

Preface

This volume of *Comparative Legilinguistics* contains six articles, two of them refer to language and the law, one to forensic linguistics and three deal with legal translation.

The first one, written by Agnieszka DOCZEKALSKA (Poland), titled *Legal multilingualism as a right to remain unilingual – fiction or reality?* touches upon the discrepancies between language versions of European Union legal acts. The author identifies methods applied by the judges of the Court of Justice of the European Union and national courts to deal with such discrepancies. She discusses whether the principle of legal multilingualism guarantees legal certainty and what courts can do to ensure that a right to remain unilingual is observed.

Anna SOBOTA (Poland) analyses whether modern legal drafting implements the revolutionary changes argued for by the plain language movement and whether modern legal texts are made more user-friendly. The corpora for her research were modern legal drafts and selection of American consumer contracts from 2011 and 2012.

Raquel TARANILLA (Spain) elaborates on the genre of Spanish civil and criminal judgments. The author discusses whether those judgments are homogeneous or whether they have any specific linguistic characteristics. She claims that a comprehensive description of the judicial genre of Spanish judgments should include a genre variation relating to both the variant of judicial order and the variant of judicial instance condition.

Joanna GRZYBEK (Poland) presents the Chinese polysemous term 机关 *jīguān* used in the General Principles of the Civil Law of PRC of April 12, 1986 and the Civil Procedure Law of PRC of April 9, 1991. The author investigates translated (English) versions of mentioned statutes and presents English equivalents of the term 机关. She proposes German and Polish equivalents of the term in question taking into account English as an intermediary language. She indicates the necessity to determine the intended meaning of legal terms from the context and establishing constituent features of particular concepts, especially when using the intermediary language.

Ewa KOŚCIAŁKOWSKA-OKONSKA (Poland) compares and analyses the original (English) and the translated (Polish) versions of the Medical Device Directive (93/42/EEC). The author discusses whether the Polish version fully reflects assumed terminological consistency. She argues that the role of the sworn translator is changing to be more active in the institutional sense: to officially inform on and indicate errors, monitor modifications introduced and verify resultant effects through the administrative powers of professional associations.

The last text in the volume written by Joanna SYCZ-OPONÍ focuses on machine translation (MT) technology in the process of professional translation. The author touches upon MT software available on the market that supports the English-Polish language pair, that is to say Google MT and Microsoft MT. She discusses the process of post-editing of MT raw output to verify whether machine translation (MT) technology can be utilized in the process of professional translation.

The editors hope that this volume of our journal will be of interest to its readers.

