

32 **Advancing Translation Studies: integrating research on the translational construction of the social world**

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For quite some time now, Translation Studies has been interested in translation and interpreting as constructive practices from which different types of collectivities emerge. While the focus has mainly been on understanding national or ethnic identities as products of translation processes, other research (also from other disciplines) has indicated that translation and interpreting also play a vital role in the emergence of other collectivities, such as linguistic communities, international organizations, scientific communities, religious gatherings, and social identity groups. However, these various undertakings have not yet been systematically related to each other. The aim of this panel is to bring these research endeavors together and discuss their results as investigations into the translational construction of collectivities. This way, a common frame of reference can be established which allows for comparisons between the different types of collectivities that translation and interpreting practices help to produce and the various ways in which they do this: Are similar mechanisms involved? How does the impact of translation and interpreting on the construction – or deconstruction – of collectivities differ across time and space? What concepts, theories, and methods are adequate for the investigation of such processes? Can we draw from established approaches within Translation Studies or is it necessary to look beyond disciplinary boundaries? The panel invites empirical, methodological or theoretical papers addressing questions related to the various forms and ways in which translation and interpreting practices participate in carving up the social world into collectivities. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- translation and interpreting as practices of drawing, redrawing and dissolving borders
- translation and interpreting as mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion
- translation/interpreting and the (de)construction of collectivities
- agents of translational constructions of collectivities: Humans, machines, institutions
- translation/interpreting and (linguistic) belonging.

References

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