation Technologies, etc.
- Relations and theoretical paradigms emerging from an affect-oriented approach to translation
- The limitations and downfalls of employing affect theory in Translation Studies
- Relational and processual approaches to translation
- Translators’ agency through the lens of affect theory
- The links between affect and ergonomics in translation practices

References


Panel chairs

Sofia Monzon, Utah State University
Lucie Spezzatti, University of Geneva
Panel 3: AI-enabled accessibility: promoting societal inclusion via multilingual and multimodal translation

In today’s society, digital media is a pivotal gateway to public information, news, government services, healthcare, finance, cultural experiences, and education. However, ensuring equitable access to digital content for everyone, regardless of age, language, physical, cognitive and sensory abilities is challenging. Engaging with digital media, whether watching a news clip or navigating an app, often involves complex language-based and multimodal interactions involving different sensory elements such as text, sound, images, videos, and graphics to derive meaning. This becomes more difficult when a modality or language a user understands is inaccessible or unavailable. Very similar arguments can be made for different types of live content, ranging from onsite conferences to TV news to webinars and hybrid meetings. Various translation methods are employed to address accessibility needs, including converting speech into subtitles or sign language, transforming standard text into simpler versions, or rendering visual content into verbal descriptions. Yet, these methods are costly and slow due to their dependence on specialised human skills.

As demand for accessible content and events continues to grow, accessibility needs cannot be met with human resources alone. This has spurred interest in AI-powered solutions. However, despite significant progress in areas like automatic subtitling and machine translation, understanding and reliably translating language, audio, and visual input remains challenging for machines. New hybrid human-AI workflows are emerging, requiring adaptation on the part of the language professionals involved in them.

This interdisciplinary panel will explore innovative research that transcends the current divide between AI-driven and human methods for creating accessible content and events, to pave the way for a new paradigm – AI-enabled accessibility. We welcome papers based on research that

- integrates evidence from Translation and Accessibility Studies with AI developments,
- informs or tests/evaluates technological development,
- engages users in the development of accessible solutions or steers the creation of accessible solutions that meet users needs,
- critically discusses and/or assesses approaches to leveraging the promising prospects of AI-driven technologies (including speech recognition, machine translation, generative AI, etc) to craft personalised, accurate, coherent and accessible content while identifying and mitigating associated risks.

References


Panel chairs

Elena Davitti, Centre for Translation Studies, University of Surrey
Sabine Braun, Centre for Translation Studies, University of Surrey
Gian Maria Greco, University of Macerata
Panel 4: Archives in Translation: Inquiring on the Past, Understanding the Present, and Informing the Future

In recent years, a wealth of scholarly production on historical approaches to translation has emerged, leading to innovative perspectives on the relations between translation, history, knowledge, and memory transmission, especially in zones of geopolitical and cultural tension.

One of the areas that has gained renewed interest is archival research, which emphasizes new connections between archival studies, memory studies, translation studies, and information technologies, to name only a few. The perception, nature, and availability of archival material have evolved too: shifting disciplinary perspectives as well as technologies enabling the production of new archival formats, digitizing existing archival material, and the proliferation of archive collections lead to new interdisciplinary research questions. Also, for political and/or technological reasons, the legitimacy and objectivity of archives are more questioned than ever: colonial archives are reclaimed and reinterpreted by oppressed population groups in attempts to reappropriate traumatic history and share new narratives, while AI makes it increasingly difficult to distinguish authentic documents from deep fakes.

This panel invites papers on translation-related problematics involving archives, with a focus on the specifics of translation practices, agents, networks, and processes in connection with history and/or recent and present contexts. We invite contributions on topics such as translation and translators’ archives, memory transmission through archives, and initiatives about the handling, digitization, accessibility, and findability of archival materials. We hope to showcase diverse approaches to archival work on/in translation and work that links archives to various aspects of translation practice—e.g., project management. We also aim to generate a collaborative discussion on the methodological challenges and possibilities of translation-related archival research, on what translation studies can gain from archival research about the individual, collective, and institutional conditions of translation practice—its agents, networks, and processes—and on how such research can inform our current and future practices.

References


Panel chairs

Audrey Canalèès, Université de Sherbrooke
María Constanza Guzmán, York University
Panel 5: Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal

Audio Description (AD) is a relatively new form of audiovisual translation. It provides a verbal version of the visual—the visual is made verbal, and aural (he points to his ear), and oral (he point to his mouth). Using words that are succinct, vivid, and imaginative, audio description conveys the visual image that is not fully accessible to a segment of the population—new estimates by the American Foundation for the Blind now put that number at over 31 million Americans alone who are blind or have difficulty seeing even with correction. And, of course, visual images are not often fully realized by the rest of us: sighted folks who see but who may not observe.

The proposed session will provide an overview of the state of audio description in the U.S. and the U.K. would highlight, for good or ill, the development of A.I. in the production of audio description. The session will be moderated by Dr. Joel Snyder, a pioneer in the development of audio description (c. 1981). Dr. Snyder has written and voiced AD for thousands of arts events over the last four decades (performances—theater, dance, opera; media—feature films, nationally televised broadcasts, and streaming video; and myriad museum exhibitions). He would be joined Shak Yousaf, a professor of audio description at the University of Leeds, and Jonathan Marshall, a blind man and audio description advocate—he is a research officer on the Media, Culture and Immersive Technologies Team at the Royal National Institute of Blind People.

References

Panel chairs
Joel Snyder, Audio Description Associates, LLC; Audio Description Project of the American Council of the Blind
Shak Yousaf, IYUNO; University of Leeds
Jonathan Marshall, Royal National Institute of Blind People
Panel 6: Behind the Protective Shield of Neutrality: Interpreter Positionality in Mental Health Care in Spaces of Crisis

Interpreters working in mental healthcare settings after natural disasters, such as the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria in February 2023, are faced with multi-faceted challenges concerning their agency and positionality. These interpreters mediate in “zones of uncertainty” (Inghilleri 2005), a space of vulnerability and frailty characterized by a therapeutic relationship between a mental health worker and a client against the backdrop of natural disasters as well as political, cultural, social, economic and first and foremost human crises. With the interpreter, this situation becomes a triadic encounter where interpreters work collaboratively with therapists (Graef-Calliess et al. 2024) displaying at the same time the limits and consequences of their involvement (Bot 2021). Interpreters, no matter in which setting, are embedded in contexts and position themselves. In mental health settings they might actively help to build trust (Dabic 2021). Yet they also paradoxically distort and displace relationships and perspectives, when they lend their own voice and gaze to others who would otherwise remain voiceless and incomprehensible. So there is always some sort of ‘discontent’ which the interpreters experience because “they arm themselves with the protective shield of neutrality that promises impartiality, objectivity and, above all, detachment, but their bodies feel and react. They develop emotions and thoughts. They experience.” (Bahadır 2024)

This panel aims to bring together critical perspectives and innovative approaches that go beyond the analysis of interpreters as facilitators of communication in crisis situations and shed light on the psychological, social, ethical and political dimension of interpreting in these settings. The contributions to this panel address,

- at the macro level, how translation policies and ideologies on international, national, regional or organizational levels in spaces of crisis influence both the positionality and agency of mental health interpreters in their daily work;
- at the meso level, they deal with questions concerning professional norms, initiatives for professionalization and training, ethical frameworks, supervision, self care as well as the complexity of expectations, functions, roles, and competences of interpreting in mental healthcare in spaces of crisis;
- at the micro level, they focus on coping strategies, attitudes, ambivalences, and emotional reactions as well as proactive interventions by interpreters while working in these settings, thus on individual experiences and narratives from the field.

References


**Panel chairs**

Şebnem Bahadir-Berzig, University of Graz
Raquel Pacheco Aguilar, University of Graz
Agnes Grond, University of Graz
Panel 7: Changes to the economic value of translation in the face of AI

Recent discussions on fair compensation and working conditions for translators/interpreters (Walker & Lambert 2022; Sakamoto & Bawa-Mason 2024; Fırat, Gough & Moorkens 2024) have firmly put this complex theme at the centre of translation studies. This is not a new debate, but it appears at a moment of confluence of other factors that create growing anxiety in professional translation. The most outstanding of these arise from technological developments, with online platforms, machine translation and artificial intelligence at the forefront. The nature of this theme summons interdisciplinary research that calls for the merger of elements from translation studies, economics, labour and technology studies, along with other disciplines.

This panel suggests that debates about compensation, fairness, sustainability, professional practices, resistance to exploitative models and other business-related themes should be carried out within a global framework that considers the evolution of the economic value of human activities under pressure from technology (Ekbia & Nardi 2017; Fırat, Gough & Moorkens 2024; do Carmo 2024). Contributions to the panel can be conceptual and exploratory, empirical and data-based, or a combination of these approaches. Below is a non-exhaustive list of suggested topics for the panel:

- Theoretical analyses of the evolution of capitalist business models of translation and their impacts on the economic value of translation and working conditions of translators
- Practical implementations of alternative business models for translation
- Analyses of economic sustainability of global and local translation companies, translation workers and freelancers
- Social studies on conflicts of interests and of ethical positioning between translation workers and translation companies, and the roles of associations, academic institutions and representative bodies
- Comparative analyses of the value of human translation and of translation produced by AI (both NMT and LLMs)
- Discussions about the distribution of economic value, addition of value and destruction of value in translation platform economy
- Studies of effects of AI on the value of the translated word (spoken and written)
- Studies of connections and correlations between competence development, increment of technological demands on translator education and the economic value of professional translation/interpreting.

References


Fırat, G., Gough J. & Moorkens, J. (2024). Translators in the Platform Economy, A Decent Work Perspective, Perspectives (forthcoming)

Panel chairs

Félix do Carmo, Centre for Translation Studies – University of Surrey
Joss Moorkens, School of Applied Language & Intercultural Studies – Dublin City University
Gökhan Fırat, Centre for Translation Studies – University of Surrey
“What goes on in the translator’s mind?” has long been a central question for Cognitive Translation and Interpreting Studies (CTIS). Developing models, theories and empirical approaches add new elements to the puzzle, with knowledge and methodologies from other disciplines also changing the faces of translation cognition. Yet the question remains challenging, perhaps currently impossible to answer, a challenge compounded by the recent, dramatic development of artificial intelligence (AI), within and beyond translation/interpreting. This raises further, urgent questions about the processes, contexts and mechanisms of translator/interpreter cognition, throwing into sharp relief the certainties and doubts of disciplines like CTIS.

4EA, distributed and situated cognition have expanded the focus and analytic framework of cognitive research to include social and environmental components. As an increasingly important part of translation/interpreting’s enveloping environment, AI further interrogates the strength of our models. The idea of extended cognition, for example, has been applied to the interaction between the human mind and translation/interpreting technologies, which are thus treated as co-constituting cognition despite being located in computer systems and devices. But this raises a range of practical and philosophical questions about the nature, limits, functional equivalence and/or complementarity of human and machine “thinking”. Given regular use of terms like extension, augmentation and amplification in translation industry discourse about AI (especially now generative AI), and the emphasis on technological affordances, we see this as an urgent debate for CTIS and beyond.

The panel invites researchers from CTIS and related fields to open discussion that challenges existing models of cognition, translation/interpreting and AI. It welcomes speculative and explorative approaches to these three phenomena and their interrelations. We aim to identify innovative methods for observing intricate, complex and shifting cognitive processes, as well as to engage with other proposals that can shed light on the current moment of CTIS research.

References


Panel chairs

Félix do Carmo, Centre for Translation Studies – University of Surrey
Fábio Alves, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG) - Brazil
Anna Pakes, Centre for Translation Studies – University of Surrey
In the past two decades, the fields of museum translation and city translation have emerged as significant areas of research, offering a broader-than-linguistic view on translation to encompass cultural and representational dimensions. While museums are viewed as translation zones “in which intercultural contact is itself a form of translation” (Neather 2021, 160), scholars focusing on urban environments acknowledge that “translation can be a revealing lens for investigating social and cultural history in a broad range of urban contexts” (Cronin and Simon 2014, 120).

