Multiculturalism and Translation

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Laura Rebeca PRECUP STIEGELBAUER
Universitatea de Vest VasileGoldis, Arad
e-mail: cyp4d@yahoo.com

Elena ALEKSANDROVA
Moscow State Regional Institute of Humanities, Rusia
e-mail: elena_751@mail.ru

Abstract
        Cultural diversity has emerged as a key concern in recent years, however the implications to this term are very different. A number of people see cultural diversity as fundamentally important and positive, as it points to a sharing of the wealth embodied in each of the world's cultures and, accordingly, to the links tying us all in processes of exchange and dialogue via translation. On the other hand, for many others, cultural differences are what cause us to lose sight of our shared humanity and as a result are the root of numerous conflicts, since we can get lost in translation. This second finding is today all the more plausible since globalisation has increased the points of interaction and friction between cultures, giving rise to identity-linked tensions, withdrawals and claims, particularly of each one and other, which can become potential sources of dispute. The essential challenge, therefore, would be to propose a coherent vision of cultural diversity, languages and translations and thereby to clarify how, far from being a threat, it can become beneficial to the action of the international community.

Résume
        La diversité culturelle a émerge come une préoccupation principale dans les derniers années, cependant les théories de cet concept sont très différentes. Beaucoup du gens considèrent la diversité culturelle fondamentalement importante et positive, parce qu'elle conduit à un partage de richesse concrétisé dans chaque des cultures du monde et aussi à cause des liens qui nous connectent dans le procès d'échange du mots et dialogue par le chemin de la traduction. Par contre, pour beaucoup des autres personnes, les différences culturelles sont la chose qui nous influence à perdre l'humanité qu'il faut partager avec les autres, et le résultat sont les débuts de varie conflits, parce que nous pouvons nous perdre dans la traduction. Le fait que nous pouvons faire des erreurs pendant que nous traduisons est aujourd'hui plus vraisemblable parce que la globalisation a fait grandir les points de interaction et friction entre les cultures, et ont cause des tensions rapportées a l'identité, des retraites et demandes, particulièrement faites une à l'autre, qui peut devenir potentielles sources de dispute. Le défi principale serait, donc à proposer une vision cohérente de la diversité culturelle, langage et traductions et de ce fait, à clarifier comment loind'être une menace peut être cette chose, et le dernier mais non le moindre, comment est-ce que ce concept peut devenir bénéficial pour la communauté internationale.

Rezumat

Diversitatea culturală a apărut ca şi o preocupare principală în ultimii ani, cu toate acestea teoriile acestui concept sunt foarte diferite. Mulţi oameni consideră diversitatea culturală ca fiind de o importanţă fundamentală şi pozitivă, deoarece conduce spre un schimb al bogăţie întruchipată în fiecare dintre culturile lumii, de asemenea şi datorită legăturilor care ne adună pe toţi in procesul schimbului de cuvinte şi al dialogului pe calea traducerii. Pe de altă parte, pentru mulţi alţii, diferenţele culturale sunt cele care ne fac să pierdem din vedere umanitatea pe care trebuie să o împărtăşim şi ca urmare a acestui lucru sunt apariţiile numeroaselor conflicte, din moment ce ne putem pierde în traducere. Faptul că putem face greşeli în timp ce traducem este astăzi cu atât mai plauzibil, de când nivelul de globalizare a influenţat punctele de interacţiune şi neînţelegere între culturi, dând curs unor tensiuni legate de identitate, retrageri si revendicări, făcute în mod special unul de la celălalt, care pot deveni sursele principale de dispută. Aşadar, provocarea principală ar fi cea de a propune o viziune coerentă a diversităţii culturale, limbaje şi traduceri şi astfel să se clarifice cât de departe de a fi o ameninţare poate fi acest lucru, şi nu în ultimul rând, cum acest concept poate să devină benefic pentru comunitatea internaţională.

Keywords: *culture, differences, globalisation, translation, challenge*
Mots clé: *culture, différences, globalisation, traduction, défi*
Cuvintecheie: *cultură, diferenţe, globalizare, traducere, provocare*

Introduction

One such engrossing topic within the discipline of literary translation is the way culture cuts across people's behavior and mode of thinking. This one is quite manifest in literary productions where writers willfully or inadvertently unfurl their cultural potential. Arguably, Culture is not of one locus. It is very much strewn and disseminated among people. In fact, it is this generic status which channels it towards *multiculturalism*. By extrapolation, we can say that well-nigh all translators implicated in the transference of cultures from one tops to another pass by an unsettled dilemma. What we intend to run through in the present paper is the survival of English within an immense multicultural world.'Over the past two or three decades, English has come to occupy a singular position among languages. English has become the lingua franca of the global network. It is the dominant international language in many fields'.[1]

The word "culture" addresses some significantly different classifications of human activities: firstly the "personal", whereby we as persons think and function as individuals; secondly the so called "collective", hereby we as entities function in a broader social environment; and last one, the "expressive" here it is the society which expresses itself. Language is just considered a social foundation deprived of which no other social body could function; it consequently reinforces culture and in what it is built upon. [2]

Translation, linking the transposition of thoughts expressed in one unique language by one separate social group into the appropriate expression of another group, involves a three steps process: De-coding, Re-coding and En-coding.

