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*Applied Sociology in Translation Studies*

*Sociologia aplicada a la traducció*

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2. Wolf, Michaela - [“Translation ‘Going Social’? Challenges to the \(Ivory\) Tower of Babel”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 29-46

The discussion of “turns” or “paradigmatic shifts” which we can witness in the last few years in Translation Studies undoubtedly testifies to the discipline’s increasing establishment and recognition within the scientific community and of the increasing practice of a transdisciplinary research. These shifts also include what has been called the “sociological turn”, which comprises the cluster of questions dealing not only with the networks of agents and agencies and the interplay of their power relations, but also the social discursive practices which mould the translation process and which decisively affect the strategies of a text to be translated.

This paper seeks to foreground some of the reasons which conditioned the upcoming of this “sociological turn” and will critically discuss if we can talk of a “turn” in its own right. A case study on the issue of interpreting in the World Social Forum will illustrate the necessity to broaden both traditional concepts, and, consequently, the domains of teaching and research once we take a shift towards a social perspective on the translatorial activity seriously.

3. Morris, Ruth - [“Court Interpreting 2009: An Undervalued and Misunderstood Profession? Or: Will Justice Speak?”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 47-79

The article addresses a number of topical issues relating to court interpreting. After examining a number of issues discussed among US interpreters in July 2009, it considers the provision of court interpreting in a number of different English-speaking jurisdictions, including the position of agencies. It presents the cost of a lack of judicial awareness of the issues involved in providing competent interpreting in legal proceedings, and looks at how rare languages are dealt with in the United States. It examines best practice and how this can quickly turn into worst practice. It considers the situation in Canada’s Province of Ontario, where a class action has been brought against the Ministry of the Attorney General for failing to provide competent interpreting services. The discussion poses a number of questions, and considers whether court interpreting is condemned to be an undervalued and misunderstood profession in many jurisdictions, or whether there is reason to hope for improvement.

4. Angelelli, Claudia V. - [“A Glimpse into the Socialization of Bilingual Youngsters as Interpreters: The Case of Latino Bilinguals Brokering Communication for their Families and Immediate Communities”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 81-96

Work on bilinguals who act as family interpreters, while not focused particularly on the development of translation and interpreting abilities, contributes to our understanding of life experiences of the individuals who begin to interpret early in their lives (Valdés and Angelelli 2003). With some exceptions (Harris 1977, 1978, 1980, 1992; Toury 1984, 1995) very little has been written about the lived experiences of young interpreters and/or about their socialization as family interpreters. Since most of the community interpreters of today were interpreters in their late childhood and adolescence, getting a glimpse into their lives and experiences may help researchers (and teachers of interpreting) understand the *habitus* and ideology of these individuals who later may populate interpreting classrooms and workplaces. This paper explores some of their experiences and perceptions as well as the controversies surrounding their role. The paper ends with some suggestions for incorporating coursework on translation and interpreting at high school levels.

5. Valero Garcés, Carmen & Laura Gauthier Blasi - [“Bourdieu y la traducción e interpretación en los servicios públicos. Hacia una teoría social”](#) - ([Spanish](#) and [English](#) versions) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 97-117

Within Translation Studies (TS), Public Service Interpreting and Translation (PSIT) is a relatively recent area (Critical Link 1995) still fighting for academic and professional recognition inside and outside the limits of that discipline. The growing interest in PSIT is undoubtedly linked to the migration phenomenon and the intervention of intermediaries (interpreters and translators) who make communication possible is generally recognised. But the controversy about the role(s) these intermediaries have to perform in public services seems to be one of the main difficulties to obtain academic and institutional acceptance and recognition. Following the influence of Bourdieu’s social theory in certain areas of TS (Simeoni 1998; Heilbron and Sapiro 2002; Inghilleri 2003, 2005), it is our intention to apply the basic concepts of his theory (*habitus*, *field*, *illusion* and *symbolic capital*) to PSIT in an attempt to explain the performance of these ‘visible’ interpreters. New areas of research in the development of a sociological theory of PSIT will also be suggested.