Despite the somewhat limited extent of their interaction thus far, the realms of museum translation and city translation manifest numerous shared interests and research avenues. This panel seeks to explore one of the most conspicuous points of convergence by directing its focus toward city museums. City museums are “spaces of memory” (Tamborrino 2012, 463) serving as vital repositories for the preservation and dissemination of cultural heritage, yet they also encapsulate the present and future development of the city and its people, thereby shaping a city’s sense of identity and contributing to the process of place-making (Grewcock 2006, 39).

In exhibitions, conceptualized as translations, “[p]artiality of representation not only generates selection, but also deselection” of material (Spiessens and van Doorslaer, forthcoming 2024). Catering, moreover, to a diverse array of local and international audiences, city museum curatorship requires nuanced strategies of both interlingual and (inter)cultural translation. This process raises important questions about how museums navigate linguistic and historical differences, cultural diversity, and transnational effects as they portray the city in both its contemporary and historic dynamics.

Paper proposals may focus on (case studies related to) city museums, museums or exhibitions directly involving cities, or iconic sites integral to a city’s identity. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- conceptual common ground between approaches to city translation and museum translation
- methodological considerations in city translation research
- the unique position of city museums within the broader translational framework of a multilayered memorial city landscape
- interaction between interlingual, intralingual, intersemiotic and intrasemiotic translation in exhibition contexts
- city museums as spaces of linguistic and cultural negotiation
- the role of translation in diversifying museum audiences, fostering sustainable communities, and connecting the local and the global
- the significance of translation in unlocking multilingual collections

References


**Panel chairs**

Luc van Doorlaer, University of Tartu; KU Leuven
Anneleen Spiessens, Ghent University
Panel 10: Conference interpreting practice and research in the technological era: business as usual or next level?

Conference interpreting stands in a love-hate relationship with technology. On the one hand, technology has shaped the history of conference interpreting in its attempts to make interpreting more efficient (making the shift from consecutive to simultaneous to remote interpreting) or even redundant. On the other hand, the uptake of technology has been slower in interpreting as compared to translation (Corpas Pastor 2018) and conference interpreters have manifested some degree of aversion to technology (Baigorri-Jalón 2004; Corpas Pastor & Fern 2016; Baigorri-Jalón & Travieso Rodríguez 2017). This might come as no surprise as the technological evolution of the last century has gradually eroded the status, prestige and privileges of conference interpreters (Fantinuoli 2018). The unprecedented growth of remote simultaneous interpreting during the pandemic and recent AI-based advances have brought and will continue to bring numerous changes to the interpreters’ workflows, user experience and performance. This change, the availability of growing datasets and online data collection options have also created novel opportunities for conference interpreting researchers. In this panel, we want to take stock of the changing face of conference interpreting practice and research in the technological era.

We welcome presentations related but not limited to the following:

- the impact of current technological advancements on conference interpreters’ workflows, experience and performance, including:
  - CAI and ASR with regard to interpreters’ performance and cognitive load,
  - hybridization of interpreting (integration of onsite and remote interpreting, integration of human and machine interpreting),
- the impact of technology and AI development on research designs, data collection and data processing in studies of conference interpreting,
- the use of big data/corpora in interpreting practice and research and the development of statistical and other methods to study them,
- future prospects for the interpreting industry and interpreting research.

References


Panel chairs

Agnieszka Chmiel, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan
Bart Defrancq, Ghent University
Panel 11: Contemporary Chinese Literature in the Anglophone World: Translation, Reception and National Image Building

The growing global influence of China has sparked a significant interest in translating and understanding contemporary Chinese literature in English-speaking countries, leading to a notable trend in translation studies known as “outward translation,” which focuses on translating Chinese works into other languages, particularly within the Chinese context. Scholars have examined how contemporary Chinese novels in English translation serve as vehicles for (re)narrating China and its people (e.g., Xiao, 2014), the agency of English translators and their impact on the representation and reception of Chinese literature (e.g., Jiang, 2020), and the complexity of contemporary Chinese literature in the world literature scene (Song, 2022). While translation plays this indispensable role in disseminating literature across linguistic and cultural boundaries, the interplay between national image construction or national branding through translation has garnered significant scholarly attention in the field of translation studies in the past decade (Flynn, Leerssen and van Doorslaer, 2016; Gentile, Kovács and van der Watt, 2021). Against this backdrop, this panel aims to explore the multifaceted aspects and complexity of contemporary Chinese literature (literature created since 1949 when PRC was founded) in the Anglophone world, focusing on its translation, reception and national image building. We welcome research-based contributions and innovative practical proposals dealing with, but not limited to, the following topics:

- the evolving landscape of contemporary Chinese literature in English translation in the Anglophone world and their interactions with the international literary scene
- the publication and promotion of contemporary Chinese literature in the Anglophone world
- the complexities of translating contemporary Chinese literature into English, including linguistic, cultural, and stylistic challenges
- the challenges faced in building a readership for contemporary Chinese literature and fostering cross-cultural literary exchange
- Chinese national/cultural image emerging from contemporary Chinese literature in English translation in the Anglophone world
- the role of book reviews, literary awards, and literary festivals in shaping the reception and popularity of contemporary Chinese literature
- the role of cultural and political factors in shaping the reception and image of contemporary Chinese literature in the Anglophone world
- multi-dimensional approach to examining the roles of translators, publishers, and cultural institutions in shaping the representation of contemporary Chinese literature and other cultural aspects

References


Panel chairs

Meihua Song, School of Foreign Languages, Southwest Jiaotong University
Pan Xie, School of Foreign Languages, Southwest Jiaotong University
Honghua Liu, School of Foreign Languages, Hunan University of Technology
Panel 12: Cultural Diversity and Literary Translation Policy-Making in the 21st Century

Taking the 2001 UNESCO Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001) as a starting point, this panel proposal will explore how literary translation policies, whether implemented by state or non-state actors, promote cultural diversity. Our goal will be to examine how cultural diversity is represented in, i.e., literary translations granted by national institutes for culture, transnational programs of translation, philanthropic foundations, philanthropic entities, professional organizations of publishers, educational organizations. Certainly, the idea of cultural diversity -linguistic, ethnic, gender- can be understood in very different ways by policy makers. The UNESCO Declaration did not provide a single definition, but rather defined diversity as embodied “in the uniqueness and plurality of the identities of the groups and societies” (UNESCO, 2001). The conveners of this panel understand diversity as cultural plurality in the literary field and aim to reveal how national and international institutions promoting translation are committed to it and what sort of cultural and literary diversity is being promoted.

From a theoretical and methodological perspective, this panel is framed at the intersection of multiple disciplinary fields: translation, literary, gender and diversity studies, international cultural relations. In this respect, it proposes to explore the relationship between translation policies and cultural diversity, and the participation of state and non-state actors, international cultural organizations, and consecrating agencies through the idea of soft power and intersectional perspectives.

Suggested subtopics include (but are not limited to): the representation of cultural diversity in sponsored translation programs; the role of book fairs or literary festivals in promoting cultural diversity through the sale of translation rights or the promotion of multicultural authors; diversity in publishing through the translation of women, minorities, or racialized writers; the role of authors and translators in branding themselves as culturally diverse through translation, or the ways in which specific communities vindicate their representation through translation.

Panel chairs
Lucia Campanella, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Diana Roig-Sanz, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Laura Fólica, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Panel 13: Disruption or facilitation? Teacher development and HE responses to language-industry (r)evolutions in the AI age

In a highly competitive language industry characterised by diversifying services and demands on language professionals (Massey et al., 2023), the role of new technologies such as NMT and generic AI systems can be seen as disruptive, facilitative or something in-between. While advances like adaptive MT, AI-based quality estimation and automatic PE, as well as other industry changes continue to disrupt even newly established practices, the latest AI innovations in cultural adaptation will facilitate cultural priming by human agents, and new hard-to-fill linguistic AI vacancies are burgeoning for those with the right skill-sets (Slator, 2024). A similar dichotomy between disruption and facilitation is observable in higher education (HE) in general, where tools such as ChatGPT are seen to disrupt traditional methods, but at the same time to facilitate student learning, critical thinking, employability and access (Sullivan et al., 2023). In language-mediator education, teacher-researcher projects addressing the classroom challenges of NMT and generic AI are well documented (e.g., Öner Bulut & Alimen, 2023); however, little has been reported on equipping teachers to deal with the (r)evolutions, or on approaches, strategies and actions at the institutional level.

This panel explores teacher development and HE responses to the (r)evolutions in the language industry and language-mediator education. We welcome contributions from all world regions and contexts. Possible themes include, but are not limited to:

- Teacher development, education and re-/upskilling;
- Relevant regional and/or institutional policies, strategies and actions;
- New epistemological approaches and didactic applications;
- Relevant institutional research initiatives;
- Changes in competence modelling (student and teacher adaptive skills, etc.);
- Curricular responses (incl. new assessment modalities);
- Digital, MT and generic AI literacy initiatives.

References


Panel chairs

Maria Piotrowska, Jagiellonian University in Kraków
Gary Massey, ZHAW (Zurich University of Applied Sciences)
Mariusz Marczak, Jagiellonian University in Kraków
Panel 14: Diversifying Discussions: The Feminist and Queer Production, Translation and Reception of Media in a Global Context

The expanding realm of scholarship, coupled with the increase in the recently published books and established academic journals, indicates a growing interest in feminist and queer translation as critical and popular areas of academic inquiry. However, within this burgeoning field, certain limitations persist in terms of the topics addressed and perspectives represented.

Firstly, much of the existing work appears to exhibit a narrower focus on feminist and queer translation conducted "interlingually." However, as initially posited by Hall (1947), the process of encoding and decoding, as a broader form of translation, is inherent in all media production, dissemination, and reception. This process occurs in both verbal and non-verbal forms and extends beyond interlingual boundaries to include intralingual and inter-semiotic dimensions. Adopting this broader and more flexible understanding of translation is crucial for comprehending and addressing the practices of women and queer individuals who often have to engage in feminist and queering readings and translations of patriarchal and heterosexual texts for entertainment, especially when works about and by them are limited in number.

Secondly, while significant attention has been given to the practices of professional translators and interpreters, the central role played by female and queer fans and regular audiences in the production, translation, and reception of queer and feminist media, as enablers, voice-givers, and change-makers, necessitates more academic attention.

Thirdly, challenging the Euro-American centrism in feminist and queer translation and media studies, we advocate for scholarly discussions rooted in broader, global, and transnational geo-cultural locations and linguistic contexts.

This panel seeks to invite discussions that contribute to diversifying texts, contexts, and subjects within scholarly discourse surrounding the translation, dissemination, and reception of queer and feminist media and popular culture. We also seek to encourage the creation and discussion of theoretical and methodological frameworks to enhance our understanding of these multifaceted phenomena. Potential topics include but are not limited to:

- The role of (fan) translation and translators as enablers of the transnational communication of feminist and queer texts and voice-givers to minorities
- Translation and interpreting as community-building activities among activists and agents of change
- The feminist and queering translation, editing and reading of media products: Strategies, channels of communication and reception
- (Self) censorship in feminist and queer translation
- New methodologies or theoretical frameworks to analyse the transit and influence of feminist and queer texts across local, national, and racial boundaries
- The interplay between feminist/queer media production and audience reception in a transnational context
Panel chairs

Hanyu Wang, University of Warwick
Xinyao Zhang, University of Warwick
Panel 15: Easy-to-Understand Languages in Translation Studies: from Written to Audiovisual Texts

Easy-to-Understand Language is an umbrella term that covers different simplified language varieties, from Easy Language to Plain Language. Research and practice have traditionally focused on easy written texts, catering for the needs of diverse users who may encounter difficulties reading standard texts. However, there is a recent interest in investigating how easy-to-understand language could be implemented in oral and audiovisual areas (see, for instance, the EASIT or the SELSI projects). In this regard, “easy audios” (Matamala, 2023) has been put forward as a concept worth exploring in our audiovisual world. Standardisation has also been key in this area, with the ISO/IEC 23859:2023 standard recently approved.

