

# Translation of a scientific article

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MASTERS IN PROFESSIONAL TRANSLATION

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I declare that the assignment here submitted is original except for source material explicitly acknowledged;

I also acknowledge that I am aware of University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and of the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations, as contained in [the University website](#).

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## Introduction

This Master's dissertation elaborates the procedure of conducting an entire specialised translation project. To complete the job successfully, all students had to implement every professional skill obtained during the University of Tarragona's Masters in Professional Translation programme. Namely, the project implied following a list of tasks each student had to fulfil. These tasks simulated the requirements that are necessary for a translator to find and complete a translation job in an actual professional environment. All of the tasks will be enlisted in the continuation of this introduction.

The procedure demanded:

1. applying for a job and developing a proper CV which included making a professional website, specially designing the CV for each job offer, and adapting personal skills according to the needs of the employer,
2. establishing translator's rates in accordance with the translation type, making a budget and proposing it to the client,
3. sending a presentation letter and communicating with the client,
4. managing work as a proper project manager and forming an adequate schedule,
5. translating,
6. researching, using various tools and making different decisions,
7. revising, and
8. producing the final invoice.

As mentioned, the objective of this dissertation is to present the capacities developed through the completion of these tasks. In addition, the goal is to analyse the solutions to the issues that have arisen. Therefore, the following text will be divided into paragraphs that thoroughly explain every step of the process based on the translation of a scientific article named *Climate change and political cartoons*. This paper will also present the conclusions I came to by following the method of experience. By the end of this dissertation, I hope to summarise all aspects of my development as a professional translator and reach the endpoint of the Masters in Professional Translation programme.

## **Methodology**

### *1. Original text*

The job offer I applied for required the translation of a scientific article whose further nature was not specified. The only information available was that the paper is an academic article approximately 10,000 words long. The main reason to apply for a job of this kind – as a non-native English or Spanish speaker – was to demonstrate the complete knowledge I obtained during the programme by using a style of language that is familiar to me. Namely, scientific articles require clear and concise language and offer a variety of general topics. Therefore, the level of idiomaticity I had to transmit to English language speakers was reachable. Besides, having in mind the recently finished *Revising, editing, and post-editing translated texts* course, during which we explored the topic of writing, translating and revising scientific articles, I had no doubt that I was making a good choice.

When the final agreement on the job was settled, the translation I received was a typical research article prepared by researchers from the Language, Literature and Culture department of a Spanish university. Therefore, I had to respect the confidential nature of the work presented. The topic was rather interesting because it exposed the US political currents regarding the issue of climate change through cartoons drawn by cartoonists from all over the world.

The source text in Spanish was around 6,600 words long, and it did not contain many repetitions. However, it did contain a fair amount of sentences written partly in English. In addition, the abstract needed a lot of revising in order to be presentable, correct and communicative. Although the topic was interesting, the source text was poorly written, containing many mistakes.

Besides being my own project manager and a translator, this time, I also had an opportunity to implement the knowledge I acquired on revision because a colleague was also chosen for this particular job. Therefore, the whole project was not only mine, which implied concordance and teamwork. Since we were already experienced in conducting projects in collaboration, we knew we had to agree on certain elements such as schedule, translation techniques, style manuals, type of spelling, etc. All of these details will be addressed later on in the linguistic part of this paper. I will now continue

with the technical aspects of the job and present the budget I estimated for a translation of this nature.

## *2. Budget*

I presented the budget while applying for the job. Therefore, many features of the text were unavailable, except for the fact that it is a specialised translation with around 10,000 words. However, during the Master's course, we were thought to estimate the price and the delivery date having information of any kind. Furthermore, in order to make the budget more attractive and my company more professional, I designed a special logo and a budget form that involved all the details one client should know.

Since the nature and the volume of the translation are quite specific, the rates normally go a bit higher. In addition, I am not a native English speaker, so my price could be even higher than average. However, I tried to make the budget according to the Spanish translation market. I consulted many sources such as forums, blogs and websites of different translation companies based in Spain. I decided that the rate of 0.11 euros per word was fair enough for an academic article. I could have maybe gone for 0.1 euros higher, but I wanted to secure my spot in this job by providing an average rate.

While I was estimating the delivery date, I had in mind the information that translators can go through three to five thousand words per day. However, I had to consider the fact that I am translating from L2 to L3 a specialised text that could even have more than 10,000 words. Therefore, I opted for the time period of 14 days from the moment of making the final agreement. I could not apply any discounts because the text was unknown. I also emphasized that I would not deal with the layout, only with the translation of the document provided in Word or PDF.

## *3. Literature review*

In order to produce a well-written scientific translation, I used different sources such as:

1. online dictionaries, forums, and various language websites,
2. style manuals,
3. a revising and editing dossier used during the *Revising, editing, and post-editing translated texts* course.

In this chapter, I will explain every listed source I have used in more details.

### 3.1. *Online dictionaries, forums and other websites*

The functions of online dictionaries that were regularly consulted were to clarify a term, secure a proper synonym and help with avoiding fickle or false friends. The consulted dictionaries were: Collins, Miriam Webster, Cambridge, The Free Dictionary, Lexico, and Diccionario de la Real Academia Española (DRAE).

In addition, the Word Reference and Linguee forums and their online dictionaries served as a first reference and provided starting guidelines. For example, the Word Reference forum helped with suitably translating *en ese sentido*. Many native speakers explained the different uses and possible translations of this conjunction, which helped me to understand the term better and make the most of their advice. Furthermore, websites such as Fundeu also helped to find a solution that sounds natural and idiomatic. This happened with the word *exito de taquilla*, whose translation is *blockbuster*. The article on Fundeu explained the colloquial use of this word and gave me the best option for my translation.

