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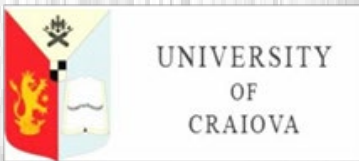
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ALEXANDRU B. P. Poni
UNIVERSITATEA DIN CRAIOVA
FACULTATEA DE LETERE



THE 5TH TRANSLATION TIMES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FACULTY OF LETTERS, UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA

**BOOK OF
ABSTRACTS**

**4-5
DECEMBER 2025**



**The Department of British, American, and German Studies
Faculty of Letters, University of Craiova
in partnership with
“Alexandru Piru Doctoral School”, University of Craiova,
Humanities and Arts Research Centre, Faculty of Letters,
University of Craiova,
The Romanian Society for English and American Studies (RSEAS)
The European Society for the Study of English (ESSE)**

THE 5TH “TRANSLATION TIMES” INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

online and on site between 4-5 December 2025

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

PLENARY LECTURES

Filling the Silence: Maureen Freely's Rupture of Orhan Pamuk's Oedipal Journeys

Işıl BAS DE OLIVEIRA,
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Orhan Pamuk's mother was conspicuously absent in his lecture "My Father's Suitcase" at the ceremony awarding him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2006 even though biographical accounts and interviews suggest she had been a stabilising and enabling force in his creative life. I argue that Maureen Freely, best known as the Turkish-into-English translator of Orhan Pamuk's novels fills this void by translating his source texts into English. If Pamuk's Nobel lecture installs the father as the emblem of literary origin, authority, and weight leaving the mother in shadow, Maureen Freely's translational "labor" can be read as a compensatory maternal gesture - care, intimacy, accessibility as well as nurturing, mediating and ensuring continuity and survival, qualities often coded as maternal in psychoanalytic and cultural theory. In that sense, she becomes a surrogate figure who initiates the text rebirth making Pamuk's voice audible globally, echoing Benjamin's notion of *translation* as an afterlife. Moreover Freely resists invisibility; she speaks publicly about her choices, her own oeuvre and contextualises Pamuk for Anglophone readers by affective alignment.

The Translator's Pose: Reflections from the RoTEXTRA Project

**Oana COGEANU-HARAGA,
"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania**

RoTEXTRA is a research project in Romanian translation studies developed by Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi over 2025 and 2026 with support from UEFISCDI. The project undertakes to identify, select, comment, translate and publish a collection of Romanian writings on translation. By compiling a bilingual anthology of Romanian (meta)translational discourse from early modern to contemporary reflections, RoTEXTRA reclaims historical texts and reframes them within the global context of translation studies. Central to this project is an emphasis on the translators' agency, their position as reflective subjects shaping linguistic and cultural exchange. RoTEXTRA foregrounds paratexts (prefaces, afterwords, commentary) as marginal spaces where translators articulate their poetics; it also revisits translators' self-writing (memoir, diary, letters) as alternative spaces of explicitation. These are treated as sites accommodating textual performances of the translator's persona. In re-translating such texts and paratexts into English and embedding them in a metatextual framework of critical commentary, the project emphasizes the translator's textual presence and proposes a genealogy of Romanian translator personae, from discrete artisans to outspoken mediators. In this way, the project contributes to a reconsideration of agency in translation, proposing translator visibility as a form of authorship and intercultural creation.

Translating Neurodivergence

**Daria PROTOPOESCU,
University of Bucharest, Romania**

Children's literature in the 21st century has been increasingly featuring more diverse characters, including ones with disabilities. Since the early 2000s, there has been a rise of autistic protagonists in children's literature: no longer playing second fiddle to the neurotypical main character, i.e. what is considered the norm of cognitive functions and development. Readers have now direct access to the voices and thoughts of these neurodivergent protagonists: "From the beginning, it has been widely agreed that autistic people use language in unusual ways. From mutism to metaphor, from abstraction to repetition, syntax, word choice, inversion, precision, neologism, and formulaic use of words, autistic language is startling, inventive, challenging, irregular." (Rodas 2018) Novels written in English have been at the forefront of autistic representation in children's literature, underlining the decisive part translation plays in enhancing autistic representation in other languages. How can we translate these new voices without erasing their specificities? How can the target text do what the source text did to the source language? Using a selected corpus of English fiction translated into Romanian, I will highlight solutions found by the translators to navigate the tension between domestication and (autistic) foreignization that arises from translating neurodivergent characters.

ROUND TABLE

Developing Transversal Competences in Translator Training Classes: Experiences and Good Practices

**Anamaria PREDA, Oana DUȚĂ,
University of Craiova, Romania**

This round table envisages sharing experiences and good practices in fostering transversal competences in translator training programmes across higher education institutions. The discussion explores how such competences are reflected and integrated into the curriculum and syllabi across a range of subjects, such as *Ethics and Academic Integrity*, *Use of Digital Databases*, and other relevant areas, as well as the methods and techniques used to assess them. Participants will have the opportunity to exchange strategies for embedding critical thinking, digital literacy, ethical awareness, and other transversal skills into translator education. By highlighting successful approaches and challenges, the round table seeks to provide practical insights for refining translator training curricula in the Romanian context and not only, fostering a more holistic, competence-based education that equips students to successfully navigate the complex demands of contemporary translation practice.

PRESENTATIONS

From Chop Life to Carpe Diem: The Transcreation of Nigerian Pidgin and Cultural Concepts in Global Media

**Oziomachukwu AKUNNA AJEMBA, Nnamdi Azikiwe
University Awka, Nigeria**

This paper examines how Nigerian Pidgin and culture-laden expressions are transcreated for global audiences, aligning with the conference theme on localization, language visibility, and the global circulation of African cultural forms. Using Nollywood films -*Omo Ghetto: The Saga* and *Living in Bondage: Breaking Free* alongside internationally marketed Nigerian novels such as Adichie's *Americanah* and Obioma's *The Fishermen*, the study investigates how subtitles and editorial decisions negotiate Nigerian identity, humour, and worldview. The central research questions are: (1) How are Nigerian Pidgin expressions, proverbs, and cultural idioms rendered in global media texts? (2) What transcreation strategies (literal translation, cultural substitution, omission, or explanatory glossing) dominate? (3) How do these choices shape cultural authenticity, intelligibility, and audience perception? Guided by Transcreation theory, Audiovisual translation studies, and Postcolonial Translation Frameworks, the study employs qualitative content analysis of subtitles and textual excerpts. Its significance lies in foregrounding the cultural tensions that arise when indigenous linguistic forms circulate globally. The study contributes by offering culturally responsive localization guidelines, promoting the global visibility of African linguistic identities, and modelling an approach for translating non-standard Englishes in cross-cultural media environments.

Culture in Motion: Multimodal Approaches to Digital Travel Translation

**Diana APOSTOL,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The paper addresses the strategies of *localization* and *exoticization* in the context of multimodal translation of digital travel content. Building on established theories of translation and multimodality, we aim to investigate how content adaptation (re)encodes cultural otherness to meet target-culture expectations. Zooming in the translation of travel-related audiovisual material, we approach multimodal communication effectiveness in terms of visual and auditory modes to secure effective cross-cultural communication. Based on a digital corpus of video travel guides promoted by an international travel technology company (Expedia Group, Inc. - <https://www.expediagroup.com/>), we set out to record and investigate how multimodal expressions of localization and exoticization facilitate intercultural communication and foster authentic cultural engagement among viewers. Special attention is also paid on the use of color symbolism, sound branding, and narrative voice as strategic tools to negotiate between global reach and the preservation of local authenticity. The systematic integration of multimodal strategies to the translation workflow enables practitioners to effectively remediate linguistic discontinuities and enhance cross-cultural communication. In an increasingly interconnected media landscape, we plead for the importance of adapting and refining recurrent translation strategies to effectively manage between global intelligibility of content and the preservation of cultural identity.