In this panel, we welcome proposals on some of the following topics:

- Research on creation and translation of written, audio and audiovisual texts into easy-to-understand languages. We welcome different types of research, from literature review to descriptive research or user-based experimental investigations, among others.
- Linguistic and paralinguistic features in easy-to-understand language translation and creation.
- Easy oral and audiovisual texts.
- Professional practices and experiences.
- Educational approaches: professional skills.
- Defining users and their role.
- Evaluation/validation in easy-to-understand languages.
- Commonalities and divergences across languages and cultures.
- Standardisation and legislation.
- Technologies in easy-to-understand language creation and translation.

References


Panel chairs

Anna Matamala, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Panel 16: Embodied voices: Gesture in interpreter-mediated communication

In recent decades, interpreting has begun to be explored from an embodied, multimodal perspective that underscores the intricate layers and complexity of communication through diverse semiotic resources. With the advent of remote interpreting technologies and the increasing prevalence of this form of interpretation, it becomes imperative to emphasize the embodied nature of interpreting and the significance of visual semiotic resources in effective communication. Multimodal interpreting research shows that interpreters use and produce multimodal information while interpreting. For instance, speakers’ semantically related co-speech gestures help simultaneous interpreters understand the source speech (Arbona, Seeber & Gullberg, 2022), and simultaneous interpreters’ gestures fulfill various functions and often align with speakers’ gestures (Zagar Galvão, 2015). In the context of dialogue interpreting, a limited number of studies have investigated gestures as part of footing, turn-taking and grounding processes (e.g. Gerwing & Li 2019, Vranjes & Brône 2021).

This panel aims to contribute to this emerging field of study by addressing the role of gestures in spoken and sign-language interpreting in various language pairs. Within this overarching topic, the panel seeks to explore some key questions in interpreting research, including, but not limited to, the following:

- How can gesture analysis be incorporated into the study of interpreting?
- What insights can gestures offer about interpreting as an interactive and cognitive process, and about the role of interpreters?
- In what ways can embodied action contribute to the collaborative construction of meanings in interpreting?
- What is the role of gesture alignment in interpreting?
- How can the study of gestures in interpreting enrich interpreting practice and training?

The panel welcomes contributions on all forms of interpreting along with on-site and off-site modalities. It is open to different methodological approaches, including experimental, elicited and naturalistic data, as well as different perspectives, such as multimodal conversational analysis, gesture studies, psycholinguistics, cognitive linguistics and cognitive psychology.

References


Panel chairs

Celia Martín de León, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Jelena Vranjes, Ghent University
Elena Zagar Calvão, Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto, Centro de Linguística da Universidade do Porto
Panel 17: Ethics and Multilingual Communication Using Generative AI

The public launch of ChatGPT in 2022 prompted an avalanche of hype about the potential uses and repercussions of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools based on large language models (LLMs). Early research indicated that translation quality from these tools is similar to neural machine translation for well-resourced languages (Hendy et al., 2023) due to the use of the same architecture, showing promising consideration of context (Castilho et al., 2023) and automatic translation evaluation (Kocmi & Federmann, 2023), depending on the prompts used. Since then, we have seen translation companies scramble to include AI and LLMs among their offerings, first of all for translation and more recently for crafting multilingual content simultaneously. This latter approach marks a change to recent high-velocity but nonetheless linear translation workflows.

This panel is intended to address the potential and actual effects of LLMs on the language industry, including subtopics such as

- What are the effects of LLMs on translation jobs and conditions: how are roles changing and what new roles are emerging?
- What are the risks of simultaneous multilingual content generation using LLMs?
- What does the centrality of English in LLMs (Bender, 2011) mean for multilingualism?
- Can an LLM-powered translation ecosystem be sustainable (Moorkens et al. 2024)?
- What are the risks involved in using LLMs in translation practices and user settings?
- What are the ethical dangers and power imbalances (political and economic) in technology development being led by large multinationals? And what is the role of academia?
- What roles can translation associations play in implementing ethical practices in this new technological landscape?
- What new competences are required for translation students to use LLMs in an ethical manner?
- To what degree can agency be attributed to humans and LLMs in translation workflows?
- What workflow steps/technical features are needed to develop ethical LLMs?

LLMs move beyond functionalism and fitness for purpose to synthesise huge swathes of data and autotune it for an intended audience (see Ouyang et al. 2022). This panel is intended to stimulate a conversation about the ethical problems that this introduces and what these might mean for Translation Studies.

References


Panel chairs

Joss Moorkens, Dublin City University
Ana Guerberof Arenas, University of Groningen
Monja Jannet, Dublin City University
Panel 18: Evolving approaches to Cognitive Interpreting Studies: From psychological to socio-cognitive perspectives

Early interpreting research stemmed from cognitive psychology and mainly comprised experimental studies that viewed interpreting as an extreme form of language use (e.g. Barik, 1973; Gerver, 1971). After roughly two decades of largely experimental research focusing primarily on the interpreter, researchers turned their attention to the dynamics of the interpreted encounter (e.g. Roy, 1992; Wadensjö, 1992). These two research traditions are often positioned in contrast to each other, emphasizing disciplinary divides in the theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches to this work.

More recent empirical research has taken an interest in combining experimental and cognitive approaches with sociological research methods, thereby enabling a more socio-cognitive perspective that bridges research communities and welcomes new voices into the fold (Risku, Rogl & Milosevic, 2017). The combination of sociological and cognitive perspectives stands to benefit interpreting studies as a whole since it recognizes the cognitive and social dimensions of interpreting and fosters reflection on the situatedness of the task in multilingual spaces.

This panel aims to create a strong foundation of the socio-cognitive area of interpreting studies by leveraging complementary theoretical frameworks and research methodologies across the full range of interpreting activities. We invite contributions that combine different types of sociological and cognitive approaches to all types of interpreting settings, modes, and modalities. Of particular interest are data-driven examples that address any of the following areas from a socio-cognitive perspective:

- Interpreting in organizations, institutions, and the workplace
- Spoken community, public-service, and conference interpreting
- Signed language interpreting in all contexts
- Cognitive, physical, and organizational ergonomics and interpreting
- Affective dimensions of interpreting
- Interpreter ethics and decision-making
- Interplay of social factors and interpreter cognition
- Applications or adaptations of research methods for interpreting studies

References

References:


Panel chairs

Christopher D. Mellinger, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Elisabet Tiselius, Stockholm University
Panel 19: Exploring translators’ archives from a gendered perspective: methodologies and deontology

In 2009 Andrew Chesterman coined the term ‘Translator Studies’ to define the contours of a new branch of Translation Studies that focuses on the figures of translators in the history of cultural transfers (Kaindl, Kolb & Schlager 2021). This line of research contradicts the idea of the secondary status of translation and of the ‘invisibility’ of the translator that ensues (Venuti 1995). By the mid-1990s feminist translation scholars Sherry Simon and Luise von Flotow had also already started exploring the gendered dimension of translation history (1996, 1997). Historically, literary translation has been for women an entryway into the world of letters (Delisle 2002) and women have contributed to the ‘World republic of letters’ (Casanova 2004) in ways that we, as researchers, are still unearthing (Santaemilia and Von Flotow 2011; Di Giovanni and Zanotti 2018). These efforts go against the grain of official historiography, which has too often been gender blind (Perrot 1998) and leading to the women’s ‘double invisibility’ (Sardin 2020). These efforts go against the grain of official historiography, which has too often been gender blind (Perrot 1998) and leading to the women’s ‘double invisibility’ (Sardin 2020).

Writing this new ‘microhistory’ (Munday 2014) of translators from a gendered perspective means digging out forgotten or overlooked ‘traces’ (Perrot 1998) and piecing together ‘translators’ archives’ (Guzmán, 2013, 2018). This can be defined as heterogeneous texts or ‘loci of visibility’ (Feltrin-Morris in Guzmán 2020) that include translations, testimonies, paratexts, manuscripts and unpublished material such as letters, notes or contracts, both epitextual and peritextual sources that touch on the private lives of translators as much as on their public ones. It also means interpreting and discussing these documents in a critical light. For this, Genetic Translation Studies, also a new field of enquiry (Durand-Bogaert, 2014; Cordingley & Montini, 2015) provides useful tools (Cordingley and Hersant 2021, Hersant 2023).

In this panel we propose to explore women translators’ archives from a theoretical standpoint. We wish to raise methodological questions pertaining to the nature of a translator’s archive (Chapuis 2015) and to the ways in which we should go about exploring and exploiting the documents it provides. We would like to reflect on the kinds of information we can retrieve from this archive, and on the ethical questions that they pose to researchers in a gendered light; we also welcome contributions that will question the deontology of exploring unpublished documents that often blur the lines between public and private, seeing that such guidelines can be useful when dealing with the estates of translators or with the translators themselves. Proposals of practical case studies that raise theoretical or methodological issues will be most welcome. Some of these might be:

- What role does gender play in shaping translators’ archives?
- What can we learn from archival representations of women translators?
- Where does a translator’s archive start and where does it stop?
- What kinds of criticism can we produce from these archives?
- Can we apply the notion of ‘productive critique’ (Berman 1995) to archival documents?
- How do we deal with translators’ estates?

References


**Panel chairs**

Serenella Zanotti, University of Rome III  
Pascale Sardin, Bordeaux Montaigne University
Panel 20: Fostering Human-Centered, Augmented Machine Translation

Recent language technology developments have disrupted the translation and interpreting professions. However, the focus has been on using more computational power and training larger language models, often neglecting the users of such technology (do Carmo and Moorkens 2022).

According to Shneiderman (2022), the goal of technology development has been the creation of an intelligent agent that emulates human behaviour to increase automation. As a response, a novel technology design framework has gained a foothold recently: human-centered AI (HCAI), where instead of human replacement, the aim is to produce a powerful tool that augments human capabilities, enhances performance, and empowers users, who are at all instances in supervisory control of such systems (Shneiderman 2022). A key element in the HCAI framework is that of “augmentation”. Human performance is constrained by cognitive load and augmentation seeks to overcome this limitation and to amplify, rather than replace, human intelligence. This shift, moving from emulation to empowerment, places humans at the centre of AI/language technology (Raisamo et al. 2019). This reorientation, emphasizing the synergy and collaboration between humans and machines, heralds a new era where technology becomes a partner rather than a substitute. In translation and interpreting, this human-centered, augmented approach has been recently suggested (O’Brien 2023). If applied to machine translation (MT), we can talk about human-centered, augmented MT (HCAMT).

Early studies on HCAMT show that, through the analysis of machine translation user experience (MTUX), there are human-MT interactions that augment users, allowing them to be more comfortable with technology while enhancing their performance (Briva-Iglesias, O’Brien, and Cowan 2023).

The successful implementation of HCAMT in translation and interpreting may lead to sustainable, diverse, and ethically sound development in MT systems and other technological tools through a wide variety of users and use-cases. Consequently, this panel aims to trigger a step change in the point of view from which MT and language technologies are developed and adopted, and invites proposals including, but not limited to:

1. New methodologies for measuring HCAMT experience, fostering tools, workflows and systems in translation and interpreting.
2. Research on the MTUX of people interacting with MT systems, aiming to identify factors that contribute to effective human-machine collaboration.
3. Examining how HCAMT can serve a wide variety of users and use-cases, promoting diversity and inclusion in language technology applications.
4. Discussion on ethical issues in the development and application of HCAMT, including privacy, bias, and inclusivity.
5. Design and evaluation of systems that facilitate effective collaboration between translators/interpreters and MT technologies.

