THE IMPACT OF TRANSLATION ON DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATION

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Modern international relations cover all new spheres of communication, including those areas that have traditionally been considered intra-national. The study of diplomatic communication from the standpoint of linguistic understanding of a diplomatic document, from the point of view of strategic communication, the study of language means of modern diplomacy allow us to consider additional aspects of the process of functioning of international cooperation. The analysis of discourse at the present stage of development of science acquires an interdisciplinary character; various aspects of discourse with a change of perspective towards the strategic generation and functioning of discourse, its volume are studied.Present short study is dealing with the languages used for diplomatic purposes throughout the history and at present, and concentrates on the different ways for solving the question of language-related understanding between the actors of diplomacy. Since one of the most commonly used methods is the employment of translators and interpreters, this writing is mainly dedicated to the issues concerning translation and interpretation in diplomatic context.

Key wordstranslation strategy, diplomatic discourse, comparative analysis, models of complex analysis.

Translation is a multidimensional and multifaceted process determined by the System and norm of the two languages, the two cultures, the two communicative situations (the primary and the secondary), the referential situation, the functional parameters of the source text and the translation norm. The conflict between the determinantsis mirrored in the 'paradoxes of translation'. The interdisciplinary status of translation studies, their close links with contrastive and text linguistics, socio- and psycholinguistics and semiotics, arise from the very nature of translation as not only a speech act but also an act of cross-cultural communication. Linguistic and extra linguistic determinants of translation form a series of filters underlying the strategy of decision making. A major role is played by presuppositions and implications based on background knowledge. A semiotic typology of equivalence levels with the primacy of the pragmatic level of equivalence over the semantic — compo- mental and referential — sub-levels could be supplemented by a functional typology based on the functional dominants of a text. As distinguished from equivalence based on the reproduction of the communicative effect, adequacy stresses adaptation to factors arising from the secondary situation. While equivalence regards translation as a result, adequacy tends to view it as a process. Translatabilityis treated as a relative concept. Essential translatability recognizes the possibility of partial losses not affecting the major elements of a text. Distinctionis drawn between the translat-ability of text elements and that of whole texts. In the course of translation linguistic meanings are variables. It is the sense determined by the context and the Situation that re-mains invariant. The context and the situation make it possible to neutralize the difference between non-identical meanings and use the latter to convey the same sense. The componential sub-level of semantic equivalence is characterized by structural transformations changing the formal structure of an utterance while the set of seems constituting its sense remains unchanged. These transformations include changes in the morphological structure, use of syntactic devices instead of morphological ones, changes in the syntactic structure, replacement of grammatical devices by lexico - phraseological ones.

At the referential sub-level the motive forces are the selectivity of languages vis-a-vis the features of the extra linguistic world, differences in the structure of semantic fields, in the semantic interpretation of the referential situation, in the modes of presenting the functional sentence perspective, etc. The basic types of transformations are hyeronymic, hyponimic, interhyponimic, synechdochal, metonymic, metaphoric, etc.The pragmatic factors include communicative intention, orientation towards the receptor and the translator's personality. The transformations are replacement, addition, omission, explanatory translation and compensation. The problems of text linguistics relevant to translation are primarily those of cohesion and text types. [1].

Diplomacy whose presence in the history of humankind from the very beginning of civilization has been proved by the archeologists is a formal way of communication between the states. Since in most of the cases the various states use different language or even languages in their internal exchanges, the interstate communication usually meets the challenge of having a common language in order to avoid misunderstandings. This common language used for diplomatic purposes is sometimes called 'diplomatic language'. Although most of the diplomatic lexicons and dictionaries mention and explain the notion of diplomatic language, legally, there has never existed such a language. We should accept the explanation of Pitti-Ferrand according to which a diplomatic language is practically the language used by the parties concerned during the actual international negotiations and during the wording of the actual international legal acts (treaties, conventions, agreements etc.). The parties involved have to come to an agreement concerning this languageon the basis of their equality[2].

Diplomatic discourse in the translation strategy

Model of discourse analysis in the "text", "discourse", "communication" is thus to analyze the stylistic, lexical-semantic, syntactic, pragmatic features of diplomatic documents to determine markers of discourse-level linguistic units in the text. The discourse is studied from the standpoint of goals, values and anti-values, chronotope, themes, participants of the discourse, authorship of the text and its targeting, the ratio of the studied texts within the narrative. A comprehensive study of diplomatic communication involves the analysis of its typical properties, functions and strategies.