***ESP Meets Creative Translation in Medical Students –
A Beautiful Journey***

**Oana BADEA,
University of Medicine and Pharmacy Craiova, Romania**

Creativity is the process of giving birth to new things, ideas and solutions which may not necessarily have existed before. Writing in English is mainly significant for improving creative and critical thinking skills. Some medical students, for example, struggle in creative writing in English as a foreign language due to the negligence of this skill in the ESP courses. Thus, the present study makes a significant contribution to the ESP literature because it investigates ESP students' perceptions about creative language in mass-media using medical words as metaphors, particularly in their everyday life and provides recommendations for improving the skills of creative writing and translation in the future. This study aimed at investigating the students' perception on medical English creative translation, and to find out how it can help teachers and material developers to develop creative translation activities in their ESP courses. Furthermore, this study aimed at raising teachers, students and coursebook authors' awareness about the importance of creative writing in ESP courses, in general, and in medical specialised English language, in particular.

Translating Ausiàs March with AI: Challenges and Possibilities

**Oana-Dana BALAȘ,
University of Bucharest, Romania**

The present paper explores the use of AI systems in translating medieval poetry. Ausiàs March, a 15th century Valencian poet and a widely translated classic of world literature, authored 128 poems currently being prepared for a Romanian bilingual anthology. We propose a comparative analysis of five short poems – *cobles esparses* – translated from medieval Valencian into Romanian by a human translator and by freely available AI platforms (ChatGPT Poetry Translator and YesChat AI Poetry Translator). The translation project follows a balanced preservation of both meaning and form, the latter referring to prosodic parameters such as caesura, meter, rhythm and rhyme. Our expected findings suggest that AI-based translators could assist in the translation of poetry, but not replace the human factor, especially when it comes to moderately or low-resource languages. Thus, the study contributes to ongoing discussions on the dynamic between AI development and the field of translation in general, as well as translation of literature in particular.

“To Read or not to Read like a Translation” – The Difficult Case of Translating Madame Bovary into the English Language

**Oana BĂLUICĂ,
University of Craiova, Romania**

In an article originally published in *the London Review of Books*, the writer Julian Barnes analyzed the English versions of *Madame Bovary*, arguing that, most of the time, when the translation was semantically correct, the ‘musicality and tone of the narrative’ were lost, and when they were preserved, the version suffered considerable transformations at the semantic level. The translations analyzed are those by Juliet Herbert, novelist Lydia Davis, and those published by Francis Steegmuller and Gerald Hopkins. Although Davis's is considered the best of all versions, problems also occur there – it is true that fewer than in Steegmuller's version. All these complexities arise from the fact that we are dealing with a 19th-century novel, with an authorial vision and semantics specific to the era described, so that omissions, pedantry, misunderstandings and vocabulary errors account for a large part of these problems. However, a new translation was published by Adam Thorpe a year after the publication of Barnes' incisive essay. The translator called the original work ‘an Everest of translation’, and stated that it had taken him three years, the same amount of time that Davis had spent translating it. This paper aims to reiterate the similarities and discrepancies between all these versions and to analyze what a translation based on ‘period language’ really means in the case of Flaubert's work.

From Text to Screen: Multimodality and Adaptation in Television Translation

**Andreea Gabriela BĂRBIERU,
“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, Romania**

Television translation involves the complex process of adapting dialogues and written texts for the screen so that they align seamlessly with the visual and auditory elements, as well as the pacing and rhythm of the program. This paper examines how translators integrate human creativity with technological tools to maintain accuracy, clarity, and cultural relevance. Subtitling presents specific challenges, including synchronizing text with speech, respecting spatial and temporal limitations on screen, and ensuring that cultural references are properly adapted for the target audience. Additionally, the increasing use of automated translation technologies, such as machine-generated subtitles and AI-assisted tools, introduces new opportunities and challenges, requiring translators to carefully balance efficiency with fidelity and nuance. Through analysis of selected television programs, this study highlights the multimodal nature of audiovisual translation, where meaning is conveyed not only through language but also through its interaction with images, sound, and timing. The paper argues that effective television translation is not simply a linguistic transfer, but a collaborative and creative act of meaning-making, combining human expertise and technological mediation. The findings underline the importance of training translators to navigate both the technical and cultural aspects of audiovisual adaptation, ensuring a high-quality viewing experience across diverse audiences.

Some Issues in Technical Translation and Its Application to English for Specific Purposes

**Iren BOYARKINA,
University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy**

Although Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning increasingly improve professional and academic translation, continually changing its conceptualisation and practices, technical translation still faces challenges like specialized terminology, complex sentence structures, and the need for in-depth subject matter knowledge. In English for Specific Purposes (ESP), these issues are compounded by the need to translate jargon accurately and apply it within a specific technical field. This is often a big challenge for translators who usually have linguistic education and not the knowledge of a specific technical field, such as law, medicine, biotechnologies, physics, or engineering. This often requires targeted training that combines language proficiency with subject-specific knowledge to avoid errors in areas like content accuracy, terminology, grammar, and style. This paper explores some issues in technical translation and its applications to English for Specific Purposes.

The Nobel Prize Effect on the Worlding of Literature Enabled by Translation

**Eva Nicoleta BURDUȘEL,
“Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu, Romania**

Based on David Damrosch's idea that world literature is fundamentally a matter of circulation enabled by translation which also provided added value in the transition and transaction from the source culture / language to the target culture / language. The main thesis of the presentation and subsequent paper in-extenso is the qualitative and quantitative analysis of the impact of the Nobel prize awards on the fame and status of the recipients, on the one hand, as well as the exponential increase of translations worldwide - entailed by the prestigious literary prize with international echo. The major dimensions of my analysis include: a) the growth in the number of languages books authored by Nobel prize recipients have been translated, b) a revival of the interest - both popular and scholarly - regarding the books that brought fame and worldwide recognition to the laureate author, c) storytelling travelling the world by means of translation facilitating an indelible connection of humankind.

***From Text to Sound: Translating and Musicalizing Alberti
Alberto's "Ciao" with AI as Creative Partner***

**Adela CATANĂ,
Ferdinand I Military Technical Academy, Bucharest, Romania**

This presentation reveals the complex process of translating Alberti Alberto's Italian poem, "Ciao", into Romanian and English, and examines the role of the artificial intelligence as a creative mediator in both textual and musical transformations. Drawing on my own translation practice, I examine how AI tools offer alternative pathways for interpreting lexical nuances and emotional registers that shape the poem's voice in each target language. The project extends beyond textual translation to a second creative dimension, which is the transformation of overlapping portions from the original poem and its translations into music. The process raises broader concerns about the translatability of poetic effect into other media, and about the shifting boundaries between human intention and algorithmic interpretation.

Italo Calvino and Self-Translation. Dwelling on the Pleasant Middle

**Sorin CIUTACU,
West University of Timișoara, Romania**

The paper shows forth Italo Calvino's views and actions as he himself emerges as a mediator between Italian and English, shaping his reception in the Anglo-American world through close collaboration with translators such as William Weaver, Archibald Colquhoun, and Patrick Creagh. Calvino's contributions to translation went beyond occasional corrections or approvals. He was deeply conscious of the gap between languages and the aesthetic implications of crossing it. The paper delves into Calvino's correspondence with Weaver, mainly during the translation of *Invisible Cities* (1974) and *If on a winter's night a traveler* (1981). This brings out his active role: Calvino rephrased, restructured, and in some cases reimaged passages to achieve an English rhythm that mirrored his Italian tone. His engagement can be read as a form of self-translation in the broad sense: not the mechanical reproduction of meaning, but the recreation of a literary system in another linguistic and cultural context. Calvino's aesthetic creed underlines his pursuit of "lightness," "quickness," and "exactitude," later encapsulated in *Six Memos for the Next Millennium* which shaped his translational consciousness. For him, translation was not a loss but a transformation, a dwelling on the aesthetic middle, thus opposing Schleiermacher's negative view of self-translation. English, with its syntactic flexibility and concision, offered Calvino new ways to embody his stylistic ideals. Thus, his collaboration in translation was both pragmatic and aesthetic: he treated translation as a second writing process, a continuation of composition by other means.