References


**Panel chairs**

Vicent Briva-Iglesias, Dublin City University
Panel 21: From Local to Global: Interdisciplinary and Transnational Perspectives to Global Food Translation

Translation is pivotal in mitigating health and public health risks. For instance, food recalls, allergy labelling, and food handling and safety all intersect with translation to the degree that such information and practices need to be communicated multilingually (Cavanaugh et al., 2014; Chiaro 2015; Li 2021). Additionally, translation plays a paramount role in global agri-food distribution and manufacturing, (fish) farming and agriculture, food trade, and in the restaurant industry (Cronin 2015; Karrebæk et al., 2018; Rossato 2020). Translation and food also find overlap in the many global narratives on nutrition, wellness, human bodies, animals, and the environment (Montefrio 2019; Desjardins 2021).

In a world where culinary experiences transcend national borders and the demands of global food trade are increasing, this panel invites international scholars to explore the intricate networks of translations that bring global flavours to our tables and that shape our foodscape. The panel seeks to encompass both mainstream and non-mainstream perspectives in food translation research, from interdisciplinary and transnational perspectives. We aim to address pressing issues such as food poverty, health and diet-related concerns, sustainability and environmental impacts, food commodification and appropriation, as well as challenges like food (mis)labelling, and ethical considerations regarding animal welfare. While our panel may speak more directly to translation studies researchers, we also welcome submissions from food studies, critical animal studies, and nutrition studies who may be working on projects that tie in with multilingual communication and translation – this with an eye to truly inviting and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. We encourage contributors to explore themes related to food and translation in a global context, topics including - but not limited to - those listed below:

- Translating (sea)food production and consumption
- The use of AI in food translation
- Translating food narratives in literary texts
- Food, translation, and identity
- Transnational perspectives on food translation
- Food, translation, and memory
- Translating food waste
- Food, translation and gender
- Food technology and innovation in translation
- Environmental sustainability and food translation
- Food translation in the post-pandemic era
- Culinary drama translation
- Food label translation
- Translating food on TV and social media, and documentary
- Food activism and translation
- Food translation and animal welfare
- Politics and food translation in the culinary world
- Exploring history, religion, and food translation
- Ethical issues in food translation
- On-the-go culinary translation on mobile devices
- Business banquets: technical/administrative/legal culinary translation
- Food tourism translation
If you are interested in presenting your research paper to our panel, please contact Dr Saihong Li at saihong.li@stir.ac.uk and Dr Renée Desjardins at rdesjardins@ustboniface.ca.

References


Panel chairs

Saihong Li, Division of Literature & Languages, University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland
Renée Desjardins, School of Translation, Université de Saint-Boniface, Winnipeg, Canada
Panel 22: GenAI in Domain-specific Translation and Interpreting Studies

As Generative AI (GenAI) uses vast quantities of data and powerful machine learning models to create human-like content, including text, audio, code, image, simulation, and video, it is becoming a game-changing technology in the field of Translation and Interpreting. GenAI excels in multilingual translation of high-resourced language pairs, e.g. English-Germany, Chinese-English and Japanese-English (Hendy et al., 2023), switching between languages fluently and consistently, which suggests great potential for customized translations with enhanced accuracy in certain domains (e.g. Spoken languages) (Jiao et al., 2023). When it comes to interpreting, GenAI-powered tools also show good potential in analysing the interpreting product and in providing immediate feedback on interpreting performances (Guo et al., 2023).

Despite the great potential that GenAI offers for making translation and interpreting more effective and more accessible than ever before, we currently have more questions than answers about the impact and use of GenAI in the research and pedagogy practices in the field of domain-specific translation and interpreting in particular. Domain-specific translation and interpreting is a challenging task in that it requires not only linguistic knowledge but also domain knowledge and cultural awareness. Some of its main technological difficulties include data scarcity, data quality, data privacy, data diversity, and data bias. In view of such opportunities and potential hurdles, this panel intends to create a venue to discuss current issues and identify future research directions, which aims to bring together research and practices from various disciplines in Language Technology, Translation and Interpreting Studies, Computational Linguistics, NLP and Language for Specific Purposes, showcasing updated efforts and progresses on theoretically and methodologically interdisciplinary topics of the use and impacts of computational methods, machine learning and GenAI (or more broadly AI) in Translation and Interpreting in domain-specific scenarios.

We solicit contributions on any topics related to GenAI in Translation and Interpreting of specific domains, including but not limited to the following:

- Automatic and semi-automatic translation and interpreting
- AI-based multimodal translation and interpreting approaches
- Development and deployment of AI-based applications for translation and interpreting in specific domains/settings
- AI-based CAT/CAI tools (translation memory, terminology database, etc.) and their application
- Bilingual and multilingual resource creation and/or annotation for specific domains
- Comparison of AI-based and human translation and interpreting in specific domains
- GenAI-assisted translator and interpreter training
- GenAI-assisted translation and interpreting quality evaluation?
- Human-in-the-loop machine translation and interpreting in specific domains
- AI-based quality assessment of domain-specific translation and interpreting

Panel chairs

Yu Yuan, Shanghai Maritime University
Jun Yang, Swansea University
Panel 23: Global Visions, Local Voices: Translation as a Catalyst for Human Rights

Human rights apply to everyone regardless of their status, including the language(s) they speak. Language and human rights are intimately related. This relation suggests a critical role for translation in the promotion and protection of human rights. This panel aims to delve into the multifaceted aspects of the relation between human rights and translation in a variety of contexts including translation in crises, translation of legislation surrounding new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, inclusive translation, and equitable governance. Possible subtopics include the translation of legal rights documentation, the role of translators and interpreters in refugee and immigration services, and the challenges of conveying culturally specific concepts of human dignity and rights. We will also consider the ethical implications of translation in sensitive human rights contexts, the development of technologies aiding translation for humanitarian purposes, the training of translators and interpreters to handle human rights texts, and the role of translation in human rights advocacy. The panel will aim to bring together multiple disciplinary perspectives, inviting contributions from legal experts, translation studies scholars, practitioners, and technologists to discuss strategies that can enhance the impact of translation in the global human rights landscape.

References


Panel chairs

Aline Larroyed, Dublin City University
Patrick Cadwell, Dublin City University
Panel 24: How do we train translators and interpreters for emergency contexts?

The unprecedented migration flows that Europe has witnessed in recent years form a context of emergency regarding the provision of language mediation in the form of Public Service Interpreting and Translation (PSIT) for the support of people who have been forced to leave their homes. The urgent need for the reception, integration and management of varying populations calls for educational initiatives fit for the context of urgent situations that will provide public services with qualified interpreters and translators in short time. To address the communication barriers of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, specifically those from countries with languages of lesser diffusion (LLD), specialized training of non-professional interpreters and translators is required within a short timeline that will meet the immediate and urgent nature of the intervention. In this context, we propose a panel dedicated to the training of non-professional Public Service Interpreters and Translators of LLD for emergency situations. The topic of PSIT training will be approached both from the perspective of training initiatives and training contexts. We encourage prospective panelists to consider the following areas of particular interest:

- mapping of the current situation regarding PSIT
- analysis of the situation of LLD
- needs analysis for PSIT training
- competences and skills of public service interpreter/translator of LLD
- PSIT course design
- PSIT online training
- teaching ethics and ethical decision-making
- managing emotions in emergency situations

References


Panel chairs

Carmen Pena-Diaz, Universidad de Alcalá
Carmen Valero-Garcés, Universidad de Alcalá
Panel 25: Interpreting and Translation in Armed Conflicts

The current conflicts in Ukraine and in the Gaza Strip as well as in areas underrepresented in the media have brought back into focus the essential work done by interpreters and translators in war zones when it comes to facilitating the communication between military personnel who speak different languages and who collaborate in international coalitions in different types of operations; to negotiating humanitarian access to conflict zones; and to facilitating civilians’ access to humanitarian aid as well as psychological and medical assistance. As almost one quarter of the global population lives in a conflict zone, there will continue to be a need for interpreters and translators in these settings. Therefore, a deeper understanding of the evolving challenges and needs encountered not only by interpreters and translators but also by the users of their services is essential.

This panel will focus on the analysis of interpreting and translation and the use of languages in conflict zones. The panel aspires to drive debate on the challenges and opportunities in this evolving context as well as the varying needs of different stakeholders, such as the military, humanitarian organisations and development aid agencies. The panel will be welcoming communications that deal with:

- Non-professional interpreters and translators
- Challenges and needs of translators and interpreters in conflict settings
- Interpreting mediation and negotiation efforts
- The interpreter’s positionality and ethical implications
- Safety of interpreters and translators
- Inclusion and equitable access to aid through interpreting and translation
- Use of technology in conflict settings
- Multimodal and multilingual translation in conflict settings
- Interpreting and translation for post-conflict development
- Linguistic implications on long-term development
- Environmental conflicts and the new role of interpreters and translators
- Psychological implications and self-care

Communications are expected to represent research across a wide range of disciplines, as well as inter- and transdisciplinary studies. Our panel also welcomes communications from representatives of institutions that work in these contexts. It is our belief that more interdisciplinary discussion among scholars from translation studies, social sciences, anthropology, political sciences, development studies, and natural sciences, among other fields, is needed to analyse the different factors involved in interpreting and translation in conflict zones. We also believe that it is essential to discuss with users of interpreting and translation services to adapt to the needs of an evolving landscape.
References


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Panel chairs

Lucia Ruiz Rosendo, Faculty of Translation and Interpreting, FTI, University of Geneva
Marija Todorova, TIIS, Hong Kong Baptist University
Panel 26: Linguistic vulnerabilities in translation and interpreting in transnational patient mobility

Transnational patient mobility is used, among other terms, to describe a type of health-related mobility where residents of a particular source country seek cross-border, short- or longer-term medical treatment in a destination country (Lunt, Horsfall & Hanefeld 2016), and as such has become a worldwide and globalised phenomenon with far-reaching ethical implications (Cesario 2018). Patients' motives for transnational patient mobility may include availability, affordability or the perceived quality of certain types of services. Despite the crucial role of communication, including translation and interpreting, studies on specific linguistic or cultural aspects of transnational patient mobility have remained under-represented in the literature. While salient issues of healthcare interpreting, which also pertain to transnational patient mobility, have been addressed widely in interpreting studies (e.g. linguistic inequalities, power and language in physician-patient encounters, role confusion and ethical dilemmas, emotionality, empathy, interpreters' qualifications), specific aspects of the structural and communicative context of transnational patient mobility seems to have only been marginally explored (Angelelli 2015; Iacono 2022; Pöllabauer et al. forthcoming).

Against this background, this panel aims to shed light on characteristics, challenges and ethical dimensions of translation and interpreting in transnational patient mobility, and whether these promote or exacerbate linguistic inequalities. Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- challenges faced by different stakeholders;
- types of cooperation, (linguistic) risk management and issues of informed consent and decision-making among different stakeholders and patients;
- perceived and assumed roles of interpreters and translators and other ‘language facilitators’;
- activism, and feminist approaches in this context;
- motivational aspects related to communication and translation and interpreting in specific patient mobility settings;
- needs of and challenges encountered in specific types of treatment, including law-evasive types of mobility (e.g. euthanasia and assisted suicide, abortion, anonymous births or controversial treatments) and by specific and more vulnerable groups;
- general aspects of bioethics and health communication with a focus on translation and interpreting;
- structural conditions and communication, and translation policies, including communication with (informal or online) facilitators networks or brokers.

