

**Conference report: International conference “Language, Culture and Law – Semiotic Perspectives on Forestry & Hunting «Cultural Value of Hunting». 18th Conference on Translation, Interpreting, LSPs and Cultural Studies”. Obrzycko, 15th–17th June 2023**

Held in Obrzycko, in close proximity to the Noteć Forest and the Warta river valley, the event was a great occasion to appreciate nature and discuss the importance of hunting in various cultures around the world. The conference was also an opportunity to explore the semiotic aspects of language, culture and law, with special emphasis placed on hunting, not only from the cultural perspective, but also from a linguistic one. The event allowed the participants to meticulously analyse and discuss a plethora of aspects concerning hunting LSPs, law and culture and to present their research findings on those subject matters. Following a warm welcome to the participants by the conference committee, a hunting horn concert took place and, after a short break, the first lecture began. Prof. Dariusz Gwiazdowicz from the University of Life Sciences in Poznań stressed the importance of the hunting culture and its centuries-old heritage, often criticised by the opponents of hunting. Prof. Gwiazdowicz also acknowledged the necessity to preserve the culture of hunting, at the same time defining the biggest threats to its development. The second part of the keynote speech was devoted to the history of the Polish hunting language. Prof. Aleksandra Matulewska, affiliated with Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, highlighted the problem of the changing language of hunters over the centuries. Prof. Matulewska stressed the cultural value of the Polish hunting language, which has penetrated into Polish literature. After the keynote speeches, the conference was divided into two parallel sessions – one held in Polish, the other one held in English. The English lecture was given online by Mrs Xiuli Liu from Zhejiang University. She described the conceptual attributes and contextual transmutations of wildlife protection in China since the introduction of an amendment on protecting wild animals. She also described the ways in which legal discourse both mirrors and changes social attitudes and values in China. Lastly, Mrs Liu defined the term “wildlife”, depending on the contexts and discourse systems. Dr hab. Tomasz Samojlik (the Polish Academy of Sciences) and Dr hab. Piotr Daszkiewicz (the National Academy of Sciences) discussed the importance of the Polish Hunting Association in the bison reintroduction process. They listed a multitude of Polish figures that were involved in the process of finding the last representatives of the bison species, such as Jan Sztolcman, Herman Knothe or Janusz Domaniewski. Lastly, the lecture emphasised the engagement of Polish hunters in the process of reintroducing bison in Poland. The English lecture, delivered by Mrs Patrizia Giampieri representing Aston University, focused on the translation of system-specific documents such as the Italian procura alle liti. What is more, Mrs Giampieri addressed the importance of using reference documents in order to perceive discrepancies between source and target legal systems and terminology. Mrs Giampieri came to the conclusion that functional translations should maintain the right balance when it comes to word-for-word renditions extracted from parallel texts.

Krzysztof Kadlec, representing the musical group “Babrzysko” gave a lecture on unknown hunting songs written by Franciszek Ksawery Zaremba. The lecturer described Zaremba as a man of many talents, since he was a composer, organist, conductor and publisher. Zaremba also endeared himself to Polish hunting culture by writing 12 hunting songs, and no one

before him managed to compose so many. The dissemination of Zaremba's achievements was connected with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. Concurrently, Mr Oliver Nowak from Adam Mickiewicz University gave a speech on educational series for children and the presence of translation mistakes in such audio-visual content. The last lecture of the first conference day was delivered by Dr Emilia Wojtasik-Dziekan of Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań. Dr Wojtasik-Dziekan focused on presenting the linguistic and cultural image of the fox in Korea. The presentation was divided into two parts – the first one describing the lexical image, and the second one focusing on the visual image of the fox. The lecture also revealed that the image of the fox was widespread in South Korean popular culture especially in movies. The first conference day ended with a walk in the park at Obrzycko Palace and was followed by a bonfire. The participants were able to admire the beauty of the nature around the Palace and discover some interesting information on its history. The bonfire was a great opportunity to gather and discuss the lectures in detail, and make acquaintances. The second conference day started with a keynote speech presented by Prof. Onorina Botezat of Dimitri Cantemir Cristian University in Romania. Prof. Botezat presented the audience a picture of modern hunting traditions in Romania, as well as with the depiction of hunting in Romanian literature. Romanian literature abounds in information on the language, culture and the heritage of hunters. Furthermore, Professor Botezat emphasised the importance of hunting as a common context for brotherhood, and the disastrous consequences of communist hunting policies on the environment. Unfortunately, due to technical problems the presentation of Professor Guanghua Liu from the Lanzhou University titled "The Image of Hunting and Hunters in Chinese Law" could not be delivered in full. The participants had only the opportunity to listen to a summary of the speech. Dr Andrzej Strózczyński from "The State Forests" gave a speech on the significance of deer antlers in prehistory and modern times. The audience was presented with numerous instances of the use of deer antlers as a material for tools, furniture, jewellery or even medicine. Finally, Dr Strózczyński discussed the symbolism of antlers in literature. The lecture was followed by the speech of Mr Mateusz Moszczyński from the Polish Hunting Association who presented the history of falconry in the times of the first Piast Dynasty. Mr Moszczyński analysed the prestige of falconry, as well as the techniques used to train raptors. Interestingly, the utensils used to train falcons mostly remain unchanged, which is why Mr Moszczyński was able to present some of the utensils during his lecture. Thanks to the development of science, modern falconers are better at caring for the proper welfare of those majestic raptors. The English session, on the other hand, started with a speech by Prof. Le Cheng and Hui Li affiliated with Zhejiang University. They discussed the legal regulations on invasive species in China from the semiotic perspective. The aforementioned regulations were used as a research corpus for the analysis of word frequency and keywords. The results revealed that the majority of the legal expressions on that matter were of a prohibitive and declarative nature. The second speech of the English session was given by Mr Przemysław Kusik from the Polish Association of Sworn and Specialised Translators TEPIS. Mr Kusik provided the audience with his insights on the use of comparative law in legal translations as well as with translation problems. After the lunch break, the first speech of the Polish session was delivered by Doctor Joanna Smoła representing the University of Rzeszów. Dr Smoła analysed the terminology used in Polish and Russian hunting cynology in the areas of training, handling and