The European Union's Translation Services: Difficulties and Particularity

**Andra Simona DIACONU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of competence from the viewpoint of a specialized translation and to highlight the differences in legal translators' positions with regard to things like entering the translator's market and responsibility. We could contend that the specialized translator bears more responsibility because mistranslation can have serious repercussions when technical languages are involved. In those situations, translation is not a language transfer, and the translator is not only bound by linguistics, personal, or IT skills, but also by confidentiality and responsibility. An error does not only result in a message that cannot be conveyed from the source language to the target language, but it also has an impact on a person's or society's very existence; the consequences are not insignificant, but may be irreversible. The European Union's translating body is seen as the foundation of EU communication and is formed by translators who were most likely trained under the European Master of Translation. The bodies of EU translators are made up of more than just translators as defined by academics; they also include lawyer-linguists and jurilinguists. Translation within the EU poses unique challenges. From one point of view, EU texts have their own culture, and each translation is a cultural mediator between the source culture and the EU culture as a collection of 26 distinct cultures rinsing an identity issue (Koskinen, 2008:47). Applied linguistics (Cook, Davies & Elder, 2004; Wiśniewski, 2007; Richards & Schmidt, 2011) and legal

linguistics (Mattila, 2006; Galdia, 2009), an interdisciplinary field that embraces language denoting specialized meanings where language gives rise to language for specialized purposes (LSP) (Swales, 1992; Hoffmann, Kalverkæper, Wiegand & Ernst, 1998).

Creative Translation and the Translator as Co-Creator: Irina Negrea's Romanian Version of Toni Morrison's "Song of Solomon"

**Georgiana-Elena DILĂ,
University of Craiova, Romania**

Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon* is a novel which has often offered numerous challenges to translators, among which we could mention: the African American oral traditions, the rhythmic and musical prose, the use of African American vernacular English and the mythic and symbolic references. The Romanian version of the text presented by Irina Negrea demonstrates how a literary translator has to balance all these elements while making interpretive, stylistic, and cultural choices, reconstructing the narrative voice, reimagining culturally specific idioms, and adapting structural and rhythmic patterns to Romanian literary norms. When talking about the translation of the novel we realise it is not just a neutral linguistic transfer, but a creative act of co-authorship, where the translator has to reshape the tone, rhythm, and cultural resonance. This article attempts at showing how the act of translation can function simultaneously as cultural mediation, artistic creation, and re-voicing of the text.

***Translating Southern Gothic into Romanian: The Case of
Cormac McCarthy's Child of God***

**Anda DIMITRIU,
University of Bucharest, Romania**

Part of Cormac McCarthy's early works, *Child of God* is one of the author's most compelling examples of Southern Gothic writing. With Lester Ballard at its centre, the novel proposes themes such as the human descent into evil, haunting isolation and the notion of destiny, all set against a rural, mountainous Tennessee backdrop. Gothic images and themes collide with the author's idiosyncratic style and his devotion to local authenticity to make up a complex and alluring prose, which would be difficult to translate in any language. As such, the Romanian translation of this novel came out in 2024, roughly fifty years after the first English edition and fifteen years after the first Romanian translation of a McCarthian novel. In this context, the present work aims to analyse the translation made by Dan Croitoru for Polirom through the lens of the Gothic, paying close attention to how the themes, style and the tenuous Gothic atmosphere are preserved, altered or lost in the process of translating the original into Romanian.

Creativity as a Translational Imperative: Recasting Rushdie's Linguistic Hybridity in the Romanian "Midnight's Children"

**Adriana DRAGOMIR (BARBU),
University of Craiova, Romania**

This paper explores the Romanian translation of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* as a representative case of the intersection of literary and cultural translation. It outlines their conceptual distinctions and convergences, and argues for a model in which their interaction becomes particularly visible when translating linguistically hybrid and culturally dense fiction. The paper integrates corpus-informed analysis, demonstrating how empirical methods can illuminate translational decision-making in complex literary texts. Rushdie's novel, marked by hybrid idioms, postcolonial intertextuality and multilayered cultural encoding, poses challenges that require the translator to engage beyond semantic transfers. The Romanian translator, Radu Paraschivescu, offers a compelling example of how such a text can be rearticulated for a different linguistic and cultural environment while retaining interpretive depth. The analysis focuses on selected segments where idiomatic expressions, culture-bound references and symbolic layers of meaning necessitate solutions grounded in both creative agency and contextual accuracy. The paper examines how the translation negotiates authorship, fidelity, cultural resonance, and the translator's own discursive presence. The findings highlight how literary translation engages questions of linguistic identity, cultural continuity and the reshaping of narratives across geopolitical and temporal boundaries. By positioning the Romanian *Midnight's Children* within intertwined postcolonial

and post-totalitarian frameworks, the paper demonstrates how translation is embedded in the movement and transformation of culture. The paper ultimately argues that translation operates as a form of literary re-inscription, shaped by the negotiated interplay of heterogeneous linguistic and cultural frameworks.

War Times, Translation Times. A Case Study - the Ukraine Conflict

**Nicoleta Corina DRĂGOI (BRALOȘȚIȚIANU),
University of Craiova, Romania**

The Ukraine conflict has produced a vast array of digital war discourse, including presidential speeches, official statements and social media communication, which play a crucial role in identity construction and international persuasion. This paper examines such discourse through the combined lenses of rhetorical analysis and translation studies, with particular attention to the strategic use of ethos, pathos and logos. It explores how credibility, emotional appeal and logical argumentation are mobilised to influence both domestic and global audiences, framing national identity and political legitimacy. From a translation-oriented perspective, the study investigates how these speeches and statements are mediated across languages and cultures, highlighting the challenges of preserving rhetorical intent, idiomatic expressions and culturally embedded references in translation. By analysing the interaction between rhetorical strategies and translational choices, the paper demonstrates how translation not only facilitates comprehension but also shapes the reception of persuasive messages. Ultimately, this research underscores the importance of integrating rhetorical and translational perspectives to understand how digital war discourse functions as a performative tool that constructs meaning, negotiates identity and mediates cross-cultural understanding in the context of contemporary conflict.

Translating African Literature: Multilingual Realities and Cultural Complexities

**Edit FAZAKAS,
Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania**

This article offers a foundational overview of African literature as a richly diverse body of work shaped by oral traditions, multiple narrative forms, and the coexistence of indigenous, colonial, and hybrid languages. African literary texts often blend myth, history, communal memory, and social commentary, reflecting the complex cultural and linguistic landscapes of the continent. Building on this contextual introduction, the study examines the particular challenges that arise in translating African literature for international readership. Special attention is given to multilingualism as a defining feature: African texts frequently incorporate - code-switching, indigenous vocabulary, proverbs, and culturally embedded linguistic forms that resist straightforward equivalence in other languages. The article explores how translators negotiate these elements while preserving narrative authenticity, cultural nuance, and the author's stylistic intentions. By analysing the interplay between multilingual expression and translational practice, the study argues that translating African literature demands not only linguistic skill but also cultural sensitivity and an awareness of postcolonial power dynamics. Ultimately, the paper highlights the translator's role as a mediator who must balance fidelity to African linguistic identities with the needs of a global readership.

