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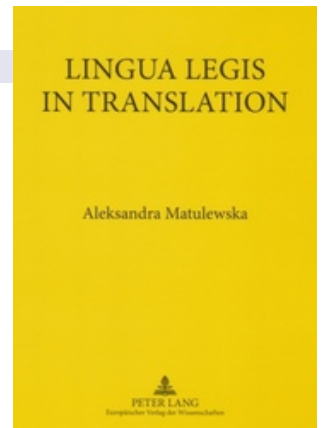
Lingua Legis in Translation

English-Polish and Polish-English Translation of Legal Texts

Frankfurt am Main, Berlin, Bern, Bruxelles, New York, Oxford, Wien, 2007. 324 pp., num. tables

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Book synopsis

This book describes the historical development of the Polish and English *lingua legis*. The intention is to point out the major differences between the legal realities, which significantly affect the process of translation. Secondly, the following characteristic features of *lingua legis*, concerning the level of words and syntagmas, are touched upon: vocabulary used in *lingua legis* including technical and semi-technical terms, conservatism of legal texts (Latin and Latinisms; synonymous strings, archaic adverbs etc.), borrowings, terms with non-precise meanings (the problem of indeterminacy), neologisms, euphemisms, vulgarisms, performative verbs, metaphors and religious elements, prepositional phrases, time expressions, compound nouns and the problems connected with nominalization, false cognates which cause major misunderstandings, and finally methods of providing translation equivalents. The problem of ambivalence is analysed as well. The problems connected with the Polish-English and English-Polish translation of the texts belonging to the following legal genres are examined: university diplomas and certificates, statutes, judgments, law reports, powers of attorney, petitions, contracts and deeds, testaments, birth, death and marriage certificates, and popular fiction.

Contents

Contents: Legal translation – Legal language – Language of the law – Quasi-legal language – Polish-English translation – English-Polish translation – Legal genres – Court translation – History of legal language – Translation strategy.

About the author(s)/editor(s)

of the Polish Association of Translators and Interpreters. The Author: Aleksandra Matulewska has graduated from Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań, Faculty of Modern Languages, Institute of Linguistics (M.A. in linguistics and information science, Ph.D. in general linguistics). She is a translator, a senior university lecturer (teaches LSP translation), and a member of the Polish Association of Translators and Interpreters.

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