

“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
Bulevardul Carol I nr. 11, Iași 700506, ROMANIA

CALL FOR PAPERS

We are pleased to invite you to the second edition of the conference *Legal translation – interdisciplinary perspectives*, organised between 9th-10th of May 2019 by the Faculty of Law of “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, Romania. The conference will take place as part of the event “The European Week at UAIC”, in order to celebrate three important events: the 12th anniversary of Romania joining the European Union, Romania’s taking over the rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2019 and Europe Day on the 9th of May. We are pleased to have as special guests prof. dr. Larisa SCHIPPEL from Centre of Translation Studies, the University of Vienna as Keynote Speaker, translators from the European Commission and the European Parliament and lawyer-linguists from the Court of Justice of the European Union. The latter will organize a special workshop for freelance translators with the goal of improving translation techniques and looking for/training new collaborators for the European institutions.

The translation of the legal discourse is not a strictly functional process, as it also represents a means of cultural transfer, of language standardization and enrichment, a process which implies the overlapping of multiple domains (law, translation studies, linguistics, stylistics, cultural studies, even colonial and postcolonial studies – from a historical perspective), law being the subject matter which regulates the aspects of living together in a society and in a culture.

As we are dealing with a specialized discourse which is subject to strict wording norms, legal translation will imply a linguistic analysis. Which are the linguistic norms which govern the legal discourse and, implicitly, its translation? Is legal translation a particular genre, untranslatable, which implies specific constraints, specific translation methods? To what extent is the question of fidelity-infidelity relevant to legal translation? Can the functionalist perspective be applied in case of legal translation? What role does terminology standardization play? Can we speak of functional equivalence with regard to legal translation?

Besides the analysis from the linguistics, terminology and translation studies perspective, the approach of legal discourse from the perspective of the culture on which it is based is essential from the point of view of the legal expert, translator, specialist in translation studies or teacher of foreign languages. The legal text is partially hybrid, borrowing specialized discourse from all domains which it tries to regulate. But, in comparison to other specialized languages which tend to become universal, the legal discourse is the expression of a permanently evolving society and culture. This generates the inherent translation difficulties that appear together with the transposition in the target language. In this context, the legal *cultureme* represents one of the main challenges for the translator, especially when there are no standardized terms or specialized dictionaries, as well as for the legal expert in interpreting, transposing and applying the translated text. Analysing the particularities of the source legal culture constitutes an essential approach, preceding the translation process.

A novelty of the present edition resides in the didactic approach to legal translation within the specialized translation and foreign language courses for students, as well as training and refresher courses for legal experts and translators. Which are the required linguistic, terminology and cultural skills and how can they be acquired? How is the training of the certified translator ensured? What is his/her status in the present society?

Thus, the analysis of legal discourse from the perspectives of linguistics, translation studies, didactics, cultural studies and, of course, legal studies, is meant to underline its complexity and the specific difficulties of a particular approach. The fields of study from the perspectives of which the proposed subject will be analysed are:

1. **Legal studies and European studies:** translation difficulties generated by the differences between legal systems, the transposition and interpretation of the translated text, the translation process of the Community acquis within the structures of the European Union, the institutions and officials responsible for the translation, the requirements for obtaining such positions, problems regarding multilingualism and linguistic barriers, technologies and projects meant to ease the translation process;
2. **Translation studies:** legal translation – difficulties, limits, methodology;
3. **Linguistics:** constraints specific to legal language and its evolution within the context of Romania's integration in the European Union;
4. **Cultural studies:** translation as means of cultural transfer, the impact of translations on the socio-cultural evolution;
5. **Didactics:** methods of teaching specialized language and translation of specialized texts, difficulties and strategies. Linguistic, terminology and cultural skills required of translators and jurists.

These sections are of interest not only to the specialists in the field of study, but also to the students of the faculties of law and letters, by providing an ideal framework for theoretical and analytical discussions, as well as a multidisciplinary perspective on the career development opportunities and translation and teaching techniques. The working languages are Romanian and English, and in the sections and workshops all EU official languages will be used.

For REGISTRATION, please send the title of the paper/workshop and an abstract of maximum 300 words to the email addresses iuliazup@gmail.com or carmen.ciobaca@gmail.com, until the **15th of April 2019**. The papers will later be published in a thematic supplement of *Analele Științifice ale Universității „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” din Iași. Științe juridice*, a journal in the CNCS category B, indexed in the **international databases HeinOnline and CEEOL**. The participants to the conference will have the opportunity to send the papers for publication by the 1st of September 2019.

Organising team,
Lect. dr. Iulia-Elena Zup
Lect. dr. Carmen-Ecaterina Ciobâcă

The 2017 edition: <https://laws.uaic.ro/ro/evenimente/conference-legal-translation-within-the-european-union-18-19-mai-2017>