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**CHALLENGES OF TRANSLATING EUROPEAN
COUNCIL'S CONCLUSIONS INTO LATVIAN
AND SWEDISH**

**IZAICINĀJUMI EIROPADOMES SECINĀJUMU
TULKOŠANĀ LATVIEŠU UN ZVIEDRU
VALODĀ**

MASTER THESIS

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ANOTĀCIJA

Maģistra darba “Izaicinājumi Eiropadomes secinājumu tulkošanā latviešu un zviedru valodā” mērķis ir aprakstīt teorētiskās nostādnes un principus Eiropadomes secinājumu tulkošanā, kā arī noteikt visbiežāk un visretāk lietotās tulkošanas stratēģijas un īpašas pazīmes, kas novērojamas Eiropadomes secinājumu tulkojumos. Maģistra darbu veido četras daļas. Pirmajā daļā ir aplūkotas tulkošanas teorētiskās nostādnes. Darba otrajā daļā tiek iztirzātas īpašas pazīmes saistībā ar tulkojumiem ES institūcijās. Darba trešajā daļā ir aplūkota intervija ar Eiropas Savienības Padomes ģenerālsekretariāta Latviešu valodas tulkošanas nodaļas vadītāju Baibu Aleksejuku, kā arī sākotnējās izpētes rezultāti. Darba ceturto daļu veido Eiropadomes secinājumu un to tulkojumu latviešu un zviedru valodā kontrastīvā analīze, kurā ir aplūkotas praktiskās darba metodes, darba rezultāti un analīze.

Atslēgvārdi: Eiropadome, ES, izaicinājumi, tulkošanas stratēģija, kontrastīvā analīze

ABSTRACT

The aim of this Master thesis is to describe the theoretical concepts and principles of translating European Council's conclusions, as well as to identify the most and least often used translation strategies and peculiarities of European Council's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish. The Master thesis consists of four chapters. The first chapter discusses the translation process in general. The second chapter deals with the peculiarities of translations within EU institutions. The third chapter looks at an interview with Baiba Aleksejuka, Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, as well as the initial research results. The fourth chapter describes the main findings and results of contrastive analysis of European Council's Conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish.

Key words: European Council, EU, challenges, translation strategy, contrastive analysis

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

1.	GSC	The General Secretariat of the Council
2.	EC	European Council
3.	EU	European Union
4.	EN	English
5.	LV	Latvian
6.	SV	Swedish
7.	ST	Source Text
8.	TT	Target Text
9.	SL	Source Language
10.	TL	Target Language
11.	DGT	Directorate-General for Translation
12.	CAT	Computer-Aided Translation
13.	EPSO	European Personnel Selection Office

INTRODUCTION

With European Union's positive attitude towards multilingualism within the union, language dynamics and management of diversity has been analysed according to various points of view, e.g. English as lingua franca in the EU (House, 2003), enhancing the quality of multilingual communication and institutional translation (Ramos, 2018), the EU language policies and practices in general (Krzyżanowski, Wodak, 2010), the dynamics of multilingualism within the EU (Berthoud, Grin, Lüdi, 2013), and European policies for foreign languages (Iakovos, Eleni, 2018). Therefore, it seems to be a popular topic of discussion among researchers, especially when trying to understand the impact of multilingualism on the variety of the English language used within the European Union.

However, the notion of multilingualism is most commonly discussed when analysing a particular field, for example, institutional discourse, legal translation or public discourse. While institutional discourse seems to have gained a lot of popularity in terms of research (e.g. research on European Union and the information society (Goodwin and Spittle, 2002), EU foreign policy (Diez, 2014), and the prospects and challenges of the EU foreign policy (Aydin-Düzgit, 2014)), there seems to be a lack of research on how translation is done in a particular language, apart from the research carried out by Bendegard on translations of EU texts into Swedish (2012). Still, no research has compared the translations into two or more languages. Moreover, the need to research the process and notions of translating EU documents has been expressed by translators working at the General Secretariat of the Council. Therefore, it is important to shine light on this gap in the present research.

The **goal** of the Master thesis is to conduct a contrastive analysis of European Council's (EC's) conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish.

The following **research questions** have been formulated:

1. What affects the translation process of European Council's conclusions?
2. How do EU translation services ensure quality of their translations?
3. What peculiarities can be observed in translations of EU documents?
4. Which translation strategies are most often used when translating EC's conclusions?
5. Which translation strategies are used the least often when translating EC's conclusions?

The following **enabling objectives** have been put forward:

1. to examine the theoretical literature on the general translation approach, focusing on translation theories, text types, translation methods, translation strategies, equivalence and contrastive analysis;

2. to examine the theoretical literature and available information on the translation process within the EU, focusing on the translation process in different EU institutions, translation tools and the translation process at the Language Service of the General Secretariat;
3. to develop a theoretical framework for the empirical part of the present research based on the analysis of theoretical literature;
4. to conduct an interview with the Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and to carry out initial research based on the conclusions drawn from the interview;
5. to develop a corpus and select 58 European Council's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish for the analysis (a total of 174 conclusions);
6. to conduct a contrastive analysis with the focus on how political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon, translation strategies and other aspects are evident in the translations of the EC's conclusions;
7. to process the data, develop a discussion on findings and draw relevant conclusions regarding aspects affecting the translation process of EC's conclusions and the challenges a translator might face during the translation process.

The theoretical background of the thesis is based on the translation theory framework developed by Petrilli (2003), Zauberga (2004), Newmark (1988), and Williams (2013), who have put the focus on defining the concept of translation, as well as translation methods and strategies. The present research applies the seven-translation strategy model developed by Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) to analyse the examples of translation peculiarities evident in the translations of EC's conclusions into Latvian and Swedish and to identify the challenges one might face when translating them. Moreover, based on the theories developed by Johansson (2003) and Bendegard (2012), as well as the initial research results based on the interview with the Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, the actual translation strategies used in the translation of EU texts have been analysed.

The text database (**corpus**) consists of 174 EC's conclusions (58 conclusions per language – English, Latvian and Swedish) prepared and published by the European Council, all of which are available in the public register of the official EU documents.

The theoretical framework has been established by a comparative study of relevant theories, while the observational **research method**, namely, an interview and a comparative analysis of source and target texts, has been applied.

The Master thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter 1 presents the concept of translation in general with the focus on translation theories, methods and strategies, as well as text types, equivalence and contrastive studies. Chapter 2 deals with translations within the EU, describing the translation process and translation tools used within EU institutions, the translation process at the Language Service of the General Secretariat and peculiarities of translating EU documents. Chapter 3 reveals the main conclusions drawn during the interview with Baiba Aleksejuka, Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, as well as the results of initial research, which was conducted based on the conclusions drawn from the interview. Chapter 4 describes the main findings and results of contrastive analysis of EC's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish.

1. TRANSLATION APPROACH

Nowadays analysis of translations in different fields seems to become increasingly topical, especially in terms of both translation and multilingualism within the EU (e.g. Künnecke, 2013; Gazzola, 2016; Kalsone, 2014) and the process of translation in general (Dance, 2014; Koskinen, 2014; Tosi, 2003). The following chapter presents theories on translation, text types, translation strategies and norms (Petrilli, 2003; Newmark, 1977; Williams, 2013; Munday, 2001), as well as the peculiarities of translating documents within the European Union (EU).

1.1 Translation Theories

In general, the term *translation* refers to the transfer of a message or an idea from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL) either in a written or an oral form. It is purposeful, done on behalf of sponsors and has targets and goals (Munday, 2001). Petrilli (2003) also points out that “to translate is neither to “decodify” nor to “re-codify””, even if both are part of the actual translative process.

Several authors have tried to define *translation*:

- “the replacement of a textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL)” (Catford, 1969: 20);
- “translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style” (Nida, 1969: 12);
- “a craft consisting of the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language” (Newmark, 1977: 38).

Interestingly, while the general thought has remained the same, modern definitions of *translation* have come to include not only the overall description of the translation process but also some details. For instance, Williams (2013) insists that any definition of the term *translation* must account for the various translation activities, including:

- recruitment, training and work of interpreters and translators;
- translations for worldwide customer bases;
- fan-subbing;
- the production of multilingual documentation in large institutions (including the EU);

- translation of instructions and user manuals;
- subtitling, surtitles and other forms of audio-visual translation;
- translation as a form of rewriting;
- adaption;
- the use of crowdsourcing to translate, etc.

Similarly, Munday (2001) has also emphasized that *translation* has several meanings and that it can refer to the general subject field, the product or the process. Although the desire to distinguish between translations in terms of their specialization, professionalism or simply part of the translation process under discussion seems understandable (e.g. it might help clients to understand why there might be differences in prices for different types of translations and interpretations), including such details in the definition of *translation* seems rather clumsy.

Moreover, a too specific definition might soon become outdated, considering how the number of translated languages keeps increasing (e.g. in 1951, the EU comprised 7 members, while in 2018 it has 28) and more fields develop (e.g. the IT industry, smart technologies, etc.) where translation is needed. Therefore, although EU documentation is one of the categories proposed in Williams' definition, this paper will be based on the more general definition offered by Darwish (2010), which states that a *translation* is basically “both the process and the result of converting the verbal expression in one language (SL) into an equivalent or counterpart verbal expression in another language (TL)”.

1.2 Text Types

Different types of texts can be categorised in terms of the functions they fulfil. As pointed out by Reiss (1971), in order to create a functionally equivalent text in the target language (TL) next to the text in the source language (SL), it is important for the translator to clarify what are the functions of the SL text. Newmark also notes that the translation process should be started by reading the original text for two purposes: “first, to understand what it is about; second, to analyse it from a “translator's” point of view”, namely determining the intention of the source text (ST) and the way it is written in order to select an appropriate translation method (1988: 11). Munday (2001) describes functional approach by Katherina Reiss, who distinguishes four text types:

- informative texts – texts that present plain facts, information, opinions, etc., content-oriented as the main function is to transmit the information, require precision (e.g. *The Regulation provides a framework for approval of REC for different applications with corresponding environmental performance levels and*

for the identification in Type Approval of those levels. – Regulation No 132 of the Economic Commission for Europe of the United Nations (Online 16));

- expressive texts – mostly fiction and literary texts, author-oriented, require the transfer of both the message and the way it is expressed (e.g. “*Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light.*” – J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (Online 17));
- operative texts – mainly texts that are intended to induce some sort of a behavioural response (e.g. advertisements, brochures, public speeches, etc.), reader-oriented, require the translator to think about the reader of the target text as the reader plays an important role in the implementation of the text function (e.g. *Go ahead, take a sip of Lipton Green Tea, the clearly lighter choice.* (Online 18));
- audiomedial texts – audio-visual materials such as movies and advertisements, texts that require the translator to use more creativity instead of literal translation since texts of this type often supplement the above mentioned three functions with visual images or music (e.g. lyrics of the song “*Been Through*” by EXO – “*You shine like the stars, you light up my heart*” (Online 19)).

Nonetheless, it is important to note that a text may also comprise several features of more than just one text type. These mixed forms might not always appear in their full forms, matching each and every one of the characteristics of the particular text type, and it is also possible that “for a variety of reasons [...] the communicative intention and communicative form cannot be unambiguously adapted to each other” (Reiss, 1971: 164). Examples of such mixed forms could be newspaper articles that express opinions or versified legal texts from the Middle Ages (they were considered acceptable only if their content was presented in a verse form, thus, creating a mixed form between the informative and expressive text type).

In a sense, the texts created by EU institutions belong to the mixed form as well. For instance, the European Council’ (EC) conclusions analysed in this paper both inform the reader about the decisions the EC has made in the particular meeting, as well as put forward objectives that they expect certain actors to fulfil, thus, hoping to induce some sort of a behavioural response, which corresponds to the operative text type.

1.3 Translation Methods

Once the translator has determined the function of the particular source text (ST), it is a lot easier to determine the appropriate translation method. However, before actually applying any of the methods, it is necessary to decide how the translator will approach the text.

According to Zauberga (2004), one can approach a translation either as source-oriented (the translator creates an equivalent text in the target language, basically a close, faithful translation) or target-oriented (the translator renders the ST into the TL according to its purpose, which is assigned by the new communicative situation, basically a free translation). In terms of this explanation, translation methods can be categorized into two groups according to the concept proposed by Newmark (1988: 45).

Table 1.3.1 Source and target-oriented translation methods

Source-oriented methods	Target-oriented methods
Word-for-word translation	Adaption
Literal translation	Free translation
Faithful translation	Idiomatic translation
Semantic translation	Communicative translation

Word-for-word translation is often considered as an interlinear translation, where the TL is immediately below the words of the SL. In this method, the word order of the SL is retained and the words are translated out of context according to their most often used meanings. The main use of this method is either to construct a problematic text in the pre-translation process or to understand the mechanics of the SL.

In *literal translation*, the lexical units are still translated out of context but the grammatical constructions of the SL are converted to their nearest equivalents in the TL. This method may be used in the pre-translation process to indicate any translation problems that need to be solved.

A *faithful translation* means that the translator is attempting to reproduce the exact contextual meaning of the text in the SL within the constraints of the grammatical structures of the TL. Although cultural words are transferred, the degree of grammatical and lexical abnormality is preserved in the translation. This method intends to be faithful to the idea and how it is expressed by the author of the text in the SL.

The difference between a *semantic translation* and a *faithful translation* is the aesthetic value, namely, the natural beauty of the text in the SL. This method compromises on meaning where necessary so that the finished version is not affected by any assonance, word-play or repetition. Furthermore, less important cultural words may be translated by using culturally neutral third or functional terms but certainly not by cultural equivalents. A *semantic translation* is more flexible than a *faithful translation*, as well as it allows more room for the intuitive empathy of the translator with the original.

Newmark considers *adaptation* as a translation method and describes it as the “freest” form of translation, which is mainly used for plays. When applying this method, the

characters, themes and plots are usually preserved, while the culture of the SL is converted to the culture of the TL and the text is rewritten. According to Bastin, adaptation as a translation method may be viewed as “a set of translative operations which results in a text that is not accepted as a translation but is nevertheless recognized as representing a source text of about the same length” (2008: 3).

Free translation basically reproduces the content of the SL without the form of the SL or, in other words, the matter without the manner. This method usually includes paraphrasing, which makes the target text (TT) much longer than the source text (ST). It is often prolix and pretentious, and Newmark has even described it as not a translation at all.

While the *idiomatic translation* reproduces the message of the ST, it also tends to distort some nuances of the meaning by favouring colloquialisms and idioms even in parts of the text where these do not exist in the ST.

Finally, the *communicative translation* attempts to retain the exact contextual meaning of the ST so that both the content and the language are readily acceptable and understandable to the reader.

According to this approach, the EU documentation could be classified as source-oriented and literal translation. This assumption is based on Zaubergas (2004) observation of the full-stop rule and visual equivalence. According to Zauberga, the full-stop rule is a requirement that every translator must observe when translating EU documents: ST and TT must have the same amount of full-stops and one sentence in the ST must match one sentence in the TT. This rule alone clearly opposes the concepts of other translation methods proposed by Newmark. Although the full-stop rule might seem odd, it has been implemented for a reason – as explained in a number of guest lectures, participants of EU meetings follow the discussions by reading sentences part by part. Therefore, it is necessary to make sure that all parties involved are discussing the same part of the sentence and this is achieved via the full-stop rule.

1.4 Translation Strategies

Finally, after determining the necessary translation method and level of equivalence, the translator is also able to identify the parts of the ST that could cause some translation problems, as well as can select the appropriate translation strategies to resolve them.

According to Vinay and Darbelnet, it might seem that there are countless translation methods, procedures and strategies but “they can be condensed to just seven, each one corresponding to a higher degree of complexity” (1958: 84). These translation strategies are:

- borrowing;

- calque;
- literal translation;
- transposition;
- modulation;
- equivalence;
- adaptation (ibid: 85-93).

These translation strategies may be applied to different degrees in terms of syntactic structure, lexis and the message. Of course, a number of these strategies may be applied within the same sentence. Moreover, some translations may undergo a whole complex of methods so that it becomes difficult to actually distinguish them.

Nonetheless, the confusion in the area of adaptation is clearly observed, since Newmark classifies it as a translation method (1988: 45), while Vinay and Darbelnet consider it as a translation strategy (1958: 92). Milton has also noted that the term *adaptation* might include a number of self-explanatory words: “adaptation, appropriation, recontextualization, tradaptation, spinoff, reduction, simplification, condensation, abridgement, special version, reworking, offshoot, transformation, remediation, re-vision” (2010: 3). Furthermore, Sanders has pointed out that adaptation is recognized as the work of the original author despite the fact that it usually may contain rewritings, omissions, sometimes also additions (2006: 26). Considering that adaptation as a method is applied to artistic texts and EU documents do not belong to this text type, adaptation will be considered as a translation strategy in the practical part of the research.

Whether or not it is possible to identify these methods in the EC’s conclusions is one of the aspects to be analysed in the practical part of the paper. However, it is important to note that, for instance, “Swedish translations of EU legal texts do not meet the plain language standards”, which might be true to other languages as well (Bendegard, 2012: 41). Therefore, the main focus of the contrastive study between translations of EC’s conclusions into Latvian and Swedish is equivalence.

1.5 Equivalence

Newmark emphasizes that “the principle of equivalent-effect is the one basic guide-line in translation”, since the translator should produce a text that would have the same effect on the readers as the effect produced by the SL author on the original readers (1995: 132).

Furthermore, Nida proposes two types of equivalence:

- formal equivalence – the main focus is on the message itself in terms of both the form and the content;
- dynamic equivalence – it implies that the relationship between the message of the TT and its reader should be the same as that between the message of the ST and its reader, emphasizing the adaption of grammar, lexicon and cultural references (Nida, 1964: 167-168).

