

Preface

This volume of *Comparative Legilinguistics* contains four articles and three book reviews. First two articles refer to translation practice and another two refer to vagueness in legal language.

The first article is written by Dariusz Kubacki and Jan Gościński (Poland) and it is titled *What are Sworn Translators punished for? 10 Years of Operation of the Commission for Professional Accountability of Sworn Translators at the Minister of Justice*. The paper presents diligently the operation of the Commission for Professional Accountability of Sworn Translators at the Minister of Justice during the last ten years. The authors touch upon some theoretical issues of the Commission's operation, including legal frames and penalties imposed on sworn translators. Next, in the practical part there are statistic data presented and one can find the quantitative and qualitative analysis of the cases heard at hearings conducted before the Commission. As a results of the data analysis, the authors distinguish different types of infringements committed by sworn translators.

Karolina WANG (Poland) is the author of the second article. She discusses issues referring to the translation of Chinese notarial certificates from the perspective of sworn translation. The author presents some challenges of legal and sworn translation adopting the recommendations of (i) the Sworn Translator's Code issued by the Polish Society of Sworn and Specialized Translators and (ii) the Adequacy Conditions proposed by Roberto Mayoral in the research when focusing on the formal requirements of sworn translation, stylistic adequacy and transliteration of Chinese proper names into Polish.

Vagueness in legal language, and especially vagueness in Polish and American criminal law language, are the main issues of the article written by Katarzyna STREBSKA (Poland). The aim of the author is to present and evaluate some theories of vagueness referring to the language of criminal law. She points out that definitions may be vague themselves and it is a phenomenon which jeopardizes the stability of law and order or makes law more flexible and compliant with the changing *status quo*. The paper includes a relevant analysis of Polish and American legal systems in the light of vagueness of legal language.

The article of Paulina NOWAK-KORCZ (Poland) has the objective to illustrate the phenomenon of polysemy in Polish and French legal languages. The author deals with the definition of polysemy and then focuses her attention on polysemy in legal translation. An important phenomenon which is a distinction between linguistic and legal polysemy (*polysémie linguistique*, *polysémie juridique*) is also presented in the paper.

Marcus GALDIA reviewed the book of Chan Ho Yan, 《两岸三地合约法主要词汇》 *Liang An San Di. Heyuefa Zhongyao Cihui. Key Terms in Contract Law of Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan* edited by the City University of Hong Kong Press in 2014. The reviewed book can be a terminological handbook as Galdia suggests. What is especially valuable about the book is the fact that it presents a juxtaposition of common law and Chinese contract law terminology used in Mainland China, Hong-Kong and Taiwan.

Karolina GORTYCH-MICHALAK reviewed the book of Eleni Panaretou “Legal Discourse” edited in Athens in 2009. The book is a result of synchronic research performed on Greek legal discourse. It is valuable for a few reasons. Firstly, in contrast to many up-to-date publications devoted to Greek legal language, it contains a synchronic approach to Modern Greek legal language. Secondly, the book presents various approaches to statutory texts (communicational, lexical, grammatical and textual ones). Finally, the author presents mutual relation of the law and the language which cannot be separated.

Finally, Aleksandra MATULEWSKA reviewed the book of Heikki E. S. Mattila titled “Comparative Legal Linguistics. Language of Law, Latin and Modern Lingua Francas” edited in Farnham by the Ashgate Publishing Company. Similarly as the first edition, the second one is also a very valuable contribution to legal linguistic. Matulewska points out that Mattila’s approach to legal linguistic research is very meticulous and systematic which makes the book a required reading for all scholars dealing with this field of research.

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