“Memories of My Childhood” in Translation: *Rendering Local Flavour through Regional Language Equivalence*

**Crisanda Georgia FĂGĂDAR,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The translation of Ion Creangă's *Amintiri din copilărie* (Memories of My Childhood) raises essential questions at the intersection of translation theory and pragmatic considerations of language variation. The original text is deeply embedded in the Moldavian rural vernacular, enriched with regional words, idiomatic expressions, cultural references and the rhythms of oral storytelling. Translating these features into English requires navigating a delicate balance between fidelity to the source text, cultural accessibility for the target audience, and the preservation of Creangă's narrative voice. This paper examines how translation strategies, alternating domestication and foreignization, as well as translation procedures such as compensation and cultural adaptation shape the reception of Creangă's linguistic creativity. It also addresses the challenges posed by dialectal nuances, humorous formulations, and folkloric patterns. The study argues that translating *Amintiri din copilărie* is not solely a linguistic endeavour but a nuanced act of cultural mediation that must reconcile theoretical frameworks with the specificities of regional language.

Dance Terminology in Translation: Bridging Theory and Practice

**Irina Theodora FIRĂNESCU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The translation of dance language is crucial for preserving, transmitting, and interpreting choreographic meaning across cultural and linguistic boundaries. Dance, as a multilayered form of artistic expression, depends on a specialized vocabulary encompassing movement descriptions, stylistic nuances, spatial dynamics, and embodied techniques. Accurate translation ensures that choreographic intentions, artistic concepts, and pedagogical instructions are effectively communicated to dancers, teachers, researchers, and audiences worldwide. This paper emphasizes the importance of translating dance language to maintain the integrity of artistic works, foster intercultural dialogue, and facilitate the global dissemination of dance traditions. It also explores the challenges inherent in translating movement-based terminology, including metaphorical expressions, culturally embedded meanings, and technical descriptors that vary across dance genres. As dance becomes increasingly international, high-quality translation emerges as a vital tool for safeguarding artistic heritage and enhancing cross-cultural understanding.

***Creative Co-Authorship in Ian McEwan's
"Atonement/Ispășire"***

**Mihaela GAVRILĂ,
University of Craiova, Romania**

A self-reflective novel that dives into the exploration of memory, guilt, and the ethics of storytelling, Ian McEwan's *Atonement*, translated into Romanian as *Ispășire* by Virgil Stanciu, is transformed into a form of creative co-creation since the translator, in order to render its complexity, takes a step further than reproducing McEwan's prose and offers his own interpretation of the narrative structure and thematic tension. The present paper examines the texts, paratexts and commentaries to demonstrate that the translator, by balancing linguistic fidelity with artistic licence, plays an active co-authorial role and his translation decisions act as mediators between the narrative voice and the protagonist's understanding of truth.

***From University Training to Professional Career: Assessing
the Effectiveness of Technical Translation Education in
Romania***

**Patricia Cornelia GRIGORAȘ, Daniel DEJICA,
Politehnica University of Timișoara, Romania**

This study explores the effectiveness of Romanian technical translation education through qualitative interviews with 20 professional translators distributed across 10 geographic locations. Using thematic analysis and systematic coding, the research examines several essential dimensions, such as translators' educational experiences, pedagogical approaches, translation competencies development, professional practices, current market demands, career development strategies, and the challenges encountered during the transition from academia to industry. The findings reveal a significant gap between academic preparation and professional requirements in technical translation practice. The research also identifies other gaps, such as lack of digital training, business skills development, quality assurance training, exposure to authentic professional translation practice, and career guidance. Professional translators strongly advocate for curriculum changes and real-world training, such as industry internships, technology-focused activities, hands-on workshops, or project-based learning. These findings provide empirical evidence for curriculum redesign recommendations that align academic training with evolving industry demands and technological requirements. The study concludes by highlighting key directions for future research, such as larger sample sizes, longitudinal studies tracking graduates' career trajectories, comparative international analyses, and mixed-methods approaches incorporating institutional perspectives alongside professional translator experiences.

***A Cognitive Linguistic Approach to the Translation of English
Skin Idioms***

**Ana-Maria HERZAL, Georgiana REISS,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The traditional view on idioms suggests that they are items which do not rely on any conceptual framework, namely, the lexical components of an idiom do not provide us with any information about its overall meaning. However, the cognitive linguistic perspective postulates that idiomatic expressions are not just lexical units kept in our mental lexicon; rather, they are rooted in our physical experiences, shared knowledge, and conceptual framework. Our paper aims to examine the means of translating English *skin* idioms into Romanian, drawing on Baker's (1992) theoretical framework and Kvetko's (2009) classification of equivalents, and to identify common cognitive mechanisms which can partly account for the meanings of the English idioms and their Romanian counterparts under analysis. The paper also attempts to show that the existence of such common cognitive mechanisms reveals some conceptual correspondences which enhance the semantic ones, thus highlighting the importance of integrating the cognitive linguistic approach into the process of selecting appropriate equivalent idioms.

St. O. Iosif, the best translator of Heinrich Heine's lyrics until the First World War

**Mihaela HRISTEA,
"Dimitrie Cantemir" Christian University, Bucharest, Romania**

Heinrich Heine is one of the most important poets of German literature, his work distinguished by originality and modernity. In the reception of Heinrich Heine's work in Romania between the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, until the First World War, the large volume of translations of Heine's lyrics and the influence it had on Romanian poets, who imitated and assimilated it in their creation, depending on the affinities they had with the German writer, are impressive. In the 19th century, a fashion was even created, a phenomenon known as *Heinism*, manifested by the predilection for interpretations of Heine's verses and the special volume of Romanian versions. An extremely large number of poems were translated in the three Romanian provinces, with approximately 750 variants recorded. Our cultural figures who knew his lyrics, primarily in the original, strove to interpret the poems as correctly and faithfully as possible. St. O. Iosif, an outstanding Romanian poet, was primarily noted for his successful interpretations of Heine's love lyrics. St. O. Iosif was considered the best translator of Heine's lyrics until World War I, and to this day, no other translator has managed to equate Heine's lyrics with resonances so close to the original.

Employing and deploying AI in subtitling

**Attila IMRE,
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Cluj-Napoca, Romania**

The present paper discusses the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to possibly speed up the process of subtitling, using various fragments from movies and TV shows. The selection contains both linguistic and cultural challenges as well as terminology issues.

We are interested whether various AI tools, such as ChatGPT, DeepL, DeepSeek, Google Gemini, Perplexity or Reverso can handle translating culture-specific terms (realia), humor or even abbreviations and acronyms. The results might show that the classical translation activity followed by proofreading may shift to AI-generated texts combined with post editing. However, in this case it is worth considering the time and energy invested in checking and correcting potential mistakes. While some tend to think that the time when AI translation can fully replace human translators is close, there are already voices that highlight potential disadvantages and risks of AI, including implementation costs, lack of transparency or ethical considerations regarding the output.

“From Tea Parties to Talking Rabbits”: Representations of English Cultural Elements in Turkish Translations of Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland”

**Ükü KÖLEMEN,
İstinye University, İstanbul, Türkiye**

This study investigates the translation of English cultural elements in Turkish translations of *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, focusing on the procedures and strategies applied in conveying these elements across cultural boundaries. Drawing on Peter Newmark’s categorization of cultural terms and translation procedures alongside Lawrence Venuti’s concepts of domestication and foreignization, the study analyzes how translators negotiate cultural specificity for Turkish readers. The analysis centers on a comparative examination of selected Turkish translations, exploring the extent to which English cultural references such as tea-time rituals, social hierarchies, idiomatic expressions, and traditional customs are preserved, adapted, or omitted. Findings suggest variations in translation strategies that reflect not only evolving translation norms but also shifting perceptions of target readerships. This research contributes to a better understanding of cultural transfer in children’s literature and offers insight into how canonical English works are culturally reimagined in the Turkish literary space.