However, Hatim (2001) puts forward a more extended equivalence framework, noting that “translation equivalence may be achieved at any or all of the following levels”:

- formal equivalence – words in the ST and the TT have similar orthographic or phonological features;
- referential or denotative equivalence – words in the ST and the TT refer to the same thing in the real world;
- connotative equivalence – words in the ST and the TT trigger the same or similar associations in the minds of speakers of the two languages;
- text-normative equivalence – words in the ST and the TT are used in the same or similar contexts in their respective languages;
- pragmatic or dynamic equivalence – words in the ST and the TT have the same effect on their respective readers (Hatim, 2001: 28).

While EU documentation seems to match the description of formal equivalence, Zauberga notes that the texts translated within the EU mostly have visual equivalence or follow the sameness format (i.e. both the original and the target text must have the same format in all target languages). However, it is not a strict rule unlike the previously mentioned full-stop rule. How the rule actually looks like in translations of EU documents into different languages is yet to be analysed.

1.6 Contrastive Analysis

One of the areas in which translations have become the subject of research is contrastive analysis, which is “the study of two languages in contrast in an attempt to identify general and specific differences between them” (Munday, 2001). This seems to be the most appropriate method for analysing translations of EC’s conclusions into Latvian and Swedish as the main goal of the thesis is to describe the similarities and differences of the two TTs.

Johansson (2003) points out that the goal of the comparison may vary as previously observed by Johansson and Hofland:

Language comparison is of great interest in a theoretical as well as an applied perspective. It reveals what is general and what is language specific and is therefore

important both for the understanding of language in general and for the study of the individual languages compared (1994: 25).

Thus, one can say that the field of contrastive linguistics is not a unified field of study since the study focus may be on the features specific for a language or the features in general. Furthermore, the study itself may be applied and carry out a specific purpose, or theoretical without any immediate application (Johansson, 2003).

While Johansson notes that one could find a number of problems with the contrastive analysis (e.g. that language learning cannot be understood by a linguistic study), contrastive studies were continued despite the criticism of applied contrastive linguistics, resulting in the broadening of their scope (2003: 32). For instance, a research question of concern for the early contrastive analysis could be “What is the tense system of these languages?” or “What are the verbs of thinking in language X and language Y?”. However, as contrastive studies became more concerned with macro linguistic contrastive analysis, they started to include text linguistics and discourse analysis (James, 1980), meaning that the new research questions could include issues like cohesion or speech acts expressed in certain languages.

As emphasized by Hatim (2001), the resulting contrasting and comparing of two or more languages at various degrees of linguistic description has left an impact on translation studies in two ways. Firstly, contrastive analysis has provided explanations for and solutions to difficulties and problems encountered in the translation process (Nida, 1964). Secondly, it has contributed to the development of various theoretical and practical insights about the translation process, as well as to gathering actual data and specific information (James, 1980).

It is undeniable that corpora have an important role in contrastive analysis, especially with the breakthrough of using computer corpora (Johansson, 2003). Some authors even go as far as to claim that the use of computerized corpora has been the principal reason for the revival of contrastive studies back in the 1990s (Salkie, 1999), while others note that the contrastive method is a useful heuristic tool since it is “capable of throwing valuable light on the characteristic features of the languages contrasted” (Firbas, 1992: 13). Several possibilities offered by multilingual corpora have also been marked by Aijmer and Altenberg:

- “they give new insights into the languages compared”;
- “they can be used for a range of comparative purposes”;
- “they can increase the understanding of language-specific, typological and cultural differences, as well as of universal features”;
- “they illuminate differences between source texts and translations (also, between native and non-native texts)”;

- “they can be used for a number of practical applications (e.g. translation, language teaching and lexicography)” (1996:12).

Johansson has further suggested to divide the types of corpus according to the type of study it is intended for:

- multilingual corpora consisting of original texts and their translations – used for contrastive studies and translation studies;
- multilingual corpora consisting of original texts matched by such criteria as genre, time of compositions, etc. – used for contrastive studies;
- monolingual corpora consisting of both original and translated texts – used for translation studies (1999:38).

Despite the evident opportunities provided by contrastive analysis, no research has been conducted to compare translations of EU documents in different languages. Therefore, a multilingual computerized corpus will be gathered for the analysis, which will consist of original texts of the EC’s conclusions in English and their translations into Latvian and Swedish. The main objective of the contrastive analysis will be to illuminate differences or similarities between the source text and its translations.

1.7 Conclusions

Nowadays the process of translation in general, as well as certain aspects of it in particular areas seem to be a topical issue for research. However, most of currently available research seem to focus more on describing observations and authors’ personal opinions rather than providing a theoretically justified research based on historical translation theories and approaches.

In the context of this paper, a translation is viewed as both the process and the result of converting a message from the SL into an equivalent message in another language TL. In terms of some aspects, it is easy to evaluate EU document translations based on the description. For instance, it is rather clear that the texts created by EU institutions belong to a mixed form of informative and operative text type. Moreover, two significant aspects that affect the translation of EU documents have been identified – visual equivalence and the full-stop rule.

For decades contrastive studies have been conducted for various contrastive purposes, including a number of practical applications (e.g. translation, language teaching and lexicography), as well as to increase the understanding of language-specific, typological and cultural differences, as well as of universal features.

However, despite the fact that theories on the translation process within the EU in general have been developed, no contrastive study has been conducted, actually comparing translations into two languages and analysing the translation peculiarities identified in them. Therefore, a multilingual computerized corpus will be gathered and analysed in the practical part of the thesis with the aim to illuminate differences or similarities between the source text and its translations.

2. TRANSLATION WITHIN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Having grown from six to twenty-eight member countries in the last 67 years and currently having 24 official languages and over 60 indigenous regional and minority languages highlights the importance of multilingualism within the European Union (EU). This is further emphasized by including prohibition against any discrimination based on language and respect for linguistic diversity in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, as well as by affirming the importance of everyone being able to actively participate in all EU processes as a fundamental requirement of EU's democratic legitimacy (DG Interpretation, 2013). Every EU citizen has a right to use any of the official languages (Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish and Swedish) in correspondence with any EU institution and the institution has to reply, using the same language. In order to fulfil this task, the need for translations in all EU languages has been recognized and various EU institutions have established a number of translation services. The following subchapters will briefly describe the main services, translation tools and databases used in the translation process within the EU.

2.1 Translation within EU Institutions

As previously mentioned, several language services have been established for the translation needs of EU institutions. The main EU language services are:

- the Directorate-General for Translation, the in-house translation service of the European Commission and the European Parliament (Online 1, Online 2);
- the Language Service of the General Secretariat, the in-house translation service of the Council of the European Union (Online 3);
- the Translation Centre for the EU institutions (Online 4).

Of course, other EU institutions also have their in-house translators, as well as most of them employ external translation providers. However, these three language services are the biggest services within the EU. For instance, the Directorate-General for Translations (DGT) allegedly employs a staff of approximately 2 500 people. Furthermore, their functions are not limited to the translation of laws, reports, policy papers and other texts for the European Commission, but also include:

- helping the Commission to communicate with EU citizens in all 24 official languages of the EU;

- editing of documents drafted by the Commission;
- counselling other departments on linguistic issues and helping to manage their multilingual websites (Online 1).

In contrast, the Language Service of the General Secretariat does not have all the above mentioned tasks. However, the Language Service seems to have a higher responsibility, considering that the Council of the EU is an essential decision-maker that negotiates and adopts all EU legislative acts, as well as it is involved in policy making and function coordination. Moreover, the staff of around 1 000 people translates more than 1 000 000 pages per year.

As to the third translation institution, the Translation Centre for the EU institutions provides translations to the decentralised EU institutions. Although it might seem to be smaller than the previously mentioned language services, the Centre brings important contribution in such fields as terminology, external translation, resources, administration, etc.

All the named translation service providers fulfil specific needs of the big institutional organisations, which differentiate them from other translation service providers, including the amateur and non-profit sectors (European Commission, 2012). Nonetheless, it is important to also mention the freelance translators and translation bureaus that provide their services to EU institutions. These translations are also referred to as *external* translations (European Commission, 2012). As all EU translation services are focusing on providing high-quality translations, this type of translators is attracted via calls for tender with well-conceived specifications. Nowadays “more than one quarter of all translations are outsourced to translation agencies and freelance translators” who are entrusted with different types of EU documents, except for certain particularly sensitive, urgent or confidential texts (Online 15). However, it is important to note that the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and of the European Council is one of the few exceptions that do not work with freelance translators.

As this paper analyses EC’s conclusions, the research focuses on the translations done by the Language Service of the General Secretariat which provides translations for both the European Council and the Council of the European Union.

2.2 Translation Tools

Similarly to any other sector, the translation process of EU documents has also been greatly affected by the rise of information technologies. Many EU institutions actually use specially designed software for both document submission and managing (DG Translation, 2012). As noted by the Directorate-General for Translation (2012), currently most translations are

requested in such document formats as Word, Excel, HTML, XML and PowerPoint and a wide range of translation tools and technologies are used to make the translation process easier.

As pointed out by the DGT (2016), irrespective of the preferred working method or the actual department a translator works in, they have basically the same needs for appropriate terminology (dictionaries, glossaries, terminology databases, etc.), reference documents (both paper and electronic archives, aligned texts, etc.), possibility to reuse previously translated texts (electronic archives, translation memories, etc.) and central and local assistance (basically, being a fully-fledged translation assistant). These needs are met through the use of several translation tools:

- Poetry – DGT’s portal for receiving translation requests from the other departments of the Commission;
- ManDesk – software for managing translation requests inside the DGT;
- Euramis – central translation memory of the DGT;
- TraDesk – interface for the management of translation documents and access to electronic archives where earlier translations are stored;
- Computer-Aided Translation (CAT) tools – translation memory software for local management of already translated texts retrieved from the central memory;
- DGT Vista – search engine for DGT’s archive of translated documents;
- EUR-Lex – an online database of EU law;
- IATE – terminology database of all EU institutions (Online 5).

For instance, when translating documents for the European Commission or the European Parliament, all translation requests are sent from Poetry to Euramis, the results are stored by Euramis in TraDesk, the translations are done via CAT tools and the translated documents are saved to Euramis. Although the translation process may vary from one language service to another, all units go through a similar interactive process. For the purpose of this paper, the next subchapter will shine some light on the translation process at the Language Service of the General Secretariat in particular.

2.3 Translation Process at the Language Service of the General Secretariat

As explained in the previous subchapter, the Language Service of the General Secretariat provides translations to two different EU institutions: the European Council (EC) and the Council of the EU (CEU). While the EC defines the general political guidelines of the EU, the

CEU has legislative and budgetary functions, as well as policy making and coordinating functions.

The Language Service provides translations for both institutions in all official languages of the EU of all major policy documents and almost all of legislation. As a result, the fundamental requirement of the democratic legitimacy of the EU is fulfilled – to give every EU citizen a chance to know what is being done and how it affects them, as well as to be able to play an active role in the process (DH Interpretation, 2013). While the Language Service does also provide translations for other EU bodies (e.g. the European External Action Service, Working Parties, etc.), it is also important to note that the Language Service does not provide interpreting services.

In 2012, the Language Service employed approximately 650 translators and 250 support staff divided into 23 different language units. In 2013, Croatia joined the EU and the 24th language unit was established for Croatian. Each language unit has not only its own translators and assistants, but also its own internal management team that consists of a Head of Unit, a Resources Manager, a Quality Controller and a Coordinator (see Figure 2.3.1).

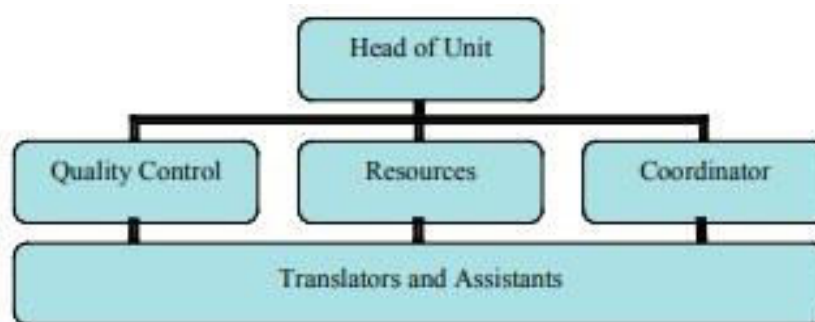


Figure 2.3.1 Structure of a Language Unit (General Secretariat of the Council, 2012)

In order to work at the Language Service of the General Secretariat of the Council, one must be a citizen of an EU Member State and pass an open competition organized by the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO). In addition, translators must have a university degree, as well as complete mastery of one of the EU official languages (usually their mother tongue) and an excellent command of at least two other languages. There is a general rule that translators work into their mother tongue; however, they may also translate from their mother tongue into another language when necessary. Furthermore, the work of a translator involves not only translation, but also revision of the work done by other translators.

As for the assistants, they mainly coordinate and provide technical and administrative support for document preparation and the actual translation. They also prepare and format

documents before and after the translation and revision process, as well as ensure that the finished translation meets the layout and technical requirements.

The translation process within the Language Service takes place through several steps:

- a text is drafted and its originator sends it to the Coordination and Production Unit via the special “Workflow” application;
- once a translation of a document is requested, the Coordination and Production Unit considers whether the request is justified; if the request is justified, the request is accepted and the Unit determines:
 - the deadline;
 - the necessary amount of work;
 - the necessary background documentation;
- after determining all the details, the text is distributed to the language units, where the local coordinator assigns it to one or more assistants and/or translators; within the language unit both translators and revisers work on the text by using various CAT tools;
- once the translation and revision is done, the assistant checks the form and layout of the text, confirms the technical requirements and archives the translation.

The three main goals of the translation throughout the translation process are consistency, efficiency and speed. However, simultaneous translation into all 24 official EU languages on such complex topics as policy discussion and legislative procedures certainly requires skill and a great deal of both cooperation and coordination within and beyond the General Secretariat of the Council. The cooperation with the Language Service is ensured by including several specialised groups and individuals at the central level who provide support to all Language Units in key aspects of the translation process (see Figure 2).

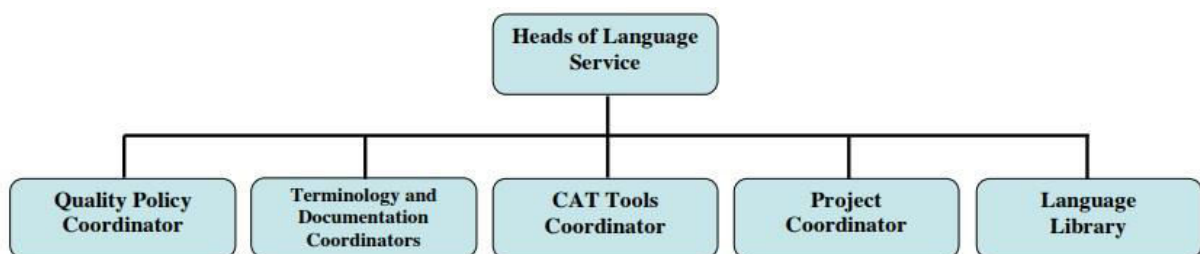


Figure 2.3.2 Cooperation within the Language Service (General Secretariat of the Council, 2012)

The specialised groups and individuals include:

- quality policy coordinator – advises the Language Service’s management on quality issues, also an internal and interinstitutional contact point for quality control;

- terminology and documentation coordinators – guide and coordinate the terminology work and term management across all the units, help to strengthen both quality and productivity;
- CAT tools coordinator – assists with the implementation of CAT tools, tool testing and application, also provides training, information and support for users, drafts user documentation and disseminates good practices;
- project coordinator – develops and follows up cross-cutting projects, including specialist subject and language training, as well as the formation of groups of specialised translators;
- language library – a valuable additional collection of resources for both translators and other users that includes an extensive range of electronic resources in all official languages.

As shown in both figures, the translation process at the Language Service of the General Secretariat of the Council is highly coordinated and relies heavily on cooperation within and beyond the General Secretariat of the Council. Similarly to the Directorate-General for Translation, the Language Service uses modern information technologies in its translation work such as CAT tools and the “Workflow” application. This strict structure ensures the consistency, efficiency and speed of the translation process. The efficiency is a must in particular since there is a clear need for “a very well-structured workflow to cope with the amount of documents to be translated and the number of languages they work with”, whilst also ensuring full accountability, uniform approaches and high quality standards (European Commission, 2012).

2.4 Peculiarities of Translating EU documents

While the translation approaches, methods and strategies discussed in the previous chapter may apply to translation in general, it is difficult to compare EU documents with just any general text. It is important to note that due to the high demands for translation quality, several style guides and quality standards have been developed. For instance, the European quality standard EN-15038:2006 names the following aspects as the possible instructions that could be included in style guides:

- punctuation (e.g. commas, space, full stops, colons, dashes, etc.);
- spelling (e.g. capitalisation, personal names, titles, geographical names, brands, numbers, etc.);
- formatting, including type style and fonts;

- miscellaneous (e.g. lists and tables, verb tenses, gender neutral language, citations, diagrams, etc.);
- adaptations (e.g. cultural words and references, standing details, forms of address, graphic elements, etc.);
- terminological choices, including inappropriate wordings and language-specific and client preferences;
- most common errors to be avoided (e.g. false friends, language interferences, mismatches of register, etc.) (Online 6).

As previously mentioned, the translation of EU documents is also greatly affected by full-stop rule and the visual equivalence as noted by Zauberga (2014). However, these are not the only peculiarities of translating EU documents.

