



TRANSLATING EUROPE WORKSHOP (online)

„The social role of the translator in peace, war and humanitarian crisis”

Abstract

Short version: The aim of the project is to pioneer a cross-sectional study of the role of the translator in changing geopolitical and social conditions, taking into account the experience gained by translators participating in humanitarian operations for Ukrainian refugees.

Long version: The aim of the project is to pioneer a cross-cutting study of the role of the translator in changing geopolitical and social conditions, taking into account the experiences gained by translators participating in humanitarian operations for refugees from Ukraine. The subject of TEW will be realised in the form of conference lectures, a survey study with a final report, the production of a film for an information campaign and a publication summarising the event. The addressees of the project are translators of various languages, academic staff, students of linguistics and translation studies and representatives of international organisations upholding the law, economy, social welfare and business.

Description and assumptions

TEW "The Role of a Translator in Peace, War and Humanitarian Crisis" is intended to be a cross-cutting and multifaceted study of the role of the translator in changing geopolitical and social conditions. The immediate cause for the discussion of the role of the translator is the conflict in Ukraine. The Polish translation community has responded vividly to the various social needs triggered by the crisis situation, which has made it possible to identify areas of assistance that deserve to be taken seriously when coordinating and providing effective assistance to victims of conflict and humanitarian crises. It proved necessary to take innovative actions in many situations. Current events and the lessons learned from them have also made it possible to identify the needs of translators themselves in crisis situations, to appreciate the role of intersectoral cooperation and to see the need for an interdisciplinary approach to the translation process. In order to adequately present current needs, it is necessary to illustrate the role of the interpreter in a broader context with reference to the interpreter's activity in so-called normal conditions, i.e. "in peacetime". This project will be implemented through the organisation of an international conference, a survey with a final report, the production of a film for an information campaign and the publication of post-conference materials.

The programme of the one-day conference will address issues such as the role of the translator in national and international lawmaking, the role of the interpreter in economic transactions, the role of the interpreter in health protection, the role of the interpreter in access to social welfare, the role of the interpreter in war and humanitarian crises from the perspective of public administration, international organisations, the Ukrainian organisation of translators and



representatives of spontaneous aid actions, areas in which translators themselves need help, and the importance of new technologies in effective aid delivery.

A survey on "The Role of the Translator in Peace, War and Humanitarian Crisis" will be conducted among translators from Poland and Ukraine, representatives of public administration bodies (mainly offices for foreigners' affairs and provincial offices) and humanitarian aid organisations.

The film made as part of the information campaign will be aimed at institutions and NGOs responsible for crisis management. The backbone of the film will be the role of translators in crisis situations, instruction in the proper selection of interpreters for specific situations and the protection of the interests of interpreters.

The conference will be followed by an electronic publication containing articles summarising the conference speeches and the results of the survey.

The addressees of the project are translators of various languages, academic staff, students of linguistics and translation studies, NGOs and representatives of international organisations upholding the law, economy, social welfare and business.

Project partners will be: national and international organisations of translators, an association of translators from Ukraine, specialised national and international organisations recruiting volunteer translators for humanitarian actions, non-governmental organisations universities, including at least two universities belonging to the EMT network.

Estimated number of participants: up to 500 people

Languages of the conference: English, Polish, Ukrainian

Goal(s) of the workshop and its relevance to the TEW project:

- to identify translation needs during humanitarian actions,
- identification of the needs of translators participating in humanitarian actions,
- identification of areas for cross-sectoral cooperation in the translation process,
- the role of new technologies in providing effective assistance to victims of humanitarian crises,
- cooperation of national and international translators organisations,
- cooperation between universities in the EMT network,
- promotion of good translation practices.