Communicative strategies are based on procedural rules of discursive behavior of the addressee O. Yokoyama (to make the best possible assessment of the discursive situation) and the addressee (to confirm the receipt of knowledge; to make a correction after there was a miscalculation in the assessment of the situation by the speaker; to accept the impositional assessment of the situation attributed to the addressee). The possibilities of communication development (completion of the discourse, continuation of the discourse in violation of the relevance requirement or continuation of the discourse in compliance with the relevance requirement in order to realize broader communicative intentions), intentionally admitted by the addressee miscalculations and impositions confirm the strategic nature of communication.

Issers from the functional point of view, we have identified the main (semantic / cognitive) and auxiliary communication strategies, defining the target settings corresponding to the strategies and combining them into the following typology:

Target installation: self-presentation, management installation: values, self-expression, communication, persuasion, and constitutive setting for the situation impact on the social aspects of cooperative addressee of the communication discourse Level of the text (the identification and analysis of linguistic features and discursive characteristics of the original text), the discourse level (identification and analysis of the features corresponding to the original text of the discourse), the level of communication (identification and analysis of the functions and typical properties of communication and communication strategies expressed in the source text) form the basis of the application of translation strategies.

When the situation of reality is conditionally unchanged in the process of translation, two groups of strategies are superimposed on this "basis" :

1) translation micro strategies (text level); 2) translation macro strategies (discourse and communication level).

Scheme 1. Typology of translation strategies in the system "text", "discourse", " communication»

The General typology of translation strategies, therefore, includes the following components: General translation strategy (the translator's desire to understand the translated text as fully as possible and find the most accurate correspondence in the translation language); translation hyper strategies (stages of the translation process); translation macro strategies (level of discourse and communication); translation micro strategies (level of text)

In the characteristic of diplomatic discourse, text and communication from the standpoint of strategic translation" the concept of diplomatic discourse (hereinafter DD) is revealed, its constitutive features are considered; the functions and typical properties of diplomatic communication are analyzed. Diplomatic documents as precedent texts of diplomatic discourse are studied: the typology of diplomatic documents is described, the discursive characteristics of the diplomatic text, its stylistic, lexico semantic, syntactic and pragmatic features are analyzed, the corresponding strategies of translation of the diplomatic document are formulated.

Specific institutional characteristics of DD include the desire for cooperation, integration, multilateral, multi-vector nature of interaction and broad information influence. An important feature of the diplomatic discourse is the complex scheme of relations in which the participants of the DD are located.

The analysis of diplomatic documents allowed to reveal the following values of DD: sovereign equality; conscientious fulfillment of the assumed obligations; settlement of international disputes by peaceful means; cooperation; non-interference in internal Affairs of the subject; dynamics, sustainable development; honesty, loyalty, non-categorical, tact, correctness, restraint.

Typical properties of diplomatic communication include ritualism and in formativeness, institutional, esoteric, completeness of information, standard and expressiveness, Dialogic and monologue, intersexuality, explicit and implicit evaluation, tolerance.

The analysis of diplomatic documents allowed to deduce their typology and to define discursive characteristics (authorship, targeting, narrative) of the diplomatic text.

In the framework of the analysis of stylistic and lexical-semantic features of the diplomatic text and the corresponding translation strategies, the following discursive formulas of the DD were identified: nomenclature nominations, clichéd main logical thesis and the introduction of the thesis, stable constructions of various structural types, initial phrases in draft resolutions, standard formulations on procedural issues, signatures, addresses and titles, expressions with a component of imagery

The statistical analysis of lexical and semantic units corresponding to nodal points and expressing the basic values of DD is carried out. The nodal point "war" (6%), traditionally recognized as one of the pillars in diplomatic communication interaction, is the least pronounced in the modern DD, inferior to the concept of «peace "(13%) and significantly inferior to the concept of «cooperation". The priority value of DD can be reduced to the formulation " dynamics, sustainable development» (29%), which corresponds to the specific institutional characteristics of the DD. The quantitative distribution of values, defined by the formulations "sovereign equality, non-interference in the internal Affairs of the subject" (9%) and "honesty, integrity, loyalty" (10%), fully reflects, in our opinion, the principles of interaction of subjects of DD.

Non-categorical, tactfulness, correctness and restraint as values of DD in the statistical calculation of explicitly expressed lexical and semantic units are represented slightly (1%), which indicates an implicit way of expressing these values of DD and confirms the assumption of insincerity of diplomatic communication.

