
[16] *On Status and Functioning of Double Translations un European Cultural Space of Late Antiquity, Middle Ages and Early Modern Period*

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The paper discusses the status, origin and functions of double translations in European cultural space throughout the period. The term double translation refers to the translation of one word with two lexemes connected with a linking word. This translation technique was universal throughout medieval cultural space. However, only particular schools have been studied in terms of this technique, so the author aims to summarize the findings and delineate controversial issues in the domain under consideration. Those comprise the causes of their emergence in translated texts (from almost accidental fixation of the translator's hesitation to the conscious decision to apply two different methods of translation based on specific philosophy of language) as well as widely discussed question concerning the status of the words in such a pair – whether they were regarded as synonyms or not. One more question that causes discussion is their functions in the text, namely whether they were a rhetorical device or a certain means of semantic differentiation. The author of the paper supposes that double translation should be considered dynamically and such chronological consideration makes it possible to argue that double translations first appeared to convey the whole range of meanings of a certain word enabling the reader to make his own choice concerning the exact meaning of the word in each particular context. However, the claims of some scholars that the technique was a conscious realization of a particular language or image philosophy are hard to verify, as the utterances (mostly Prefaces) of the medieval translators themselves hardly mention, Praefatio Brixiana being the only exception here, either the technique or its presumed theological or philosophical grounds. Moreover, word pairs (hendyadis) had been used as a rhetorical device both in the literary tradition and the national epic poetry of many European countries. This rhetorical device was widely used for emphasis, so when double translation actually lost its semantic function, they were retained by languages as set phrases or a purely stylistic device. Bibliography Buridant, C. Les binômes synonymiques. Esquisse d'une histoire des couples de synonymes du Moyen Age au XVII siècle. Bulletin d'analyse du discours. N 4 . 1980. p. 5-79 Hansack, E. Zur Technik der Doppelübersetzung. Zwei Beiträge aus slavistischer Sicht: 1. Praefatio Brixiana; 2. Notker der Deutsche. Anzeiger für slavische Philologie, 18, 1987. p. 79-127