

LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF RENDERING ENGLISH POLITICAL TERMS IN CONTEMPORARY DISCOURSE

МОВНІ АСПЕКТИ ВІДТВОРЕННЯ АНГЛІЙСЬКИХ ПОЛІТИЧНИХ ТЕРМІНІВ У СУЧАСНОМУ ДИСКУРСІ

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In the era of globalization, political conflicts and mechanisms for their resolution inevitably take on a transnational character, which raises the issue of interlingual and intercultural communication. This work focuses on a comprehensive study of the peculiarities of reproducing English political terms as a fundamental component of international political discourse.

The methodological basis of the study is a synthesis of the theory of narrative types, approaches to assessing the effectiveness of narrative formations, and theoretical concepts of analyzing the translator's position regarding the transmission of the ideological component in translation texts. Particular focus is placed on studying the dynamic nature of English political terminology and the problems arising from the continuous updating of the conceptual system.

The study systematizes the main translation problems that arise when working with political texts, in particular the need to take into account cultural and historical factors, national traditions, and the sociocultural characteristics of language communities. It analyzes the classification of translation transformations as means of logical thinking that ensure the proper interpretation of semantic elements within the language of translation.

Special attention is paid to studying the manipulative possibilities of translating political texts and the dangers associated with literal reproduction of political statements without taking into account the contextual content. The importance of a qualified approach to conveying not only the semantic but also the pragmatic potential of political terms is substantiated.

The results include practical advice for translators of political discourse and define the criteria for professional competence of specialists. Particular attention is paid to the stylistic characteristics of political discourse and the need to develop interdisciplinary skills in translators to ensure effective intercultural dialogue in the context of modern geopolitical conditions.

Key words: political terms, translation, political discourse, translation transformations, English language.

В епоху глобалізації політичні суперечності та механізми їх розв'язання неодмінно набувають транснаціонального характеру, що актуалізує питання міжмовної та міжкультурної комунікації. Представлена робота зосереджена на всебічному вивченні особливостей відтворення англійських політичних термінів як фундаментальної складової міжнародного політичного дискурсу.

Методологічну базу дослідження складає синтез теорії наративних типів, підходів до оцінювання ефективності наративних утворень та теоретичних концепцій аналізу позиції перекладача щодо передачі ідеологічної складової у текстах перекладу. Особливий фокус зроблено на вивченні динамічної природи політичної термінології англійської мови та проблем, що виникають внаслідок безперервного оновлення понятійної системи.

У дослідженні систематизовано головні перекладознавчі проблеми, які постають під час опрацювання політичних текстів, зокрема потреба врахування культурно-історичних чинників, національних традицій та соціокультурних властивостей мовних спільнот. Проаналізовано класифікацію перекладацьких трансформацій як засобів логічного мислення, що забезпечують належну інтерпретацію семантичних елементів у межах мови перекладу.

Окрему увагу приділено вивченню маніпулятивних можливостей перекладу політичних текстів та небезпек, пов'язаних із буквальним відтворенням політичних висловлювань без врахування контекстуального змісту. Обґрунтовано значущість кваліфікованого підходу до передачі не тільки семантичного, але й прагматичного потенціалу політичних термінів.

Отримані результати включають практичні поради для перекладачів політичного дискурсу та визначають критерії професійних компетенцій спеціалістів. Особливу увагу зосереджено на стилістичних характеристиках політичного дискурсу та потребі формування міждисциплінарних умінь у перекладачів для забезпечення ефективного міжкультурного діалогу в контексті сучасних геополітичних умов.

Ключові слова: політичні терміни, переклад, політичний дискурс, перекладацькі трансформації, англійська мова.

Problem setting. In the context of modern globalization, the problem of accurate reproduction of political terms is becoming extremely important. Political conflicts and mechanisms for overcoming them transcend national borders, which inevitably

involves written and oral translation [9, p. 45]. The reproduction of political terminology is a complex, multi-level process that requires an in-depth understanding not only of linguistic constructions, but also of political, cultural, and social contexts.

The significance of the study is determined by the growing importance of international political communication and the need to ensure the accurate transmission of political concepts between different language groups. Political discourse has unique characteristics, which arouses considerable interest in applied linguistics and translation studies [19].