References


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Panel chairs
Sonja Pöllabauer, University of Vienna, Centre for Translation Studies
Katia Iacono, University of Vienna, Centre for Translation Studies
Magdalena Barttomiejczyk, University of Silesia
Panel 27: Literary Texts and Audiovisual Translation Practices

The intention to understand the privileged status of certain literary texts also through the study of their respective afterlives has long been present in Translation Studies, and scholars have used a wide range of approaches to approach this multifarious topic. There have been research projects that aimed at exploring the role of “key cultural texts” in translation in literate cultures (Malmkjaer et al. 2018), others have called attention to the role of retranslation in establishing their canonical status (Cadera and Walsh 2022), and academic interest has also emerged to combine findings from the field of adaptation studies with audiovisual translation practices (Ranzato and Valleriani 2024 forthcoming). Through exemplary case studies on works by such widely-known playwrights and novelists as Shakespeare (Hoenselaars 2014) or Jane Austen (Colomba 2016), current scholarship testifies a growing interest in the inclusion of adapted literary classics with a shift of focus from intersemiotic to interlingual/intra lingual analyses.

This panel intends to draw attention to the multimodal and intercultural facet of translating the audiovisual adaptations of literary texts and welcomes contributions that study the works by both English and non-English authors as they are translated into different languages. It also encourages the discussion of the latest translation practices that promote the accessibility and inclusiveness of these texts in English or in other languages.

We invite papers that cover any of the following topics:

- "key cultural texts" in AVT
- literary texts in AVT and retranslation practices
- the role of AVT in literary canonization
- dubbing and voiceover of literary adaptations
- audio description and SDH of literary adaptations
- AVT teaching practices which include literary texts.

References

Panel chairs
Judit Mudriczki, Károli Gáspár University, Hungary
Irene Ranzato, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
Luca Valleriani, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
Panel 28: Literary Translation in Transition: Disruptions in Central and Eastern Europe in the 20th and 21st Century

The aim of the panel is to explore the changing faces of literary translation in East-Central Europe in the 20th and 21st centuries. This includes, but is not limited to, the wide-ranging impact of historical events and socio-political phenomena on translation practice and theory. We are keen to examine the ways in which literary translation in East-Central Europe has been shaped by periods of disruption and upheaval, such as the two World Wars, the Holocaust, and the Cold War, as well as important political transitions (including the Fall of the Iron Curtain, democratisation, and East-Central European states’ accession to the EU) and related social phenomena (e.g., waves of migration to the West). We are interested in exploring these issues at both macro- and microlevels, considering the effects of historical disruptions on the conceptual discourses and methodologies of literary translation on the one hand, but also on the translation journeys of individual texts, and lives and work of individual translators and other translation agents (e.g., publishers, editors, literary agents, censors). We also invite contributions that offer cross-cultural comparisons and interdisciplinary perspectives by drawing on other relevant disciplines, which might include feminist criticism, gender studies, queer theory, postcolonial studies, Jewish studies, migration studies, world literature, and environmental humanities.

Suggestions of possible subtopics/approaches:

- theoretical and discursive considerations: the effects of disrupted narratives, shifts, and transitions on translation in East-Central Europe
- the impact of historical and socio-political phenomena on literary translation (this might include the war experience and warfare, the Holocaust, the Cold War, communism, diplomacy and espionage, European integration, migration, recent wave of illiberalism in the region)
- revisiting core TS concepts in East-Central European contexts: censorship under communism, underground publishing/samizdat, dissidence, translation from/into minor languages
- interdisciplinary perspectives on literary translation in East-Central Europe as well as cross-cultural comparisons with other regions (e.g., within the frameworks of global cold war studies or global modernisms)

References


Panel chairs

Joanna Rzepa, University of Essex
Kasia Szymanska, University of Manchester
Panel 29: Multimethod Research in Cognitive Translation and Interpreting Studies: Constructs and Indicators

Translation and Interpreting (T&I) Studies have increasingly acknowledged the significance of cognitive approaches in understanding the complexities of language mediation. Influenced by technological advancements like speech recognition, machine translation, and generative AI, the T&I profession’s evolving landscape is reshaping the way translators and interpreters operate. These changes, along with the growing attention to individual factors, cannot be ignored when applying cognitive constructs to comprehend the integrated processes of T&I. The transition from Translation Process Research to Cognitive Translation and Interpreting Studies (CTIS) has broadened research perspectives, with problem-solving being just one focus among many.

The recognition of multimodality as central to various multilectal mediated communication tasks is on the rise. Research projects are becoming more sophisticated, employing robust statistical analyses and contrasting tasks within-informant approaches. This panel explores various constructs to refine the modeling of T&I processes through diverse theoretical and methodological lenses, examining how indicators can deepen our understanding of cognitive underpinnings in communication.

Longstanding constructs like cognitive load, effort, flexibility, efficiency, and control remain pivotal in this research domain. Recent progress in utilizing indicators from different data collection methods, such as the visual world paradigm, eye/ear-voice span (EVS), ear-to-key span, respires, galvanic skin response (GSR), and heart rate variability (HRV), enhances our understanding. We invite interdisciplinary contributions with diverse empirical methodologies, from neuroimaging studies through computational modeling to ethnographic methods. The aim is to foster critical discussions, enrich CTIS development, and contemplate practical implications for training, assessment, and professional practice within the field. Submissions are invited on a range of topics, including but not limited to:

- Theoretical discussions on cognitive constructs.
- Indicators such as cognitive load, effort, control, automaticity, flexibility and efficiency.
- Multi method innovation.
- Methodological challenges and innovations in measurement.
- Behavioral and cognitive dynamics among diverse cognitive constructs through the task.
- Contrasts in subtasks for different purposes (e.g., different kinds of writing, reading, information search).
- Cognitive profiling of emerging tasks (e.g. live captioning, voice writing, etc..)
- Factors influencing workflows, e.g. new technological tools, and individual and psychological variables.

References


Panel chairs
Binghan Zheng, Durham University, United Kingdom
Ricardo Muñoz Martín, University of Bologna, Italy
Yu Weng, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong
Panel 30: Quality assessment in multilingual, multimodal, and multiagent translation and interpreting: Exploring human and automatic evaluation approaches

Quality assessment is a pivotal endeavor in the field of Translation and Interpreting (T&I), garnering significant attention from various stakeholders including industry players, practitioners, educators, and researchers. The rise of digitalization, coupled with the growing demands for accessibility, has led to a surge in T&I services across multiple languages (multilingual), through various communication channels encompassing text, visuals, and audio (multimodal), and by different agents including humans, machines, and their hybrid forms (multiagent). This remarkable diversity in languages, modes, and agents, along with their intricate combinations and interactions (e.g., machine translation from speech to text), significantly broadens the scope and complexity of quality assessment in T&I, presenting unique challenges and opportunities for stakeholders.

Currently, two primary assessment paradigms are prevalent. The first is human assessment, which depends on the expertise and judgment of human raters to evaluate T&I quality. The second paradigm is automatic assessment, employing natural language processing and machine/deep learning techniques for T&I quality evaluation. These paradigms, while seemingly parallel, are interconnected. For example, insights from human evaluation can enhance assessment practices and contribute to developing psychometrically robust measures that can benchmark automated quality metrics.

This proposed panel will focus on various aspects of quality assessment in multilingual, multimodal, and multiagent T&I, exploring both human and automatic evaluation methods. We particularly welcome contributions that aim to: a) review and examine the landscape of T&I quality assessment, b) investigate and refine existing methods, c) explore and innovate new methodologies, and d) evaluate the effectiveness of these assessment methods. Submissions may address the following sub-topics:

- Systematic reviews of T&I quality assessment practices
- Replications of previous assessment-related research
- Assessment of T&I quality involving low-resource languages
- Evaluation of multimodal T&I, including signed-language interpreting, subtitling, audio description, living captioning, and other practices
- Design and refinement of manual scoring methods (e.g., error analysis, rubric scoring, ranking)
- Automatic assessment of human- and machine-generated T&I
- Human assessment of machine translation and interpreting
- Evaluation of machine-human parity in automatic assessment
- Psychometric analysis of human and automatic assessments, focusing on reliability, validity, and fairness

References


Panel chairs

Chao Han, National University of Singapore
Panel 31: Role diversity in the language industry: conceptual and educational implications

Today’s language industry, comprising “an expanding range of branches that all share some facet of multilingual communication as a common thread” (Angelone et al., 2020, p. 1), continues to witness an unprecedented diversification of tasks, roles and responsibilities among the language professionals it employs, as commercial and institutional providers expand their services upstream and downstream of ‘traditional’ core services (Slator, 2023, pp. 22–24). Driven by a breathtaking development of translation technologies that has strongly impacted once stable, demarcated translation practices and the way they are taught, the increasing merging of multimodal, multilingual, intercultural, interlingual and intralingual services challenges long-held conceptualizations of ‘translation’ per se (Pym & Torres-Simón, 2021). Many translators already perform a variety of other tasks, such as revising human or machine translation, developing terminology, checking translation quality, transcreating, evaluating machine translation quality, and working as language technologists. Even the title ‘translator’ itself is being supplanted by labels designed to reflect more accurately the current diversity of roles in the language industry, such as ‘language engineer’ (Briva-Iglesias & O’Brien, 2022), ‘cultural and language professional’ (Mavrič & Nyegaard Outzen, in press), localizer or simply ‘language specialist’.

This panel will explore the profound implications that these changes are having for translation theory and the education of future language professionals. We welcome innovative empirical or conceptual contributions on any aspects of the above, including, but not limited to, the following focal points:

- Have (some) traditional concepts and models of translation outlived their purpose? If so, what might replace them?
- How can we best study role diversification in the language industry and its implications?
- How do, can and should we profile the skills and competences of ‘translators’ today and in future?
- How should students and current practitioners be trained or educated, given the rapidly changing face of the language industry and academia?

References


Panel chairs

Natasa Pavlovic, University of Zagreb
Gary Massey, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences
Maureen Ehrensberger-Dow, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences
Panel 32: Seeing, hearing, changing faces: what perspectives can game accessibility bring to translation and interpreting studies?

During the past decades, video game localisation practices have benefited from an explosion in terms of research, increased awareness, and new translation technologies facilitating seamless connections and streamlining early planning. Despite the technological paradigm shift caused by artificial intelligence, accessibility studies — a field increasingly linked to translation and interpreting — seems to remain an area where human intervention retains a large added value. Today’s increasingly digital and multimodal environment offers both opportunities and challenges and games, products that are by nature both multimodal and interactive, add a layer of complexity but also new perspectives to existing exchanges between translation and interpreting and media accessibility studies. Accessibility provision can be compared to the GILT cycle used for game localisation: just as internationalisation should ideally happen early in the product development cycle, so should planning for accessibility. Romero-Fresco’s paradigm of “accessible filmmaking” offers an intuitive framework for AVT and media accessibility, that could also be applied productively to game localisation and accessibility. A recent trend towards user-centred research can be observed in both translation/localisation and accessibility studies, the focus on user needs offering a further point of intersection between the two fields. Topics of discussion may include but are not limited to:

- How does game accessibility fit into broader frameworks for translation, interpreting and localisation studies?
- How could accessibility provision be integrated into game localisation/production training programmes?
- Perspectives from game studies: in an increasingly digital/multimodal world, what do the non-linguistic aspects of game accessibility bring to T&I studies?
- New regulatory frameworks for digital and AV accessibility: what lessons can be drawn from game accessibility/localisation, and vice versa?
- User Experience: How does accessible design impact the overall gaming experience and player engagement?
- Tools and Technologies: Evaluating the effectiveness of current tools and technologies in facilitating accessibility features such as text-to-speech, subtitles, and customisable controls.

