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GRAMMATICAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS BASED ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

Summary. The article is devoted to grammatical translation transformations in official documents based on the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union. It considers the role of high-quality translation of legal texts in the context of Ukraine's European integration processes. Continuous sampling was used to examine grammatical transformations in the above-mentioned document.

The European Council's decision to start negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the EU has highlighted the need for professional translation of international cooperation documents, particularly into English. The exacting nature of legal document translation stems from the translator's profound accountability for terminological precision, as the translation may significantly impact both individual legal outcomes and substantial financial interests, necessitating absolute fidelity and clarity in the rendered text. The author analyses the challenges translators face when working with legal texts, including maintaining terminological consistency between the source and target languages, despite possible differences between countries' legal systems. The article emphasises the interdisciplinary approach, which requires the translator's basic knowledge of law, economics and politics. The use of grammatical transformations to achieve adequate and accurate translation is explored. It is emphasised that legal translation is one of the most complex forms of translation activity due to its importance for interstate communication and interaction.

After thoroughly studying the grammatical systems of the English and Ukrainian languages, the author compares the grammatical structures of the Ukrainian and English texts of the Agreement. The quantity of grammatical transformations is as follows: substitution (174), transposition (37), addition (212), and omission (50). The empirical findings suggest that legal texts necessitate terminological consistency in rendering lexical components, compelling translators to implement grammatical transformations with heightened circumspection and judicious restraint.

Key words: translation transformations, grammatical transformations, legal translation, European Union.

Introduction. Ukraine, as a European state aspiring to EU membership, is engaged in close economic, military, political and cultural cooperation with a range of countries, both "Western" and "non-Western", as noted by Pavlo Klimkin [1]. The condition for such cooperation is mutual understanding between countries, a role for which the language of international communication is pivotal. The European Council made a political decision on 14 December 2023 to start negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the European Union.

The proliferation of legal documentation is a direct consequence of the development of foreign policy relations, and these documents must be translated to function effectively in the context of international relations, a field in which Ukraine is currently engaged. The urgency of high-quality translation of international cooperation texts, particularly in English, is increasing, as translation is an essential component of interaction between countries, playing a pivotal role in the modern world. When translating such documents, it is imperative to maintain consistency of terminology between the source text and its translation, despite the inevitable differences arising from the terms' origins and disparities in national legal systems. Ensuring the high-quality translation of international cooperation texts necessitates a proficient translator in both the source and target languages and a grasp of law, economics, and the fundamentals of politics. Translating terminology in international cooperation documents and legal acts is a matter of particular concern, both in theory and translation practice.

The issue of consistency of terminology between the source and target languages is one of the disputes in this research. The requirements for the use of terminology are a cornerstone because of the need to find equivalents and a deep understanding of the processes and realities of the lingua-cultures. The interchange of information between institutions serves as the cornerstone of cooperation, with the linguistic aspect playing a pivotal role in ensuring the adequacy and accuracy of the transmission of legislation and obligations between disparate groups of nations and cultures. The prevalence of various technical means for translation and the challenges of adequate transmission of content and form of the text are significant concerns. Translators employ fundamental strategies, including translation transformations, to preserve the essence and adapt to the target language. These strategies are particularly relevant to the study of translation, as legal translation is recognised as one of the most challenging types of translation, along with medical and financial translation, due to its involvement in human lives and financial transactions.

Legal translation, unlike other forms of translation, is a complex process that involves not just replacing words from the source language to the target language, but also understanding and bridging cultural and legal differences. This meticulous examination of the legal system of the target language and its affiliation to the legal family is a testament to the intellectual challenge and importance of legal translation. The systems use terminology and concepts that are distinct from the prevailing legal system of the country of origin of the source document, necessitating the identification

of equivalent terms that can transcend cultural boundaries, particularly in the context of concepts, procedures, institutions and personnel.

The categorisation of legal translation is further delineated by its function in the source language, falling into the following classifications:

(1) Mainly regulations (codes, contracts, regulations, laws, conventions and treaties, normative legal documents containing rules of conduct or norms); (2) Mainly descriptive, but also prescriptive, such as court decisions and legal instruments used for enforcement, judicial and administrative proceedings, such as lawsuits, applications, inquiries, appeals, motions, etc.; (3) Descriptive, such as scientific works written by legal scholars or law textbooks, articles, etc. When translating legal texts, it is important to pay attention to two key aspects: the correspondence between legal terms and legal concepts in the translation and the adequacy of the terminology used. This contributes to developing the translator's professional competence and deepening his/her knowledge of law.