The study of the reproduction of political terms is based on an interdisciplinary approach that combines narrative type theory, narrative effectiveness theory, and theories of translators' attitudes toward reproducing the ideological component in texts. The central role of translation in human culture has long been recognized, since without this activity, cultural communities would face complete isolation.

The aim of the study is to identify specific characteristics of the translation of English political terms and to develop practical recommendations for improving the quality of political discourse translation.

Analysis of recent researches and publications. The intensification of political life, which is currently observed everywhere, entails a growing interest in the problems of political communication, which is confirmed, in particular, by numerous studies of political discourse. Among the studies devoted to the problem of political discourse, the works of R. Boatraite, J. Shaffer, R. A. Popov, I. V. Klymenko, O. N. Parshina, and others can be highlighted. The main question of political discourse analysis is to determine what is political and what is not. In this regard, a review of the literature reveals a wide range of references under the heading of "political discourse." For example, studies of political discourse analyze such diverse settings as monologues, parliamentary debates, diplomatic condolences, press articles, campaign posters, tweets, citizen forums, and even graffiti. Political discourse can be interpreted as "an act of communication used in a formal or informal political context that refers to or describes any political event, organization, or actor. The widely accepted definition of political discourse encompasses all forms of political context, such as parliamentary debates, bills, laws, policies, and regulations issued by the government or its departments, documents from other institutions, political advertising, speeches, and interviews created by political figures. The majority of research on political discourse concerns the texts and conversations of professional politicians or political institutions at the local, national, and international levels. Political discourse has become one of the core elements of international communication [2, p. 154].

The study of political discourse lies at the intersection of various disciplines and involves analyzing

the form, purpose, and content of discourse used in specific ("political") situations. In linguistics, the philosophical problem of the relationship between language and power is studied as a human factor in language and is implemented in practice in the form of discursive and argumentative strategies developed for politicians by their advisors and image makers [11, p. 124]. The most important aspect of discourse, including political discourse, is its communicative and pragmatic sides. Communication involves the presence of a sender (the sender of information); a recipient (the receiver of information); their interaction; the information itself, expressed by certain means (verbal and nonverbal) and presented in certain ways, which is determined by the sender's goal (intention) [11, p. 125].

Scope of the research. Political discourse as a subject of translation is characterized by a number of unique features that create significant difficulties for translators: maximum saturation with specialized political terms; presence of political jargon and slang in oral communication; presence of specific idiomatic constructions and phraseological units; stylistic deviations from general literary standards; intensive use of elliptical structures; clearly regulated use of verbal forms in official documents [8, p. 35].

The semantic space of political discourse texts encompasses three categories of signs: specialized verbal (political terms, anthroponyms), specialized nonverbal (political symbols and signs), and non-specialized signs that have acquired political meaning as a result of their consistent use in the political sphere [20].

A key feature of contemporary political discourse is that politicians often try to conceal their true pragmatic goals by using stylistic means to influence the minds of citizens and voters.

Understanding the essence of a political term is fundamental to effective translation. The term is interpreted as a word or phrase that denotes a concept (object, phenomenon, property, relationship, or process) inherent in the political sphere of public life [1, p. 88]. Political terms differ from commonly used vocabulary in their semantic restrictions and specific meanings.

For effective functioning, political terms must express the systematization of concepts, be semantically neutral, unambiguous and precise, and reflect the essence of the concept [6, p. 215]. The systematic nature of concepts helps to clarify the interrelationship between concepts, increase their semantic clarity, and facilitate their understanding and memorization. In terms formed on the basis of the national language, a distinction can be made between the

direct meaning and the terminological meaning. The direct meaning of a term is formed through the linguistic elements used to create it; the terminological meaning determines the concept expressed by the term. Terms whose direct and terminological meanings correspond correctly orient and emphasize their interrelationship. These terms are capable of expressing the essence of concepts. Terms whose direct and terminological meanings do not correspond to each other belong to a semantically neutral group of terms. Finally, terms whose direct and terminological meanings contradict each other should be considered completely unsatisfactory, as they distort the true connections between concepts, disorient the listener, and have no semantic certainty. The unambiguity of a term also influences its clear semantic characteristics, but since we do not have relevant research in this area, this concept cannot always be applied. Thus, up to 10% of British and American political terms do not even have relative semantic certainty, i.e., certainty in certain political issues. This situation can be explained by the fact that terms are, by their nature, ordinary words and therefore develop according to the general laws of linguistics. The result is the emergence of terminological homonyms, which hinder the normal functioning of political terms in language [13, p. 134].