***The Use of Resources in Specialised Translation
in the Field of Architecture***

**Ioana-Mădălina-Dana LAMBRACHE (RADU),
University of Craiova, Romania**

The use of specialised resources plays a crucial role in ensuring accuracy, consistency and terminological precision in the translation of architectural texts. Given the technical nature of the field, translators must rely on a wide range of tools to interpret and convey concepts related to design, construction methods, materials, structural elements and regulatory terminology. Glossaries - both monolingual and bilingual - are essential for establishing clear equivalences between architectural terms and for maintaining a coherent terminological framework throughout a translation project. Monolingual glossaries help deepen the translator's understanding of architectural concepts within the source language, while bilingual glossaries provide direct cross-linguistic mappings that support efficient decision-making. In addition to glossaries, specialised dictionaries in architecture and related disciplines such as engineering, urban planning and restoration offer extended definitions, usage contexts and domain-specific nuances. Digital databases, technical standards, CAD libraries, and online inventories of architectural elements further enrich the translator's resource toolkit, enabling a more comprehensive interpretation of complex or culturally specific terminology. Together, these resources enhance the translator's ability to produce precise, contextually appropriate and professionally credible translations that meet the expectations of experts in the architectural field.

From Local to Global: Mahasweta Devi through Cultural Translation

**Biswadip MAL, Ujjwal JANA,
University of Delhi, India**

This paper seeks to investigate how Mahasweta Devi's short stories – *Draupadi* (1981, in English) and *Breast-Giver* (1997, in English) enter the canon of world literature through the act of cultural translation. Devi's writings deal with the lived experience of Adivasi community, lower-caste women, marginalized class who remain voiceless and suppressed within the tapestry of dominant national discourse. Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak's translation does not merely remain a translation on linguistic level, it becomes ethical, political and cultural mediation. To reveal the dynamics of power, language and representation in shaping global understandings of India's oppressed class, Spivak's translation underscores what she identified as "problem of the subaltern speaking". By keeping the culturally embedded terminology, refuting domestication, resonating structural violence, Spivak makes Devi's short stories universally relevant which challenges patriarchy, caste oppression and militarism. Through translation, these stories have been able to transcend regional boundaries, reach a global readership, and gain a new interpretive lives across feminist, postcolonial and human-rights discourse. This paper argues that Devi's narrative becomes world literature because translation renders her cultural nuances legible and ethically compelling to global readers. Thus cultural translation becomes a tool for the circulation of Devi's work and turns subaltern voices into transnational conversation.

**G. Baronzi's Romanian Adaptation of Alexandre Dumas
père's "Histoire de la Dame pâle" (1849): Points of
Divergence from the Source Text**

**Anca Simina MARTIN,
"Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, Romania**

This paper examines how Alexandre Dumas père's 1849 novella "Histoire de la Dame pâle" (The Pale Lady) - set in Moldavia and featuring one of literature's earliest Eastern European vampires - was adapted by Romanian writer G. Baronzi into *Castelul brâncovenesc* (*The Brankovan Castle*) in 1852. Through a comparative analysis of the two texts, I explore how Baronzi's adaptation recontextualised Dumas's Gothic narrative within mid-nineteenth-century Romanian socio-political discourse. While Dumas's text emphasises cross-cultural interactions between Polish, Greek and Moldavian identities, Baronzi's version nationalises the story, omitting some cultural elements while highlighting others to reflect the real-life recent history of the target culture. By altering the multiethnic ancestry of Kostaki, the Moldavian vampire-prince, Baronzi turns the supernatural antagonist into a vessel for political commentary, reflecting post-Phanariot anxieties and emerging nationalist sentiment. The study also situates Baronzi's adaptation within Romania's broader French-influenced translation culture, in which authors such as Dumas, Verne, and Sue dominated the literary market. Ultimately, the paper argues that *Castelul brâncovenesc* marks a key moment in the Romanian reception of the vampire myth: one where the Gothic figure becomes entangled with local history, anticipating later uses of vampirism as a metaphor for ethnic and imperial oppression.

Lost in Translation? Exploring Learners' Difficulties in Spanish-French Tourism Texts

**Concepción Martín MARTÍN-MORA,
Pablo de Olavide University, Sevilla, Spain**

Tourism translation, often underestimated, is in fact a form of specialised translation that confronts students with a wide range of linguistic, cultural and pragmatic challenges. These challenges become even more pronounced in the case of back translation, where students must translate from their mother tongue (Spanish) into a foreign language (French), a process that demands greater lexical precision and stylistic control.

In this presentation, we will analyse the difficulties encountered by students enrolled in the Spanish-French reverse translation techniques (Spanish-French) subject. Within this framework, students translated selected excerpts from the official websites of Spanish cities such as Bilbao, Salamanca or Oviedo. These texts included notable monuments, historical facts, cultural references and some information about typical cuisine. Common issues encountered by the students include inadequate selection of collocations, misuse of register when adapting promotional descriptions, and limited ability to transfer culture-bound elements, such as references to local festivities or gastronomic products. We will also examine errors resulting from literal translation strategies, particularly when dealing with metaphors or idiomatic expressions frequent in tourism discourse.

Medical Translation at a Crossroads: To Translate or Not?

Ionela MIHALE, University of Craiova, Romania

Undoubtedly, English has become the *lingua franca* of science, acquiring a dominant role in various fields such as computer science, technology and, more broadly, the health and medical sciences. As a result, an enormous number of scientific articles are published daily, with researchers worldwide striving to have their work disseminated in highly ranked journals. As a corollary, scientific texts are increasingly written with international readership in mind. However, not all scientists are proficient in English, and many linguistic inconsistencies often appear in published texts. The corpus analysis that we conduct is intended to show to what extent the articles are translations from the authors' native language or were originally composed in English by the authors themselves. Regarding translation, professional medical translators are relatively scarce. Freelance translators often hesitate to undertake such commissions, as medical translation requires not only advanced linguistic skills in both source and target languages but also substantial domain-specific knowledge. Whether articles are translated by professional translators or self-translated by authors, translation challenges inevitably arise. Moreover, these challenges may manifest as verbal or non-verbal segments at the micro level (within individual text segments) or at the macro level (affecting the text as a whole).

***Orwell's Newspeak in 1984 - Between Nouvorba and
Neolimba in Two Romanian Translations***

**Lorena-Clara MIHĂEȘ,
University of Bucharest, Romania**

This study explores two Romanian translations of what George Orwell dubbed “Newspeak” in the dystopian novel *1984*. The two translations were published almost thirty years apart—Gafița’s version appearing shortly after the fall of communism (1991, Univers Publishing House) and Crăciun’s in 2019 for Polirom Publishing House. The analysis reveals that each translation employs distinct lexical and morphological strategies in rendering Newspeak, shaped by the translators’ differing understandings of Orwell’s political linguistics. While Gafița’s *Nouvorba* emphasizes structural strangeness and ideological rigidity, maintaining a strong connection to the English language on which Newspeak is built, Crăciun’s *Neolimba* favours smoother, more naturalised forms that domesticate the text and minimize overt parallels with English. A comparative examination of word formation, semantic compression, and stylistic effect shows how the two versions differently reconstruct the mechanisms of linguistic manipulation central to Orwell’s dystopia. The study underscores the opposite of the usual tendency in retranslations: while Gafița’s version is markedly foreignising and the translator remains quite visible, Crăciun’s retranslation adopts a far more transparent and naturalised style, effectively effacing the translator’s presence.

Cultural Resonance and Algorithmic Patterns: (Re)creating Gender Through Hybrid Translation Practices

**Andrei MOHANU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

This paper examines how AI-mediated and human translation practices co-construct gendered meaning and cultural identity within digitally shaped translational environments. It approaches translation as a dynamic process in which linguistic, cultural and multimodal cues are not simply transferred but actively reconfigured through the interaction of human agency and algorithmic modelling. The study highlights how AI systems, driven by statistical regularities, tend to reproduce normative gender binaries, while human translators negotiate context, ideology and interpretative nuance to challenge or recalibrate such patterns. By analysing hybrid workflows, the research exposes the ethical, cognitive and professional implications of automation, particularly the risk of amplifying cultural biases embedded in gendered discourse. Drawing on a transdisciplinary framework that integrates sociocultural semiotics, algorithmic auditing and practitioner reflexivity, the inquiry identifies strategies for mitigating distortions arising from automated outputs while leveraging the creative potential of human-machine collaboration. Ultimately, the paper proposes a model of translation as a collaborative act of gendered meaning-making, arguing that human expertise remains essential for guiding AI systems towards culturally responsible, contextually attuned representations of identity in an increasingly automated translational landscape.