6. Gouanvic, Jean-Marc - [“Outline of a Sociology of Translation Informed by the Ideas of Pierre Bourdieu”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 1119-129

In this article I put forward a sociology of translation informed by the ideas of Pierre Bourdieu. Founded on a theory of action, this theory may be defined as a theory of translation practice. Translation practice is examined here through the study of the translation of symbolic goods, specifically American literature into French. The notions of ‘field’, ‘habitus’ and ‘illusio’ are briefly analysed and applied to American literature in French. The habitus of Marcel Duhamel and Maurice-Edgar Coindreau are examined, as well as the illusio specific to the science-fiction field. Bourdieusian sociology serves as a foundation for raising questions that are often discussed in translation studies but not dealt with in the article – questions of ethics, censorship, resistance, power...

7. Sela-Sheffy, Rakefet - [“‘Stars’ or ‘Professionals’: The Imagined Vocation and Exclusive Knowledge of Translators in Israel”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 131-152

Inquiring into the suspended professionalization of the translation occupation in Israel, this article examines two types of self-presentational discourses and status strategies – that of top literary translators, on the one hand, and that of technical translators, subtitlers and non-elite literary translators, on the other. Analysis of the former is based on several hundreds of profile articles and other reports in the media, which foreground 23 acclaimed translators, while that of the latter is based on interim findings from open-ended interviews with 22 non-elite translation workers (selected from a larger sample accumulated in an ongoing research project; Sela-Sheffy & Shlesinger 2008). Whereas the former show unambiguous use of a *vocational* rhetoric, which includes denial of economic considerations, artistic-like occupational competence and a claim for the role of culture custodians, the latter betray an ambivalent use of this elitist discourse, wavering between embracing and rejecting it. This complex discursive dynamics suggests an artization process which, so I hypothesize, serves as a buffer to professionalization in the field.

8. Bielsa Mialet, Esperança - [“The Sociology of Translation: Outline of an Emerging Field”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp.153-172

This article explores the emerging field of the sociology of translation, focusing especially on two key areas: literary translation and news translation. While literary translation is a major area in translation studies, news translation has until recently received relatively little attention. It is argued that a sociological input to the study of both literary and news translation reveals not only important aspects of the social context in which translation occurs and contributes to a renewed understanding of the field, but also makes translation studies relevant to other disciplines, in particular sociology and globalisation research.

9. Bogic, Anna - [“Uncovering the Hidden Actors with the Help of Latour: The ‘Making’ of \*The Second Sex\*”](#) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 173-192

This paper seeks to respond to current and on-going criticism of the first and only English translation of Simone de Beauvoir’s *Le deuxième sexe*. It reconsiders the translator-publisher dynamic by applying Bruno Latour’s sociological framework in order to arrive at more detailed and comprehensive conclusions. After briefly presenting the publication, reception, and the criticism of the English translation, this paper investigates into the case study with the help of Latour and the letters from the Smith College Archives. The study was based on the reading of historical documents – more than a hundred letters between the translator, Howard M. Parshley, and the publishing house, Alfred A. Knopf. A brief overview of Latour’s Actor-Network Theory (ANT) is presented and then followed by two examples of application of the theoretical framework. The paper concludes by insisting that the involvement of multiple actors and their influence on translation products should receive more attention when considering the work of translators.

10. Fernández, Fruela - [“La traducción literaria y la brecha de paralaje. Reflexiones a partir de un cuestionario piloto”](#) - (Spanish and English versions) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 193-215

Historically, social research has alternated between conceptual opposites that social constructionism tries to reconcile. By analyzing the issues raised and responses given to a pilot questionnaire completed by literary translators, this article discusses approaches that could be applied to sociological research in literary translation. Special emphasis is placed on the undefined nature of literary translators as a group and on the usefulness of the “parallax gap” concept (Slavoj Žižek) as a dialectical, interdisciplinary method of analysis.