In contemporary translation studies, multiple approaches are taken to defining translation transformations, which can be broadly understood as the changes in the form and structure of language units that occur during the translation process.

The paper aims at studying grammatical translation transformations in the translation of official documents, specifically the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union.

The object of the research is grammatical transformations in the text of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union.

The subject of the article's application of grammatical translations of the text of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union. **Results and discussions.** Lipisivitskyi M. and Moroz U. emphasise the correlation between the original linguistic expression in the source language and its counterpart in the target language. This is also the process of replacing the form of expression of a certain content with another form in the translation process [2, p. 72–104]. This perspective bears a notable similarity to the second viewpoint – inter-operational re-expression of meaning, as articulated by Diachuk N. and Rushyts V. [3, p. 408].

Translators resort to translation transformations for three main reasons:

1. Discrepancies in the grammatical structures of the source and target languages. Some grammatical categories inherent in one language may be absent in the other, and these categories may possess a divergent scope of meaning or be subdivided in different ways.

2. Discrepancies in the linguistic norms of the source and target languages. A literal translation may preserve the meaning of a statement but violate the norms of the target language, i.e. sound 'wrong'.

Changes in the form and structure of language units to obtain an adequate and accurate translation can be considered translation transformations described by Korunets I. These transformations are revealed as transformations in the translator's work, which aim to transfer from the linguistic units of the original language to the units of the target language in an ascending manner to ensure the adequacy of the translation [4, p. 53–210].

In addition, differences in language usage (i.e. the accepted rules of language use) between the source and target language

communities must be considered. Usage reflects the speech habits and traditions of a particular society regarding the use of language and situational language use [5, p. 104]. Korunets I. notes that transformations may be conditioned by the difference in linguistic means between the target and the source languages, making creating an adequate translation more difficult. It is evident that not all language units require modification, and their meaning, structure, and form remain largely unaltered [4, p. 361]. Translation transformations (e.g., paraphrasing, grammatical substitutions) may result in losing the original text's idiomatic style and linguistic features. However, these alterations facilitate the reproduction of the source text's meaning and essential information following translation standards. Translation encompasses a range of transformations at the syntactic, morphemic, phonetic, lexical and textual levels, in addition to the utilisation of functional and formal correspondences [6, p. 532].

In general, the variety of ways of classifying translation transformations emphasises that each translation is unique and depends on the translation style, where methods and means are chosen according to the specific type of text, language pairs, and the objectives and context of the translation. Thus, translation transformations are the process of converting the linguistic units of the source language into the units of the target language. Experts in translation theory emphasise differences in the translation of texts from one language to another. Such differences can be caused by

- differences have been identified in the synonymous vocabulary of the author and the translator;
- the existence of 'endemic' (local) linguistic means, for example, articles in English that have no specific equivalents in Ukrainian.

Furthermore, interlingual transformation operations involve restructuring source text elements to find an equivalent in the target language [7, p. 89].

Translation transformations can be categorised as stylistic, grammatical, lexical, morphological, or semantic. Depending on the specific objectives of the translation process, they can be applied alone or in combination.

The concept and types of grammatical transformations

Grammatical transformations include **transposition, substitution, omission, and addition** [8, p. 308–314].

To overcome these issues, translation employs grammatical transformations to reproduce the structural aspects of a sentence in accordance with the linguistic norms of the target language. It is widely accepted that translation is unfeasible without grammatical transformations, which encompass sentence rearrangements and various substitutions of language units.

Mishchenko N. posits that for a satisfactory translation of the source language, it is necessary to identify the appropriate lexical items and terms and ascertain grammatical instructions and stylistic features that will correspond to the target language [9].

The grammatical structure of English may differ in terms of number, gender and other grammatical forms and structures in Ukrainian. This discrepancy poses a significant challenge to the translator, who must navigate the complexities of grammatical structures to ensure the fidelity of the original text's meaning in the target language.