Certain difficulties in the translation process may be caused by Eurojargon. As pointed out by Veisbergs (2018) in a lecture on “Eurospeak/Eurojargon/Euro-English” discussed within the framework of the course “Language Varieties”, Eurospeak can be characterised by:

- use of terms connected with the EU (acronyms, initialisms, terms, institutions, treaties, committees, programmes, etc.);
- style and sentence structures (legalese);
- specific/new meanings, the status of which is often unclear.

The latter may cause the most difficulties, as there is no united opinion about giving existing words new specific meanings. Some editors are against such a tendency, other support it. Same can be said about the translators – while some try to avoid such unclear meanings, most have no other choice but to use them. Whether or not the EC’s conclusions include any of these peculiarities is another aspect to be analysed in the practical part of the paper.

2.5 Conclusions

The translation services within the EU are provided by both specialised language services (e.g. the Directorate-General for Translation, the Language Service of the General Secretariat and the Translation Centre for the EU institutions), in-house translators working within certain EU bodies and external translation providers. As this paper analyses the EC’s conclusions, the focus is on the translations done by the Language Service of the General Secretariat.

The translation process within the EU is highly coordinated and relies heavily on cooperation, which includes sharing of documents via modern information technologies. Moreover, the translation process in general takes place with the help of CAT tools, language

library, translation memories and other applications, ensuring the consistency, efficiency and speed of the translation process.

In terms of the Language Service of the General Secretariat of the Council in particular, the translation process is done through four stages, which involve the originator, the Coordination and Planning Unit and the language units. A language unit consists of a Head of the Unit, a Resources Manager, a Quality Controller and a Coordinator, as well as translators and assistants. The cooperation within the Language Service is further improved with the help of a quality policy coordinator, terminology and documentation coordinators, a CAT tools coordinator and a project coordinator.

3. INTERVIEW AND INITIAL RESEARCH RESULTS

In order to better understand the peculiarities of translating EC's conclusions, the author used the opportunity to interview Baiba Aleksejuka, Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, at the “Translating Europe” workshop organised by the Directorate-General for Translation. Furthermore, the conclusions drawn from the interview, as well as general information about the EC and initial research results based on these conclusions of the interview were also presented in the 3rd International Winter Scientific Conference “Translator’s Quest and Discovery” organised by the Latvian Association of Interpreters and Translators and the Department of Contrastive Linguistics, Translation, and Interpreting, Faculty of the Humanities, University of Latvia on 15 December, 2017 (see acknowledgement in Appendix 2).

3.1 The European Council (EC)

Before the interview with the Head of the Latvian Language Unit, initial research was carried out to deepen the understanding about the research subject and to determine what could be the focus of further analysis in terms of this thesis.

Initial research was begun by defining what is the EC and its conclusions. As explained on its homepage www.consilium.europa.eu, the EC is one of the EU institutions that determine the general direction and priorities of the EU. The EC consists of “the heads of state or government of the member states, together with its President and the President of the Commission” (Online 7). While it is not a legislating institution and does not negotiate or adopt any laws, it does set the policy agenda of the EU, which is traditionally done by adopting “conclusions” during the meetings of the EC. These conclusions identify and highlight the main issues of concern, as well as determine the actions the 28 EU member states should take.

EC's conclusions are adopted during each and every one of EC's meetings. Most of the decisions included in the EC's conclusions are made by consensus. However, EU treaties outline certain specific cases where the decision has to be made by unanimity or by qualified majority. While the main function of these texts is to identify specific issues of concern and to outline certain actions to take or objectives to reach, EC's conclusions may also set deadlines for reaching agreements on particular topics or for the presentation of a legislative proposal. As a result, the EC is able to both influence and guide the policy agenda of the entire EU.

Although the guidelines for the conclusions are drafted by the President of the EC ahead of the EC meeting, the language units receive these conclusions for translation about a week before their official publication (Online 8). The EC's conclusions published starting from 2004 and onwards are available in the public register of official documents. Although some of the conclusions prior to 2004 are available online, it is important to note that EC's conclusions are translated only into the languages spoken in the countries that are EU member states at the time of the EC meeting. Therefore, no translations of EC's conclusions into Latvian are available prior to 2004 when Latvia joined the EU.

When asked prior to the interview why EC's conclusions and EU documents in general should be researched, Baiba Aleksejuka, Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A, admitted that sometimes employees of the language units feel that regular citizens of the EU do not really understand how and why language units work. Furthermore, it was also noted that the Latvian Language Unit lacks feedback from linguists and researchers working in Latvia.

3.2 Interview with Baiba Aleksejuka

The interview with the Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A was conducted on 9 November 2017 (for the full transcript of the interview, see Appendix 1). During the interview the practical aspects of the translation process within the language unit were discussed and the main translation problems when dealing with EC's documents were identified. Although the interview was conducted in Latvian, for the purpose of the thesis the conclusions have been drawn in English.

The first issue noted by Aleksejuka was the need to follow previous terminology. If the text includes a reference to an already existing text, translators have no choice but to observe the terminology used in the already existing translation, even if the translator has doubts about the choice of the term or if a certain term already has a different meaning in the TL. This can cause certain issues when it comes to translations into Latvian due to various reasons, for instance, the quality of the translations of the primary legislative acts is rather questionable as they include mistakes and sometimes the used terminology is rather chaotic, unorganized and often outdated. Moreover, Bendegard (2012) has also named the influence of poorly written source texts as the main cause of faulty translations.

The second cause for translation issues could be the political compromise. Sometimes representatives of the 28 Member States have to come to an agreement on very sensitive topics, for example, the current refugee situation in Europe. In such cases the choice of a term becomes both a linguistic and a political issue, especially since some countries do not want

the text to include any words or terms that might even slightly suggest that they, for instance, are open to accepting refugees. This means that any representative of the work group might introduce some changes to the text, sometimes creating a text that does not even seem to be in English anymore. It is hard to transfer this confusion into Latvian and with regret Aleksejuka admitted that this is one of the reasons why translators stick to the English sentence structure and create constructions uncharacteristic to the Latvian language.

The final version of EC's conclusions is usually given to the translators a week before the actual publication. However, politicians are free to continue to discuss the topics also after the official EC meeting, which means that they can suddenly decide to implement some sort of changes to the text. This, in turn, means that the translators have to also introduce the changes in their translations as soon as possible. Interestingly, during such unofficial meetings as lunch or dinner, translators are on stand-by and work takes place in the so-called "panic rooms" where 3 translators and 2 assistants per language are alert and waiting for any new changes to be introduced in the EC's conclusions that could require a quick translation. This means that sometimes the translators work during night, as the EC's conclusions must be published soon after the meeting and there is very little time to overthink a choice of a term. Moreover, once the conclusions are published, they cannot be changed.

Aleksejuka also noted that the conclusions are drafted by representatives of several work groups for whom English often is not their mother tongue. Unfortunately, this leaves a mark on the quality of the text and allegedly there have been cases when representatives of the Latvian Language Unit have asked for help from English speaking colleagues, but even native speakers were unable to explain what the original author of the text had meant. Of course, Eurojargon was mentioned as another cause of mistranslation and creation of sentence structures that might seem weird to the Latvian reader.

Despite having to deal with all these aspects that could lead to mistranslations, Aleksejuka noted that the Latvian Language Unit usually discusses its translations after submitting them and tries to find solutions and improvements for the trickiest parts of the particular translation. Even though the translations of EC's conclusions cannot be changed, this certainly might help when and if the translators will face a similar issue in the future. Nonetheless, when asked if it is possible to discuss some difficult terms with colleagues from other language units, Aleksejuka explained that all units submit their translations at around the same time, leaving no additional time period to discuss something or to actually compare their translations.

At the end of the interview the importance of allowing every EU citizen to participate in all processes of the EU was highlighted once again. As Aleksejuka put it, the Head of the

language unit always reminds the translators that their work will be read not only by politicians and experts but also by regular people, for instance, a grandmother living in Bauska. In addition, when some translators try to oppose to this with the question “Why would a grandmother in Bauska read this?”, Aleksejuka always gives a simple answer – because she has a right to do it.

3.3 Factors affecting translations within the EU

During the interview the requirement to re-use previous translations and terminology, as well as the short deadlines were mentioned as some of the factors that might influence the translation of an EU text. This corresponds to the conclusions of a research concerning the use of plain language in translations of EU texts into Swedish conducted by Bendegard (2012) who identified 5 such factors:

- the re-use of previous translations;
- short deadlines;
- the point of view of the reader;
- where does the text belong;
- the view of the concept “plain language” (ibid: 43).

In terms of previous translations, Bendegard concluded that the tendency to rely on such documents is surprisingly strong. This, in turn, seems to “impose a greater constraint on the translation than the need to connect to the English source text” (ibid.). For instance, if a word in a directive is used to refer to a concept from an EU Treaty, it should be the same in the directive as the word used in the Treaty. However, this is not a limited requirement just for Swedish but rather a general rule for all source and target languages.

Aleksejuka mentioned a week as the usual deadline for a translation. Nonetheless, there are factors that could influence even an already set deadline. For example, if rules of a certain procedure are changed, it could result into the deadline being unexpectedly brought forward. Interestingly, Bendegard (2012) connected the re-use of previous translations with this time pressure and deadlines, explaining that translators often have little time to do an extensive research, thus, they are more likely to decide to use existing translations already stored in the translation memories of the computer-aided translation (CAT) tools.

During the interview an emphasis was put on how important it is that the document can be understood by both EU politicians and regular EU citizens. However, some cases when translators question whether or not someone will actually read their translation were brought up not only during the interview, but also in the research done by Bendegard (2012) who noted that several respondents thought that no one will actually read the texts they translate.

The idea that the reader of EU texts is non-existent could also affect the translation, since the translator neither expects actual feedback from the reader, nor spends excessive time on clarity. This also eliminates taking into consideration the point of view of the reader.

As for where the text belongs, Bendegard emphasizes the importance to consider the following question: “Is the translation a Swedish text, or an EU text in Swedish?” (2012: 48). Similarly, one could ask the same question about translations of EU texts into Latvian and other official languages. Traditionally, translations in general are affected by both the source and the target culture, prompting the translator to make decisions concerning localization, foreignization, etc. However, in translations of EU texts the target culture remains the same (see Figure 3.2.1).

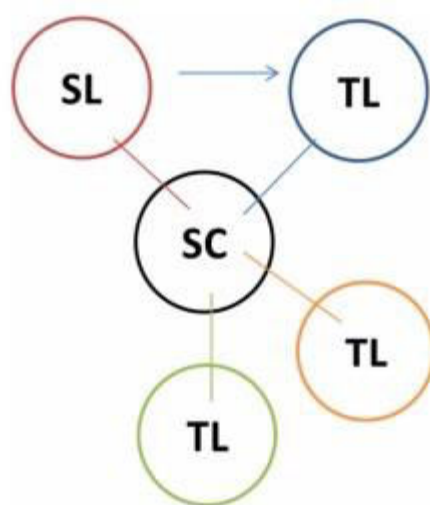


Figure 3.2.1 The relation between source language/source culture and multiple target languages in EU-translation (from Bendegard, 2012: 49)

Bendegard expands by characterizing the EU setting, suggesting that translations often avoid domestic terms (this results in an almost parallel terminology) and the terminology and wording used in previous texts is more important than the need to correspond to the terminology and wording used in texts originally written in the member states (2012: 49). Finally, EU as an organization seems to be the primary recipient of the texts rather than the member states, thus, it constitutes the target culture.

As for the localization of the “plain language”, it is important to understand what “plain language” actually means. While in a general setting “plain language” implies the need to focus on the reader and the overall textual structure, it does not seem to be the case in the EU setting. For instance, translators of EU texts do not really have to take into consideration the previous knowledge of the reader, the importance of the metatext (table of contents, headings, etc.), the aim of reading the text, etc. The reason why EU translators do not have to worry

about such details is simple – they do not have much or maybe even any control over it (Bendegard, 2012: 51).

All the mentioned aspects prove that the production of texts that EU citizens hardly understand is not solely due to the fact that translations of EU texts are bound to their source texts. In fact, a number of other factors influence the way how an EU text is translated and more often than not translators do not have control over them. As a result, not only do the texts heavily rely on terminology and wording used in previous texts, but also almost an entire parallel terminology is created to be used in the translations of EU texts.

3.4 Initial Research Results

Once the general information about the EC and the importance of its conclusions was gathered, a general research in relation to the aspects mentioned in the previous chapters was carried out by analysing six different EC's conclusions. Although the corpus for initial research was rather small, an example could be found for each of the translation problems that were both mentioned during the interview with Baiba Aleksejuka and highlighted by the theories on translation within the EU, namely political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon and possible lack of vocabulary.

As emphasized by Aleksejuka, the political compromise was one of the main aspects that could cause misunderstandings during both the creation and translation of the EC's conclusions since making a decision that would please all 28 member states might be rather tricky. A footnote used in the conclusions of the European Council meeting on 20 and 21 October 2016 could be viewed as an example of this uneasy discussion process, as it indicates that the representatives of Hungary, Slovakia and Poland had expressed their opposition so strictly that it had to actually be included within the text. The footnote reads

This is without prejudice to the position of Hungary and Slovakia, as contained in the Court proceedings launched relating to Council Decision n° 2015/1601, and to the position of Poland, which has intervened in support of the applicants (Online 9).

Considering that this was the only footnote within the texts selected for the corpus, one can only guess how strongly the representatives of these countries had to disagree to the idea expressed in the EC's conclusions that they actually demanded the addition of this information. Nonetheless, the footnote might also have been added due to some requirements of the mentioned Court proceedings.

The need to retain the English sentence structure mentioned by Aleksejuka was further explained by the full-stop rule described by Zauberga (2004). As explained in the previous chapters, the full-stop rule is a requirement that both the ST and the TT must have the same

amount of full stops and one sentence in the ST must correspond to the same sentence in the TT. Although it might seem as a rather odd requirement at first, the need for it is quite understandable – it is necessary to facilitate the discussions between the representatives of the EU member states. By observing this rule, the authors and translators of the texts can be sure that the representative will be able to follow the discussion without missing some part of the information and that all the representatives are discussing the same part of the sentence.

Unfortunately, this sometimes results in long and information loaded sentences that are often contradictory to the national recommendations. It was also rather easy to find an example for such a clumsy sentence in the conclusions of the EC meeting on 20 October 2017 (see Table 3.4.1, where the same parts of the sentences in both languages have been colour coded to visualize the order in which information is presented).

Table 3.4.1 The consequences of the full-stop rule

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)
The European Council acknowledges that, as regards Ireland, there has been some progress on convergence on principles and objectives regarding protection of the Good Friday Agreement and maintenance of the Common Travel Area, and invites the Union negotiator to pursue further refinement of these principles, taking into account the major challenge that the UK's withdrawal represents, including as regards avoidance of a hard border, and therefore expecting the UK to present and commit to flexible and imaginative solutions called for by the unique situation of Ireland.	Eiropadome atzīst, ka attiecībā uz Īriju ir panākts zināms progress, tuvinot viedokļus par principiem un mērķiem saistībā ar Lielās piektdienas vienošanās nosargāšanu un kopējās ceļošanas telpas saglabāšanu, un aicina Savienības sarunu vedēju turpināt precizēt šos principus, ņemot vērā to, ka Apvienotās Karalistes izstāšanās ir milzīgs izaicinājums, tostarp attiecībā uz izvairīšanos no stingras robežas, un tāpēc sagaida, ka Apvienotā Karaliste nāks klajā ar Īrijas unikālajā situācijā nepieciešamiem elastīgiem un radošiem risinājumiem un aņņemsies tos īstenot.

As can be observed in the example provided in Table 3.4.1, the sentence structure of both the ST and the TT is identical. While it does seem rather logical in terms of the ST, the translated sentence in the TT seems rather clumsy and confusing. This could be explained by the fact that such information loaded sentences are not usually used in Latvian. However, due to the full-stop rule, the translator has to overcome their gut feeling of introducing structural changes or simply dividing the sentence in smaller parts, instead following the sentence construction almost comma by comma.

As for the Eurojargon, 3 instances of its use were found even in the small corpus of the initial research:

- “dimension” translated as “dimensija”;

- “synergy” translated as “sinerģija”;
- “mobility” translated as “mobilitāte”.

Although these terms might mean something to those familiar with the Eurojargon, it is rather clear that no grandmother in Bauska will be able to tell, for instance, what exactly is synergy. The use of these abstract terms somewhat seems to contradict the requirement that the EU texts should be understandable to every citizen of the EU. Nonetheless, most likely no translator should be blamed for the use of this terminology, as there is a great chance that the translator also did not really know what exactly was implied with the use of the particular term.

For example, the term “mobility” was used in two different contexts in the same conclusions of the EC meeting on 15 December 2016:

- “It also calls for work to be taken forward on the recent Commission initiatives dedicated to youth, including those on mobility.”
- “While setting out the objective of enhancing the mobility of citizens, the Agreement does not grant to Ukrainian nationals or Union citizens, respectively, the right to reside and work freely within the territory of the Member States or Ukraine.” (Online 10).

From the little context provided by the EC’s conclusions it seems impossible to tell whether the term actually has the same meaning in both contexts or does it describe different concepts depending on the target group (youth and citizens).

The final aspect analysed in the initial research was whether or not it is possible to tell that the author of the particular text is not a native English speaker. While the small corpus of the six EC’s conclusions did not include very evident examples of English being used as lingua franca, one sentence seemed to be rather interesting, as it displayed a clear indication that the author of the text might have limited vocabulary since it explains that

The Council should [...] rapidly decide on its position on the list of safe countries of origin. The Council is invited to rapidly examine the situation concerning Afghanistan. The Council should rapidly examine the Commission proposals of 15 December [...]. The Commission will rapidly present the review of the Dublin system; in the meantime, existing rules must be implemented (Online 11).

