

Preface

The 16th International Conference on Law and Language of the International Academy of Linguistic Law, “Legal Translation, Court Interpreting and Comparative Legilinguistics”, took place at the Adam Mickiewics University, in Poznan, Poland, from 28 to 30 June 2019, in cooperation with the Poznan Institute of Linguistics, the Zhejiang University and Zhejiang Police College.

Many interesting papers were presented during the Conference. The Scientific Committee selected 4 papers for this volume of *Comparative Legilinguistics*.

The first paper, written by Prof. Giovanni Agresti, from France, focuses on the impact of the creation of new administrative regions in France. The creation in France in 2016 of the new region “Occitanie-Pyrénées, Méditerranée”, does not correspond precisely with the historic Pyrénées. It seems that happens in other countries (like in Italy, for example) where historical linguistic minorities are put in a region that comprises also a lot of members of the linguistic majority. So, the linguistic minorities are not only minorities in their country but also in their region. This practice should not be an example for other countries.

The second one, written by Dr. François Côté, from Canada, is a very original paper since the author argues that the legislation of the Province of Québec should be interpreted according the “jus commune” of the province. So, the Charter of French Language of the Province that states that French is the official language of Québec should be reinterpreted by the Supreme Court according the fact that French is the common language of the province. However, the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada that stated that, according Section 133 of The

British North American Act, the languages of legislation and Justice in Québec are French and English (1979 Blaikie case) has not be revisited.

The third paper, written by Dr. Karolina Paluszek, from Poland, is divided in 2 parts. The first part focuses whereby a national court or a party invokes the multilingual character of EU law. The second part is dedicated to the issue of multilingualism in EU case law. Unlike the EU law, the European judicial decision are authentic in certain languages only, the French version being *de facto* the authentic decision.

The author argues that, taking into account cases recently resolved by the CJEU, the statements of the parties or national courts referring to multilingualism do not always have a great influence on the result of the cases. So, the multilingual character of both EU law and case law can lead to misunderstandings both in judicial practice and research.

The fourth paper, written by Dr. Amy Shemy, from Egypt, makes a very interesting analysis of the similarities and differences between German and Egyptian criminal legal systems, particularly in the legal phraseologisms of both legal systems.

Finally, let me say that our next International Conference on Law and Language, the 17th, will take place in Tizi Ouzou, Algeria, in June 2021 (or June 2022, given the actual circumstances) in cooperation with Mouloud Mammeri University.

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