Based on an analysis of translation practice, all political terms and idioms can be classified into three groups according to the strategies used to convey them:

The first group includes terms that denote concepts with direct equivalents in Ukrainian. Adequacy of translation is achieved through the use of established equivalents, provided that the conceptual content is completely identical.

The second group covers terms denoting concepts of foreign-language reality that are absent in Ukrainian but have generally accepted terminological equivalents. Even terms with incomplete correspondence can function adequately thanks to their established terminological meaning.

The third group contains terms without equivalents – concepts from foreign languages that do not have generally accepted equivalents in Ukrainian. An adequate translation is achieved by creating new terms that must be integrated into the existing system of political terms [14, p. 7].

There are four different ways to choose from among the virtually endless methods available. The first framing method is called temporal and spatial framing and does not involve any changes to the text itself for translation, but achieves its effect by carefully selecting the appropriate text for translation and embedding that text in a temporal and spa-

tial context that emphasizes the narrative it depicts and encourages receptors to establish connections between it and current narratives. This practice is capable of exerting political influence, despite the fact that the events of the source text's narrative may actually be set in a completely different temporal and spatial setting. A particularly common framing technique that arises in connection with the translation of works is the selective appropriation of textual material, which also has possible political undertones. In this case, omissions or additions to the original text are made in order to suppress, emphasize, or elaborate on certain aspects of the narrative encoded in the source text or statement, or aspects of the larger narrative(s) into which it is embedded. On the part of the translator, this act can be conscious or unconscious and may well serve political purposes. Another way of framing is labeling. Labeling in this context refers to the practice of using a lexical element, term, or phrase to identify a person, place, group, event, or any other key element in a narrative, given that such labels embody certain points of view, beliefs, or political commitments of the community [16, p. 346]. The fourth method of framing is called repositioning of participants. This means restructuring the hierarchical positions of the characters in the narrative and the recipients of the narrative by partially changing the sociolinguistic features of the participants' speech and, in part, other features used for linguistic identification and characterization of such participants. This also creates room for political manipulation through translation. The theoretical basis of this takes into account several contextual and intertextual features, and discusses several cases and means of possible political manipulation. We believe that, for the sake of objectivity, the analysis of political manipulation in translated texts should include an accurate and objective definition of the elements of the text that can be manipulated depending on the content, rather than simply providing the social, cultural, and political contexts of these texts as a simple backdrop.

Translation studies analysis of political discourse offers numerous diverse approaches and a wide range of methodologies. This is so true that research methods and results are difficult to compare with each other, which hinders rapid scientific progress in this field. To combat this problem, it is desirable to develop and implement a more unified approach and research methodology. Such an approach and methodology should include social, political, cultural, historical, hermeneutic, and political mass communication contextual characteristics and their interpretation as much as possible and/or relevant. Ultimately, this

can ensure that all contextual features of the creation of political texts, the characteristics and mediated use of the translation of such texts, as well as the interaction of these features are described and analyzed within a single theory, research method, and tool. The actual development, description, and testing of such a theory, method, and tool are to be carried out in the future.

Therefore, it is extremely important to translate political terms and expressions in political texts correctly in contemporary political discourse and to study their essential features in depth. In this study, we see the complexity of the problem and the features of the translation transformations used that can improve translation.

Translation transformations are the main method of professional translation of political texts. In modern linguistics, two main groups of transformations are distinguished: lexical transformations include transliteration, transcription, and calquing. These techniques involve preserving the meaning by borrowing vocabulary or literal translation [5, p. 225].

Grammatical transformations consist in replacing parts of speech or sentence elements, which is caused by differences between the grammatical systems of English and Ukrainian [4, p. 112].

Complex (lexical-grammatical) transformations combine elements of lexical and grammatical changes to achieve translation adequacy.