Kobyakova I. proposed the following methods for translating attributive subordinate clauses with a joining function from English into Ukrainian: the use of a compound or complex sentence,

sentence splitting, the introduction of an introductory word, and compression. These methods are effective under certain circumstances and help prevent difficulties during translation [10]. Nauhenko and Hordieieva's A. proposal diverges from that of Kobyakova in terms of the categorisation of grammatical transformations, which are based on three different aspects: combining and splitting sentences, substituting grammatical constructions classified them as follows:

- internal division;
- external division;
- internal integration;
- external integration;
- word transposition;
- compensation [11, p. 32].

Maintaining the word order of the target language is vital when translating from Ukrainian into English.

Grammatical transformations in the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union

Following a thorough analysis of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, the frequency of transformations in the translation from English into Ukrainian was determined using continuous sampling. A comparative analysis of the English and Ukrainian texts was then conducted, which identified approximately 473 grammatical units.

The terms used in the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement are analysed for grammatical transformations. The analysis of the agreement's text indicates that the main feature of the identified translation transformations is their focus on preserving the unity of the translated unit's content and form. This makes it possible to reproduce both the formal and semantic components of the lexical unit as accurately as possible.

The text of the Association Agreement between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, on the other hand, is used to analyse grammatical transformations.

According to the analysis of the text of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, the following grammatical transformations are:

- Substitution (36%)

“Each Party shall permit a financial service supplier of the other Party established in the territory of that Party to provide any new financial service of a type similar to those services that the Party would permit its financial service suppliers to provide under its domestic law in like circumstances.” [12, p. 63].

«Кожна Сторона дозволяє постачальникам фінансових послуг іншої Сторони, заснованим на території цієї Сторони, надавати будь-яку нову фінансову послугу, подібну до тих послуг, які ця Сторона дозволила б надавати власним постачальникам фінансових послуг згідно з національним законодавством у подібних умовах» [13, p. 78].

This sentence emphasises the substitution of the words “financial service supplier” in the English version of the Association Agreement and “постачальник фінансових послуг” in the Ukrainian version. In Ukrainian, the emphasis is on who performs the action-noun, while in English, it is directed towards the description of the service provided by the supplier – financial.

- Transpositions (7,84%)

“Dedicated to upholding all the principles and provisions outlined in the United Nations Charter, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), particularly the Helsinki

Final Act of 1975 from the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as the concluding documents of the Madrid and Vienna Conferences...” [12, p. 4].

«Віддані дотриманню всіх принципів і положень, викладених у Статуті Організації Об'єднаних Націй, (ОБСЄ), зокрема Гельсінського Заключного акту 1975 року, а також заключних документів Мадридської та Віденської конференцій....» [13, p. 3].

In the example, 'concluding documents' is mentioned, and the gerund is substituted for by the adjective 'заклучних документів'.

- Additions (44,67%)

“Scope and definitions” [12, p. 52].

«Сфера застосування та визначення термінів» [13, p. 75].

“3. insurance intermediation, such as brokerage and agency” [12, p. 62].

«3. страхове посередництво, зокрема брокерські операції та агентські послуги» [13, p. 76]. In the context of "scope" and "definitions," it is essential to incorporate specific lexical elements during translation. This is particularly evident in cases such as the "scope of the reservation" and the "definitions of terms." For example, the terms "brokerage" and "agency" were translated as "brokerage operations" and "agency services," respectively. Including these words is crucial to ensuring the clarity of the translated text, preventing any potential ambiguity or misunderstanding for the reader in the target language. This approach was adopted to accurately convey the meaning of the original sentence in the target language.

- Omissions (10%)

“(d) exchange rate and interest rate instruments” [12, p. 62].

«(d) курсових та відсоткових інструментів» [13, p. 76].

In the given examples, it is evident that the terms 'foreign exchange' and 'exchange rate and interest rate' have been translated as 'валюта' and 'exchange rate and interest rate instruments'. The translator has opted against incorporating loan translations for 'foreign exchange' and 'exchange rate and interest rate', instead opting for the more literal 'обмін валют' and 'обмінний курс та відсоткова ставка', a choice that has led to enhanced and broader understanding of these terms.

Grammatical transformations are often necessary to ensure an adequate quality of translation. These transformations help preserve the source sentence's semantic meaning while adapting its structure to the grammatical norms of the target language. It is generally accepted that a translation that does not use such transformations is practically impossible.

