PECULIARITIES CONCERNING THE TRANSLATION OF POLITICAL SPEECHES IN THE MODERN PERIOD

Summary. The article is devoted to the study of the terminology of political discourse in modern English and the ways of its transmission in the process of translation. The difference between translation and paraphrase or summary, or any kind of adaptation, lies in the correctness and completeness of the information transferred. Nowadays, the language is used not only as a means of forming and expressing thoughts, but also as a means of concealing them. In the context of political struggle and the process of transition in the world, the awareness of the fact that political discourse is a linguistic and cultural problem is becoming increasingly stronger. Difficulties in translating political discourse texts are often related to the fact that the boundaries between certain types of political texts are not always clearly defined in scientific research, which makes this topic relevant. Since political discourse is created for the speakers of a particular culture, the translator faces a number of additional challenges when interpreting it into another language. The purpose of translation is to convey the essence of the original thought as accurately as possible to a reader (listener) who does not know the source language. To translate means to express correctly and completely, using the tools of one language, what has already been expressed earlier by means of another language. That is why the purpose of this article is to identify the ways to preserve the fullness of meaning when translating political texts from English into Ukrainian. To define the concept of political discourse; to study the main characteristics of political speeches as a subtype of political discourse; to identify the features of English political speeches; to analyze the ways of translating speeches into Ukrainian. Modern political discourse is characterized by a number of specific features. The point here is not only the use of specific vocabulary determined by political activity, but also in the proper selection and organization of certain structures of expression in accordance with the pragmatic guidelines. Today, in both Ukrainian and foreign societies, the ability of language to influence people’s attitudes to facts and events, in particular the impact of language on the political sphere is quite clear, which makes scholars interested in the language of politics. In order to reproduce certain characteristics of the speech in translation, the translator sometimes needs to use translation grammatical transformations, which are changes in the grammatical character of a word, phrase or sentence in the translation. To analyze political speeches, we have taken the speech of British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak at the Munich Security Conference and the speech of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at a joint session of both houses of the US Congress.

Keywords: political discourse, speech, ways of translating speeches, lexical features, communicative linguistics, political institutions, pragmatic factors, discourse mechanism.

Tamara Ilchenko
National Technical University “Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute”

ОСОБЛИВОСТІ ПЕРЕКЛАДУ ПОЛІТИЧНИХ ПРОМОВ У СУЧАСНОМУ ІНФОРМАЦІЙНОМУ ПРОСТРОІ

Анотація. Стаття присвячена дослідженню термінології політичного дискурсу в сучасній англійській мові та способам її передачі в процесі перекладу. У правильності і повноті передачі інформації полягає відмінність перекладу від переказу чи скривченого викладу, від будь-якого виду адаптацій. У період сьогодення мова викликається не тільки як засіб формування і експресії думки, але і як спосіб її приховування. В умовах політичної боротьби і переговорного процесу в світі дедалі міцнішим стає усвідомлення того факту, що політичний дискурс – проблема лінгвістична та культурна. Політичний дискурс текстово неоднорідний. Труднощі при перекладі текстів політичного дискурсу часто пов’язані з тим, що межі між деякими типами політичних текстів не завжди чітко визначаються в наукових дослідженнях, що обумовлює актуальність вибору даної теми. Оскільки політичний дискурс створюється власне для носіїв певної культури, під час інтерпретації їх іншою мовою перекладач зустрічається з низкою додаткових проблем. Мета перекладу – якомога точніше передати читачу (слушачу), який не знає мови оригіналу, суть думки оригіналу. Переклад – означає висловити іншою мовою такі ж ідеї, з якими передбачалося підходити до перекладацьких трансформацій, які являють собою зміни граматичного характеру слова, словосполучення або речення в перекладі. Для аналізу політичних промов ми взяли промову прем’єр-міністра Великої Британії Ріші Сунака на Мюнхенській конференції з багато видів та політичних промов президента України Володимира Зеленського на засіданні вищих осіб Конгресу США.

Ключові слова: політичний дискурс, промова, засоби, лексичні особливості, комунікативна лінгвістика, політичні інститути, прагматичні фактори, дискурсивний механізм.

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Problem statement. To translate texts that function in the field of political communication with high quality, a translator should be primarily familiar with the strategies of argumentation and manipulation of people's consciousness. In the absence of such background knowledge, an adequate translation will be impossible even if the translator has a broad knowledge of grammatical problems, difficulties and techniques of translating complex stylistic, lexical and grammatical phenomena typical of English speech in general. Therefore, it should be noted that knowledge of the specifics of political issues is an important component of adequate translation today.

Analysis of the research. Political discourse is a type of verbal communication focused on the discussion and justification of any aspect of the actions, thoughts and statements of its participants; a coherent text in conjunction with extralinguistic, pragmatic and other factors, as well as a text taken from the eventual aspect.

Analysing all the above statements and taking into account the notion of discourse that we have accepted, political discourse can be defined as: 1) a system of communication considered in its real and potential aspects, where the real dimension is understood as current speech activity and its results – texts; 2) as a social dialogue of politicians, which is formed in the context of the functioning of political institutions (government meeting, parliamentary session, party congress). Modern political discourse is characterised by a number of specific features. And the matter is not only in the use of specific vocabulary determined by political activity, but also in the proper selection and organisation of certain structures.