Analysis of practical material demonstrates the specifics of the application of transformations:

The transformation of addition (explication) is used to emphasize the importance of a question:

Perceived corruption is increasing now → Рівень корумпованості збройних сил зростає з кожним днем

Descriptive translation is used when there are no direct equivalents:

Defence is not immune to the scourage of corruption → Не застрахований від прокляття корупції й військовий сектор

The rearrangement is due to differences in the communicative division of sentences in Ukrainian and English, where the translator places the remnant at the end to emphasize the most important information [12, p. 261].

Studies show that translation can function as a tool for political elites to create a one-sided reality. There are four techniques for influencing the reception of narratives in the translation process:

Temporality represents a subjective interpretation and ordering of the sequence of events in a narrative. Changing the chronological order of events as a

result of translation can have different consequences for the target language text compared to the original [18, p. 132].

Relationality means the interconnectedness of events in a narrative, where the choice of certain lexical units can evoke associations with specific narratives that differ from those inherent in the source language community.

Causality involves assigning meaning to events through their interpretation and moral evaluation, which ensures a certain reading of the story [7, p. 124].

Selective appropriation characterizes conscious or subconscious processes of including some events and excluding others from the final version of the narrative, which can contribute to the creation of biased images [21, p. 250].

An analysis of English political texts reveals specific stylistic features that create additional challenges for the translator: At the lexical level, there is a combination of neutral and bookish vocabulary with terminology and nomenclature units. The use of neologisms, euphemisms, foreign words, metaphors, and idiomatic expressions is characteristic [10, p. 178].

At the grammatical level, there is frequent use of the first person singular and plural to create a sense of unity with the audience, modal verbs to express intentions and demands, and simple and incomplete sentences for better assimilation of information.

Syntactic stylistic devices include exclamatory sentences, rhetorical questions, syntactic parallelism, repetitions, and parallel constructions, which create a special rhythm of speech and ensure an influential effect [15, p. 129].

Politicians use a variety of means to conceal their true intentions: nominalization, ellipsis, metaphoricization, metonymization, inversion to change the stylistic effect, which creates additional difficulties for the translator.

The study identifies several key issues that complicate the translation of political texts: linguistic difficulties include the transmission of colloquial words and expressions, compensation for losses in written translation, discrepancies in grammatical categories, and lexical and morphosyntactic differences between languages [8, p. 42].

Semantic problems are related to the polysemy of terms, the lack of direct equivalents, the possible loss of the author's intention, and the need to take cultural contexts into account.

Pragmatic challenges relate to preserving the communicative effect, conveying implicit meanings, and ensuring adequate impact on the target audience.

To overcome these difficulties, it is recommended to use borrowed translations for political jargon, select equivalents for idioms, apply semantic translation of metaphors, take contextual factors into account when translating acronyms, and use adaptation for political realities [4, p. 62].

Effective translation of political discourse requires the development of appropriate strategies, which include three groups of principles: the basic principles of the translation process, the choice of a general course of action, and the choice of the type and sequence of specific operations [3, p. 49].

Factors determining the choice of strategy include the purpose of translation, the type of text, and the characteristics of the target audience. Framing techniques are of particular importance: temporal and spatial framing, selective appropriation of textual material, marking of key elements, and repositioning of participants [16, p. 346].

Professional requirements for translators of political texts include in-depth knowledge of the political sphere, understanding of the essence of political discussions, knowledge of the cultural characteristics of countries, a large vocabulary,

and the ability to track semantic changes in discourse [10, p. 178].

Despite significant progress in the development of machine translation, the quality of automated systems remains insufficient for the adequate processing of complex political texts. This is due to the need to take into account cultural contexts and complex interrelationships between concepts in different languages [17, p. 202].

Conclusions and prospects of the study. The reproduction of English political terms is a complex, multi-level process that requires not only linguistic knowledge from the translator, but also a deep understanding of political, cultural, and social contexts. Successful translation of political discourse depends on the correct choice of translation strategies, consideration of the manipulative potential of linguistic means, and preservation of the communicative effect of the original.

The main task of the translator remains to achieve maximum adequacy and equivalence of the translation while preserving the pragmatic impact of the text on the target audience. This requires a high level of professionalism and constant improvement of skills in a rapidly changing political environment.

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