References


**Panel chairs**

María Isabel Rivas Ginel, Dublin City University
Will Noonan, Université de Bourgogne
Carme Mangiron Hevia, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Panel 33: Shaping the future of interpreter training: extended reality and new digital tools in the interpreting classroom

In recent years, a series of new digital tools have entered interpreting classrooms around the world. For many universities, the first experience with digital platforms for interpreting practice was born out of an urgent need to continue training students during the pandemic. Once life went back to normal, some of these tools became a permanent part of interpreting courses (see for example Salaets, 2023) due to, among other factors, their flexibility and the possibility for the students to practice on their own, give and receive feedback, and self-assess their work. The democratization of access to interpreter training has also played a role in the increased presence of digital tools in the interpreting classroom (Mazzei & Jay-Rayon Ibrahim Aibo, 2023).

In parallel to this, the field of Extended Reality (XR)—an umbrella term for Virtual Reality (VR), Artificial Reality (AR), and Mixed Reality (MR)—is in full expansion across many industries, including higher education. Holograms are replacing bodies in anatomy classes, occupational therapy students learn how to use VR-simulation in stroke recovery, and teachers in training can now practice parent-teacher conferences with virtual avatars. The growing popularity of XR in higher education is of course rooted in practical reasons, but also sustained by the concept of playful learning, this is, the idea that “if we are affected emotionally, we learn better” (Haugan et al., 2023, p. 104).

For interpreter trainers, XR brings about an exciting question: How can this universe in bloom help us make interpreter training better? Although the question is not entirely new and some authors have been exploring interpreter training in virtual reality for a while now (see for example Braun & Slater, 2014 and Gerber et al., 2021), this is still an emerging and understudied research field within Translation and Interpreting Studies. In this panel we will explore the possibilities of digital tools in the interpreting classroom through contributions about experiences with the use of digital platforms, VR, AR, and MR in interpreter training and research.

References


Panel chairs

María Abad Colom, Oslo Metropolitan University
Susanna Calvert, Oslo Metropolitan University
Panel 34: Testing the Changing Faces of Translation Reception: Challenges and Approaches

The empowerment of readers on the reception side has haunted modern translation studies for decades. Empirical investigations into the nature of translation reception, particularly in audio-visual translation and strongly supported by cognitive research, are steadily coming to the fore (Di Giovanni and Gambier 2018). How technology-empowered translation impacts linguistic minority communities, especially during public crises, has also recently gained considerable traction (O’Brien and Federici 2023).

However, reception research is often encumbered by untested hypotheses regarding acceptability and the impact of specific translation strategies on change in readers’ behaviour (Chesterman 1998; Kruger and Kruger 2017). Translation reception is often oversimplified as an either/or choice of acceptance or rejection, often due to a lack of rigorous testing against empirical evidence. Previous reception research has prioritised the reader’s textual comprehension (Di Giovanni and Gambier 2018), with limited attention to extralinguistic criteria such as trust, behaviour change and actionability.

The challenges in testing reception stem from the “notoriously elusive” nature of target readerships (Athique 2016, 6). User expectations, traditionally construed through top-down-designed survey-based research (Liu 2023), are often viewed as less clear cut or even contradictory, making the testing of collective behaviour patterns difficult, if not impossible. With the impressive strides in ever-evolving translation technologies, user interaction and engagement with translation are undergoing a revolutionary transformation. Nevertheless, there has been little empirical study or thorough theorisation on the impact of translation in technology-mediated crisis and emergency communications.

Against this backdrop, the panel calls for critical testing of the fundamental mechanisms underlying the actual reader’s reception of translational communication. Our focus is on the socio-cognitive effects and implications of translation and, mutatis mutandis, interpreting in multimodal, high-stakes settings.

This panel welcomes empirical and theoretical testing of the following suggested topics, among others:

- The cognitive processing involved in user’s reception of translations across modalities and settings.
- Shifting reader and user expectations of translation in the age of AI.
- The impact of translation technologies on end users, stakeholders, and translation professions.
- Socio-cultural implications of translation in high-stakes crisis communication.
- Ethical considerations in translation and reception.
- (Empirical) methodological and analytical approaches to testing translation reception.

References


**Panel chairs**

Bei Hu, National University of Singapore  
Min-hua Liu, Hong Kong Baptist University  
Anthony Pym, Rovira i Virgili University/University of Melbourne
Audiovisual translation (AVT) scholars (e.g. Nikolić and Bywood, 2021) and industry reports (Hickey, 2022; Slator, 2022) have recently emphasised the sheer volumes of audiovisual content that are consumed by users on a daily basis and the challenges this poses to the media localisation industry. In today's professional reality, technology has been seen as a solution to the proliferation of media content and has also deeply altered industry workflows as well as translators’ workstations and habits. Thanks to groundbreaking developments in automatic speech recognition, machine translation and the implementation of large language models, automation technology has visibly gained sizable momentum in the media localisation industries (Díaz-Cintas and Massidda, 2019), with many stakeholders embracing automatic dubbing and subtitling tools, among others.

In light of these ever-more pervasive technologies, the rise of post-editors is patent reality in today's AVT industries (see Mejías-Climent and De los Reyes Lozano, 2023). This new professional activity calls not only for further reflection on training methods but also on the ethical implications of embedding automation in educational settings and professional ecosystems, where translators’ perception of their own work should be further explored.

This panel seeks to further our understanding of technology as a (de)humanising factor in AVT, placing the focus on how automation tools affect trainees’ career prospects, audiences’ perception of audiovisual programmes and practitioners’ work conditions. The papers included in this panel will aim to address some of the following subtopics:

- the uses, applications and limitations of automation tools in AVT practices and training;
- the role of humans in AVT automated workflows (including the use of pivot translation);
- the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and the creation of new roles in the media localisation industry (including pre- and post-editing);
- theoretical and methodological approaches for the study of automation technologies in AVT;
- the perception and reception of audiovisual content translated through automated workflows among audiences; and
- the ethical issues surrounding the use of automation tools in the media localisation industry.

References


Panel chairs

Alejandro Bolaños, Centre for Translation Studies, University College London, United Kingdom
Rocio Baños, Centre for Translation Studies, University College London, United Kingdom
Panel 36: The Changing Face of Literary Translation (Studies)

Literary translation as a practice is changing due to new developments in the field, such as the increase in advocacy for visibility, fair contracts and translators’ rights (e.g. EU/OMC report “Translators on the Cover”, “Name the Translator” campaign). At the same time, advances in technology have an increasing impact on the field: in a recent ATLF survey* among French literary translators, 14% of the respondents stated that they had already been approached by publishers for post-editing work, and the impact of AI is already being felt. The aim of this panel is to instigate research into the current and changing practices of literary translation, with a particular focus on agents and processes. While most studies on literary translation are still product-oriented and most process-oriented studies investigate non-literary translation, research into literary translation processes has gained some momentum over the past decade, and one aim of this panel is to further encourage innovative ways of studying literary translation.

We invite empirical and methodological contributions discussing literary translation in relation (but not limited) to:

- approaches, methodologies and methods (e.g. ethnographic, autoethnographic, workplace studies, genetic translation studies, keylogging, eye-tracking, think-aloud);
- agents involved in the making of a literary translation, including translators, editors, revisers, and publishers;
- human literary translation processes;
- computer-aided literary translation and tools;
- literary machine translation, use of AI, and post-editing processes;
- collaborative literary translation, including human-computer interaction, online collaborations, and author-translator collaborations;
- specific topics/aspects of the literary translation process (e.g. creativity, decision-making, editing, conflict, emotions etc.);
- publication processes of literary translations;
- intermediate versions (i.e. drafts) of literary translations;
- paratexts;
- legal, ethical, and professional implications of new technologies (e.g. copyright, status, remuneration);
- the training of literary translators (e.g. university curricula for budding literary translators, updating the skills of experienced literary translators).


References


Kolb, Waltraud. 2021. ‘Hemingway’s priorities were just different’. Self-concepts of literary translators. In: Klaus Kaindl, Waltraud Kolb, and Daniela Schlager (eds). Literary translator studies. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 107-121. DOI: 10.1075/btl.156.05kol


**Panel chairs**

Claudine Borg, University of Malta
Waltraud Kolb, University of Vienna
Panel 37: The Changing Face of Literary Translator Studies: A Dialogue between Academia and the Profession

Scholarly interest in Translator Studies, which is concerned primarily with the human agents responsible for translated texts, is on the rise. Recent research in this field has offered new methodological approaches for exploring translators’ life paths and agency (see e.g. Kaindl, Kolb, and Schlager 2021), and has investigated what literary translators do alongside translating. These practices include translators collaborating with publishers in marketing themselves (Akashi 2024), publishing their own translations (Marin-Lacarta 2018), as well as engaging with readers on social media (Fini 2024). Moreover, life-writing authored by literary translators has increasingly attracted scholarly interest, being read “as a form of practice-based engagement with translation”, or autotheory (Grass and Robert-Foley 2024, 2). These new research trends point to an increasingly close relationship between Translator Studies and the practices of literary translators within the publishing industry.

This panel takes the dialogue between academia and the profession forward, asking how we can advance our knowledge of translators’ roles in the chain of foreign literature publishing. The panel’s goal is to showcase novel approaches to bridging the gap between Literary Translator Studies and the literary translation practices. Abstracts are invited on the following and other relevant topics:

- New methodological approaches in Literary Translator Studies
- New conceptions of translator (in)visibility (e.g., celebrity translators)
- Translators’ presence and agency in digital spaces (e.g., online diaries and social media)
- Forms of non-translated writing by translators (e.g., translator memoirs)
- Translators’ self-publishing
- Translators’ roles in readership-building
- Translators’ commercial roles and personae
- Translators training translators (e.g., mentorship, workshops, summer schools)
- Translator collectives

References


**Panel chairs**

Motoko Akashi, Trinity College Dublin
Andrea Bergantino, Trinity College Dublin
Goedele De Sterck, Universidad de Salamanca
Panel 38: The Changing Face of the Literary Translation Classroom

Over the last ten years, PETRA-E has been at the forefront of developments in literary translation pedagogy across Europe. Initially an Erasmus+-funded project (2014-16), which culminated in the publication of the PETRA-E Framework of Reference for the Education and Training of Literary Translators (2016), since 2017 the PETRA-E Network has grown to encompass three dozen institutions across Europe and beyond. It champions innovation and best practice in literary translation pedagogy through its conferences, network meetings, workshops and annual European School of Literary Translation (ESLT).

This EST panel will provide a forum to review the changing face of literary translation pedagogy over the last decade, and the influence that PETRA-E has had on developing curriculum and methodologies. We will also evaluate the priorities for literary translation education and training over the coming decade. On the one hand there is clear evidence for a rising volume of commissioned translations and a greater public appreciation of the role of the translator, on the other the rapid rise of machine translation and AI systems threatens not just the translator’s intellectual property but their continued existence. How do we engage with these issues in the classroom and prepare literary translators for a career in the profession?

Papers are welcomed on topics such as:

- the development of MA programmes in literary translation
- the impact of summer schools (BCLT, CETRA, ESLT, …)
- undergraduate literary translation training
- CPD for professional translators
- implementations of the PETRA-E Framework
- the rise of the virtual classroom
- the relation between literary translation training programmes and general translation programmes
- the integration of translation technology (CAT tools, AI, post-editing) into training programmes
- translation history and theory in the curriculum
- ethical and legal issues
- the creativity of the literary translator
- recruitment issues in a changing language landscape
- sustaining the literature of less-translated languages
- new methodologies for literary translation education
- comparisons across Europe
- new priorities for literary translator education and training

References


**Panel chairs**

Duncan Large, University of East Anglia
Anikó Sohár, Pázmány Péter Catholic University
Panel 39: The Changing Face of the Translation Studies/Linguistics Interface

The history of scholarship at the interface of Translation Studies and Linguistics is not linear. There was considerable overlap between the two disciplines in the mid-twentieth century with the work of scholars such as Fedorov, Nida, Catford, and Kade. As Translation Studies became institutionalized as an autonomous academic discipline in the final decades of the twentieth century, the two fields grew further apart, though some connections remain. In recent years both Translation Studies and Linguistics have undergone rapid and extensive change. Now is the time, therefore, to reassess how to work at the interface of these two intimately connected disciplines.

