

LOST IN LEGAL TRANSLATION: THE IMPACT OF AI ON THE LEGAL TRANSLATION PROCESS

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Abstract:

The legal translation activity is about decisions or strategies. Legal translators use all the available information about extratextual and intratextual elements, legal-linguistic-cultural knowledge to overcome difficulties and solve problems in order to form and develop their competences. Forming and developing translation competences is a strategy that can lead to pre-translation decisions (research, thematic or transcultural competence), translation decisions (technical competence) or post-translation decisions (communicative competence), depending on the translator's ability to overcome difficulties, to solve problems and to master all the competences needed. Therefore, the question which arises in this particular context is: which is the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in view of these decisions? Does it help or hinder legal translators and the legal translation process? This paper deals with investigating the three main phases of legal translation, i.e. the pre-translation, the translation and the post-translation phases, based on the decisions or strategies used as mechanisms by translators in order to develop their translation competence. In our study, the investigation will be made via two main directions: a "traditional" legal translation process and an "artificial" legal translation process through a comparative analysis based on theoretical and practical approaches. This research will try to show the impact of AI on the legal translation field in accordance with the translator's abilities and his/her decisions or strategies implemented before, during and after the legal translation process.

Keywords: Legal translation; Impact; AI; Decisions; Translator's abilities.