Language stands as humanity’s most potent tool. While military forces can maintain control over people for extended periods, perhaps even a generation, it is through the mastery of language that human consciousness can be skillfully manipulated.

Given the purpose of the study, we focus on the study of political speeches, i.e. texts that are the result of political discourse and are used in the process of functioning of political institutions.

The aim of the article. The intention of this article is to analyze the approaches to defining the peculiarities of translation activities, taking into account current tendencies and requirements for translators, to define the role of the translator in political discourse and the specifics of using this terminology in different spheres. In parallel with this, it is important to explain the main requirements for the translator in this field and the main goal – to achieve a correct source version of the source material.

Presentation of the main research material. The object of study is modern English speeches of famous political leaders. The subject of study is the pragmatic and lexical features of English political speeches. The research material is based on the scripts of Ukrainian and foreign politicians' speeches.

The category of discourse, one of the main ones in communicative linguistics, as well as any widely used concept, suggests a lot of scientific interpretations and therefore requires clarification. Some researchers define the dual nature of discourse, i.e. its ability to exist in both oral and written forms. Communication primarily takes the form of discourse, which can be a written or spoken text, an excerpt, a scheme, a fragment, or a paradigm.

The modern meaning of the concept of "discourse" is to define it as a complex communicative phenomenon that contains, in addition to the text, also extralinguistic factors – knowledge about the world, attitudes, the speaker's goal, and focus on his mental and pragmatic environment [1, p. 104].

Political speeches, being a multi-genre form of public discourse, include distinct characteristics. They involve the deliberate selection and organization of expressive structures aligned with pragmatic guidelines, communication goals, and contextual conditions.

The main form of political communication is a political text as an integral part and/or result of political activity, which implements the functions of the political language. The type of text is formed under the influence of text-forming factors inherent in the structure of a communicative-pragmatic situation and depends on the organisation of a certain socio-communicative sphere (discourse) that it represents.

In political speeches, stylistically coloured vocabulary and stylistic devices are widely used because the addressee intends to interest the recipient in order to attract him or her to his or her side. In all speeches, neologisms, euphemisms, foreign words and colloquialisms, metaphors and idiomatic expressions are used.

Consequently, the process of translating political speeches includes: the translator's understanding of the meaning of the original expression and the choice of a neutral translation option. At the same time, the translator's actions cannot be purely intuitive.

In order to reflect certain characteristics of the target language in translation, a translator needs to use translation grammatical transformations, which are changes in the grammatical character of a word, phrase or sentence in the translation. However, in addition to grammatical transformations, the most commonly used are lexical transformations, i.e. various kinds of changes in lexical elements of the source language during translation to adequately convey their semantic, stylistic and pragmatic characteristics.

Subsequently, we consider certain lexical expressions and grammatical constructions inherent in modern English political speeches, and we are going to analyze translation transformations that can help to find an adequate Ukrainian equivalent. To examine political speeches, we have taken the speeches of British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Firstly, we examine the speech of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Rishi Sunak, at the Munich Security Conference on 18 February, 2023. "So, we need a military strategy for Ukraine to gain a decisive advantage on the battlefield to win the war and a political strategy to win the peace".

"So now it is the moment to double down on our military support". In these examples, we can see the intensive use of infinitives. "When Putin started this war, he gambled that that our resolve would falter" – Коли Путін розпочав цю війну, він вважав, що наша рішучість
"Even now he is betting that we will lose our nerve" – Навіть зарань він робить ставку на те, що у нас здадуть нерви. Here we can notice the use of a \textit{phraseological turn of phrase.}

"What is Ukraine doing? Ukraine is trying to defend itself; it is suffering unprovoked aggression. Its territorial integrity, its sovereignty has been violated, its people are being killed and it has every right to defend itself". Here we have a great example of using passive voice.

"And of course, the United Kingdom stands ready to help any country provides planes that Ukraine can use today but we must also train Ukrainian pilots to use the most advanced Jets and that is exactly what Britain is doing" – Але якщо інші країни зможуть негайно надати літаки, Сполучене Королівство зможе їм допомогти.

For everyone who says we want Ukraine to win and Russia must fail, if you believe that then you must act now” – Для всіх, хто каже, що ми хочемо, щоб Україна перемогла, а Росія зазнала поразки, якщо ви вірите в це, то ви повинні діяти негайно.

The use of modal verbs.

In the following, we are going to examine the speech of the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy at a joint session of both houses of the US Congress on 22 December, 2022.

"Against all odds and gloom scenarios Ukraine did not fall” – Впереч усім перешкодам і похмурим сценаріям Україна не впала. "Ukraine is alive and kicking" – Україна жива та бєгає. Here we have methods of personification.

"But we have to do whatever it takes to ensure that countries of the global South also gain such victory" – Але ми маємо здobyти все, щоб країни Глобального Півдня також здобули таку перемогу.