The purpose of this panel is to bring together scholars working at the intersection of Translation Studies and Linguistics. This interdisciplinary panel will showcase recent changes in both fields in order to explore their implications for work at this interface. In so doing, the papers will reveal the wider effects of the changes for the two disciplines in general, for the translation and language professions more broadly, and for society at large.

Some of the developments to be explored have affected both disciplines such as the AI revolution; the move to decolonize the academy (Charity Hudley, Mallinson, and Bucholtz 2024); and the urgency of climate change. Other changes are more specific to one discipline or the other, or have played out in different ways in each discipline. Examples of this include the development of third-wave approaches to sociolinguistics (Eckert 2012); the spread of cognitive frameworks in studies on multilingualism and language contact (Boas and Höder 2021); research on emotion and affect (Koskinen 2020); the reworking of the expression of gender in language; and the burgeoning field of raciolinguistics (Alim, Reyes, and Kroskrity 2020). These are just some of the possible topics to be explored in contributions to the panel.

References


Panel chairs

Léa Huotari, University of Turku
Mairi McLaughlin, University of California, Berkeley
Franz Meier, University of Augsburg
Panel 40: The changing faces of Relevance Theory applied to translation and interpreting: novel insights at the interface between pragmatics and cognition

As a theory of human communication and cognition, Relevance Theory (RT) has asserted itself as a particularly promising framework for theoretical and empirical work in translation and interpreting. Applied to the performance-based study of translation (Alves 2007), to note-taking in consecutive interpreting, dialogue interpreting, and the impact of ELF on interpreting (Albl-Mikasa 2017, 2023, Gallai 2016, 2017), RT has provided a firm grounding of these different TIS-g geared approaches and faces in a coherent cognitive-pragmatic understanding of the interplay of communication and cognition. Its outstanding dimension is that it explains both how humans understand the world (cognition) and how they convey thoughts and understand each other (communication). As such, RT caters to comprehension as much as production processes, which are the very basis of translation and interpreting.

Following the 2023 conference on the Application of Relevance Theory to Translation and Interpreting (ARTTI 1) and the upcoming publication of its conference proceedings, we posit that RT is now in a position to offer exciting opportunities for new theoretical and empirical accounts that deal with the intricacies of oral and written multilingual communication. This panel seeks to leverage this momentum by exploring further RT-based avenues. Contributions are invited to address especially (but not exclusively) applications of RT to:

- Theoretical and empirical studies in translation and interpreting
- Neuroimaging studies of translation and interpreting
- Man-machine communication in translation and interpreting
- Dialogue as well as simultaneous interpreting
- Note-taking for consecutive interpreting
- Interactional pragmatics vis-
  à-vis translation and interpreting
- Experimental pragmatics vis-
  à-vis translation and interpreting

We welcome both theoretical and empirical papers drawing on a variety of data types and methods, aimed at providing new findings and novel insights into RT-based research, but also reinforcing existing practices. This will further demonstrate and establish the broad scope and vigour of the changing faces of this ideally suited paradigm.

References


**Panel chairs**

Michaela Albl-Mikasa, ZHAW, Switzerland
Fabio Alves, UFMG, Brazil
Fabrizio Gallai, UNINT, Italy
Panel 41: The changing faces of surveys and interviews as methods and text genres

In TIS, over the past 20 years, both surveys and interviews (including focus groups) have considerably changed their faces as instruments of data collection through technological advancements, including the processing and analysis of the resulting data (Dorer et al. forthcoming).

The first web-based survey in TIS was conducted in 2000 within the field of conference interpreting research (Chiaro and Nocella 2004). Nowadays, web-based surveys are common, the respective survey generator tools are easy to use and free of charge, allow for an at least partly automated data processing and require no knowledge of programming anymore. In the field of interviews, technological advancements include software for faster and easier transcription, using automated speech recognition, analysis of transcribed answers to open questions in corpora, (semi-) automated coding, or tools facilitating data organisation, interpretation and representation. Interviews are often an integral part of netnographic research in which members of online communities are interviewed in their digital spaces.

Translating and interpreting surveys and interviews are emerging fields of research in TIS. Research has been undertaken to improve the methods to translate such data-gathering instruments, for instance in large multilingual surveys, with the overall aim to enhance data comparability (Behr 2023). Appropriate methods to translate answers to interviews and other open questions are decisive for analysing this data in multilingual contexts (Dorer 2021). Interpreting and sight translation during interviews in multilingual settings is a challenging task knowing that any misinterpreting may have an immediate impact on the data gathered.

The panel invites presentations both with a focus on surveys and interviews as methods and as text genres to be translated and interpreted.

Possible topics may include, but certainly are not limited to:

- Designing and testing surveys and interviews
- Advantages and disadvantages of the use of technology in surveys and interviews
- Presentations of studies applying surveys or interviews, in traditional and advanced technological settings
- Integrating surveys and interviews in Mixed-Methods or Multi-Method research
- Software for gathering, processing, analysing and presenting data, including AI
- Intralingual, interlingual and intersemiotic translation of instruments, data collected and results obtained
- History or evolution of surveys and interviews in TIS as well as research into translating/interpreting them as text genres

References


Panel chairs

Brita Dorer, GESIS-Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences
Anna Kuznik, University of Wroclaw
Cornelia Zwischenberger, Centre for Translation Studies, University of Vienna
Panel 42: The changing landscape of literary translation and/as soft power

In contemporary international relations, the importance of soft power is widely recognised, with cultural initiatives emerging as an integral component of political influence. Among these, literary translation has become a powerful tool for intervening in how a culture is perceived abroad, as well as how this external perception, in turn, changes internal attitudes to a culture.

The acknowledgement of this dual role of translation and/as soft power has been instrumental in the changing nature of cultural exchange on the global literary market in recent years, specifically in the development of translation policy-making to encourage translation into foreign markets. This panel aims to question the ways in which we study institutional initiatives related to outward translation along two fundamental lines. Firstly, how are the goals of these initiatives structured in terms of their international and domestic priorities for cultural representation, and can there be conflict between the two? Secondly, what are the relationships between institutional initiatives and the publishing industry associated with literary translation, and can goals align or clash in this instance too?

We welcome proposals exploring how soft power operates via translation in different geopolitical contexts, bearing in mind the power differentials across book industries as well as the asymmetries between literatures and languages of disparate status. Questions the panel seeks to explore include:

- What do recent trends in transnational flows of literary translation reveal about cultural goals and strategies across a spectrum of linguistic contexts?
- To what extent do institutional initiatives aimed at supporting literary translation align with the needs and demands of publishing industries, and are there implications for our understanding of the role and reach of soft power?
- Is the ability to exert soft power a privilege of organisations and publishers working in so-called ‘major’ language contexts, or are there limits to the potential reach of soft power in specific situations?

References


Panel chairs

Olga Castro, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Olivia Hellewell, University of Nottingham
Laura Linares, University of Limerick
Panel 43: The Mediated and Multimodal Nature of Song Translation

Songs have multifarious functions in society and culture. They have been studied as literary works, folk culture, multimodal products, a genre of music, or a mode of communication. The field of song translation studies mirrors this complexity, offering a diverse, some might say scattered, collection of investigations that approach the object of study from all of these different angles, also covering several genres and modes of translation: from Soviet rock to French Bob Dylan covers, from opera translation to YouTube subtitling (an overview of recent research can be found in Greenall et al. (2021)).

Beneath this multiplicity, however, what all songs have in common is that they are mediated and multimodal. The media involved are multiform and varied: musical, physical, theatrical, technical, and audiovisual. Modes are diverse semiotic resources of expressing meaning, including verbal, instrumental or paralinguistic modalities. Understanding mode, medium, and genre as meaningful systems may help explain the many changes song translations often show, without focusing (just) on linguistic similarity (Kaindl 2020). As Desblache (2019) has argued, with mediation comes an inescapable aspect of intersemiotic translation – which brings a need for questioning or revisiting more traditional concepts of the discipline.

With this in mind, we would like to invite conceptual and empirical contributions on the mediated and multimodal nature of song translation. We especially welcome studies that reflect on or make use of the cross-disciplinary potential that is inherent in this field of study: integrating ideas from musicology, literary studies, ethnology and ethnomusicology, popular music studies, multimodal studies, adaptation studies, or even physics or anthropology.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Song translation and new technologies
- Song translation and visual media
- Song translation and theatre
- Song translation as interplay between linguistic and musical meanings
- Re-considerations of traditional concepts such as text, translation unit, sense, strategies, and equivalence for the purpose of researching song translation
- Cross-disciplinary methods for researching song translation
- Songs in translator education
- Emerging trends or historical epochs and events in the song translation market.

References


Panel chairs

Johan Franzon, (Ph.D., university teacher) Department of Finnish, Finno-Ugrian and Scandinavian Studies / University of Helsinki
Annjo K. Greenall, Department of Language and Literature / Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Anna Rędzioch-Korkuz, (Ph. D., university teacher) Institute of English Studies / Faculty of Modern Languages / University of Warsaw
Panel 44: Translation (in/for) Minority Languages in Europe

In an ever-changing landscape, research involving minority languages is still an emerging area for Translation Studies. If translation phenomena are riddled with complexities, then translation in/for minority languages adds myriad dimensions to explore.

Firstly, what can be regarded as a minority language? For example, do kin-state languages (such as Danish in Germany or German in Denmark) fall into this category? What political, social, economic, and legal factors have impacted on different minority languages (e.g., cases such as the recognition of Irish as an official EU language and ongoing discussions about Basque, Catalan, and Galician)? And what are the implications of using different conceptualizations? Consider, for instance, the case of Mirandese, a language heavily influenced by emigration from Miranda do Douro (Portugal) in the 1950s-60s – how has translation played a role in processes of recognition or revitalisation?

Further points of interest are literary and cultural flows through the translation of minority languages. For example, is translation perhaps focused on canonical literature from the dominant language(s) or perhaps on educational or religious texts? What defines their “traductological capital” (Ferreira & Martins, 2017)? And what are the profiles, backgrounds, and professional trajectories of translators and interpreters of minority languages?

Lastly, in this digital age, with Translation Studies saturated by different platforms and modalities, then where do minority languages fit into this space? Are minority languages available through machine translation and are they visible on our screens, whether subtitled, dubbed or streamed? What are the implications of AI?

All these considerations illustrate that there is a need to take into account the translation and interpreting of minority languages from a variety of perspectives. Thus, we welcome proposals that focus on any of the topics mentioned above with an emphasis on European languages, as well as comparative approaches with at least one European case study.

Keywords: minority languages; language policy; traductological capital; translation policy; endangered languages.

References


Panel chairs

Cláudia Martins, Instituto Politécnico de Bragança
Antony Hoyte-West, Independent
Panel 45: Translation and Infrastructure

Infrastructures encompass a wide range of physical and organizational systems that provide a foundation for many activities, including translation. They play a crucial role in shaping and enabling various actions and relationships and provide the necessary support systems for the dynamic processes of knowledge creation, collection, circulation and distribution (Carse 2017; Larkin 2013). The proposed panel seeks to delve into the intricate interplay between infrastructures and the field of translation, examining their affordances, historical trajectories, entanglements and essential components. In encouraging participants to think infrastructurally about translation, we wish to explore infrastructure for translation; infrastructure of translation and also translation as infrastructure. Focusing on translation activities and on the concepts of connectivity and emergence—both in the digital realm and in the physical world—the discussion will shed light on the diverse ways in which infrastructures contain, facilitate, and shape interlinguistic, intersemiotic and interepistemic translation processes.