Mediating Meaning Beyond Words: Pragmatic Insights for Contemporary Translation Studies

**Oana-Maria NIȚĂ,
Independent Researcher, Romania**

The paper examines the contributions of three major pragmatic traditions - linguistic-philosophical pragmatics, sociocultural-interactional pragmatics, and intercultural pragmatics, to the field of translation studies. Linguistic-philosophical pragmatics offers key insights into how implicature, speech acts, and communicative intentions shape meaning beyond the literal level, underscoring the translator's task of reconstructing context-dependent meanings. Sociocultural-interactional pragmatics highlights the centrality of social identity, politeness, facework, and interactional norms in shaping communication. Intercultural pragmatics further foregrounds the challenges of cross-cultural communication by analysing how cultural norms, values, and expectations influence pragmatic meaning, and by illustrating the risks of miscommunication when such norms are not aligned between source and target cultures. By synthesising these traditions, the paper argues that pragmatic awareness—encompassing contextual sensitivity, cultural competence, and an understanding of social interaction—is indispensable for effective translation. It concludes that a pragmatically informed approach enriches translation strategies, supports more accurate meaning transfer, and enhances the translator's ability to mediate across cultural and communicative boundaries.

Creative Translation as a Tool for Curriculum Innovation and Intercultural Dialogue

**Andrada Oana Maria PAVEL,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The creative translation of theories on school curricula constitutes a dynamic process through which complex pedagogical concepts are adapted, reinterpreted, and communicated across cultural and educational contexts. Curriculum theories, often grounded in philosophical perspectives, sociological frameworks, and instructional models, demand nuanced translation that extends beyond literal equivalence. This paper explores how creative translation can preserve conceptual accuracy while enhancing clarity, accessibility, and relevance for diverse educational systems. By combining theoretical fidelity with interpretative flexibility, the translation process enables educators, researchers, and policymakers to engage meaningfully with curriculum models and apply them effectively in practice. The study also addresses challenges inherent in translating specialized terminology, culturally embedded educational assumptions, and evolving pedagogical paradigms. Creative translation thus emerges as a vital instrument for fostering intercultural dialogue, promoting innovation in curriculum design, and facilitating the global exchange of educational ideas.

Into the very heart of Irishness: A comparative analysis of the Romanian translations of slang terms in "Telemachus" episode from James Joyce's "Ulysses"

**Alexandra Maria PĂTRAȘCU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

Slang poses confusion concerning its sharp distinction from other categories of informal language. Nevertheless, it may be defined as a fairly obscure and unconventional manifestation of highly informal communication, employed by restricted social groups and related to particular topics. Slang engenders difficulties in translation due to its heavy reliance on cultural background. In relation to James Joyce's *Ulysses*, it represents a gateway widely opened to cultural specificities and sensitivities. The novel was translated into Romanian by Mircea Ivănescu in 1984 and Rareș Moldovan in 2023. This paper aims to draw a comparative analysis between the Romanian translations of slang terms from the first episode of the novel, "Telemachus", whose rich local colour instantly connects the reader with the quotidian and earthy Dublin. A qualitative methodology is envisaged to provide detailed descriptions and critical comments on the accuracy and adaptability of their renditions, while referring to translational challenges encountered and strategies adopted. No investigations into Moldovan's retranslation have been carried out; thus, our study contributes to the field of literary translation by filling this gap.

Digital Memes in Education: A Translation-Oriented Perspective

**Anca PĂUNESCU, Mihaela CHIRIȚESCU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The integration of technology in education offers numerous benefits, but also poses significant challenges, particularly in the mediation and translation of digital content. Memes, as cultural units - encompassing ideas, behaviours or styles - circulate through imitation and reinterpretation. In the contemporary digital discourse, they primarily take the form of internet-based images, videos, texts or GIFs that spread virally, often conveying humorous, ironic or culturally nuanced messages. From a translation-oriented perspective, memes present unique challenges: their meaning relies heavily on linguistic subtleties, cultural references and shared social knowledge, which may not transfer directly across languages or cultural contexts. In educational settings, memes exert a multifaceted influence on the didactic discourse, shaping how information is communicated, interpreted and negotiated. They can stimulate engaging classroom discussions, fostering critical thinking, collaborative skills and intercultural awareness. Moreover, memes contribute to the construction of a shared student identity, promoting interaction, cooperation and a sense of community. The digital dissemination of memes further encourages the integration of technology in education, supporting the adoption of innovative teaching and learning practices, translation skills included.

The Impact of Training Background and Technology Use on Linguistic, Technical, and Stylistic Dimensions of Subtitling

**Daria PROTOPOESCU, Iuliana TIMOFTE,
University of Bucharest, Romania**

Our presentation investigates the quality of subtitles produced by 14 students enrolled in the Master's programme "Applied Russian Language. Translation Techniques" at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest, as part of an audiovisual translation seminar. The source text is a Euronews news reel with Russian subtitles, and audio inserts in English (both American and British English), French, German and Modern Greek. The main objective is to conduct an integrated assessment of the subtitles in terms of linguistic accuracy, compliance with technical constraints and appropriateness of the journalistic style, with a focus on the influence of the participants' educational training and the technological tools used (ASR, MT, subtitling software). The study adopts a mixed approach, combining a quantitative analysis of technical and linguistic metrics with qualitative analysis of content, style and segmentation errors. This structure allows for a detailed evaluation of subtitles, identifying both recurring performance patterns and contextual influences related to student experience. The corpus consists of 14 .srt files created with the aid of Subtitle Edit, resulting from a predefined workflow: transcription generation by ASR (Descript, TurboScribe) in the form of preliminary subtitles or raw text, which the students subsequently segmented manually. For translation proper, most students used machine translation followed by post-editing in Romanian.

A Thousand Cranes, Many Titles. “Senbazuru” in European Translations

**Andrea PUTNOKY, Loredana PUNGĂ,
West University of Timișoara, Romania**

This presentation examines how Yasunari Kawabata’s *Senbazuru* has been translated into various European languages between 1956 and 2010, with a focus on the cultural adaptation of its highly connotative Japanese title. Because a title is a reader’s first point of contact with a work, its translation is both crucial and challenging—especially when it is concise, culturally loaded, and only subtly linked to the text itself. *Senbazuru*, a term rich in cultural and symbolic meaning for Japanese readers, poses particular difficulties for translators seeking to recreate its impact in other languages. The analysis draws on Levinson’s title categories and Grice’s maxims to examine translators’ choices, their effects on target audiences, and potential shifts or misunderstandings introduced through adaptation. The translated titles are then grouped according to shared strategies and approaches. Although the study covers only a selection of European languages, it aims to identify broader tendencies in the European reception and re-titling of Kawabata’s *Senbazuru*.

AI, Tennis Players, and the Power of Sports Language Translation

**Mihai Robert RUSU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the landscape of professional tennis by enhancing player performance, coaching strategies, and communication across linguistic boundaries. Through advanced data analytics and biomechanical modeling, AI enables athletes to refine their techniques, anticipate opponents' moves, and prevent injuries. But beyond physical optimization, AI is now entering the realm of sports language translation, bridging gaps between players, coaches, and global audiences. Modern coaching platforms integrate real-time voice translation and sport-specific terminology, allowing multilingual teams to collaborate seamlessly. AI systems trained on tennis-specific vocabulary can interpret feedback like "topspin forehand," "slice serve," or "baseline rally," and deliver accurate translations that preserve tactical nuance. This linguistic precision ensures that coaching insights remain actionable and culturally relevant, regardless of language barriers. By combining intelligent performance tools with contextual language translation, AI empowers tennis players to train smarter, communicate clearer, and compete globally. As the sport continues to internationalize, AI-driven translation will be key to unlocking inclusive, data-rich, and multilingual tennis ecosystems.