Micro strategies of translation of a diplomatic document should be considered from the standpoint of lexical equivalence in translation. The analysis of diplomatic texts makes it possible to distinguish the following micro strategies: cognitive translation strategy; translation using a hyperonym; translation using a lexical unit with a neutral (less expressive) meaning; translation by the method of cultural substitution;

Translation using borrowing or borrowing with explanation; Translation-paraphrase using binding tokens (including comparison);

Translation-paraphrase using lexemes that are not directly related to the paraphrased unit; modification of the hyperonym, expansion of the meaning of the lexeme of the source language (hereinafter S) in the case of semantically complex lexemes; omission of the lexemes of S in the translation (for example, pleonasms); compensation.

The ways of solving the language issue in diplomacy-related situations

As we have already referred to it, the problems of mutual understanding – at least as for linguistic competences are concerned – can be solved in various ways between diplomats of different nationality and thus possessing different mother tongue. Nevertheless, we have to admit that none of these solutions is perfect. Of course, any diplomat has the free choice of using any of the languages he can speak, especially if he knows his counterpart’s linguistic background. Sometimes even to make the right decision regarding the language use requires a sense of diplomatic approach. In certain cases it might be tactical to choose the language that he can speak not so well. E.g. a diplomat who can speak Hebrew very well might hurt the sensibility of an Arab diplomat by talking to him using that language. At the same time , it’s a sign of good-will, politeness or special respect if someone greets their counterpart in their own language. Many statesman act like this during their visits to foreign countries, just like leaders of diplomatic delegations participating in international conferences, expressing their respect towards the chairman of the event or towards the country in which the conference takes place. His Holiness the polyglot pope

One way of reaching to a consensus is that one of the negotiating parties is willing to use the mother tongue of his homologue, which at the same time might also mean that he accepts having the chance to have some disadvantages during the communication, as the linguistic competence of a second or third language is seldom in match with that of a mother tongue. As a native speaker, one can be much more aware of the ’hidden’, connotative meanings and certain implications of expressions, while in case of a second language these can easily avoid one’s attention. This is also one reason why it is not so simple to find a commonly accepted and acknowledged language in the multilateral diplomacy. [4].

Another possible way of tearing down the language barriers is the mutual acceptance of using a third language which is spoken by none of the participants as a mother tongue. That results in a situation where theoretically none of the negotiating parties can have an unfair advantage concerning the linguistic competence. Of course, this solution also implies that either (or both) of the parties might not have a complete linguistic mastering of the language, and this can also lead to misunderstandings in extreme cases. Still, this is one of the widely used methods in the practice of international diplomatic communication, especially in less formal occasions, such as receptions or other events. (ibid)

The idea of using an artificial, synthetic language, such as Esperanto, in the communication of diplomacy in order to avoid all the complications of the linguistic kind, emerged long time ago; however, even George Mathieu formed his skeptical opinion about the possible success of such a language as early as back in the middle of the 20th century. [5].

A special way of solving the issue of different languages is the employment of translators, people mediating between the communicators. This might happen in two cases: either there's no common language shared by the participants of the communicative situation, or they intentionally don't wish to directly communicate by using a common language. This latter has got nothing to do with the lack of politeness, of course. According to the diplomatic protocol, high ranking statesmen, heads of state should use their mother tongue in certain official occasions, and the use of interpreters is a widely used method in diplomatic negotiations for tactical purposes, as well.

Translators and interpreters in the diplomatic communication

Since the Treaty of Versailles made the use of two official languages instead of only one as a norm to be followed, a new profession had to be invented, that of the official diplomatic interpreters. Of course, the use of translators and interpreters was not a completely new phenomenon, as we have proof of the existence of people in charge of this task throughout the history of mankind. The above-mentioned historical event only led to the systematic special training of the diplomatic translators and interpreters.

As early as in the first meetings between representatives of different tribes (later empires and states), there had been the challenge of understanding the other. Since there were issues to discuss, problems to solve, terms to negotiate, understanding has always been essential, thus finding a way to avoid the language barrier was a question of high significance. For this challenge, the actual leaders had tried to find various solutions. As Takeda, the first step had usually been the employment of the so-called 'heteronymous interpreters' who were chosen from the members of the opposing party, and who were forced or motivated to learn the language of the 'conquerors' so that they can be used as translators or interpreters. However, sooner or later the loyalty and reliability of these 'heteronymous interpreters' had been questioned, and as a shift of paradigm, the attention turned more and more towards using 'autonomous interpreters', i.e. the employment and linguistic (and often diplomatic) training of the states' own professionals. This shift in the tendency has also been detailed dealt with by Lewis who discussed the translating issues of the Middle East in his work. [6].

The function of the employment of interpreters during the multilateral talks and international conferences significantly differs from that during bilateral negotiations. While in the first case the use of interpreters ensure the complete understanding of the speeches, i.e. it is dedicated to avoid the eventual lack of linguistic competence, interpretation in a bilateral situation, especially in diplomatic negotiations, is a much more complex issue with a much wider scale of functions.