While there is nothing wrong with the use of the word “rapidly” in this context, repeating it four times within the same paragraph does seem to imply that the author of the text either does not have a good writing style or is lacking in terms of vocabulary and simply does not know what other words to use to rush the Council. While some translators might be tempted to introduce some changes and synonymity, the EU translation guidelines are too strict to

allow one to do it. As a result, the translator had to settle with translating “rapidly” as “ātri” and retain the repetition.

3.5 Conclusions

In short, the EC defines the overall political direction and priorities of the EU. This is done by setting the EU’s policy agenda via the EC’s conclusions, which are adopted during the EC meetings and identify not only issues of concern, but also actions to take to resolve them. Although the guidelines for the EC’s conclusions are drafted before the actual meeting, the language units receive the ST only a week before its publishing. It is also important to note that the EC’s conclusions are available only in the languages of the countries that are members of the EU at the time of the particular EC meeting.

The interview with Baiba Aleksejuka highlighted the main aspects the Latvian Language Unit has to deal with when translating EC’s conclusions from English into Latvian. References to older texts, the political compromise, the responsibility and stressfulness of the profession, as well as the language knowledge of the members of the working group and their interests were named as the factors most affecting the translations of the Latvian Language Unit. Aleksejuka also emphasized her efforts to encourage the translators of the Latvian Language Unit to provide qualitative and understandable translations into Latvian. Both the interview and analysis of already existing research indicates that there are several aspects that influence the way how an EU text is translated.

The initial research conducted by analysing a small corpus of six EC’s conclusions revealed that some issues concerning translation quality (namely, political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon and the fact that not all authors of the texts are native English speakers) are clearly evident even without an in-depth analysis.

While the results of the initial research were well received at the 3rd International Winter Scientific Conference “Translator’s Quest and Discovery”, a more in-depth analysis with a larger corpus is necessary to be able to test the initial research results, as well as to be able to generalize them. During the initial research another interesting issue for analysis seemed to be whether or not the same aspects identified in the translations of EC’s conclusions from English into Latvian would also be evident in translations into other EU languages. Therefore, the next chapter presents an in-depth analysis of translating EC’s conclusions into both Latvian and Swedish.

4. ANALYSIS OF EUROPEAN COUNCIL'S CONCLUSION TRANSLATIONS INTO LATVIAN AND SWEDISH

As discussed in the theoretical part of the thesis, the texts created by EU institutions belong to the mixed form of text types. For instance, the European Council's (EC) conclusions analysed in this paper both inform the reader about the decisions the EC has made in the particular meeting, as well as the objectives that it expects certain actors to fulfil, hoping to induce some sort of a behavioural response. Therefore, the EC's conclusions fulfil functions of both informative and operative texts (Munday, 2001). Moreover, in terms of translation methods, EU documentation could be classified as a source-oriented literal translation, in particular due to the full-stop rule and visual equivalence (Zauberga, 2004).

While EU documentation seems to match the description of formal equivalence, it has been noted that the texts translated within the EU mostly have visual equivalence or follow the sameness format (Zauberga, 2004). However, whether it results in a clear link between two translations into different languages shall be put to test by conducting an in-depth analysis of EC's conclusion translations into Latvian and Swedish. Furthermore, the analysis will also try to identify translation strategies evident in the translations of the EC's conclusions (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1958).

In order to conduct a more in-depth analysis, the corpus of the research was extended from 6 EC's conclusions to 58 EC's conclusions per language (English (EN), Latvian (LV), Swedish (SV)), totalling to a corpus of 174 EC's conclusions, or 278 585 words in English, 220 542 words in Latvian and 249 312 words in Swedish. The newest EC's conclusions under analysis are from 22 March 2018, while the oldest – from 17 and 18 June 2004. Older EC's conclusions were not considered for analysis due to the fact that Latvia joined the EU in 2004, thus, older EC's conclusions are not available in Latvian. This coincides with the fact that the conclusions for the meeting on 17 and 18 June 2004 are also one of the first EC's conclusions made available in the public register and on EC's homepage. The length of the EC's conclusions varied from 4 to 48 pages, the volume of the entire corpus totalling to an average of 557 pages per language.

4.1 Translation and Political Compromise

In terms of political compromise, the same footnote found during the initial research in the conclusions of the European Council meeting on 20 and 21 October 2016 was found in other EC's conclusions of the meeting on 15 December 2016. The first EC's conclusions concerned illegal migration as such, while the second focused on tackling the migratory flows.

Considering that migration and refugees was named by the World Economic Forum as one of the six issues that will shape the future of the EU, it is understandable that each member state will try to express its opinion on such sensitive issues (Online 12).

While the evident political compromise to allow certain countries (in this case, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) to stand out from the united organisation that is the EC might not be evident in the translations (see Table 4.1.1), one can only guess why the decision to allow the inclusion of this footnote actually took place.

Table 4.1.1 Footnote as political compromise

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
This is without prejudice to the position of Hungary and Slovakia, as contained in the Court proceedings launched relating to Council Decision n°2015/1601, and to the position of Poland, which has intervened in support of the applicants.	Tas neskar Ungārijas un Slovākijas nostāju, kā tā pausta Tiesas procesā, kas uzsākts attiecībā uz Padomes Lēmumu Nr. 2015/1601, un Polijas nostāju, kas iestājusies lietā prasītāju atbalstam.	Detta påverkar varken Ungerns och Slovakiens ståndpunkt enligt de domstolsförfaranden som inletts med avseende på rådets beslut nr 2015/1601, eller den ståndpunkt som intagits av Polen, som intervenerat till stöd för sökandena.

The use of the footnote could be explained by the fact that the issue involves actual Court proceedings, which could mean that the need to make such clarifications is actually prescribed by law or the Court. However, the position of Poland does not seem to be backed up by such conditions, thus, it is interesting to see that its support is included in it.

Another case of a visible political compromise was found in the conclusions for the EC meeting of 21 and 22 June 2007, where one of the topics dealt with justice and home affairs, which happened to include issues related to the general migration policy and opportunities (see Table 4.1.2).

Table 4.1.2 Addition as political compromise

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
Specific partnerships on migration with third countries could contribute to a coherent migration policy which combines measures aimed at facilitating well-managed legal migration opportunities and their benefits – while respecting Member States' competences and the specific needs of their labour markets – with those fighting illegal migration, protecting refugees and tackling the root cause of migration while at the same time impacting positively on development in countries of	Īpašas partnerattiecības migrācijas jomā ar trešām valstīm varētu veicināt saskaņotu migrācijas politiku, apvienojot pasākumus efektīvi pārvaldītu legālu migrācijas iespēju un ar to saistītu ieguvumu atvieglošanai – atzīstot dalībvalstu kompetences un īpašās vajadzības to darba tirgos – ar pasākumiem nelegālas migrācijas apkarošanai, bēgļu aizsardzībai un migrācijas pamatiemeslu risināšanai, tajā pašā laikā labvēlīgi ietekmējot izcelsmes valstu attīstību.	Särskilda partnerskap för migration med tredjeländer skulle kunna bidra till en konsekvent migrationspolitik där åtgärderna för att underlätta möjligheterna till väl hanterad laglig migration och de fördelar denna medför – med respekt för medlemsstaternas behörighet och deras arbetsmarknaders särskilda behov – kombineras med åtgärder för att bekämpa olaglig migration, skydda flyktingar och angripa grundorsakerna till migration samtidigt som man inverkar positivt på utvecklingen i

origin.		ursprungsländerna.
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The main idea of the source text is that all member states should be ready to take measures aimed at various parts of the migration process and, while most of these measures are simply named without any additional details, the measure to “facilitate well-managed legal migration opportunities and their benefits” has an addition, which reassures the member states that their competences and specific needs will be respected. The representatives of member states supporting migration probably were fine with the overall policy as described by the EC, yet this point was most likely added due to the objections from the representatives of member states with less supportive policies.

In terms of translations, it is clear that both translators have translated these comments literally similarly to the previous example, including following the same sentence structure. However, its impact does seem to be overshadowed by the clear example of too lengthy and information loaded sentences resulting from observing the full-stop rule. Nonetheless, the addition used in the previous example suggested that “respect” could be the word used to tackle tricky topics, which might cause discussions and strong opposition among the representatives of the member states (see Table 4.1.3).

Table 4.1.3 Use of the term “respect” for political compromise

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
- while respecting the competences of Member States in this area, consideration will be given to how legal migration opportunities can be incorporated into the Union's external policies in order to develop a balanced partnership with third countries adapted to specific EU Member States' labour market needs.	- ievērojot dalībvalstu kompetences šajā jomā, apsvērs, kā legālas migrācijas iespējas varētu labāk iestrādāt Savienības ārpolitikā, lai izveidotu līdzsvarotas partnerattiecības ar trešām valstīm, kas pielāgotas konkrētu ES dalībvalstu darba tīrģus vajadzībām.	- Samtidigt sommedlemsstaternas behörighet på detta område respekteras kommer möjligheter till hur laglig migration skall kunna införlivas i unionens utrikespolitik att övervägas i syfte att utveckla ett balanserat partnerskap med tredjeländer som är anpassat till de särskilda behoven på arbetsmarknaderna i EU:s medlemsstater.
Therefore, such processes make possible different paths of integration for different Member States, allowing those that want to deepen integration to move ahead, whilst respecting the rights of those which do not want to take such a course.	Tāpēc šādi procesi pieļauj dažādus integrācijas ceļus dažādām dalībvalstīm, dodot iespēju tām dalībvalstīm, kuras to vēlas, turpmākai virzībai padziļināt integrāciju, vienlaikus respektējot to dalībvalstu tiesības, kuras šādu ceļu neizvēlas.	Sādana processer möjliggör därför olika vägar för integration för olika medlemsstater, så att de som vill ha en fördjupad integration kan fortsätta längs en sådan väg samtidigt som övriga medlemsstaters rättigheter respekteras .
Member States will regularly exchange information on major national energy decisions which have a possible impact on other Member States, while fully respecting national	Dalībvalstis regulāri apmainīsies ar informāciju par galvenajiem valsts līmenī pieņemtajiem enerģētikas lēmumiem, kuriem var būt ietekme uz citām dalībvalstīm,	Medlemsstaterna kommer regelbundet att utbyta information om större nationella energibeslut som kan påverka andra medlemsstater samtidigt som de nationella

choices of energy mix.	vienlaikus pilnībā respektējot valstu izdarītās izvēles par energoresursu struktūru.	valen av energimix helt och hållet respekteras.
In this context, the European Council noted that the concept of ever closer union allows for different paths of integration for different countries, allowing those that want to deepen integration to move ahead, while respecting the wish of those who do not want to deepen any further.	Šajā sakarā Eiropadome atzīmēja, ka arvien ciešākas savienības koncepcija dažādām valstīm sniedz iespēju izvēlēties dažādus integrācijas ceļus, ļaujot virzīties uz priekšu tām, kuras vēlas integrāciju padziļināt, vienlaikus respektējot to valstu vēlmes, kuras nevēlas turpināt padziļināšanu.	I detta sammanhang noterade Europeiska rådet att en allt fastare sammanslutning som begrepp ger möjlighet till olika vägar för integration för olika länder, så att de som vill ha en fördjupad integration kan fortsätta längs en sådan väg, med bibehållen respekt för dem som inte önskar någon ytterligare fördjupning.
The European Council agreed that a reliable and transparent governance system without any unnecessary administrative burden will be developed to help ensure that the EU meets its energy policy goals, with the necessary flexibility for Member States and fully respecting their freedom to determine their energy mix.	Eiropadome vienojās, ka tiks izstrādāta uzticama un pārredzama pārvaldības sistēma bez nevajadzīga administratīvā sloga, kas palīdzēs nodrošināt to, lai ES sasniegtu savus enerģētikas politikas mērķus, paredzot dalībvalstīm nepieciešamo rīcības elastīgumu un pilnībā ievērojot to brīvību noteikt savu energoresursu struktūru.	Europeiska rådet enades om att ett tillförlitligt och öppet styrningssystem utan någon onödig administrativ börda ska utarbetas för att se till att EU uppfyller sina energipolitiska mål, med nödvändig flexibilitet för medlemsstaterna och med full respekt för deras frihet att besluta om sin energimix.

The examples found during the analysis showed that “respect” was indeed used to reassure representatives of the member states that the EC understands and supports the opinion and wishes of countries who might not share the same opinion as the other member states.

Overall the word “respect” was used in 415 cases but it was important to observe cases of political compromise instead of other, more general cases (e.g. “Respecting the powers of the institutions of the Union, including throughout the legislative and budgetary procedures, and not affecting the relations of the Union institutions and bodies with the national competent authorities, [...]” or “Respecting the powers of the central banks in the performance of their tasks, including the provision of central bank liquidity within their respective jurisdictions, [...]” used in the introduction the EC’s conclusions of 18 and 19 February 2016) and cases non-related to political compromise (e.g. “Applicable provisions on data protection will be respected in this regard.”, “In that respect the External borders, Integration, Return and Refugee Funds will bring important resources to underpin the comprehensive migration policy.” or “The Ministerial conference on integration to be held in May 2007 will be of particular importance in that respect.”). As a result, 71 cases of the 415 cases of using the verb “respect” were identified as an attempt to display political compromise.

It was also noted that “respect” in all cases was translated into Swedish as “respekt” (sometimes as a noun, sometimes as a verb). However, in Latvian it was translated either as “respektējot” or “ievērojot” (always as a verb). This could be explained by the fact that many

could associate the Latvian verb “respektēt” with the English verb “to respect” or the Russian noun “респект”. Since more and more people get interested in using “pure Latvian”, some purists and enthusiasts are trying to completely avoid such words as “respekts” and “respektējot” because the more “Latvian” word “ievērojot” sounds better and does not cause the mentioned associations, keeping the Latvian language “clean”.

It was also interesting to note that the only adverb used in combination with “respecting” is “fully”, which in Latvian in all cases is translated as “pilnībā”. However, some cases can be found where in Swedish it is translated as “hållet” or “full”. Here the choice made by the translator could also be explained by the associations the words make and, while Swedish has a long history of borrowing and loaning words from other European languages (e.g. words like “eskalera” (“escalate”), “webb” (“web”, as in Internet) and “tuff” “tough” are only a few of the words that have recently made their way into the Swedish vocabulary (Online 13)), it is possible that some translators still prefer the more “Swedish” words that do not create such associations, thus preferring the word “hållet”.

Just as Baiba Aleksejuka had mentioned during the interview, the EC’s conclusions are greatly affected by the political compromise that the 28 member states have to reach. However, comparative analysis shows that much of this aspect stays hidden in the drafting process. While some cases of different opinions are made visible by the use of footnotes, it happens only in certain legal conditions. During the analysis, it became clear that one of the ways how the political compromise is achieved is through the use of the verb “respect”, which reassures the member states that their thoughts and interests will definitely be taken into account. Nonetheless, it was interesting to observe the differences evident in the translations of the verb into Latvian (“respektēt” vs “ievērot”) and Swedish (“hållet respektera” vs “full respekt”).

4.2 Translation and the Full-Stop Rule

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the need to retain the English sentence structure mentioned by Aleksejuka was further explained by the full-stop rule described by Zauberga (2004). During the initial research it was evident that such a rule truly exists, as retaining the same sentence structure as in the ST seemed to almost be the main objective of translation. While the need for it is understandable (politicians have to be able to follow the negotiations based on the part of the sentence under discussion), the resulting sentences might seem quite odd and sometimes incomprehensible to a native reader. This proved to be true during the analysis and comparisons of translations of EC’s conclusions into Latvian and Swedish as

well (see Table 4.2.1, where the same parts of sentences in all 3 languages have been marked with the same colour).