The Role of the Legal Translator in Albania

**Irena SKENDO,
“Ismail Qemali” University of Vlore, Albania**

The role of legal translators in Albania is paramount to the country’s legal, administrative, and economic systems. This is especially true given the rise in international movement and the country’s ongoing efforts to join the European Union. This research looks into the functions, responsibilities, and challenges faced by legal translators in Albania. It highlights their skills in both language and law. As certified professionals, they are authorized to translate and interpret for courts, notarial offices, and government agencies. Legal translators ensure that documents maintain accuracy, validity, and legal equivalence across different languages and jurisdictions. The abstract discusses the ethical duties that govern this profession, including confidentiality, fairness, and loyalty to the original text. It also addresses current challenges, such as the need for consistent terminology with EU laws and the requirement for specific legal knowledge. The analysis underscores how important these translators are in linking legal cultures and helping Albania integrate into the broader European legal system.

***Translating Classroom Discourse: Semio-Linguistic Codes
Across Languages***

**Loredana ȘERBĂNOIU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

Codes and their semio-linguistic interpretation in didactic language are central to educational communication and pose significant challenges for translation across languages and cultural contexts. Linguistic, visual, symbolic, and procedural codes mediate meaning between teacher and learner, and translating them requires preserving pedagogical intent, clarity, and accessibility. This paper examines how these codes function, how they shape knowledge transmission, and how their interpretation can be accurately rendered in translation. Adopting a semio-linguistic and translation-oriented perspective, the study highlights the interplay between signs, meanings, and pedagogical intentions, addressing potential misinterpretations arising from culturally or contextually specific codes. By integrating translation considerations into the analysis of didactic discourse, the research underscores the importance of contextual adaptation, conceptual fidelity, and cross-cultural clarity, contributing to more effective teaching, learner engagement, and inclusive pedagogical practice in multilingual educational settings.

The Current Status of Interpreter Training in Romania

**Iasmina VELIMIROVICI, Simona ŞIMON,
West University of Timișoara,
Politehnica University of Timișoara**

The field of interpreting has undergone substantial development in recent decades, with numerous studies highlighting regional specificities. In the 1990s, post-Soviet states faced new requirements for accession to the European Union, which significantly influenced the interpreting market. This article examines interpreting regulations in Romania and their influence on academic training within universities. The Romanian case is contrasted with the British context, where the profession benefits from stronger regulatory frameworks and a well-established institutional history. Findings, derived from an analysis of legal documents, ARACIS and NRPSI standards, as well as curriculum materials, reveal notable gaps and inconsistencies in interpreter training and in their subsequent integration into the Romanian labour market.

How AI is Used in Audiovisual Translation? Checking out AI-Based Subtitling Platforms

**Cristina VARGA,
"Babeş Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania**

AI-based translation is spreading increasingly in many fields of translation, among which audiovisual translation. Since several years, video platforms and social networks have been offering the possibility to add subtitles to video files effortlessly. The aim of this contribution is to evaluate and provide insight into the AI-based subtitling tools currently in use. Based on the premise that AVT in general, and subtitling in particular, are undergoing profound changes, we aim to analyze a number of platforms that use AI in the field of AVT in order to assess whether they are valuable tools for translators and whether they enable them to improve their productivity and work more efficiently. For this purpose, we analyzed several AI-based subtitling platforms which are currently functional and accessible. Our analysis gave us an insight into the main features of these tools and their functioning. One of the first issues of interest relates to the quality of the translation and the limitations of working with AI in AVT. This study aims to provide a more accurate and systematic understanding of AI-based subtitling platforms and is intended for both AVT professionals and teachers and students interested in the latest developments in the field of subtitling.

***Edgar Allan Poe's Translation through the Lens of the
Polysystem Theory. The Romanian Context***

**Mădălina Gabriela VÂLCU,
University of Craiova, Romania**

The present study explores the reception and (re)translation of Edgar Allan Poe's short stories in Romania, utilizing Polysystem Theory as an analytical framework. This approach highlights the dynamic interplay between literary systems, translation flows, and cultural priorities. The research seeks to investigate how Poe's work has been positioned within the Romanian literary polysystem over various historical periods. It posits that shifts in systemic stability and cultural ideology have had a significant impact on his visibility and status in translation. In the theoretical section, we outline the key principles of Polysystem Theory (Even-Zohar 1979, 1990, 2005; Hermans, 1999; Codde, 2003), emphasising their importance for understanding translation as a culturally regulated process. Building on this framework, we reconstruct the timeline of Poe's Romanian (re)translations and identify the primary avenues through which his texts have been integrated into the system. The analysis concentrates on periods of both systemic stability and instability, revealing how Poe's position has shifted between central and peripheral roles. This fluctuation mirrors broader literary and ideological transformations within the Romanian literary, cultural, and social context (Baer, 2007; Pioariu, 2007; Sass, 2019). By mapping these transitions, our study illustrates the extent to which translation has fostered systemic innovation and cultural reconfiguration.

***A Trimalchio of a Book: Translating Binominal Qualitatives
into Romanian***

**Ruxandra VIȘAN, Nadina VIȘAN,
University of Bucharest, Romania**

A productive pattern in both Romance and Germanic (N of an N constructions, see R. Vișan 2003, 2004, 2006, 2013), binominal qualitatives emerge as a frequent occurrence in present-day literary and colloquial discourse. Placed at the interface of historical sociolinguistics and translation studies, the present paper aims to focus on the rendering of binominal qualitatives from Present-Day English into Romanian, taking as a point of reference F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, *The Great Gatsby* (1925) and its Romanian translations (1967-2025). Arguing that Fitzgerald's use of binominal qualitatives is meant to emphasise the expressive juxtaposition of 'old', literary and 'new', colloquial stylistic strategies through which the author critically represents Gatsby as 'a modern Trimalchio', the paper examines the way in which the Romanian translations choose to render these nominal constructions in Present-Day Romanian. As will be shown, the Romanian texts predominantly opt for the undertranslation and explicitation of this expressive juxtaposition, even if the binominal qualitative pattern is an available strategy in Romanian.

English as a Threatening Force? Reassessing the “Killer Language” Debate in EU Institutional Translation

**Titela VÎLCEANU, Teodora FLORICĂ (DRAGOTĂ),
University of Craiova, Romania**

The widespread use of English (as a pivotal, working language) in the European Union has amplified debates surrounding linguistic ascendancy and the potential erosion of Europe’s multilingual fabric. While the EU officially upholds multilingualism and multiculturalism as a core democratic value, the ever-increasing dominance of English in institutional communication, drafting practices and translation workflows raises questions about equity, representation and the long-term vitality of the other EU languages making up the portfolio. In this context, the current paper critically reassesses the “killer language” debate by examining the status and dynamics of English inside and outside the EU bodies, with a particular focus on within EU institutional translation. The paper sets out to investigate the extent to which English shapes conceptual framing and potentially narrows the expressive range of translated texts. The corpus-based analysis further explores how linguistic pressure is mitigated and how compensatory strategies are used to preserve diversity while ensuring institutional clarity. By integrating insights from translation studies and EU language policy, the paper argues that English operates less as an inevitable “killer” and more as a complex, multifunctional force whose impact depends on institutional choices, translator agency, and the evolving politics of multilingualism.

