TRANSLATING PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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TRANSLATING PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES: *outline*

- **Social sciences; philosophy**
- **Between literary translation and technical tr. ?**
- **Types of knowledge and types of discourse; knowledge and power**
- **Subprojects**
- **Working methods**

Social Sciences and Philosophy

- **Social sciences**: history, sociology, psychology, ethnology, anthropology, women studies
- **Not included in the project (?):** Religion studies, economy, linguistics, translation studies, cultural studies, communication studies, education, pedagogy, political science, international relations, law, criminology, archeology, demography, geography, urbanism/city planning, tourism,

Social sciences and Philosophy

- **Philosophy**: History of ideas/knowledge/ sciences, semiotics, philosophy of language, metaphysics, ontology, aesthetics, logic, political philosophy, ethics, philo. of science, different schools/ traditions/trends (through different periods of time and in different contexts: Aristotelian philo., Chinese philo, Continental philo., Analytical philo., etc.), key philosophers

GENERAL PROBLEMATIC

- Between literary tr. (expressive texts) and technical tr. (informative/operative texts)?
- Cultural theoretical discourse? Essays (structuring and structured "object")
- Tr. social sciences: not halfway between tr. concepts and tr. Style
- Question of legitimacy: Who knows how to translate? Who have the right to translate?

Social Sciences and philosophy: Knowledge and power - 7 issues

1. Knowledge and theoretical discourse

- Notion of domain/area studies; discipline: epistemological and socio-institutional aspects

- Notions of legitimacy and authority; struggle and strategies for discourse control

Social sc. and philo.:
Knowledge and power

2. <u>Terminology</u>

- Term, concept; system/network of concepts
- Old and new concepts; tr. as a vehicule for the travel of seminal concepts
- Moving concepts between cultures, disciplines, authors, or conceptual change in a discipline; Polysemy in philosophy, connotations
- Metaphorization/differences between languages
- How can the epistemological gap between the Russian and English terms be bridged?

Social sc. and philo: Knowledge and power

- **3. Textual composition**

 Rhetoric, logic, coherence, intertextuality

 Norms/conventions/patterns of textual organization; genres

 Contrastive rhetoric; writing issues and intercultural differences

 Non-verbal dimension

Social sc. and philo: Knowledge and power

- **4. Comprehension** (co-construction of meaning, role of the readers)

 Subjectivity, presupposition, assumption, implicit/shared knowledge, expectations

 Paratext: peritext and epitext

 The translator as a reader

Social sc. and philo: Knowledge and power

- **5. <u>Production and movement of thoughts/texts</u>**
- Discourse and scientific communities, schools, trends (sociology of knowldege)
- Process of transfer (selection, procedures): Role of journals, conferences, anthologies
- Function of the publishing houses; copyrights; censorhips; sociology of books
- Transmission: Impact of Info and Communication Technology (ICT); open access; collaborative translation

Social sc. and philo: Knowledge and power

- **6. <u>English as a lingua franca</u>**

 Questions related to linguistic + academic + ideological hegemony

 Illusions of transparency and universality

 Language policy, Translation policy, Publishing policy

Social sc. and philo: Knowledge and power

- **7. Translation, self-translation**

 Translation strategies

 Is there a staged process in the dissemination of foreign knowledge? Paraphrastic stage + scholarly publication (with glosses, annotations, commentaries, etc.) + source-text oriented version (?) – cf. The three "epochs" of tr. according to Goethe ("serviceable prose" version + "parodistic" second phase + interlinear version)

SUBPROJECTS

Each subproject must have:

- a clear problematic and explicit objectives
- research questions and hypotheses
- theoretical/conceptual framework + references to the specialised literature
- methodology (data collection, data analysis, interpretation)
- + schedule, planning
- + key references

SUBPROJECTS

Possible subprojects with social sciences:
- Publishing policy and translation policy
- Self-translation
- Collaborative translation, team work
- Retranslation
- Intertextuality
- Popularization and translation
- Translating questionnaires, tests, etc.
- Reception of classical texts

SUBPROJECTS

- Bibliometric analysis of (papers in sociology from Russian scholars into English)
- Translators' competences in social sciences
- Paratexts in translated texts of social sciences
- Evolutionary stages of translations of a given author
- Translation strategies
- Elements for a genetic criticism
- Toward a history of translations in social sc./philo

SUBPROJECTS

Possible subprojects with philosophy:

Same as in social sciences but referring to a school, a canonical text, a period of time, a pair of languages (from old Greek, Arabic, German, English, French… into Russian and reverse), or an author (from Aritotle, Plato to Descartes, Locke, Kant, Leibniz, Nietzche…and to Heiddeger, Habermas, Deleuze, etc.).

WORKING METHODS

- Work by pairs, small groups
- Presentation of the work in progress (2 groups/session?)
- Book reviews, reports on readings
- Discussing key publications (read by everybody)
- Workshops on specific themes (ex Translating (in) history; translating Kant, etc.)