Table 4.2.1 Consequences of the Full-Stop rule

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
<p>Substantive Union law to be applied by the European Central Bank in the exercise of its functions of single supervisor, or by the Single Resolution Board or Union bodies exercising similar functions, including the single rulebook as regards prudential requirements for credit institutions or other legislative measures to be adopted for the purpose of safeguarding financial stability, may need to be conceived in a more uniform manner than corresponding rules to be applied by national authorities of Member States that do not take part in the banking union.</p>	<p>Savienības materiālo tiesību normas, ko piemēros Eiropas Centrālā banka, īstenojot savas funkcijas kā vienotā uzraudzības iestāde, vai Vienotā noregulējuma valde vai Savienības struktūras, kas veic līdzīgas funkcijas, tostarp vienoto noteikumu kopumu par prudenciālajām prasībām attiecībā uz kredītiestādēm vai citus likumdošanas pasākumus, kas jāpieņem nolūkā nodrošināt finanšu stabilitāti, var nākties izstrādāt saskaņotākā veidā nekā attiecīgos noteikumus, ko piemēros to dalībvalstu iestādes, kas nepiedalās banku savienībā</p>	<p>Materiell unionsrätt som ska tillämpas av Europeiska centralbanken vid utövandet av dess funktion som gemensam tillsynsmyndighet eller av den gemensamma resolutionsnämnden eller unionsorgan som utövar liknande funktioner, inklusive det enhetliga regelverket vad gäller tillsynskrav för kreditinstitut eller andra lagstiftningsåtgärder som ska antas för att trygga den finansiella stabiliteten, kan behöva utformas på ett mer enhetligt sätt än motsvarande bestämmelser som ska tillämpas av nationella myndigheter i medlemsstater som inte deltar i bankunionen.</p>
<p>The implementation of measures, including the supervision or resolution of financial institutions and markets, and macro-prudential responsibilities, to be taken in view of preserving the financial stability of Member States whose currency is not the euro is, subject to the requirements of group and consolidated supervision and resolution, a matter for their own authorities and own budgetary responsibility, unless such Member States wish to join common mechanisms open to their participation.</p>	<p>Pasākumu īstenošana, tostarp finanšu iestāžu un tirgu uzraudzība vai noregulējums, un makroprudenciālie pienākumi, kas jāuzņemas nolūkā saglabāt to dalībvalstu finanšu stabilitāti, kuru valūta nav euro, ņemot vērā grupas un konsolidētās uzraudzības prasības un noregulējumu, attiecas uz šo valstu iestādēm un atbildību budžeta jomā, ja vien šādas dalībvalstis nevēlas pievienoties kopējiem mehānismiem, kuros tās var piedalīties.</p>	<p>Genomförandet av åtgärder, inbegripet tillsyn eller resolution av finansinstitut och marknader och ansvar för makrotillsyn, som vidtas i syfte att bevara den finansiella stabiliteten i medlemsstater som inte har euron som valuta är, med förbehåll för kraven på gruppbaserad tillsyn och resolution, en fråga för dessa stater egna myndigheter och omfattas av deras eget budgetansvar, såvida inte medlemsstaterna i fråga vill ansluta sig till de gemensamma mekanismer som är öppna för deras deltagande.</p>
<p>In accordance with Union law, Member States are able to take action to prevent abuse of rights or fraud, such as the presentation of forged documents, and address cases of contracting or maintaining marriages of convenience with third country nationals for the purpose of making use of free movement as a route for</p>	<p>Saskaņā ar Savienības tiesību aktiem dalībvalstis spēj rīkoties, lai novērstu tiesību ļaunprātīgu izmantošanu vai krāpšanu, piemēram, viltotu dokumentu iesniegšanu, un tās var vērsties pret fiktīvām laulībām ar trešo valstu valstspiederīgajiem, kuras tiek noslēgtas vai uzturētas tādēļ, lai izmantotu brīvu</p>	<p>Medlemsstaterna kan i enlighet med unionsrätten vidta åtgärder för att förhindra missbruk av rättigheter eller bedrägeri, t.ex. ingivande av förfälskade handlingar, och åtgärda fall där skenäktenskap med tredjelandsmedborgare ingås eller upprätthålls i syfte att utnyttja den fria rörligheten för att regularisera olaglig vistelse</p>

<p>regularising unlawful stay in a Member State or address cases of making use of free movement as a route for bypassing national immigration rules applying to third country nationals.</p>	<p>pārvietošanos un tādējādi legalizētu nelikumīgu uzturēšanos kādā dalībvalstī, vai vērsties pret gadījumiem, kad brīva pārvietošanās tiek izmantota kā ceļš, lai apietu valsts imigrācijas noteikumus, ko piemēro trešo valstu valstspiederīgajiem.</p>	<p>i en medlemsstat eller fall där den fria rörligheten utnyttjas för att kringgå nationella immigrationsbestämmelser tillämpliga på tredjelandsmedborgare</p>
<p>With reference to paragraph 2(b) of Section D of the Decision of the Heads of State or Government, meeting within the European Council, concerning a new settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union, the European Commission will table a proposal to amend Regulation 492/2011 on freedom of movement for workers within the Union to provide for a safeguard mechanism with the understanding that it can and will be used and therefore will act as a solution to the United Kingdom's concerns about the exceptional inflow of workers from elsewhere in the European Union that it has seen over the last years.</p>	<p>Atsaucoties uz D iedaļas 2. punkta b) apakšpunktu Eiropadomē sanākušo valstu vai to valdību vadītāju Lēmumā par jaunu regulējumu attiecībā uz Apvienoto Karalisti Eiropas Savienībā, Eiropas Komisija iesniedz priekšlikumu grozīt Regulu Nr. 492/2011 par darba ņēmēju brīvu pārvietošanos Savienībā, lai paredzētu garantiju mehānismu ar domu, ka tas var tikt un tiks izmantots un tādēļ darbosies kā risinājums, lai kļiedētu Apvienotās Karalistes bažas par darba ņēmēju ārkārtējo pieplūdumu no citām vietām Eiropas Savienībā, kādu tā pēdējos gados ir pieredzējusi.</p>	<p>Med hänvisning till punkt 2 b i avsnitt D i beslutet av stats- och regeringscheferna, församlade i Europeiska rådet, om en ny överenskommelse för Förenade kungariket inom Europeiska unionen kommer Europeiska kommissionen att lägga fram ett förslag om ändring av förordning (EU) nr 492/2011 om arbetskraftens fria rörlighet inom unionen för att sörja för en skyddsmekanism, varvid det förutsätts att den kan och kommer att användas och därför kommer att fungera som en lösning på Förenade kungarikets oro över den exceptionella tillströmning av arbetstagare från annat håll i Europeiska unionen som landet har bevitnat under de senaste åren.</p>
<p>The Council invites Member States, when preparing the first update of their stability/convergence programme after a new government has taken office, to show continuity with respect to the budgetary targets endorsed by the Council on the basis of the previous update of the stability/convergence programme and – with an outlook for the whole legislature – to provide information on the means and instruments which it intends to employ to reach these targets by setting out its budgetary strategy.</p>	<p>Padome aicina dalībvalstis, sagatavojot pirmo stabilitātes/konverģences programmas atjaunināšanu, pēc jaunās valdības stāšanās pie amata pienākumu pildīšanas, ievērot nepārtrauktību attiecībā uz budžeta jomā izvirzītajiem mērķiem, kas uz iepriekšējās stabilitātes/konverģences programmas atjaunināšanas pamata apstiprināti Padomē un –perspektīvā visiem likumdevējiem– sniegt informāciju par līdzekļiem un instrumentiem, kādus tā domā izmantot šo mērķu sasniegšanai, izstrādājot savu budžeta stratēģiju.</p>	<p>Rådet uppmanar medlemsstaterna att, vid utarbetandet av den första uppdateringen av stabilitets- och konvergensprogrammet efter det att en ny regering har tillträtt, visa kontinuitet med avseende på de budgetmål som rådet har godkänt på grundval av den tidigare uppdateringen av stabilitets- och konvergensprogrammet och att –med sikte på hela mandatperioden – lämna information om de medel och instrument som man avser att använda för att nå dessa mål genom att fastställa sin budgetstrategi.</p>

The five sentences compared in Table 4.2.1 are only a few examples of the full-stop rule, as almost the entire corpus has been written in this manner. During the analysis, it seemed rather interesting to see how the sentences in the ST and the TT in both Latvian and Swedish

followed the exact same order of presenting information. Although in some cases commas were introduced in the translations into Latvian (e.g. “rules applying to third country nationals” is translated as “noteikumi, ko piemēro trešo valstu valstspiederīgajiem” or “the understanding that it can and will be used” is translated as “doma, ka tas var tikt un tiks izmantots”), it did not change the overall flow of information. As to why the punctuation did not change in the translations into Swedish, some research suggest that commas are actually far more frequent in English than Swedish, which might be due to the fact that in English “commas are often used to delimit different types of elements from each other, whereas commas in Swedish are used to separate the same types of elements” (Lindqvist, 2012: 56). Therefore, since the sentences in the EC’s conclusions do not include often listings of the same types of elements, there is no need to introduce commas in the translation into Swedish.

Although the use of commas is a lot stricter in Latvian, especially due to the need to separate different parts of the sentence, there were a few cases where the comma in the ST vanished from the Latvian TT (e.g. “In accordance with the Union law, Member States are able to take action” was translated as “Saskaņā ar Savienības tiesību aktiem dalībvalstis spēj rīkoties” and “Medlemsstaterna kan i enlighet med unionsrätten vidta åtgärder”, respectively). Both the disappearing commas and the fact that the order of information was slightly changed in the translation into Swedish (in the translation, the translation of “in accordance with the Union law” was slightly moved from the start of the sentence) show that some minor changes within the sentence are allowed as long as they do not drastically change the meaning or the overall order of parts of the sentence.

While the mentioned sentences might seem normal and understandable after re-reading them several times, it is clear that they are too information loaded to be understood by reading them just once. Most sentences seem to have at least five parts, all of which are equally important, and seem to consist of around 50 words, with the lengthiest sentences having more than 70 words. Even if the translator would like to make some structural changes and maybe divide such a lengthy sentence into two parts, it is not allowed when translating the EU texts.

Nonetheless, the full-stop rule also kind of facilitates the translator’s work since there is no need to try to figure out with which part of the sentence to start the translation or how to localize and re-order the parts of the sentence to make them sound more natural. Thanks to the full-stop rule translators can focus on each thought and part of the sentence separately.

In short, lengthy and information loaded sentences can be observed throughout EU documentation, including the EC’s conclusions. These sentences are probably the result of the full-stop rule. However, even if the resulting sentences might seem odd to a native speaker of the language, this rule does seem to simplify the work of translators, for instance, in terms of

deciding on which is the main part of a sentence. The examples found in the corpus also presented interesting observations on minor changes introduced within the limits of a sentence. Still, most sentences in the TL seemed to retain the sentence structure used in the SL, presenting the information in the exact same order in all available languages. Thus, it can be concluded that the full-stop rule does indeed exist and is very evident in EU texts.

4.3 Translation and the Eurojargon

Eurojargon is designed for a wide range of users, including but not limited to journalists, specialist consultants, academics, local authority staff, politicians, etc. Although an average EU citizen most likely will not understand it, it is included in almost all EU documents.

Despite the fact that Eurojargon “does not claim to offer multilingual access” (Ramsay, 2000: v), one of the aims of the thesis was to see how it has been translated by different language units. To achieve this aim, the three features suggested by Veisbergs (2018) were analysed:

- use of terms connected with the EU (acronyms, terms, institutions, treaties, committees, programmes, etc.);
- style and sentence structures (legalese);
- specific/new meanings, the status of which is often unclear.

As for the use of terms connected with the EU, most of the cases found in the EC’s conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish were acronyms (see Table 4.3.1).

Table 4.3.1 Use of terms connected with the EU in EC’s conclusions

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
CIP – Competitiveness and Innovation Programme	CIP – Konkurētspējas un jauninājumu programma	Programmet för konkurrenskraft och innovation
IPR – Intellectual Property Rights	IPR – Intelektuālā īpašuma tiesības	Immateriella äganderätten
SMEs – Small and medium sized enterprises	MVU – Mazie un vidējie uzņēmumi	Små och medelstora företag
ICT – Information and communication technologies	IKT – Informācijas un komunikāciju tehnoloģijas	Informations- och kommunikationsteknik
IRISL – Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line	IRISL – Irānas Islāma Republikas Kuģniecība	IRISL – Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line
IRGC – Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps	IRGC – Islāma revolucionāro gvardu korpus	IRGC – Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps
EIB – European Investment Bank	EIB – Eiropas Investīciju banka	EIB
UPC – Unified Patent Court	Vienotā patent tiesa	Enhetliga patentdomstolens förstainstansrätt
Multiannual Financial Framework	DFS – Daudz gadu finanšu shēma	Fleråriga budgetramen
CEAS – Common European Asylum System	KEPS – Kopējā Eiropas patvēruma sistēma	CEAS – Gemensamma Europeiska Asylsystemet
EASO – European Asylum Support Office	EASO – Eiropas Patvēruma atbalsta birojs	EASO – Europeiska Stödkontoret för Asylfrågor

CSR – Country-specific recommendations	KVAI – Konkrētām valstīm adresēti ieteikumi	Landsspecifika rekommendationerna
EES – European Energy Security Strategy	EEDS – Eiropas enerģētiskās drošības stratēģija	Europeiska strategi för energitrygghet
ESF – European Social Fund	ESF – Eiropas Sociālais fonds	ESF – Europeiska socialfonden
YEI – Youth Employment Initiative	JNI – Jaunatnes nodarbinātības ierosme	Ungdomssysselsättnings-initiativet
FTA – Free Trade Agreement	BTN – Brīvās tirdzniecības nolīgums	Frihandelsavtal

Table 4.3.1 lists only a few examples of acronyms used in the EC’s conclusions, as there were many other cases found in the corpus. However, the presented examples of use of acronyms show that acronyms are indeed used to shorten the titles of and terms related to different programmes, business, corporations, organisations, strategies, agreements, etc., as suggested by Veisbergs (2018).

It is also evident that there seems to be a lack of a system as to how such acronyms and abbreviations should or should not be translated. For instance, while the general practice is not to translate abbreviations, some abbreviations have been translated into Latvian, while others are left as they were in the original (e.g. CIP – CIP, EASO – EASO, while CSR – KVAI, FTA – BTN, etc.). Moreover, in one case one abbreviation was translated and another one was left untranslated within the same sentence. Seems like the translation into Swedish is following this guideline better than the Latvian one as the abbreviations and acronyms in the Swedish translation have been retained the same as in the original. However, it is also important to note that only a few acronyms are actually retained in the Swedish translation (out of the 16 examples presented above, only 6 have been transferred to the Swedish text). This might be explained by the fact that quite a number of words in Swedish are compound nouns, which basically eliminates the need for acronyms and abbreviations.

As for the style and sentence structures, this aspect largely coincides with the previously discussed full-stop rule. Nonetheless, even if the sentences are not too lengthy and do not consist of 5 parts each, they still might seem odd to a native speaker due to how much information is given within such a short sentence (see Table 4.3.2).

Table 4.3.2 Style and sentence structures in EC’s conclusions

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
Efforts must continue in order to ensure that research efforts are swiftly translated into innovations meeting market demands and thus strengthen Europe’s competitiveness and help respond to societal challenges.	Jāturpina centieni, lai nodrošinātu to, ka pētniecības rezultāti tiek ātri pārvērsti inovācijās, kas atbilst tirgus prasībām, un tādējādi tiek stiprināta Eiropas konkurētspēja un tiek sniegts ieguldījums sabiedrības problēmu risināšanā.	Det krävs fortsatta ansträngningar för att säkerställa att forskningsinsatser snabbt omvandlas till innovationer som motsvarar marknadens efterfrågan och därigenom.
The Iranian regime can act	Irānas režīms var rīkoties	Den iranska regimen kan agera

responsibly and bring sanctions to an end, but as long as it does not do so, the EU remains determined to increase in close coordination with international partners, pressure on Iran in the context of the dual-track approach.	atbildīgi, lai varētu apturēt sankcijas, taču tikmēr, kamēr tas nav noticis, ES joprojām ir apņēmusies ciešā sadarbībā ar starptautiskiem partneriem pastiprināt spiedienu uz Irānu saistībā ar divējādo pieeju.	på ett ansvarsfullt sätt och uppnå ett slut på sanktionerna, men så länge detta inte sker är EU beslutet att i nära samarbete med internationella partner öka påtryckningarna på Iran inom ramen för en tvåspårsstrategi.
The European Council invited the Council to adopt without delay, by common accord with the President-elect of the Commission, the list of other persons whom it will propose for appointment as members of the Commission.	Eiropadome aicināja Padomi, savstarpēji vienojoties ar ievēlēto Komisijas priekšsēdētāju, nekavējoties pieņemt to pārējo personu sarakstu, kuras tā ieteiks iecelt par Komisijas locekļiem.	Europeiska rådet uppmanade rådet att utan dröjsmål och i samförstånd med den person som valts till kommissionens ordförande anta den förteckning över andra personer som det kommer att föreslå för utnämning till ledamöter av kommissionen.
For some countries, the reformed cohesion policy offers an opportunity to invest out of the crisis as it is a major tool for investment, growth and job creation at EU level and for structural reforms at national level.	Dažām valstīm reformētā kohēzijas politika dod iespēju investēt, lai izklūtu no krīzes, jo ES līmenī tā ir būtisks instruments ieguldījumiem, izaugsmei un darbvietu radīšanai, un valstu līmenī – strukturālām reformām.	För vissa länder ger den reformerade sammanhållningspolitiken en möjlighet att investera sig ur krisen eftersom den är ett viktigt redskap för investering, tillväxt och skapande av arbetstillfällen på EU-nivå samt för strukturreformer på nationell nivå.
The European Council expresses concern about the crisis caused by the Ebola virus in Africa and stresses the importance of the international community as a whole providing substantial coordinated support to the countries of the region, to NGOs and to the World Health Organisation (WHO) to help them tackle the disease as swiftly and efficiently as possible.	Eiropadome pauž bažas par Eholas vīrusa radīto krīzi Āfrikā un izceļ to, cik svarīgi ir visai starptautiskajai kopienai sniegt nozīmīgu koordinētu atbalstu šā reģiona valstīm, NVO un Pasaules Veselības organizācijai (PVO), lai palīdzētu tām cīnīties pret šo slimību cik vien ātri un efektīvi tas iespējams.	Europeiska rådet uttrycker sin oro över den kris som orsakats av ebolaviruset i Afrika och betonar vikten av att det internationella samfundet som helhet tillhandahåller omfattande och samordnat stöd till länderna i regionen, icke-statliga organisationer och Världshälsoorganisationen (WHO) för att hjälpa dem att bekämpa sjukdomen så snabbt och effektivt som möjligt.