CONTENT

PLENARY LECTURES.....	3
Filling the Silence: Maureen Freely’s Rupture of Orhan Pamuk’s Oedipal Journeys	3
Işıl BAS DE OLIVEIRA, İstinye University, İstanbul, Türkiye	3
The Translator’s Pose: Reflections from the RoTEXTA Project	4
Oana COGEANU-HARAGA, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, Romania	4
Translating Neurodivergence	5
Daria PROTOPODESCU, University of Bucharest, Romania	5
ROUND TABLE	6
Developing Transversal Competences in Translator Training Classes: Experiences and Good Practices	6
Anamaria PREDA, Oana DUȚĂ, University of Craiova, Romania	6
PRESENTATIONS.....	7
From Chop Life to Carpe Diem: The Transcreation of Nigerian Pidgin and Cultural Concepts in Global Media	7
Oziomachukwu AKUNNA AJEMBA, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, Nigeria.....	7
Culture in Motion: Multimodal Approaches to Digital Travel Translation.....	8
Diana APOSTOL, University of Craiova, Romania	8
ESP Meets Creative Translation in Medical Students – A Beautiful Journey	9
Oana BADEA, University of Medicine and Pharmacy Craiova, Romania	9

Translating Ausiàs March with AI: Challenges and Possibilities	10
Oana-Dana BALAȘ, University of Bucharest, Romania	10
“To Read or not to Read like a Translation” – The Difficult Case of Translating Madame Bovary into the English Language	11
Oana BĂLUICĂ, University of Craiova, Romania	11
From Text to Screen: Multimodality and Adaptation in Television Translation	12
Andreea Gabriela BĂRBIERU, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, Romania	12
Some Issues in Technical Translation and Its Application to English for Specific Purposes	13
Iren BOYARKINA, University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy	13
The Nobel Prize Effect on the Worlding of Literature Enabled by Translation	14
Eva Nicoleta BURDUȘEL, “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu, Romania	14
From Text to Sound: Translating and Musicalizing Alberti Alberto's "Ciao" with AI as Creative Partner	15
Adela CATANĂ, Ferdinand I Military Technical Academy, Bucharest, Romania	15
Italo Calvino and Self-Translation. Dwelling on the Pleasant Middle	16
Sorin CIUTACU, West University of Timișoara, Romania.....	16
The European Union's Translation Services: Difficulties and Particularity	17
Andra Simona DIACONU, University of Craiova, Romania	17
Creative Translation and the Translator as Co-Creator: Irina Negrea’s Romanian Version of Toni Morrison’s “Song of Solomon”	19
Georgiana-Elena DILĂ, University of Craiova, Romania.....	19

Translating Southern Gothic into Romanian: The Case of Cormac McCarthy’s Child of God	20
Anda DIMITRIU, University of Bucharest, Romania	20
Creativity as a Translational Imperative: Recasting Rushdie’s Linguistic Hybridity in the Romanian “Midnight’s Children”	21
Adriana DRAGOMIR (BARBU), University of Craiova, Romania	21
War Times, Translation Times. A Case Study - the Ukraine Conflict	23
Nicoleta Corina DRĂGOI (BRALOȘTIȚIANU), University of Craiova, Romania	23
Translating African Literature: Multilingual Realities and Cultural Complexities	24
Edit FAZAKAS, Transilvania University of Brașov, Romania	24
“Memories of My Childhood” in Translation: Rendering Local Flavour through Regional Language Equivalence	25
Crisanda Georgia FĂGĂDAR, University of Craiova, Romania	25
Dance Terminology in Translation: Bridging Theory and Practice	26
Irina Theodora FIRĂNESCU, University of Craiova, Romania	26
Creative Co-Authorship in Ian McEwan’s “Atonement/Ispășire”	27
Mihaela GAVRILĂ, University of Craiova, Romania	27
From University Training to Professional Career: Assessing the Effectiveness of Technical Translation Education in Romania	28
Patricia Cornelia GRIGORAȘ, Daniel DEJICA, Politehnica University of Timișoara, Romania	28

A Cognitive Linguistic Approach to the Translation of English Skin Idioms	29
Ana-Maria HERZAL, Georgiana REISS, University of Craiova, Romania	29
St. O. Iosif, the best translator of Heinrich Heine's lyrics until the First World War	30
Mihaela HRISTEA, "Dimitrie Cantemir" Christian University, Bucharest, Romania.....	30
Employing and deploying AI in subtitling.....	31
Attila IMRE, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania Cluj-Napoca, Romania	31
"From Tea Parties to Talking Rabbits": Representations of English Cultural Elements in Turkish Translations of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland".....	32
Ülkü KÖLEMEN, İstinye University, İstanbul, Türkiye	32
The Use of Resources in Specialised Translation in the Field of Architecture	33
Ioana-Mădălina-Dana LAMBRACHE (RADU), University of Craiova, Romania	33
From Local to Global: Mahasweta Devi through Cultural Translation.....	34
Biswadip MAL, Ujjwal JANA, University of Delhi, India.....	34
G. Baronzi's Romanian Adaptation of Alexandre Dumas père's "Histoire de la Dame pâle" (1849): Points of Divergence from the Source Text	35
Anca Simina MARTIN, "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, Romania	35
Lost in Translation? Exploring Learners' Difficulties in Spanish-French Tourism Texts.....	36
Concepción Martín MARTÍN-MORA, Pablo de Olavide University, Sevilla, Spain	36

Medical Translation at a Crossroads: To Translate or Not?	37
Ionela MIHALE, University of Craiova, Romania	37
Orwell’s Newspeak in 1984 - Between Nouvorba and Neolimba in Two Romanian Translations	38
Lorena-Clara MIHĂEȘ, University of Bucharest, Romania	38
Cultural Resonance and Algorithmic Patterns: (Re)creating Gender Through Hybrid Translation Practices	39
Andrei MOHANU, University of Craiova, Romania	39
Mediating Meaning Beyond Words: Pragmatic Insights for Contemporary Translation Studies	40
Oana-Maria NIȚĂ, Independent Researcher, Romania	40
Creative Translation as a Tool for Curriculum Innovation and Intercultural Dialogue	41
Andrada Oana Maria PAVEL, University of Craiova, Romania	41
Into the very heart of Irishness: A comparative analysis of the Romanian translations of slang terms in "Telemachus" episode from James Joyce's "Ulysses"	42
Alexandra Maria PĂTRAȘCU, University of Craiova, Romania	42
Digital Memes in Education: A Translation-Oriented Perspective	43
Anca PĂUNESCU, Mihaela CHIRIȚESCU, University of Craiova, Romania	43
The Impact of Training Background and Technology Use on Linguistic, Technical, and Stylistic Dimensions of Subtitling	44
Daria PROTOPOESCU, Iuliana TIMOFTE, University of Bucharest, Romania	44
A Thousand Cranes, Many Titles. "Senbazuru" in European Translations	45
Andrea PUTNOKY, Loredana PUNGĂ, West University of Timișoara, Romania	45

AI, Tennis Players, and the Power of Sports Language	
Translation	46
Mihai Robert RUSU, University of Craiova, Romania	46
The Role of the Legal Translator in Albania	47
Irena SKENDO, "Ismail Qemali" University of Vlore, Albania	47
Translating Classroom Discourse: Semio-Linguistic Codes	
Across Languages	48
Loredana ŞERBĂNOIU, University of Craiova, Romania	48
The Current Status of Interpreter Training in Romania	49
Iasmina VELIMIROVICI, Simona ŞIMON, West University of Timișoara, Politehnica University of Timișoara	49
How AI is Used in Audiovisual Translation? Checking out AI- Based Subtitling Platforms	50
Cristina VARGA, "Babeş Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania	50
Edgar Allan Poe's Translation through the Lens of the Polysystem Theory. The Romanian Context	51
Mădălina Gabriela VÂLCU, University of Craiova, Romania ...	51
A Trimalchio of a Book: Translating Binominal Qualitatives into Romanian	52
Ruxandra VIŞAN, Nadina VIŞAN, University of Bucharest, Romania	52
English as a Threatening Force? Reassessing the "Killer Language" Debate in EU Institutional Translation	53
Titela VÎLCEANU, Teodora FLORICĂ (DRAGOTĂ), University of Craiova, Romania	53



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