

TRANSLATING SOCIO-POLITICAL TEXTS: A STUDY OF CROSS-CULTURAL AND IDEOLOGICAL TRANSFER.

Zokirova Nargiza Savriyevna

Senior lecturer of Foreign languages Faculty at Bukhara State University

n.s.zokirova@buxdu.uz

Sevinch Hasanova Said qizi

Student of Foreign languages Faculty at Bukhara State University

Abstract. *Socio-political texts represent a complex fusion of ideology, cultural context, and linguistic structure. Translating these texts requires more than conventional language substitution, as political discourse is designed to influence, persuade, or assert power across diverse audiences. This article explores the specific features of socio-political texts, highlights the linguistic and ideological challenges present in the translation process, and reviews strategies that enable translators to maintain semantic integrity while respecting cultural and political nuances. The findings emphasize the translator's active role in mediating political meaning across linguistic borders.*

Key words: *socio-political texts, cultural context, linguistic structure, political discourse, translation patterns, historical references.*

Introduction. In the age of global communication, socio-political texts serve as key vehicles for the circulation of ideas, ideologies, and power dynamics. These texts range from political speeches and legislative documents to news articles and public policy papers, all of which are embedded in social, historical, and political frameworks. Translating socio-political discourse, therefore, presents not only a linguistic challenge but also a negotiation of ideological perspectives and cultural identities (Schäffner, 2004).

Methods. The research methodology combines textual analysis with theoretical exploration. Selected socio-political texts, including presidential speeches, international organization resolutions, and media statements, were studied to identify translation patterns. Alongside this empirical approach, relevant theories — such as Venuti's (1995) domestication and foreignization framework, and Nida and Taber's (1969) functional equivalence theory — were employed to interpret the choices translators make when working with politically charged material.

Results. Ideological Subtext: Socio-political texts frequently convey more than literal meaning; they project ideological stances, either subtly or overtly.

Cultural Specificity: Many political texts rely on historical references, culturally embedded metaphors, or untranslatable expressions.

Institutional and Legal Precision: Documents produced by bodies such as the UN or the European Parliament use standardized terminology that carries legal significance.

Strategic Solutions. **Functional Equivalence:** This strategy allows translators to prioritize conveying the purpose and communicative function over rigid word-for-word accuracy.

Domestication and Foreignization: Translators either adapt foreign texts to the cultural expectations of the target audience or retain their foreign features.

Explicitation and Annotation: Where necessary, translators may clarify ambiguous references or add explanations to ensure correct interpretation.

Discussion. The results confirm that the translator's responsibility extends beyond linguistic accuracy to ethical and ideological mediation. As previous scholars have argued (Tymoczko & Gentzler, 2002), every translation of a socio-political text inevitably reflects the translator's interpretive stance, shaped by their cultural, political, and professional background. Moreover, the use of machine translation systems, which lack contextual and ideological awareness, underlines the need for human translators in the socio-political field.

Conclusion. Socio-political texts require translation approaches that go beyond surface-level linguistic transfer. Translators must understand both the explicit content and the underlying cultural and ideological currents in order to deliver faithful, functional translations. Their task is not merely technical but interpretive, with significant implications for international communication, diplomacy, and global understanding.

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