schooling. The results show that the terminology is inconsistent in both Polish and Russian sources, and those discrepancies lead to erroneous uses of lexemes. The second lecture was held by Dr Beata Malczewska from the University of the National Education Commission in Kraków. Dr Malczewska juxtaposed Italian and Polish hunting culture terminology. There are numerous Italian lexemes which do not have precise Polish equivalents. Those absences are particularly visible in the names of hunters, hunting places and equipment. The Polish session continued after a brief break with a lecture given by Dr hab. Joanna Kic-Drgas, representing Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań. Dr Kic-Drgas compared the conceptualisation of forest animals in five languages (Polish, German, English, Spanish and Portuguese). She presented a comparison indicating discrepancies in the perception and linguistic depiction of these animals in the languages analysed. The penultimate lecture of the day was delivered by Doctor Izabela Kamińska, affiliated with the Catholic University of Lublin. Dr Kamińska's speech focused on the role of hunting in modern education, and the presence of hunting in children's literature. The last lecture was held by Prof. Kyong-geun Oh representing Adam Mickiewicz University and Prof. Jong-seong Park from the Korea National Open University. The speakers presented myths and legends concerning tigers and also described the hunting and symbolism of the animal in Korean culture. The conference participants also had an opportunity to listen to speeches in the French session. Professors Ramdane Boukherrouf and Noura Tizgiri, (both from Laboratoire d'Aménagement et d'Enseignement de la Langue Amazighe Université Mouloud Mammeri de Tizi-Ouzou in Algeria) discussed the language and culture of hunting in Algeria from the perspective of Algerian law. Two young scholars, Magister Kahina Kaci Ouali and Zakia Daid (from Université Mouloud Mammeri de Tizi-Ouzou in Algeria) discussed semiotic aspects of the language of hunters from Kabul. Doctor Rabah Tabti, also from the same university, talked about the protection of the environment in the Algerian Constitution. Doctor Piotr Pieprzyca (From the Pedagogical University in Kraków) presented the linguistic image of animals in the Polish and French legal systems. Finally, Doctor Paulina Nowak-Korcz (University of Łódź) delivered a speech on the linguistic aspects of hunting district contracts in the Polish and French legal systems. During the last day of the conference, the attendees were able to participate in a session on the cultural value of hunting, or a session devoted to hunting music. The first speech of the cultural value session was given by Dr Hiromasa Igota. Dr Igota gave a speech on the history and current status of game management in Japan. The lecture emphasised the importance of sustainable and responsible hunting, as well as the application of reasonable hunting laws.

Our Lithuanian guests, Doctor Rasa Vaitkevičiūtė and Doctor Gerda Šilingienė from the Vytautas Magnus University delivered a speech on the public image of hunters in Lithuania, and addressed the importance of hunting and the current trends of criticising hunters. They also conducted a broad survey on people's attitudes towards hunting. The results were presented during the lecture, showing that the stereotypes concerning this subject matter could be harmful for the hunting community and hunting itself. Surprisingly, the results of the survey also showed that hunting was no longer perceived as a sport that was reserved only for men.

The last speech of the session was delivered by Doctor Magdalena Stefaniak affiliated with Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań. Dr Stefaniak analysed the French terminology concerning the behaviour of game during hunting with dogs. The analysis mainly focused

on the currently used terminology frequently referring to the tactics used by hunters. The concurrent music session was devoted to Slovakian and Czech hunting music. The first speech of the session was given by Mr Edmund Hatiar and Dr Lucia Blšáková and was devoted to Slovakian hunting music and its origin. The presentation described the most important figures of Slovakian hunting music as well as the instruments used. The following presentation was given by Mr Petr Šeplavý who gave a speech on the life and cultural heritage of Prof. Antonín Dyk, who composed Czech hunting calls in 1936. Those calls form the basis of modern hunting calls. Mr Šeplavý also gave an insight into the system of trumpet training and competitions. The last lecture of the section was given by Dr Petr Vacek who provided some background information on the history of hunting horn playing in the Czech Republic. The conference closing speech delivered by Prof. Matulewska and Prof. Gwiazdowicz officially ended the conference, and after a short discussion the attendees departed Obrzycko. The conference was a very successful international event gathering scholars from three continents. The organisers plan to publish the papers on the cultural value of hunting in a thematic book, and the papers devoted to legal issues in the journal titled *Comparative Legilinguistics*. The next conference will be held from 27 till 29 June 2024. The event is titled the 19th Conference on Translation, Interpreting, LSPs and Cultural Studies and 4th East European Consortium of Korean Studies (Eecks) and the International Conference On East Asian and Korean Studies "Spaces for Change in Law, Language, Literature, History and Cultural Imagination of Asia, Africa and Europe".

**Received:** 25.10.2023; **revised:** 3.11.2023

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<https://doi.org/10.14746/gl.2023.50.2.09>