One of the advantages of using interpreters during bilateral meetings is that the negotiating parties gain some time for thinking over what they wish to reply, while the interpreter is doing his job. On the other hand, it is possible to observe and analyze the non-verbal elements of communication of the other party, which also might provide information of great importance to the listener. Of course, the employment of translators and interpreters also might have their disadvantages, such as their time consuming character, their cost, and the eventual inadequate or even incorrect way of translation or interpretation.The danger of this latter cannot be avoided even in that case when the translator has a high linguistic competence of both the main language and of the target language, because at the same time he might not be an expert of the specific linguistic register of the issue in question, as we shouldn't forget that the themes of the negotiations can cover the most various fields of issues. A mistakenly or intentionally incorrect translation or interpretation can cause serious harms in diplomatic relations, no wonder that as early as in the medieval Italy a slogan spread to draw a parallel between the translators and the traitors.

The competence of diplomatic translators and interpreters

The aim of translation and interpretation is not the semantic and syntactic transmission of the sentences from one language to another, but to achieve the same effect with the translation as what the original version is supposed to achieve. Communication can be called successful, if we know when, what, to whom and how to say in order to reach a certain goal or effect. For this success in communication, however, an interpreter needs to be aware of the cultural features of the other party.

These cultural features include both linguistic and non-linguistic elements. The above mentioned former Hungarian foreign minister, Miklos mentions a situation in his memoir, when the Hungarian delegation tried to convince the French president about their cause. The head of the delegation spoke first in a very factual way without using any rhetoric phrases, however, his recommendations had immediately been denied. Then the foreign minister himself started to talk, and being aware of the French spirit, of the way how French people use to argue for their right, and of the linguistic register they use to employ he reformulated the same content of the former speech. When he said '*France*' or '*gloire*', he used the same spirited tone as the French usually do. The attitude of the counterpart has gradually changed, and finally he agreed with what was requested, although he had heard the same request twice, only "served in a more French sauce" in the second case.

The different way of thinking, and the different means of expression that characterize the various cultures can also influence the negotiations. When Chairman Mao drew a parallel between Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and the busy swallows who are preparing for the storm, the American politician didn't quite understand the metaphor and the Chinese leader had to explain his meaning. The proper linguistic awareness of cultures, i.e. the significance of the correct approach of the various cultures is also underlined in Hortobagyi's study.

The common knowledge shared by the counterparts forms a basic precondition of the successful negotiations. The verbatim records of Kissinger's talks with the Chinese and Russian leaders give an account of not only covering the actual (and historical) events of the 9 international politics, geopolitical competences, the awareness of the systems of alliances and that of the possible conflicts, the knowledge concerning internal political issues of other states, and the topics of the actual meeting (e.g. questions of disarmament, economic issues), completed by diplomatic protocol issues. It seems that it is also essential for the negotiating parties to know their homologue's background, life and works. Apart from these, the Kissinger records mention conversations regarding historical, philosophical and even linguistic themes.

We have to admit that not all of the participants of the conversations had an equally wide knowledge concerning the above-mentioned topics. However, it was essential that the interpreters could convey the meaning of the speaker in each case. Thus for the sake of success, interpreters need to possess both a wide knowledge of the world in general, and the linguistic register expressing the details of the most various fields. Sometimes it is the interpreter who needs to help out the speaker (even a head of state) in expressing his thoughts in a more exact way.

Mathieu summarizes the qualifications and qualities of a good interpreter as follows: He's required to have "*a knowledge* [sic] *of languages and of as many technical subjects as possible.*"As Mathieu underlines, interpreters can requested to participate in a succession of meetings related to a very wide variety of subjects, such as atomic energy, technical or legal issues, statistics, demographic issues, the regulation of whale hunting, human rights issues etc. For all such issues, it is not even enough the detailed knowledge of the terminology, but the interpreter is also required to be mentally fit to deal with the individual questions, since during the talks he has to face the real experts of these fields.

Of course, the interpreter has to be able to speak in public without the trace of fright or shyness. How large ever the audience is or what important and well-known personality ever his employer is, he has to disregard all these and concentrate on his task without any stage fright. Another required quality towards interpreters is discretion. The people they are working for need to feel safe even at (and after) the most confidential meetings. It's important that they can immediately grasp the meaning of the spoken words. A great presence of mind, a good measure of psychological understanding, a long-lasting ability of concentration etc., these are all essential qualities for a good interpreter. And we already have mentioned the cultural awareness of the counterpart, which is also a basic prerequisite. As Hortobagyi explains it: „*La conscience langagière et la conscience culturelle constituent égalementdeuxfacteurstrèsimportants d'un discoursdiplomatique.*", i.e. the linguistic conscience and the cultural conscience are two equally important factors of a diplomatic discourse. [7].