Grammatical transformations include changing the word order, substituting lexical and grammatical elements, and restructuring the sentence's syntactic structure as a whole. These manipulations facilitate the preservation of the original statement's pragmatic potential, rendering it as natural and comprehensible as possible for the target language speaker. Consequently, grammatical transformations constitute an integral component of the translation process, aiding in the transcendence of linguistic barriers and attaining a high final product standard.

The most common grammatical transformations are substitution (174), addition (212), transposition (37), and omission (50). However, they are less frequent in the contract text due to the specific nature of legal translation, which requires maximum accuracy

and appropriateness combined with the corresponding unambiguity of the original text.

Thus, grammatical transformations – substitution, transposition, addition, omission – are an integral part of an adequate translation, as they ensure grammatical correctness, accurate conveyance of meaning, naturalness and readability of the translated text.

Conclusions. Legal translation is a specific type of professional translation that performs the function of cultural and legal transfer. It involves using a specialised legal language to transfer the legal content of one legal system and cultural environment to another legal system and society for its application. Legal translation is divided into specific subtypes depending on the genre, the communicative purpose, the communication situation, and the status of the source legal text in the target language. Translating legislative texts, particularly European Union acts, is a separate subtype.

In other words, legal translation involves transferring legal concepts, rules, and regulations from one legal reality to another with the help of specialised legal terminology. The nature of the legal text, its purpose, and its status in the target culture determine the specifics of the translation itself. Legislative acts, including those of the European Union, are a special category of such texts.

Translating legal documents is a demanding task for a translator. It requires not only knowledge of foreign languages but also a high level of translation and background (reference) competence, which is the basis of their professional activity. The reason for this is the great responsibility for each translated word, as both human fate and large sums of money may depend on the adequacy and unambiguity of the translation.

Regarding the translation transformations, the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union used by the translators concerned had approximately 473 grammatical transformations. These results indicate that legal texts require uniformity in the interpretation of lexical units, so translators apply grammatical changes in the text (especially the addition or deletion of words) with great sensitivity.

Therefore, the successful translation of legal texts requires bilingual skills, a thorough knowledge of the law, a mastery of specific translation techniques, and the ability to work in a team.

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Рудов Є. Граматичні трансформації в офіційних документах на прикладі угоди про асоціацію між Україною та Європейським Союзом

Анотація. Стаття присвячена граматичним перекладацьким трансформаціям у перекладі офіційних документів на основі Угоди про асоціацію між Україною та Європейським Союзом. Розглядається роль якісного перекладу юридичних текстів у контексті євроінтеграційних процесів України. Для дослідження граматичних трансформацій у вищезгаданому документі було використано метод суцільного вибирання.

Ухвалення Європейською Радою рішення про початок переговорів щодо вступу України до ЄС актуалізувало потребу в професійному перекладі документів міжнародного співробітництва, зокрема англійською мовою. Складність перекладу юридичних документів зумовлена великою відповідальністю перекладача за термінологічну точність, оскільки переклад може суттєво вплинути як на особисті правові наслідки, так і на значні фінансові інтереси, що вимагає абсолютної точності та ясності перекладеного тексту. Автор аналізує виклики, що

постають перед перекладачами при роботі з юридичними текстами, серед яких – збереження термінологічної узгодженості між вихідною та цільовою мовами, попри можливі відмінності між правовими системами країн. Підкреслюється міждисциплінарний підхід, що вимагає від перекладача базових знань у галузі права, економіки та політики. Досліджується застосування граматичних трансформацій для досягнення адекватності та точності перекладу. Наголошується, що юридичний переклад є однією з найскладніших форм перекладацької діяльності через його значення для міждержавної комунікації та взаємодії.

Після ретельного вивчення граматичних систем англійської та української мов було проведено порівняння граматичних структур українського та англійського текстів Угоди. Кількість граматичних трансформацій: заміна (174), перестановка (37), додавання (212) та вилучення (50). Емпіричні дані свідчать про те, що юридичні тексти вимагають термінологічної узгодженості у передачі лексичних компонентів, що спонукає перекладачів застосовувати граматичні трансформації з особливою обачністю та стриманістю.

Ключові слова: перекладацькі трансформації, граматичні трансформації, юридичний переклад, Європейський Союз.