11. Cabeza i Cáceres, Cristóbal - "[La multitraduació als estàndards català i valencià: el cas de \*Harry Potter i la pedra filosofal\*](#)" - ([Catalan](#) and [English](#) versions) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 217-247

First of all, a definition of multitranslation is given and a selective classification of the main multitranslated products in Catalan is offered. After that, multitranslation is contextualised within the sociology of translation. Then the polysystem of Catalan translation is analysed together with the linguistic, the politicoeconomical and the communicative-cultural cosystems which influence multitranslation. Next, I present the multitranslation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* into Valencian and a comparative analysis of both the Catalan and the Valencian versions. Then, I review the reception of the Valencian version in the academic and literary spheres. Finally, the relations among the different cosystems are defined with regards to Catalan multitranslation, and the translation policy and the textual-linguistic norms are defined for the case study.

12. Córdoba Serrano, María Sierra - "[Translation as a Measure of Literary Domination: The Case of Quebec Literature Translated in Spain \(1975-2004\)](#)" - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 249-281

Recent literary manifestos claim that "the center is no longer the center" (*Le Devoir* 2007). Indeed, it is generally admitted that Quebec literature has been more or less independent from the French field since the 1970's. However, the analysis of the translation of this literature –its international circulation, and the almost compulsory stopover in France before being selected for translation by the agents of other literary fields– reveals various mechanisms through which the French symbolic center still exerts its power. Drawing on the application of Pierre Bourdieu's sociology of culture to the international space (Casanova 1999; Sapiro 2007, 2008; etc.), this article argues that translation could be considered as the ultimate variable when testing literary domination, especially in the case of peripheral fields claiming independence. I will illustrate this through the case of Quebec literature translated in Spain (into Spanish and Catalan) between 1975 and 2004.

13. Diaz Fouces, Oscar - "[Planificació \(eco\)lingüística i gestió dels intercanvis lingüístics](#)" - ([Catalan](#) and [English](#) versions) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 283-313

The author presents a range of policies aimed at maintaining the integrity of the ecolinguistic spaces related to translation, language teaching, to the exchange of cultural products and, in general, to the management of linguistic interchanges.

14. Kuznik, Anna; Amparo Hurtado Albir & Anna Espinal Berenguer - "[El uso de la encuesta de tipo social en traductología. Características metodológicas](#)" - ([Spanish](#) and [English](#) versions) - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 315-344

Translation is an activity carried out by professionals – in some cases after a period of formal training – who are employed or self-employed, and whose work is destined for translation users. Translators, translator trainees, employers of translators, and translation users are four clearly defined social groups within the translation industry that may be the subject of study using one of the methods most frequently used within the field of social sciences: the social survey.

This paper presents the characteristics of social survey methodology. The use of social surveys in the field of Translation Studies when preparing to introduce changes in academic curricula, defining professional competencies, or obtaining opinions regarding the quality of interpreting and subtitling is analysed and evaluated.

15. Tyulenev, Sergey - "[Is Translation an Autopoietic System?](#)" - *MonTI 2* (2010), pp. 345-371

Translation is analyzed from the standpoint of its systemic properties. Translation is shown to have the capacity to observe itself and its difference from the environment. Observation being a major autopoietic factor, translation may be considered as an autopoietic system. Doubts about this hypothesis arise because of the peculiarities of communicative properties of translation. Translation plays the role of the mediating party in complex translation communication events and its communicative behavior is 'defective' in that translation does not act upon source messages because its communicative function is passing messages on to the target party. As a system, translation may be studied against the background of its environment and be compared with other social systems. It may also be viewed as a subsystem within larger social formations. Although, as a mediator by nature, translation thrives on structural couplings and interpenetrations with other systems, thereby manifesting its exceptional interactional openness, it nonetheless constitutes an operational closure with its own first- and second-order observations.

Further information at: <http://www.ua.es/en/dpto/trad.int/publicaciones/index.html>