The difficulties of interpretations

The difficulties of interpreting might be the result of various factors. The speaker might not be a talented orator and in case he's not well prepared for his speech, he might struggle with the ways of expression himself, which also might cause hardships for the interpreter. Especially when the speaker has a tendency of accumulating negatives used within the same sentence, the interpreter might lose count on these and finally he won't know whether it should be expressed in the negative or in the positive. It's quite awkward and not always possible to ask a question to the speaker to clarify his meaning. 10 Sometimes the obscure way of expressing the thoughts gives hard times to the diplomatic interpreters, as in this case they need to decide within a moment, whether it was the speaker's intention to formulate his thoughts in such an obscure way, in which case the translation should reflect the same obscure character, or whether it was accidental, when the interpreter shall make a clear expression of what the speaker wished to share with his audience.

Some of the speakers might have a heavy accent, especially if they deliver their speeches in a second language. But even if we consider the various accents of English spoken in India, Pakistan, in the Arabic countries or by French speakers, we can realize that interpreters can have a lot of hardships when they are not used to these language variations.

It's another difficult moment when the interpreter finds a mistake in the content of the speech, as he has to decide immediately, whether it is to be corrected which might mean losing face of the speaker or not. When political leader, was ceremonially welcomed in Sierra Leone as the president of Bulgaria, the interpreter corrected the mistake without hesitation in his interpretation. [8].

In the history of diplomacy, many intentional mistranslations are also well-known. The reason behind these had varied from provocation to the correction of the text in order to avoid diplomatic conflicts. An instance where the effect of the original text has been modified in order to moderate and to make it acceptable for the receiver was the diplomatic correspondence between the Sultan of the Turkish Empire and Queen Elizabeth I of England which gives account of the fact that the Turkish emperor didn't consider the queen as equal in rank; however, the Italian translation of the sultan's letters reflects the required relationship of a vassal as a true friendship. (Lewis 2001: 22)

When speakers use quotations and references during their speech – especially in simultaneous interpretation –, it is always a source of difficulty for interpreters, all the more so if they haven't been provided with the required reference material in advance, so that they can find the documents from which the orators draw their quotations. [9].

The translation of culturally unique phenomena is also something which might be a source of difficulty when they turn up during a speech. This was a case some years ago when Hungarian head of government Fervency mentioned a Hungarian invention in his speech in Beijing. The name of the invention – just as creative as the invention itself – comes from an old Hungarian word which is mostly known from a fairy tale. Also the interpreter had a hard time when he had to translate it. The politician getting a little upset by his interpreter's lack of linguistic competence repeated the word in Hungarian. The interpreter, however, awkward as it was, replied that he also knows the Hungarian name of the invention.

Although according to Mathieu it is “a general rule that the higher the delegate in rank and reputation, the kinder and more understandable he is in his dealings with interpreters”, this seems to be a reference to the past times. E.g. due to the widespread use of the English language in diplomatic context, George Bush, then President of the United States, even questioned the necessity of his speech’s interpretation into German, and interrupted the interpreter saying “*Everyone speaks English, right?*” It was Chancellor Merkel who asked his patience so that his speech can also be heard in German translation.

It can also be a nightmare for interpreters, when speakers read out their speeches, as in this case they don’t need to think what they say, thus they speak faster, time their pauses in a different way, and usually use a more formal, more bureaucratic way of expression.

Summary

The various languages spoken in the different countries necessitate solutions to bridge the linguistic gap during the interstate exchanges, which challenge had been addressed by the actual political elites in numerous ways throughout the history. Although the requirements of the multilateral communicative situations cannot be compared to those of the bilateral meetings; however, as a rule, the most commonly used method in both cases is the employment of interpreters and translators.

This paper hasn’t dealt with certain questions related to translation and interpretation in diplomatic context, such as the difference between consecutive and simultaneous interpretation, the role and necessity of taking notes during interpretation, from which language to which language to translate etc.; however, we have covered the most important qualities and qualifications of a good interpreter, as well as the difficulties that an interpreter might have to face during his work.

We haven’t mentioned the main differences between the job of the interpreters, who work closely together with the speaker, and the translators, who work alone by recreating a text as its second authors. Also haven’t dealt with the issue of interpreting certain emotions, such as anger, humor, and confidence; nevertheless, dealt with the advantages and disadvantages of employing interpreters, and also covered the theme of heteronymous and autonomous interpreters.

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