As cultures are increasingly brought into greater contact with one another, multicultural considerations are brought to bear to an ever-increasing degree. Now, how do all these changes influence us when we are trying to comprehend a text before finally translating it? We are not just dealing with words written in a certain time, space and sociopolitical situation; most importantly it is the "cultural" aspect of the text that we should take into account. The process of transfer, for example, re-coding across cultures, should consequently allocate corresponding attributes with reference to the target culture to ensure trustworthiness in the eyes of the other.

Multiculturalism, relates to communities containing multiple cultures. However according to some researchers is only a contemporary phenomenon, but it plays a role here in this paper, because it has had an impact on almost all peoples worldwide as well as on the international relations

emerging from the current new world order. [3] Nonetheless when it comes to the discussion of multiculturalism and diversity, there is a wide range of opinions out there. Probably the biggest controversy that interferes with the issue of diversity is immigration. When it comes to immigration, there are a lot of individuals who are against it. In addition technology advances and produces frequently a hectic lifestyle. Even so countries and their particular ethos have coexisted long time alongside each other, however a assimilation process started and the endpoint is difficult to predict. We are at the starting point of a new international paradigm. Borders, for example within the EU, are disappearing and differences are going astray. The strict lines, that were once characteristics of a nation now fade and become blurry.

Translators are faced with a new challenge, a so far unfamiliar culture that requires that its message to be transported in anything but a familiar way, which used to be when all boarders were still complete. Culture expresses its unconventional behavior in a way that is again "culture-bound"; we have in every culture and language a certain amount of things which are unique to this particular culture, such as: cultural words, proverbs and of course idiomatic expressions, whose origin and use are intrinsically and uniquely bound to the culture concerned.[4] So a cross-cultural translation is called upon, whose accomplishments will depend on the understanding of the translator of the culture he or she is working within.

For that reason the question arises, is it the task of the translator to focus primarily on the source culture or the target culture? But this brings us back to multiculturalism, whereby talking about multiculturalism could present several problems for people including how open they are to things, since diversity plays a major role here. From the time when some people like to think one way and have no desire to listen to the other side of the argument at hand. In addition since the answer is not as clear-cut as it appears in the first instance. On the other hand, the central criterion is the communicative function of the target text and its translation as a result.

Let us take the example of business correspondence here: in business correspondence the translator has to follow the correspondence protocol, however it is commonly seen in the target language. So "Estimado" will become "Dear" in English, "Monsieur" in French and "Dragă/Stimate" in Romanian and a "saludoaUd. atentamente" will become "Sincerely yours" in English, "Veuillezagréer Monsieur, mes sentiments les plus distingués" in French and "Cu respect/Cu stimă" in Romanian.

As a final point, the attention should also been drawn to the fact that surrounded by the variety of translation methodologies, the so called "Integrated Approach" seems to be the most suitable, when we need to take in consideration the phenomenon of globalization and multiculturalism. This methodology keeps an eye on the global pattern in which having a global vision of the text at hand has a primary importance. Such an approach focuses from the macro to the micro level in the agreement with the "Gestalt Principle", which states that an analysis of parts cannot provide an understanding of the whole, in consequence translation are basically troubled with a network of relationships, the importance of individual items being decided by their significance within the broader context: "text", "situation" "original-culture and "target-culture". [5]

Conclusions

To sum up, it can be pointed out that the process of transcoding, where we have the three steps; "de-coding", "re-coding" and "en-coding"? As the word "transcoding" appears here for the first time in this context, one should focus not only on language transfer but most prominently on cultural transposition, since multiculturalism is happening all around us every day and minute, an unavoidable consequence of the previous statement shows that translators must be both bilingual and more importantly bicultural, if not indeed multicultural."The fidelity…was the subject of many writings and brought many translators on the edge of desperation, sometimes pushing them up to craziness, is now de-dramatized by an operation of removal. Fidelity does no longer tie directly the original text to the target-text, and treason is justified by translation strategies that no longer impose compulsory conformity with it."[6]

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