Part of the reason why these sentences are written correctly, yet seem rather clumsy could be due to verbosity since in many cases phrases that are expressed with subordinated clauses can be easily expressed without them (e.g. “pēc tam, kad būs pieņemti priekšlikumi” could be shortened to “pēc priekšlikumu pieņemšanas”, “taču tikmēr, kamēr tas nav noticis” – “taču kamēr tas nav noticis”, “izceļ to, cik svarīgi ir visai starptautiskajai kopienai sniegt nozīmīgu koordinētu atbalstu” – “izceļ visas starptautiskās kopienas sniegta koordinēta atbalsta nozīmīgumu”). Moreover, the Latvian translation includes some structural changes that actually seem to have made the text less comprehensible (e.g. “The European Council notes the Commission's intention to propose a single resolution mechanism for Member States participating in the SSM once the proposals for a Recovery and Resolution Directive and for a

Deposit Guarantee Scheme Directive have been adopted.” has been translated as “Eiropadome nem vērā, ka pēc tam, kad būs pieņemti priekšlikumi Sanācijas un noregulējuma direktīvai un Noguldījumu garantiju sistēmas direktīvai, Komisija ir iecerējusi nākt klajā ar priekšlikumu par vienotu noregulējuma mehānismu dalībvalstīm, kas piedalās VUM.”, where the ending of the original English sentence has been moved to the middle of the translated Latvian sentence without any apparent reason).

It is also interesting to note that the translations into Swedish have been translated literally (e.g. the previous example has been translated as “Europeiska rådet noterar kommissionens avsikt att föreslå en gemensam rekonstruktionsmekanism för de medlemsstater som deltar i den gemensamma tillsynsmekanismen efter det att förslagen till direktiv om återhämtning och rekonstruktion av banker och om insättningsgarantisystem har antagits”). The drastic difference between how confusing the translated sentences look in the translations into Latvian and how natural they turn out to be in translations into Swedish could be explained by the previously mentioned observation on the use of commas. While the abundance of commas in Latvian sentences make them seem a lot more complicated than they actually are, the lack of them facilitates the information flow in Swedish sentences.

Finally, as for the specific and new meanings of already existing words, the status of which is often unclear, even more examples were found for the words indicated in the initial research – dimension, synergy and mobility (see Table 4.3.3).

Table 4.3.3 Specific meanings found in the EC’s conclusions

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
It focused in particular on enhanced economic policy coordination, strengthening the social <u>dimension</u> of the Economic and Monetary Union and completing the Banking Union.	Tā it īpaši koncentrējās uz pastiprinātu ekonomikas politikas koordināciju, uz sociālās <u>dimensijas</u> stiprināšanu ekonomiskajā un monetārajā savienībā un uz banku savienības pilnīgu izveidi.	Det fokuserade särskilt på att stärka samordningen av den ekonomiska politiken, stärka Ekonomiska och monetära unionens sociala <u>dimension</u> och fullborda bankunionen
To achieve these objectives, the Union must mobilise all appropriate national and Community resources – including the cohesion policy – in the Strategy's three <u>dimensions</u> (economic, social and environmental) so as better to tap into their <u>synergies</u> in a general context of sustainable development.	Šo mērķu sasniegšanai Savienībai ir jāmobilizē visi atbilstīgie valstu un Kopienas resursi, tostarp kohēzijas politika, stratēģijas trīs <u>aspektos</u> (ekonomikas, sociālajā un vides aizsardzības aspektā), lai labāk izmantotu to <u>sinerģiju</u> saistībā ar ilgtspējīgu attīstību.	För att uppnå dessa mål måste unionen i högre grad mobilisera alla lämpliga nationella resurser och gemenskapsresurser – inbegripet sammanhållningspolitiken – i strategins tre <u>dimensioner</u> , den ekonomiska, den sociala och den miljömässiga, för att bättre kunna utnyttja <u>synergieffekterna</u> inom en allmän ram för hållbar utveckling.
In order to enhance co-	Lai uzlabotu sadarbību ar	I syfte att stärka samarbetet

operation with the neighbouring countries the European Council encourages the Council to take further action to make full use of the Northern <u>dimension</u> and its partnerships.	kaimiņvalstīm, Eiropadome mudina Padomi veikt turpmākas darbības, lai pilnībā izmantotu Ziemeļu <u>dimensiju</u> un tās partnerības.	med grannlānderna uppmanar Europeiska rådet rådet att vidta ytterligare åtgärder för att till fullo utnyttja den nordliga <u>dimensionen</u> och dess partnerskap.
It stresses the need to optimise <u>synergy</u> among Community programmes, to improve the transformation of research findings into innovative products and services and to ensure appropriate knowledge sharing between all partners.	Tā uzsver vajadzību optimizēt Kopienas programmu <u>sinerģiju</u> , lai uzlabotu pētniecības rezultātu pārvēršanu novatoriskos ražojumos un pakalpojumos, kā arī visiem partneriem nodrošinātu attiecīgu dalīšanos zināšanās.	Europeiska rådet framhåller nödvändigheten av att i möjligaste mån öka <u>synergien</u> mellan olika gemenskapsprogram och förbättra omvandlingen av forskningsrön till innovativa produkter och tjänster samt säkerställa att kunskaper på lämpligt sätt utbyts mellan alla partner.
Deciding on new actions should be done in <u>synergy</u> with the work carried out by existing international institutions, fora, mechanisms or processes.	Lēmumus par jaunām darbībām vajadzētu pieņemt, pieturoties pie <u>sinerģijām</u> ar darbu, ko veic pašreiz esošās starptautiskas iestādes, forumi, mehānismi vai procesi.	Beslut om nya åtgärder bör fattas i <u>synergi</u> med det arbete som sker inom befintliga internationella institutioner, forum, mekanismer eller processer.
There will be effective complementarity between the Eastern Partnership and existing regional initiatives in the EU's neighbourhood, in particular the Black Sea <u>Synergy</u> .	Tiks panākta efektīva papildinātība starp Austrumu partnerību un spēkā esošajām ierosmēm ES kaimiņvalstīs, jo īpaši ar Melnās jūras reģiona <u>sinerģiju</u> .	En effektivkomplementaritet kommer att råda mellan det östliga partnerskapet och befintliga regionala initiativ i EU:s närområde, framför allt med <u>Svartahavssynergien</u> .
The EU, in line with the Global Approach to Migration, should also take gradual steps towards full visa liberalisation as a long term goal for individual partner countries and on a case by case basis provided that conditions for well-managed and secure <u>mobility</u> are in place.	ES, ievērojot Vispārējo pieeju migrācijas jautājumiem, būtu pakāpeniski jāveic pasākumi, lai ilgtermiņā pilnībā liberalizētu vīzu režīmu konkrētam partnervalstīm un izskatot katru gadījumu atsevišķi, ar nosacījumu, ka ir izveidoti priekšnoteikumi labi pārvaldītai un drošai <u>mobilitātei</u> .	I enlighet med den övergripande strategin för migration bör EU också ta successiva steg mot en fullständig viseringsliberaliseringsom ett mål på lång sikt för de enskilda partnerländerna efter prövning från fall till fall, under förutsättning att en väladministrerad och säker <u>rörlighet</u> finns på plats.
In this respect, the European Council welcomes the launching of Pilot <u>Mobility</u> Partnerships with Cape Verde and the Republic of Moldova and looks forward to the opening of the dialogue on such Partnerships with Georgia and Senegal.	Tāpēc Eiropadome pauž gandarījumu par uzsāktajām izmēģinājuma <u>mobilitātes</u> partnerībām ar Kaboverdi un Moldovas Republiku un gaida dialoga sākšanu par tādām partnerībām ar Gruziju un Senegālu.	I detta sammanhang välkomnar Europeiska rådet att pilotpartnerskap för <u>rörlighet</u> har ingåtts med Kap Verde och Republiken Moldavien och ser fram emot att dialogen omsådada partnerskap ska inledas med Georgien och Senegal.
The European Council looks forward to the presentation of an amended proposal for the Directive on minimum	Eiropadome gaida grozīta priekšlikuma iesniegšanu sakarā ar direktīvu par obligātajām prasībām, lai	Europeiska rådet ser fram mot framläggandet av ett ändrat förslagtilldirektivomminimikrav för förbättrad <u>rörlighet</u> för

requirements for enhancing worker <u>mobility</u> by improving the vesting and preservation of supplementary pension rights as a basis for the continuation of work on this subject.	veicinātu darba ņēmēju <u>mobilitāti</u> , uzlabojot papildpensiju tiesību iegūšanu un saglabāšanu, kas būtu pamats darba turpinājumam šajā jomā.	arbetstagare genom bättre möjligheter för förvärvande och bevarande av kompletterande pensionsrättigheter som skall ligga till grund för det fortsatta arbetet på detta område.
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Overall the term “dimension” appeared in 98 cases, the term “synergy” – in 51 cases, and the term “mobility” – in 60 cases throughout the corpus. In all cases no description or explanation of the term followed and the reader was left guessing whether, for instance, the term “mobility” refers to one’s “ability to move or travel” or maybe to “employee flexibility”.

However, it seems important to note that, while the terms “dimension” and “synergy” seem to be used the same in both translations, the term “mobility” is not. In Swedish translations the term “mobility” is translated as “rörlighet”. This seems particularly peculiar due to the fact that the word “mobilitet” in Swedish means the same as the English term “mobility”. Unfortunately, it is impossible to determine the reason for translator’s choice of words by merely looking at the translation. Perhaps this observation could motivate further research on translator’s choice of words, yet the exact reason for using “rörlighet” instead of “mobilitet” probably might be explained only by the particular translator.

Of course, these were not the only words with EU specific meanings found in the EC’s conclusions. Other examples included terms “to dispose”, “actors”, “exercise” and “articulate” (see Table 4.3.4).

Table 4.3.4 New meanings found in the EC’s conclusions

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
In addition, the ESM will also <u>dispose</u> of a combination of committed callable capital and of guarantees from euro area Member States to a total amount of € 620 billion.	Turklāt ESM <u>riņcībā</u> būs arī eurozonas dalībvalstu rezervētā pieprasāmā kapitāla un garantiju apvienojums kopsummā EUR 620 miljardu apmērā.	ESM ska dessutom <u>förfoga</u> över en kombination av utfäst garantikapital och garantier från euroområdet medlemsstaterna på totalt 620 miljarder euro.
This will only work if they are two-way streets based on mutual interests and benefits and on the recognition that all <u>actors</u> have rights as well as duties.	Tās būs efektīvas tikai tad, ja tās būs savstarpēji pretimnākošas un to pamatā būs kopējas intereses un ieguvumi, kā arī – ja tiks atzīts, ka savas tiesības un pienākumi ir visām <u>iesaistītajām pusēm</u> .	Detta kan endast fungera om verksamheten sker i båda riktningarna och bygger på gemensamma intressen och ömsesidig nytta och på insikten att alla <u>aktörer</u> har såväl rättigheter som skyldigheter.
In this context it noted the pledge of Member States taking part in the Euro Plus Pact to enhance the ambition and precision of their commitments in next year's <u>exercise</u> .	Šajā ziņā tā atzīmēja paktā "Euro plus" iesaistīto dalībvalstu apņemšanos, proti, nākamā gada izvērtējumā uzņemties vēl vērienīgākas un precīzākas <u>saistības</u> .	I detta sammanhang noterade Europeiska rådet löfte från europluspaktens medlemsstater om att stärka ambitionen och precisionen i <u>åtagandena</u> för nästa budgetår.
In response to these challenges and on the basis of the well <u>articulated</u> Commission's	Pievēršoties šīm problēmām un pamatojoties uz Komisijas labi <u>izstrādāto</u> Zaļo grāmatu	För att möta dessa utmaningar och på grundval av kommissionens <u>välformulerade</u>

Green Paper "A European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy" and contribution of the Council, the European Council calls for an Energy Policy for Europe.	"Eiropas stratēģija ilgtspējīgai, konkurētspējīgai un drošai enerģijai", kā arī Padomes ieguldījumu, Eiropadome aicina izstrādāt Eiropas enerģētikas politiku.	grönbok "En europeisk strategi för en hållbar, konkurrenskraftig och trygg energiförsörjning" samt rådets bidrag efterlyser Europeiska rådet en energipolitik för Europa.
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Usually the verb "to dispose" means "to get rid of something, especially by throwing it away" or it is used in a combination "to dispose somebody to/towards somebody/something" with the meaning "to make someone feel a particular way towards someone or something" (Online 14). However, in the EC's conclusions "to dispose" is used in a rather unusual meaning – "to have" or "to possess".

Similarly, the word "actor" in general is mostly used to describe "someone who pretends to be someone else while performing in a film, play, or television or radio programme" (Online 14), yet in the EC's conclusions the word "actor" stands for an "interested party". Interestingly, the word "aktörer" does not seem to have such a deep-rooted meaning in Swedish and it is retained in the translation, while the word "aktieris" has only one meaning in Latvian, thus, has been replaced in the translation.

The noun "exercise" in general means "physical activity that one does to make their body strong and healthy" or a little less often it is "an action or actions intended to improve something or make something happen" (Online 14). However, in the case found in the EC's conclusions it means "commitments".

The final example was found for the word "articulated" which in general can be explained with an example that "an articulated vehicle consists of two or more parts that bend where they are joined, in order to help the vehicle turn corners" (Online 14). Nonetheless, in the EC's conclusions it is used to describe something that is "structured" or "formulated".

The analysis concerning Eurojargon in the EC's conclusions showed that abbreviations and acronyms are often used to shorten the names of different programmes, business, corporations, organisations, strategies, agreements, etc. However, there seems to be a lack of organisation in terms of how acronyms and abbreviations are transferred to TL. The sentences are mostly literal translations and the abundance of commas in Latvian sentences make them seem a lot more complicated than they actually are, while the lack of them facilitates the information flow in Swedish sentences. Three words were found to have specific meanings, the status of which often were unclear in the context of the EU, including the EC's conclusions – dimension, synergy and mobility. Moreover, four words were found to have new meanings – to dispose, an actor, an exercise and articulated.

4.4 Translation and the Source Text

Considering the fact that EC's conclusions are written by non-native speakers of English, another question put forward for analysis was whether or not it is possible to indicate that the author of the text is not a native speaker of the language based on text analysis. In terms of EC's conclusions, the most evident sign seemed to be repetition of words within the same paragraph or even within the same sentence, which could signal the author's lack of vocabulary (see Table 4.4.1).

Table 4.4.1 Repetition of the same word found in EC's conclusions

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
It is likewise important to <u>rapidly</u> complete the regulatory reform of the financial sector. Building on the political agreement recently achieved, the European Market Infrastructure Regulation should now be adopted as <u>rapidly</u> as possible.	Tāpat ir svarīgi <u>drīzumā</u> pabeigt finanšu nozares regulējuma reformu. Pamatojoties uz nesen panākto politisko vienošanos, pēc iespējas <u>drīz</u> būtu jāpieņem Regula par Eiropas tirgus infrastruktūru.	Det är likaså viktigt att <u>snabbt</u> slutföra lagstiftningsreformen för den finansiella sektorn. Mot bakgrund av den politiska överenskommelse som nyligen nåddes bör förordningen om Europas marknadsinfrastrukturer nu antas så <u>snabbt</u> som möjligt.
To ensure, both for European citizens and for the functioning of the area of freedom, security and justice, that questions on points of law brought before the Court are answered <u>quickly</u> , it is necessary to enable the Court to respond <u>quickly</u> as required by Article III-369 of the Constitutional Treaty.	Lai panāktu to, ka Eiropas pilsoņu interesēs, kā arī, lai darbotos brīvības, drošības un tiesiskuma telpa, tiktu nodrošināta <u>ātra</u> Tiesai sniegto tiesību jautājumu risināšana, ir nepieciešams, lai Tiesa būtu spējīga <u>ātri</u> apmierināt iesniegtās prasības, kā paredzēts Konstitūcijas līguma III-369. pantā.	För att, av hänsyn till både europeiska medborgare och till ett väl fungerande område med frihet, säkerhet och rättvisa, se till att rättsfrågor som hänskjuts till domstolen besvaras <u>snabbt</u> är det nödvändigt att ge domstolen möjlighet att meddela avgörande <u>snabbt</u> i enlighet med artikel III-369 i det konstitutionella fördraget.
The European Council stressed that the outcome of this comprehensive review was not a foregone conclusion: the implementation of standards, <u>particularly</u> those which have been identified as a priority, and the decentralisation process are of <u>particular</u> importance.	Eiropadome uzsvēra, ka vispārējās pārskatīšanas rezultāts nav iepriekš paredzams: <u>īpaši</u> nozīmīgas ir standartu, jo <u>īpaši</u> prioritāro, īstenošana un decentralizācija.	Europeiska rådet betonade att resultatet av den övergripande granskningen inte ärgivet på förhand och genomförandet av normerna, <u>i synnerhet</u> de som fastställts som prioriteringar, och decentraliseringsprocessen har en <u>särskild</u> vikt.
In addition, the European Council calls for a <u>speedy</u> examination of the Commission's forthcoming legislative proposal to strengthen the rules on rating agencies and their supervision at European level. It calls for <u>speedy</u> decisions on the development of European rules on the security of deposits to ensure that savers are protected.	Turklāt Eiropadome aicina <u>ātri</u> izskatīt nākamo Komisijas tiesību akta priekšlikumu, lai stiprinātu kredītvērtējuma aģentūras un to uzraudzību Eiropas mērogā. Tā aicina <u>ātri</u> pieņemt lēmumus par Eiropas noteikumu izstrādi noguldījumu drošības jomā, lai aizsargātu noguldītājus.	Europeiska rådet begär vidare en <u>snabb</u> behandling av kommissionens kommande lagstiftningsförslag för att stärka ramarna för kreditvärderingsinstitutet och tillsynen avdessapå europeisk nivå. Det manar till <u>snabba</u> beslut i fråga om framtagande av gemenskapsbestämmelser för säkerheten när det gäller insättningar i syfte att säkerställa attspararna skyddas.