Critical aspects to be addressed are the incremental assembly of translation infrastructures, along with their inherent instability, incompleteness, and control. The panel will explore how infrastructures demand ongoing adaptation to technological advancements, institutional dynamics, societal shifts, and cultural changes (Kirby 2024). Drawing on historical perspectives as well as on recent media studies approaches (Hesmondhalgh 2022), panelists are also invited to reflect on translation as knowledge embedded in the design of infrastructure and as generative mechanism of such material and virtual systems (Littau 2016; Cronin 2017). Furthermore, the panel aims to investigate the extent to which emergent infrastructures rely on networked connections, functioning as scaffolding that involves publishers, institutions, authorities, writers, and stakeholders. Key questions to be explored include the examination the assemblages of human and non-human actors within communicative infrastructures; the typology of infrastructures relevant to translation (institutional, publishing, community, digital, etc.); and the relationship between infrastructures and translational processes/content.

This panel aims to provide a nuanced exploration of the multifaceted relationships between translation and infrastructure, fostering a deeper understanding of the social, material cultural and technical complexities inherent in their intersection. We welcome theoretical and applied papers addressing the notions of translation and infrastructure in the following possible contexts: e.g. digital platforms; translation management systems; publishing infrastructures; social media; professional associations and networks; institutional organisations; archives, libraries and documentation centers; conferences and events; and language (technology) research centres.

References


**Panel chairs**

Anne O’Connor, University of Galway, Ireland
Raluca Tanasescu, University of Galway, Ireland
Chris Tanasescu, University of Galway, Ireland
Panel 46: Translation in Multilingual Research 1: Translation as Method and the Construction of Knowledge

Researchers across the Humanities, Social Sciences and STEM often use translation and interpreting as necessary tools for knowledge production, but outside the modern languages these are rarely seen as an aspect of the research method, i.e. as interventions on the specific epistemological approaches to the world contained in different languages and expressed through them. However, sustained interest among translation scholars in the ideological and cultural burden of texts has shown how seemingly innocuous translations can shift frames of reference, create or eliminate meanings that had been contained in the source text, and realign texts with target epistemologies. Recent projects like “Genealogies of Knowledge” at the University of Manchester and the Dictionary of Untranslatables have usefully drawn attention to the role translation and interpreting play in the production of knowledge and in the crystallization of particular systems of thought. The large scale shifts and specificities of meaning that are highlighted by these studies are replicated in the ground-level translation and interpreting that happens as an often unacknowledged part of research practice.

This exploratory panel looks at ways in which T&I can be understood as a research method for scholars who deal with data in languages other than the working language of the researcher, or engage with participants and other stakeholders whose primary language is not the same as their working language. In acknowledging the inherent multilingualism of contemporary research and foregrounding the non-transparency of language-based data and research practices, this topic has implications for decolonizing knowledge in the academy, as well as for the relevance of TIS within other research communities.

Possible topics might include theoretical reflections; studies on T&I practices and discourses in other disciplines; studies on institutional policies around multilingual research and the use of T&I in research; explorations of the relationships between T&I and the epistemic positioning of research that relies on it; and proposals for pedagogies of T&I in research. Approaches from disciplinary locations in education, intercultural communication, and others are welcome as well as approaches from within TIS.

This is one of two panels on the topic of translation in research. The other panel, “Translation in Multilingual Research 2: Translation Ethics Meets Research Ethics” focuses more specifically on the ethical issues raised. Panel convenors will be in touch with each other about submitted papers that may fit better with the other panel, so if you are unsure about which panel better suits your abstract, you can submit to one and if we determine that the other might be better, we may suggest a switch.

References


**Panel chairs**

Anna Strowe, University of Manchester
Serena Bassi, Yale University
Panel 47: Translation in Multilingual Research 2: Translation Ethics Meets Research Ethics

In the course of its development, translation studies has continuously expanded its field of study and adapted its concepts and theoretical frameworks accordingly. However, one area that has received scant attention in translation studies is translation and interpreting in research processes. When conducting research in contexts of migration, multilingual societies, or colonial encounters anthropologists, sociologists, and field researchers from a range of other disciplines often rely on translators and interpreters when dealing with languages non-native to them. Despite their pivotal role in the research process, these agents and their contributions to the creation of scholarly knowledge have gone largely unrecognised or have been deliberately silenced (cf. Borchgrevnik 2003). And while the biographies of famous anthropologists, such as Margaret Mead, are thoroughly documented, very little is known about the interpretative transformations and impact of their indigenous interpreters and translators, who enabled them to do their research. The powerful role of translation in the construction of knowledge still seems to be underestimated, especially in terms of ethical and methodological consequences; an aspect that a recent survey of field researchers in sociology and anthropology programs in the United States by Sepielak, Wladyka and Yaworsky (2023) detected.

Translation studies scholars seem just as scarcely interested in the subject although Mellinger and Baer, in a recent contribution on research ethics in translation studies believe that “the role of translation and interpreting in conducting research within and beyond disciplinary boundaries” (2021: 375) is one of three topics that will gain currency. Apart from Kate Sturge’s seminal book Representing Others. Translation, Ethnography and the Museum (2007), only few publications exist on that topic. These publications either reflect – more or less theoretically underpinned – on scholars’ own research experiences (e.g. Korak and Schögler 2023) or discuss possible methodological approaches (e.g. Littig and Pöchhacker 2014).

This panel seeks to shed light on this largely unexplored, complex, and promising interdisciplinary area. It welcomes papers

- discussing the connection of translation ethics with particular aspects of research ethics (e.g., voluntary participation, informed consent, confidentiality, potential for harm, recognition/acknowledgement of contribution...)
- raising methodological questions in relation to translators/interpreters and their involvement in research
- discussing translation and interpreting in research contexts related to the geopolitics of knowledge
- discussing the effects of involving interpreters or translators on the positionality of researchers and vice versa
• developing or discussing conceptual matters related to translation ethics and translation/interpreting in conducting research
• drawing on ethical experiences of translation studies scholars with translators/interpreters in empirical research projects

This is one of two panels on the topic of translation in research. The other panel, "Translation in Multilingual Research 1: Translation as Method and the Construction of Knowledge" focuses more generally on the question of when and how translation is part of knowledge construction. Panel convenors will be in touch with each other about submitted papers that may fit better with the other panel, so if you are unsure about which panel better suits your abstract, you can submit to one and if we determine that the other might be better, we may suggest a switch.

References

Panel chairs
Nadja Grbić, University of Graz
Rafael Schögler, University of Graz
Panel 48: Translatorial practices in contexts of low institutionalization of translation

During the life span of Translation Studies as a discipline, professional T&I practices have become increasingly standardized and codified. Professional associations have produced codes of practice, translation technology has routinized and standardized translation solutions, and the proliferation of training institutions, as well as cross-national harmonization of their curricula, have led to an increasingly unified cadre of translation professionals. In many ways, this is a success story, and it is quite natural that in contexts where this is not yet a reality (nations lacking a training path; languages that cannot yet reap the full benefits of translation technologies; communities where T&I has not been recognized as a profession), development projects aim to move towards greater institutionalization and recognition.

Without challenging this optimistic view as such, in this panel we invite presenters to also contemplate the benefits and successes of lesser institutionalization. We argue that translatorial actors who have limited access to technological tools, who operate in languages where they need to constantly invent new terminology, who have not been taught translation techniques and strategies and who are not aware of or interested in professional codes of ethics and norms of accepted behavior may still be surprisingly successful in their translatorial practices. They may be quite resourceful in adapting messages to the target context (Ciuk et al 2017), in finding flexible summarizing strategies to keep all participants onboard (Koskela et al 2017), in resorting to translanguaging practices (Barner-Rasmussen & Langinier 2020) and to translation technologies (Nurminen 2021) as well as in mobilizing all language resources at their disposal (Koskinen & Kuusi 2017).

Against this backdrop, we invite presentations on various contexts of low institutionalization:

- professional translating and interpreting in contexts where institutionalization is a work in progress
- paraprofessional translators who end up translating or interpreting at work alongside their main duties/to be able to conduct their main duties
- non-professional translators operating in a minimally regulated environment
- language activists using translation for revitalizing an endangered/minority language
- people in need of translation resorting to translation technologies or other solutions on their own

We are looking for empirical findings of the ways in which limited institutionalization can open spaces of (co)creative innovation and resourcefulness as well as theoretical contemplations of how these findings can (or can they?) be used to re-invigorate translatorial practices at the other end of the spectrum, in contexts of extensive – and potentially excessive – institutionalization and routinization of translation (such as in institutional T&I or in the language industry). We therefore also welcome paper proposals on:

- the risks of over-institutionalizing translating and interpreting, and
- processes of de-institutionalization.

References


Panel chairs

Kaisa Koskinen, Tampere University
Helle V. Dam, Aarhus University
Panel 49: Video remote interpreting: Interaction, professional practice and training

Video remote interpreting (VRI) has become established in various countries as a technology-based mode of delivering the services of qualified interpreters in institutional settings such as health care, social work and education. This has significantly changed the face of the interpreting profession as practiced in community or public service settings. Considering the magnitude of the ongoing shift in professional profiles and institutional practices, however, the volume of academic research devoted to VRI in different settings has been relatively modest. Following groundbreaking work done within the AVIDICUS projects (e.g. Braun 2013) and a first collective volume featuring video-mediated sign language interpreting (Napier et al. 2018), recent work has focused on micro-analytical approaches to ‘remote dialogue interpreting’ (De Boe et al. 2024), but a more comprehensive view that incorporates institutional as well as professional perspectives is still largely lacking. This panel therefore offers a platform for research on the changing face of dialogue interpreting in public service settings, in spoken as well as signed languages. The convenors welcome studies of VRI on a broad range of topics, including, but not limited to, public policy and service delivery models, the role of professional associations, workplace studies, user perspectives, discourse-based analyses, and, in particular, contributions on teaching and learning practices focusing on interpreter training as well as VRI user education, in degree programs and non-university courses.

References


Panel chairs

Franz Pöchhacker, University of Vienna
Sonja Pöllabauer, University of Vienna
Panel 50: What are corpora good for? The new faces of corpus and digital humanities research in translation and interpreting studies

Over the past three decades, corpus-linguistic approaches have become not only more sophisticated, but also diversified, intersecting with a range of research areas, including cognitive linguistics, stylistics, sociolinguistics, and (critical) discourse analysis. These approaches have also become increasingly intertwined with the interests and methods of the digital humanities, a broad area of study focused on the infrastructural and analytical ‘conditions of possibility for the generation, transmission, accessibility, and preservation of knowledge’ in the digital era (Presner 2010: 10). The expansion in corpus-linguistic methods and foci is also evident in translation and interpreting studies (e.g. Bisiada 2021; Calzada Pérez and Laviosa 2021; Granger and Lefer 2022; Ji 2016). While many still exclusively associate corpus methods in translation studies with the notion of translation ‘universals’, corpora are now used to study a wide range of topics, including language processing in translation and interpreting, the reframing of ideology, differences between human and machine translation, the reception of literary translations by readers, the discursive construction of translation and translators in (social) media, as well as language change in and through translation.

As applications of corpora have multiplied, so have foundational questions about the ontology and epistemology of corpus methods. Can cognition or language processing be recovered by corpus analysis? Can social constructs like ideology be reliably inferred from corpora? Can the concept of translation be adequately characterised by means of a set of observable patterns? How do the analytical tools used shape and constrain hypotheses, theorisation and interpretation? This panel seeks to collectively showcase and reflect on the diversity of new theoretical and methodological developments in corpus and digital humanities approaches to translation and interpreting. It also aims to reflect critically on gaps and absences in the fundamental assumptions of these approaches, and on the role and position of this area of research in a context of continual social, linguistic and technological change.

References


Panel chairs

Haidee Kotze, Utrecht University
Jan Buts, University of Oslo