"I know one more, I think, very important thing: the Russians will stand for a chance to be free only when they defeat the Kremlin in their minds" – Я знаю: у росіян теж може бути шанс на свободу, лише коли вони переможуть Кремль у своїх думках. "The battle continues and we have to defeat the Kremlin on the battlefield” – Але битва досі триває. І ми повинні перемогти Кремль на полі битви.

"This battle cannot be frozen or postponed. It cannot be ignored hoping that the ocean or something else will provide a protection. From the United States to Chine, from Europe to Latin America, and from Africa to Australia” – Цю битву не можна заморозити чи відкласти. Її не можна ігнорувати, тому що війна не має країн, але її можна перенести на новий етап, якщо вона вже відбулася. Але ви можна перенести нашу війну на море, якщо вже відбулася. Але ви можна передати нашу війну на море, якщо вже відбулася.

"Russia could stop its aggression really if it wanted to but you can speed up our victory, I know it. And it will prove to any potential aggressor that no one can succeeded in breaking national borders. No one committing atrocities and reignign our people against their will” – Росія може зупинити цю агресію, якщо вона захоче. Але ви можете перенести нашу війну на море, якщо вже відбулася. Але ви можете перенести нашу війну на море, якщо вже відбулася.

"You can strengthen sanctions to make Russia feel how ruinous its aggression truly is. It is in your power, really – to help us bring to justice and everyone who started this unprovoked and criminal war” – Ви можете боротись з санкціями так, щоб змусити Росію відчувати, наскільки руйнівна її агресія. У ваших же силах – допомогти нам притягти до відповідальності всіх, хто розв’язав цю неспровоковану й незаконну війну.

"When Russia cannot reach our cities but its artillery tries to destroy them with missile attacks more than that Russia found an ally in this genocidal policy. Iran... Iranian deadly drones sent to Russia in hundreds and hundreds became a threat to our critical infrastructure. That is how one terrorist has found the others. It is just a matter of time when they will strike against your other allies, if we do not stop them now. We must do it. I believe there should not be taboos between us in our alliance. Ukraine never asked the American soldiers to fight on our land instead of us” – Коли Росія не може дістатися до наших міст, але її артилерія намагається захищати їх ракетними ударами, Росія знайшла союзника в цій політиці геноциду. Іран... Іранські смертоносні безпілотники, які носили імена і сотні людей, надсяли до Росії, стали загрозою для нашої критичної інфраструктури. Так один терорист знайшов інших. Це лише питання часу, коли вони завдадуть удару по інших ваших союзниках, якщо ми не зупинимо їх зараз. Ми повинні це зробити. Я вважаю, що в нашому альянсі не повинно бути табу між нами. Україна ніколи не просила американських солдатів воювати на нашій землі замість нас.

"If Russian missile attack us, we will do our best to protect ourselves. If they will attack us with Iranian drones and our people will have to go to bomb shelters on Christmas Eve, Ukrainians will sit down at the holiday table and cheer up each other. And we do not have to know everyone’s wish if we know that all of us? Millions of Ukrainians wish the same, – victory" – Якщо будуть російські ракети, ми зробимо все, що можемо, щоб захиститись. Якщо будуть іранські дрони й нашим людям доведеться йти в бомбосховище увечері перед Різдвом, українці й там сидять за святковий стіл.

"Standing here today, I recall the word of the President Franklin Delano Roosevelt which, I think are so good for this moment: The American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory” – І саме зарах дотримання слова великого Президента Сполучених Штатів Франкліна Делано Рузвельт: «Американський народ використоє всю свою праведну потугу в цьому битві за нашу свободу».
as current speech activity and its results — texts, and the potential dimension is a set of signs that serve this communication.

In order to translate texts that function in the field of political communication, a translator needs to be aware of the strategies of argumentation and manipulation of people’s consciousness. In the absence of such background knowledge, an adequate translation will be impossible even if the translator has a broad knowledge of grammatical problems, difficulties and techniques of translating complex stylistic, lexical and grammatical phenomena typical of English speech in general.

The completeness, accuracy and correctness of the translation of English political speeches into Ukrainian largely depend on how well a translator identifies and understands the shades of meaning of certain words.

The studied material demonstrates the diversity of lexical and grammatical phenomena that are typical for modern authentic English texts and specific expressions that are caused by the concept of political propriety. Now we are living in the war conditions. For this reason, to pay attention to Ukraine and the fundamental issues of Ukraine we have some specific ways of rendering and transferring information given in political speeches. To sum it up, we can see the most common ways of transferring the scope including the usage of modal verbs, personification methods, phraseological expressions, infinitives, passivation, quotations and ways of removing some information.

In professional activities, translators should take into account the rules of verbal and non-verbal behaviour, as today a translator plays the role of a mediator, an intermediary between two (or more) different cultures, contributing to the harmonisation of communication.

The main key to the successful work of translators is their translation competence, i.e. the ability to extract information from the source text and convey it through the creation of a translation. It is also important to take into account such factors as the style of the text, dialects or variants of the language, socio-cultural features and social significance of language units.

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