<p>The measures referred to in the introductory paragraph should take into account that Member States have the right to <u>define</u> the fundamental principles of their social security systems and enjoy a broad margin of discretion to <u>define</u> and implement their social and employment policy, including setting the conditions for access to welfare benefits.</p>	<p>Ievadā minētajos pasākumos būtu jāņem vērā, ka dalībvalstīm ir tiesības <u>noteikt</u> savu sociālā nodrošinājuma sistēmu pamatprincipus un tām ir plaša rīcības brīvība <u>noteikt</u> un īstenot savu sociālo un nodarbinātības politiku, tostarp paredzot nosacījumus, ar ko reglamentē piekļuvi sociālajiem pabalstiem.</p>	<p>De åtgärder som avses i det inledande stycket bör beakta att medlemsstaterna har rätt att <u>fastställa</u> de grundläggande principerna för sina sociala trygghetssystem och har ett stort utrymme för skönsmässig bedömning när det gäller att <u>fastställa</u> och genomföra sin social- och sysselsättningspolitik, vilket innefattar att fastställa villkoren för tillgång till sociala förmåner.</p>
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As can be observed in the examples presented in Table 4.4.1, identical words or words with the same stem are repeated both within the same sentence and within the same paragraph, which is usually recommended to be avoided since it can cause redundancy and unwillingness of the reader to finish reading the text.

In almost all cases translators had retained the repetitions in their translations although in some cases the word categories were changed (e.g. adverb “rapidly” was translated into Latvian as “drīzumā” (adverb) and “drīz” (adverb), while it was translated into Swedish as an adjective “snabbt”). The only case where the repetition was not transferred into the TL was the adjective “particular” and the adverb “particularly”, both of which were translated as “īpaši” (adverb) in Latvian. However, in the Swedish translation “particular” (adjective) was translated as “särskild” (adjective), while the adverb “particularly” was translated as “i synnerhet” (adverb). This can be explained by the fact that Swedish simply does not have an adverb derived from the adjective “särskild”, nor an adjective derived from the adverb “i synnerhet”.

Although repetition is evident in the EC’s conclusions, it does not seem to affect the overall flow of the text too much. Moreover, the words seem to be repeated only twice per sentence or paragraph, leaving the cases of three and more repetitions rather rare. Moreover, each set of EC’s conclusions did not seem to have more than one such repetition. Therefore, it was concluded that such repetition does not affect the overall quality of the text or flow of information.

4.5 Translation Strategies

As for the translation strategies evident in the EC’s conclusions, the seven strategy model suggested by Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) was put forward for analysis, which consisted of borrowings, calques, literal translations, transposition, modulation, equivalence and adaptation. Although the model might seem to be a bit old, the EC’s conclusions did seem

simple and standardized enough to fit within the framework of this model. Already at the beginning of this stage of analysis, it became clear that the results would largely overlap with the results of previous stages of analysis. Nonetheless, Vinay and Darbelnet’s model offered an opportunity to categorize and once again explain the overall results of the research.

In terms of borrowings, no words were found that could be classified as borrowed either in Swedish or Latvian to fill a semantic gap in the TL. Actually, most cases seemed to be calques where the structure or expression used in the SL was transferred to the TL text via a literal translation. Almost all cases where the SL word was transferred directly to the TL seemed to overlap with the previously discussed words with specific and/or new meanings, thus:

- “dimension” (EN) is translated by using the borrowings “dimensija” (LV) and “dimension” (SV);
- “synergy” (EN) – by using “sinerģija” (LV) and “synergi” (SV);
- “mobility” (EN) – by using “mobilitāte” (LV), yet not using “mobilitet” (SV).

The choice to use a calque could be justified by the fact that in most cases the EC’s conclusions did not include explanations as to what was meant with these particular terms. In some cases, the same word was used in three different contexts within the same document, thus, the translator probably had to make a choice of whether to risk by using a specific word or to just use a borrowing. Since EU documents, including EC’s conclusions, are serious legal texts, it is understandable why translators mostly chose the safe route of using a borrowing.

Literal translation was very evident throughout the analysis, as almost all translated sentences included in the corpus had the same sentence structure as the original sentences. Not only was the information presented in the exact same order but even the number of parts of the sentence often seemed to match in all 3 languages (see Table 4.5.1 where each piece of information expressed in the sentence is marked with the same colour in all 3 languages).

Table 4.5.1 Literal translation in EC’s conclusions

Source Text (EN)	Target Text (LV)	Target Text (SV)
Member States have the possibility of refusing to grant social benefits to persons who exercise their right to freedom of movement solely in order to obtain Member States' social assistance although they do not have sufficient resources to claim a right of residence.	Dalībvalstīm ir iespēja atteikt sociālos pabalstus personām, kuras īsteno savas tiesības uz pārvietošanās brīvību tikai, lai iegūtu dalībvalstu sociālo palīdzību, lai arī viņu rīcībā nav pietiekamu līdzekļu uzturēšanās tiesību iegūšanai.	Medlemsstaterna har möjlighet att neka personer sociala förmåner när dessa utövar sin rätt till fri rörlighet uteslutande för att komma i åtnjutande av socialt bistånd från en medlemsstat trots att de saknar tillräckliga medel för att ha rätt att vistas där.
Further to the presentation by the Commission of the first flagship initiative on a 'Digital	Pēc tam, kad Komisija ir nākusi klajā ar pirmo pamatiniciatīvu "Eiropas	Med anledning av kommissionens presentation av det första huvudinitiativet

<p>Agenda for Europe', the European Council endorses the establishment of an ambitious action agenda based on concrete proposals and calls upon all institutions to engage in its full implementation, including the creation of a fully functioning digital single market by 2015.</p>	<p>digitalizācijas programma", Eiropadome apstiprina vērienīgas rīcības programmas izstrādi, pamatojoties uz konkrētiem priekšlikumiem, un aicina visas iestādes iesaistīties programmas pilnīgā īstenošanā, tostarp pilnīgi funkcionāla digitāla vienotā tirgus izveidē līdz 2015. gadam.</p>	<p>omen digital agenda för Europa ställer sig Europeiska rådet bakom upprättandet av en ambitiös åtgärdslista som bygger på konkreta förslag och uppmanar samtliga institutioner att delta i dess fullständiga genomförande, inklusive inrättandet av en fullt fungerande digital inre marknad senast 2015.</p>
<p>Given the major risks that late exit from extraordinary fiscal stimulus would entail for public accounts' sustainability, the G20 should agree on a coordinated and differentiated exit strategy to ensure sustainable public finances.</p>	<p>Ņemot vērā būtisko risku, ko publisko finanšu stabilitātei varētu radīt novēlota ārkārtas fiskālo stimulu pakāpeniska samazināšana, G20 būtu jāvienojas par koordinētu un atsevišķu valstu stāvoklim piemērotu atbalsta pakāpeniskas samazināšanas stratēģiju, lai nodrošinātu stabilas publiskās finanses.</p>	<p>Med tanke på de stora risker som en sen utfasning från de exceptionella finanspolitiska stimulansåtgärderna skulle medföra för de offentliga finansernas hållbarhet bör G20 enas om en samordnad och differentierad exitstrategi för att säkerställa hållbara offentliga finanser.</p>
<p>The European Council congratulates Estonia on the convergence it has achieved, based on sound economic and financial policies, and welcomes its fulfilment of all the convergence criteria as set out in the Treaty.</p>	<p>Eiropadome apsveic Igauniju ar tās sasniegto konvergenci, kuras pamatā ir pareiza ekonomikas un finanšu politika, un pauž gandarījumu par to, ka Igaunija atbilst visiem Līgumā noteiktajiem konverģences kritērijiem.</p>	<p>Europeiska rådet gratulerar Estland till den konvergens som landet har uppnått på grundval av sund ekonomisk politik och sund finanspolitik och noterar med tillfredsställelse att alla konvergenskriterier enligt fördraget har uppnåtts.</p>

The examples gathered in Table 4.5.1 clearly show that the translations of EC's conclusions into Latvian and Swedish are pretty much identical to the ST in terms of sentence structure, the order in which different parts of information are presented and the overall flow of information. This can be explained by the fact that major structural changes are forbidden by the full-stop rule. As previously mentioned, only a few examples of transposition (change of one part of speech into another without changing the sense) were evident in a few Latvian and Swedish texts. However, no cases of changing the semantics, nor the point of view of the SL (modulation) were found.

In terms of equivalence, the EC's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish seem to be source-oriented literal translations. While Zauberga (2004) has pointed out the tendency of EU texts to follow visual equivalence, Aleksejuka denied that the same can be said about EC's conclusions. The TL texts seemed to reproduce the content of the SL text with the form of the SL (the flow of information matches in all 3 languages) with the only real changes having been made only within the particular part of the sentence. In general, this means that some changes can be made to particular parts of the sentences, yet the order of the

information of the SL is retained, which is a requirement for the translations of all EU texts, even if it makes the TL sentences seem rather clumsy.

Finally, no cases of adaptation (changes of cultural references when a situation in the source culture does not exist in the target culture) were found, which can be explained by the fact that in reality the source culture and target culture is the same for all EU texts, as suggested by Bendegard (2012).

In short, some translation strategies were clearly evident in the EC's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish, while others were completely eliminated by the requirements as to how a translation of an EU text should be done. As a result, the use of calques, literal translations and equivalence were observed throughout the gathered corpus. A few cases of borrowings and transposition were also noticed, although they did not seem to be applied too often. Also, no cases of modulation and adaptation were found. Finally, it was concluded that EC's conclusions are source-oriented literal translations.

4.6 Conclusions

Contrastive analysis of EC's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish was carried out based on a corpus of 174 EC's conclusions, or 278 585 words in English, 220 542 words in Latvian and 249 312 words in Swedish. The main issues addressed during the analysis were political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon, the vocabulary of the author of the text and the translation strategies observed in the EC's conclusions.

It was concluded that most information about how a political compromise is achieved stays hidden in the drafting process. While some cases of different opinions are made visible with the use of footnotes, it seems to happen only in certain legal conditions. Nonetheless, another way how the political compromise is achieved seemed to be through the use of the verb "respect", which reassures the member states that their thoughts and interests will definitely be taken into account.

As for the full-stop rule, lengthy and information loaded sentences were observed throughout the corpus. Most sentences in the TL seemed to retain the sentence structure used in the SL, presenting the information in exactly the same order in all three languages. However, the word order seemed to be changed as an attempt to localize at least parts of the sentence, even if the full sentences structure still ended up being quite foreign and unnatural.

In terms of Eurojargon, the analysis showed that abbreviations and acronyms are often used to shorten the names of different programmes, business, corporations, organisations, strategies, agreements, etc. Furthermore, three words were found to have specific meanings, the status of which often were unclear in the context of the EU, including the EC's

conclusions – dimension, synergy and mobility. Moreover, four words were found to have new meanings – to dispose, an actor, an exercise and articulated.

Repetition of certain words was evident in the EC's conclusions under discussion, which implied that the author of the text might have a limited vocabulary. However, the words seemed to be repeated only twice per sentence or paragraph, leaving the cases of three and more repetitions rather rare. Moreover, each set of EC's conclusions did not seem to have more than one such repetition. Therefore, it was concluded that repetition does not affect the overall quality of the text or the flow of information.

Finally, as for the translation strategies, some were used quite a lot in the translations of EC's conclusions into Latvian and Swedish, while others were seemed to be eliminated by the requirements as to how a translation of an EU text should be done. As a result, it was concluded that the most often used translation strategies in EC's conclusions are the use of calques, literal translations and equivalence, while modulation and adaptation are the less often used translation strategies when translating EC's conclusions.

CONCLUSIONS

The aim of the thesis was to conduct a contrastive analysis of European Council's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish. Particular attention was allocated for the investigation as to how political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon, the vocabulary of the author of the text and translation strategies affect the translations of EC's conclusions into Latvian and Swedish.

In the theoretical part of the thesis, Darwish's (2010), Zauberga's (2004), Newmark's (1988), and Vinay and Darbelnet's (1958) theories were explored, which allowed all aspects of the translation process to be specified. However, the theories were further extended by works by Munday (2001), Bendegard (2012), Hatim (2001) and Johansson (2003).

In the context of this paper, a translation is viewed as both the process and the result of converting a message from the SL into an equivalent message in another TL. It was concluded that texts created by EU institutions mostly belong to a mixed form of informative and operative text types. Moreover, two significant aspects that affect the translation of EU documents were identified – visual equivalence and the full-stop rule. Despite the fact that some contrastive studies have been developed regarding translation within the EU in general, no contrastive study has been conducted, actually comparing translations into two languages and analysing the translation peculiarities identified in them.

The second part of the theory dealt with the translation process within the EU and the Language Service of the General Secretariat of the Council in particular. In this part of the paper, theories on translation process by Zauberga (2004) and Veisbergs (2018), as well as the official information on translation services within the EU provided by the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union and the Directorate-General for Translation (European Commission) were explored.

It was concluded that translation services within the EU are provided by both specialised language services (e.g. the Directorate-General for Translation, the Language Service of the General Secretariat and the Translation Centre for the EU institutions) and in-house translators working within certain EU bodies, as well as external translations are provided by freelance translators and translation agencies. Furthermore, the translation process within the EU is highly coordinated and relies heavily on cooperation. In terms of the Language Service of the General Secretariat of the Council in particular, it was concluded that the translation process is done through for 4 stages, which involve the originator, the Coordination and Planning Unit and the language units.

The first half of the empirical part of the research analysed the possible difficulties translators might face when translating EC's conclusions. The interview with Baiba Aleksejuka, Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, highlighted the main aspects the Latvian Language Unit has to deal with when translating EC's conclusions from English into Latvian. Based on the conclusions drawn from the interview, initial research was conducted by analysing a small corpus consisting of six EC's conclusions. The initial research revealed that some issues concerning translation quality (namely, political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon and the fact that not all authors of the SL texts are native English speakers) are clearly evident even without an in-depth analysis. These results were also presented at the 3rd International Winter Scientific Conference "Translator's Quest and Discovery".

The second half of the empirical part of the thesis investigated contrastive analysis of 58 EC's conclusions per language (English, Latvian, Swedish), totalling to a corpus of 174 EC's conclusions. Several key characteristics of theories by Zauberga (2004), Newmark (1988), and Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) were used as the basis for the analysis, as the research questions were answered by analysing political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon, the vocabulary of the author of the text and the translation strategies observed in the EC's conclusions. It was found that most information about how a political compromise is achieved stays hidden in the drafting process, yet the use of footnotes and the verb "respect" might be viewed as a form of political compromise.

As for the full-stop rule, lengthy and information loaded sentences were observed throughout the corpus. Most sentences in the TL seemed to retain the sentence structure used in the SL, presenting the information in the same order in all three languages. In terms of Eurojargon, the analysis showed that abbreviations and acronyms are often used to shorten the names of different programmes, business, corporations, organisations, strategies, agreements, etc. Furthermore, three words were found to have specific meanings, the status of which often were unclear in the context of the EU. Moreover, four words were found to have new meanings – to dispose, an actor, an exercise and articulated. Also, repetition of certain words was evident in the EC's conclusions under discussion, which implied that the author of the text might have a limited vocabulary.

However, it was also concluded that repetition does not affect the overall quality of the text or the flow of information. Finally, as for the translation strategies, some were used a lot in the EC's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish, while others seemed to be eliminated by the requirements as to how a translation of an EU text should be done. As a result, it was concluded that the most often used translation strategies in EC's conclusions

are the use of calques, literal translations and equivalence, while modulation and adaptation are the least often used translation strategies.

The first research question was

What affects the translation process of European Council's conclusions?

The research question was answered by interviewing Baiba Aleksejuka, Head of the Latvian Language Unit at the Directorate 3A – Translations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union. References to older texts, the political compromise, the responsibility and stressfulness of the profession, as well as the language knowledge of the working group members and their interests were named as the factors most affecting the translations of the Latvian Language Unit. Moreover, the tight deadlines and unclearness as to who will be the reader of the translations also might affect the way how a translator works with a text. The factors mentioned during the interview were confirmed by the findings of the research conducted by Bendegard (2012).

The second research question was

How do EU translation services ensure quality of their translations?

The research question was answered by analysing the official brochures and information available online about the work of EU translation services. It was concluded that the translation process within the EU is highly coordinated and relies heavily on cooperation, which includes sharing of documents via modern information technologies. Moreover, the translation process in general takes place with the help of CAT tools, language library, translation memories and other applications, ensuring the consistency, efficiency and speed of the translation process.

In terms of the Language Service of the General Secretariat of the Council in particular, the translation process is done through for 4 stages, which involve the originator, the Coordination and Planning Unit and the language units. A language unit consists of a Head of the Unit, a Resources Manager, a Quality Controller and a Coordinator, as well as translators and assistants. The cooperation within the Language Service is further improved with the help of a quality policy coordinator, terminology and documentation coordinators, a CAT tools coordinator and a project coordinator.

The third research question was

What peculiarities can be observed in translations of EU documents?

The research question was answered by analysing the selected EC's conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish via Microsoft Word search option with the focus on the peculiarities established by Zauberga (2004) and Veisbergs (2018), as well as the seven translation strategy model suggested by Vinay and Darbelnet (1958).

It was concluded that most information about how a political compromise is achieved stays hidden in the drafting process. While some cases of different opinions are made visible with the use of footnotes, it happens only under certain legal conditions. Nonetheless, another way how the political compromise is achieved seemed to be through the use of the verb “respect”, which reassures the member states that their thoughts and interests will definitely be taken into account.

As for the full-stop rule, lengthy and information loaded sentences were observed throughout the corpus. Most sentences in the TL seemed to retain the sentence structure used in the SL, presenting the information in the same order in all three languages. Moreover, this seemed to have facilitated the translator’s work in terms of determining where a sentence should start or what is the main part of the sentence by eliminating these aspects as such.

In terms of Eurojargon, the analysis showed that abbreviations and acronyms are often used to shorten the names of different programmes, business, corporations, organisations, strategies, agreements, etc. Furthermore, three words were found to have specific meanings, the status of which often were unclear in the context of the EU, including the EC’s conclusions – dimension, synergy and mobility. Moreover, four words were found to have new meanings – to dispose, an actor, an exercise and articulated.

Repetition of certain words was evident in the EC’s conclusions under discussion, which implied that the author of the text might have a limited vocabulary. However, the words seemed to be repeated only twice per sentence or paragraph, leaving the cases of three and more repetitions rather rare. Moreover, each set of EC’s conclusions did not seem to have more than one such repetition. Therefore, it was concluded that repetition does not affect the overall quality of the text or the flow of information.

The fourth research question was

Which translation strategies are most often used when translating EC’s conclusions?

The research question was answered by conducting a contrastive analysis of EC’s conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish. It was concluded that most often used translation strategies in EC’s conclusions are the use of calques, literal translations and equivalence. As particular emphasis was put on equivalence, it was also concluded that EC’s conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish are source-oriented literal translations.

The fifth research question was

Which translation strategies are used the least often when translating EC’s conclusions?

Similarly to the fourth research question, this research question was answered by conducting a contrastive analysis of EC’s conclusions and their translations into Latvian and

Swedish. It was concluded that modulation and adaptation were the least often used translation strategies in translations of EC's conclusions. This can be explained by the requirements as to how a translation of an EU text should be done, as well as some peculiarities directly affecting the translation process, for example, the lack of a target culture.

Thus, the set research questions can be considered to be answered. Nonetheless, considering the limitations of the present research, it is suggested that carrying out a more detailed study on the work of particular language units, including interviewing the translators actually working with EU texts, may contribute to a better understanding of the results, for instance, the translator's choice of words.

THESES

1. The concept of translation includes both the process and the result of converting the verbal expression (ST) from one language (SL) into its equal (TT) in another language (TL).
2. The translation process within the EU is highly coordinated and relies heavily on cooperation in order to achieve the best translation quality possible.
3. References to older texts, the political compromise, the responsibility and stressfulness of the profession, as well as the language knowledge of the members of the working group and their interests are the factors most affecting the translations within language units.
4. Some issues concerning translation quality (namely, political compromise, the full-stop rule, Eurojargon and the fact that not all authors of EU texts are native English speakers) are clearly evident even without an in-depth analysis.
5. Political compromise can be achieved through the use of the verb “respect” as it reassures the member states that their thoughts and interests will definitely be taken into account.
6. European Council’s conclusions tend to consist of at least 4 to 5 parts, which mostly include lengthy (40-70 words long) and very information loaded sentences.
7. Most sentences in the TL retain the same sentence structure used in the SL, presenting the information in the same order in all languages.
8. Abbreviations and acronyms are often used to shorten the names of different programmes, business, corporations, organisations, strategies, companies, agreements, etc.
9. Although often observed in the EC’s conclusions, repetition does not affect the overall quality of the text or the flow of information.
10. Eurojargon is characterized by the use of terms connected with the EU, certain style and sentence structures, as well as specific/new meanings, the status of which is often unclear
11. The use of calques, literal translations and equivalence are most often used translation strategies by the translators of EC’s conclusions, while modulation and adaptation as translation strategies are rarely used by the translators of EC’s conclusions.
12. EC’s conclusions and their translations into Latvian and Swedish are source-oriented literal translations.

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Appendix 1

Interview with Baiba Aleksejuka

1. Vai Eiropadomes secinājumiem ir kādas īpašas pazīmes, kas tos atšķir no citiem ES dokumentiem? Varbūt kaut kas īpašs, kas būtu jāņem vērā, tos tulkojot?

Eiropadomes secinājumi ir nozīmīgi, jo tas ir politiski ļoti svarīgs teksts. No vienas puses, tas nav juridisks teksts un tas atšķiras no regulām, direktīvām un citiem juridiskiem tekstiem. Eiropadomes secinājumos ir iespējams brīvāk izteikties un valodai ir jābūt skaistai un saprotamai – saprotamai lasītājam, respektīvi jebkuram Latvijas iedzīvotājam, kuru interesē, kas notiek Briselē augstākajā līmenī, kādi lēmumi tiek pieņemti. No otras puses, ja šajos tekstos ir kāda atsauce uz jau esošu regulu vai esošu politiku kaut kādā jomā, tad ir jāievēro tā terminoloģija, kas jau iepriekš ir izmantota. Piemēram, ja secinājumos ir minēta migrācija vai digitālā politika, tad ir jāizmanto tā terminoloģija, kas jau iepriekš ir bijusi izmantota ES tiesību aktos. Līdz ar to Eiropadomes secinājumos ir nosacīti lielākā brīvība, bet terminoloģijai tomēr ir jāatbilst. Vēl viens svarīgs aspekts ir politiskais aspekts, proti, ka secinājumi atspoguļo 28 dalībvalstu vienošanos par kaut kādu konkrētu politisko jomu un dažkārt šīs jomas var būt ļoti strīdīgas vai politiski sensitīvas. Dažās valstīs kāda tēma var būt vairāk sensitīva nekā citās un šādos brīžos tiek rasts kāds kompromisa variants tā, lai tās valstis, kurām tas ir ļoti sensitīvs jautājums, būtu apmierinātas un tās, kurām tas nav sensitīvi, arī būtu ar to mierā. Šeit kā piemēru var minēt to pašu bēgļu jautājumu. Vienā brīdī lielas problēmas radās ar terminu “irregular migrants”, jo Latvijas likumdošanā ir tikai viens termins un “irregular” radīja problēmas. Pirms lielās Sīrijas bēgļu krīzes tika lietots “illegal” un tad pēkšņi secinājumos sāka parādīties “irregular” un dažkārt pat abi varianti vienā teikumā vai vienā frāzē. Tajās dalībvalstīs, kur nebija šāda dalījuma (bija tikai viena kategorija veidam, kā cilvēks pārkāpj robežu bez vīzas vai bez atļaujas, par ko pienākas krimināla sodāmība), radās problēmas, kā atspoguļot “irregular”. Līdz ar to radās ne tikai lingvistiskas dabas jautājums, bet arī politiskas dabas jautājums, jo bija dalībvalstis, kas uzstāja, ka jebkurā gadījumā tiklīdz cilvēks neatļauti šķērso robežu, viņš ir bēglis pat meklējot patvērumu un uzreiz tiek iekļauts kategorijā “illegal” (kriminalizācijas kategorijā). Savukārt Briselē bija radusies doma, ka varbūt nevajag automātiski visus bēgļus padarīt par noziedzniekiem, pieliekot šo “illegal”.

2. Secinājumu teksta plāns tiek izveidots jau pirms pašas Eiropadomes sanāksmes, bet kad tas nonāk pie tulkotājiem?

Secinājumu teksts tiek saskaņots pirms sanāksmēm, parasti apmēram desmit dienas vai nedēļu pirms tam mums jau tiek iedota plāna versija jeb secinājumu projekts.

Dažkārt var gadīties, ka vēlāk nepieciešams veikt diezgan lielas izmaiņas, dažkārt pat nekādas. Tomēr pārsvarā vislielākā darba slodze ir 3-4 dienas pirms samita, jo samita laikā darbs notiek tādā lielā telpā, atvērtajā birojā, ko tautā dēvē par “panic room” jeb “panikas istaba”, kurā katrai valodai ir savs galds, pie kura sēž 3 tulkotāji un 2 asistenti. Viņi sēž un strādā tik ilgi, cik nepieciešams. Dažreiz visu cauru nakti.

Vakariņu laikā līderi apspriež un diskutē, vai to vārdu vajag vai nē, piemēram, to pašu “irregular” un “illegal”. Ir kāds, kas saka “Nē, mums tur vajag tādas un tādas robežas un tie migranti ir tādi un tādi”, un cits atkal saka “Nē, mums jābūt atvērtākiem”.

Kamēr viņi strīdas, tulkotāji gaida, bet tad, kad līderi jau ir vienojušies par kaut kādu vārdu, tad mums tas tiek atsūtīts kā labojums tekstā un tas ir uzreiz arī jāievieš.

Dažkārt labojums var būt tikai viens vārds, citreiz pat veselas frāzes vai panti.

Visgrūtāk, protams, ir ielikt to vienu vārdu vai kādu teikuma papildinājumu, jo jāņem vērā, ka katra frāze jau ir kaut kāds kompromiss un ja angļu valodā var viegli ietilpināt kaut kādus papildus vārdus teikumā, tad latviešu valodā tas dažkārt uzreiz maina visu teikuma struktūru, piemēram, ja ir vajadzīgi palīgteikumi. Dažkārt ir vārdi, kuri teikumā nerada labskaņu. Tas rada ļoti lielas problēmas. Varbūt var likties dīvaini, kāpēc ir vajadzīgi tik daudz cilvēki, kas strādā tikai ar vienu vārdu, bet dažkārt tas ir tiešām ļoti sarežģīti to vienu vārdu ielikt teikumā. Turklāt parasti darbs notiek arī nakts stundās un ir ļoti saspringts. Pēc secinājumu publicēšanas mainīt vairs neko nevar. Piemēram, juridiskam tekstam pēc tam var izdot labojumus atsevišķā dokumentā, ja nu gadījumā dalībvalstis pieprasa kādus labojumus. Savukārt secinājumi ir politisks teksts vai deklarācija, ko pēc publicēšanas labot vairs nevar. Kā gan tas izskatītos, ja deklarācijām būtu koriģētās versijas? Līdz ar to ir arī ļoti liela atbildība. Ja tulkotājs ir ielaidis kādu kļūdu, tad tāda tā arī dokumentā paliks.

3. Kādā valodā secinājumi tiek rakstīti – angļiski vai franciski? Vai tulkotājs var izvēlēties savu avotvalodu?

Mēs pārsvarā tulkojam no angļu valodas un apmēram 97% no visiem tekstiem Padomē oriģināli ir angļu valodā. Secinājumi vienmēr nāk angļu valodā, izņemot gadījumus, kad prezidentūra ir Francijai vai Luksemburgai. Šajos gadījumos viņi var iesniegt savas versijas franču valodā. Tomēr pārsvarā visas citas dalībvalstis strādā angļu valodā un darbs notiek angļu valodā. Tā kā visiem tulkotājiem ir jāpārvalda angļu

valoda vislabākajā līmenī. Protams, papildus valodu zināšanas nāk par labu un tad, kad ir kādas grūtības, var salīdzināt versijas.

4. Tātad gan latviešu, gan zviedru tulkotāji visdrīzāk tulkos no angļu valodas?

Jā.

5. Vai svarīgāk ir, lai teksts vizuāli atbilst oriģinālam (vizuālā ekvivalence), vai tomēr tā doma, kas tekstā ir izteikta?

Es gribētu teikt, ka Eiropadomes secinājumos formatējumam nav tik liela nozīme kā citos ES dokumentos. Citos dokumentos vizuālā ekvivalence ir patiešām svarīga, piemēram, ka trešais paragrāfs sākas ar kādu konkrētu vārdu vai teikums beidzas kādā noteiktā vietā lapas vidū. Secinājumos tā nav. Tas nav tik strikti un dažkārt var būt tā, ka teikums ir nedaudz garāks vai īsāks nekā oriģinālā, jo svarīga ir pati teikuma jēga. Galvenajai ir jābūt domai. Tomēr jāņem vērā, ka angļu tekstu neraksta viens cilvēks. To raksta vairāki cilvēki un darba grupās visas dalībvalstis lūdz kaut ko pievienot. Turklāt ļoti bieži šie cilvēki nav “native speakers” un viņu dzimtā valoda nav angļu valoda. Līdz ar to ļoti bieži mūsu angļu kolēģi, kad mēs viņiem lūdzam paskaidrot, ko kāds angļu valodas teksts nozīmē, mums saka “Nē, mēs paši to nesaprotam”. Tas ir tāds absurds, bet šeit jau atkal izpaužas politiskais kompromiss, jo teksta veidošanā ir piedalījušies visi – itāļi, franči, rumāņi un citi. Piemēram, kāda dalībvalsts veic labojumus, lai tikai viņu dalībvalstij konkrētais jautājums nenozīmētu kaut ko briesmīgu, vai arī, ja tas ir kāds politiski sensitīvs jautājums, piemēram, jau minētie bēgļi, Ungārija nekādā gadījumā negrib pieļaut, ka tekstā ir kaut kas tāds, kas varētu tikt interpretēts kā atvērtība. Līdz ar to tiek pievienots kāds vārds vai pat komats, kas viņu interpretācijā varētu nozīmēt šīs atvērtības ierobežošanu, savukārt citas valstis, kas nezin ungāru kontekstu, var tam nepiekrīst. Piemēram, angļu valodā komatiem netiek pievērsta tik liela nozīme. Tādēļ tulkojot ir ļoti sarežģīti radīt mērķtekstu tā, lai tas būtu politiski korekts. Kompromiss tiek panākts ar to, ka valoda ir neskaidra, brīžiem tā pat neizklausās pēc angļu valodas. Šo neskaidrību ir grūti pārnest latviešu valodā un tādēļ ļoti bieži tas tiek panākts, pieturoties pie angļu valodas struktūras un teksta. Tas tiek darīts arī tādēļ, ka mēs saņemam centralizētās instrukcijas angļu valodā par angļu tekstu un to, kā konkrētais teksts jātulko. Piemēram, instrukcijā var būt teikts, ka kādam vārdam jābūt konkrētā vietā vai tas vārds jātulko šādi. Tādēļ mēs esam spiesti pieturēties pie mums ne pārāk tuvas valodas struktūras, kā rezultātā teikumi var sanākt smagnēji, grūti lasāmi un dažkārt viegli neuztverami. Tomēr mums tas par nožēlu vienkārši ir jādara.

6. Vai tādēļ rodas nesakritība ar to latviešu valodu, kas reāli tiek lietota Latvijā?

Jā, noteikti ir jāatzīst, ka Eiropas Savienībā ir noteikts žargons. Tas ir arī interesants jautājums pētniecībai. Citās dalībvalstīs ir pat izdalīts atsevišķi tāds jēdziens “Eurolanguage” jeb “Eirovaloda”. Neesmu pārlicināta, vai Latvijā to jau izmanto un vai par to jau ir kādi pētījumi, bet tāda situācija ir izveidojusies. Tas ir politiskais žargons un tas ir neizbēgams, lai varētu panākt visu dalībvalstu piekrišanu. Visas 28 dalībvalstis paraksta to vienu teikumu, ar kuru katra saprot kaut ko citu. Ja tā nebūtu, tad nebūtu arī vienošanās. Līdz ar to mums varbūt ir jāizdomā, kur ir tas līdzsvars starp žargonu un uztveramību. Es vienmēr savējiem saku “Izliecies par tanti Bauskā, izlasi un pasaki, vai tu to tekstu saproti”. Daži atbild, ka tantei Bauskā tas nav jāsaprot, ka tas ir domāts premjerministram vai kādai citai amatpersonai. Tomēr mums ir jāmērķē uz abiem tā, lai iespēju robežās saprastu visi. Ja tas nav iespējams, tad iespēju loks tiek samazināts un tad jau mēs koncentrējamies uz to, kas to tekstu piemēros, kas būtu valsts iestādes un varas pārstāvji. Līdz ar to var teikt, ka arī tulkojums ir kompromiss.

Appendix 2

Acknowledgement of Participation in the 3rd International Winter Scientific Conference “Translator’s Quest and Discovery”



LTTB

Latvijas Universitātes Humanitāro zinātņu fakultāte
Latvijas Tulku un tulkotāju biedrība

Ar šo apliecinām, ka

Evija Brauere

ir piedalījies 3. ziemas lasījumos

“Tulkotāja meklējumi un atradumi”

ar referātu

„Izaicinājumi Eiropadomes secinājumu

tulkošanā latviešu valodā”

Rīgā, 2017. gada 15. decembrī

Latvijas Tulku un tulkotāju biedrības
valdes locekle

Helēna Gizeleza

Latvijas Tulku un tulkotāju biedrības
valdes locekle

Marija Lapaine

Appendix 3

Acknowledgement of Participation in the 4th Students' and Researchers' Conference "Topical Issues in Translation"



LTTB

Latvijas Universitātes Humanitāro zinātņu fakultāte
Latvijas Tulku un tulkotāju biedrība

Ar šo apliecinam, ka

Evija Brauere

ir piedalījies 4. pētnieku
un studentu konferencē

"Aktuāli jautājumi tulkojumzinātnē"

ar referātu

***„Translating European Council's Conclusions
into Latvian and Swedish”***

Rīgā, 2018. gada 18. maijā

Helēna Gizeleza

Latvijas Tulku un tulkotāju biedrības
valdes locekle

Dokumentārā lapa

Maģistra darbs “Challenges of Translating European Council’s Conclusions into Latvian and Swedish” (“Izaicinājumi Eiropadomes secinājumu tulkošanā latviešu un zviedru valodā”) izstrādāts LU Humanitāro zinātņu fakultātē.

Ar savu parakstu apliecinu, ka pētījums veikts patstāvīgi, izmantoti tikai tajā norādītie informācijas avoti un iesniegtā darba elektroniskā kopija atbilst izdrukai.

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Recenzents:

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