Significant parts of my translation were collocation dictionaries such as Ozdic and Online Oxford Collocation Dictionary. I also frequently visited the English Language and Usage website, where native people discussed possible solutions to all sorts of linguistic problems. Such is the example with using *when it comes to* at the beginning of a sentence.

I also had to visit some scientific websites in order to understand specialized terms used in the source text. For example, I had to read about the Fleiss' Kappa statistical measure to determine which adjectives and verbs comply with mentioned scientific terms: the validity is assessed, not established.

### 3.2. *Style manuals*

Based on the advice of my tutor and the agreement made with my colleague, I followed several different style manuals while producing this translation. Since it was a university research article, my first option was the *Interuniversity style guide*. In second place were the *Interinstitutional style guide* and the *English style guide*, published by the European Union and European Commission, respectively. My last option was the *Chicago Manual of Style*, which is indeed the most detailed style guide that contains

answers to almost every dilemma. I also searched for the *APA style guide's* advice on scientifically writing italic letters, tables, references, headings and keywords.

### *3.3. Revision dossier*

As for revision, copy and style editing, the knowledge we obtained during our two university courses was more than enough. Above all, I would like to mention the *Revising and editing for translators* dossier, which our professor Kevin Costello ensured for us. The guidelines that he set were not only useful for producing a well-written text in English but also for performing a professional revision of my colleague's work. Examples of the mentioned guidelines and their explanations will be provided in the revision chapter of this dissertation.

## *4. Translation*

### *4.1. Tools*

In the first session, our tutor gave us the option to choose between the machine-aided human translation and the human-aided machine translation. I opted for the first option because I wanted to perform the task on my own and avoid possible robotic mistakes machines usually cause.

The translation memory I used for this job was *MemoQ*. After having used every translation memory we encountered during the courses (including *Trados*), *MemoQ* turned out to be the best one for personal use. In addition, this scientific article demanded privacy, so other online CAT tools that use a collective memory were immediately crossed. Although they have an option to disable that memory, I still found *MemoQ* a better option. Furthermore, *MemoQ* had the two-column view needed for revision and the option to export a bilingual file. By the method of experience, I also concluded that its' statistical analysis is the most accurate.

### *4.2. The text*

My part of this task included translating the first half of the document (around 3,300 words) and thoroughly revising the author's abstract. As mentioned, the text was poorly written. It was abundant in ambiguities, mistakes and complex sentences. In this



chapter, I will discuss the main problems I confronted and analyse my strategy and solutions.

My first step in handling a translation of this nature was to roughly translate the source text and make the glossary of the specialised terminology in use. I was very careful while translating but did not stylistically refine the text at that stage. I underlined some sentences that were suspicious and that needed to be paid more attention to later on. I also printed the text and later my draft version because it was easier to detect mistakes while looking at words on paper.

What I noticed immediately was that the text had to be more personalised, simplified and comprehensible. In addition, many mistakes were to be corrected. These mistakes regarded mostly proper nouns (misspellings of the names of politicians, cartoonists and websites mentioned), inconsistent terminology, and house style (needless capitalising of expressions, e.g., climate change). I also found certain logical mistakes, such as:

- (1) Si analizamos los discursos utilizados se observa que la proporción de viñetas no negacionistas que recurre a argumentos científicos es significativamente menor (44%) que las que utiliza argumentos científicos (56%) (P-valor < 0.0001).

Namely, the author overlooked the fact that he had used the term scientific arguments twice instead of using the term non-scientific arguments in the latter case.

While making the first draft translation, I noticed that a lot of work had to be invested in changing the word order and making the text more smooth, clear and idiomatic. The sentences were quite long and complicated, which had to be adapted to the English language standards. In addition, the main problem of the text was that the author used the passive voice excessively. He also often changed the tenses and used many relative clauses and conjunctions. Therefore, my task was also to clarify the meaning of the source text, which was not always easy because most of the sentences described cartoons that I could not see. Due to lack of experience, I sometimes could not dare to change the author's sentence structure much because I wanted to avoid possible mistranslations. What I struggled with a lot was also the use of different synonyms and conjunctions. Although variety of solutions is obligatory in any well-written paper, I had a hard time deciding on some synonyms and conjunctions as a consequence of avoiding false and fickle friends.

Style manuals were of great help when it came to writing certain abbreviations (i.e.), nouns (the Earth, the Pope) and symbols (%), orthography (quotation marks), and

the use of italic letters and Latinisms. For example, a rule I applied from the *Interuniversity style guide* (2017: 88) said to avoid Latinisms where there is a perfect equivalent in English (a priori) and avoid italic letters in expressions that are used frequently (ad hominem).

When it comes to the translation itself, several unique examples required creative techniques. The one that gave me a lot of struggle was the construction *albergar en su territorio*. In order to remain idiomatic, I had to translate it as *being home to*. That solution occurred to me unexpectedly, without consulting any sources. In addition, it seemed hard to maintain a parallel structure in the English sentences and, therefore, keep the text fluent. The main problem was not being sure if I am transferring the meaning without any loss. Here is one of the examples where I made that mistake, which I corrected later on:

(2) A Trump se le insulta directamente “stupid idiot” (Pedripol, España), se le dibuja como un payaso (Marian Kamensky, Austria) o tirándose pedos (Michael Kountouris, Grecia).

Cartoonists insult Trump directly by calling him a “stupid idiot” (Pedripol, Spain) and representing him as a clown (Marian Kamensky, Austria) that farts (Michael Kountouris, Greece).

Cartoonists insult Trump directly by calling him a “stupid idiot” (Pedripol, Spain) and representing him as a clown (Marian Kamensky, Austria) or farting (Michael Kountouris, Greece).

At the end of this chapter, I must enhance that I was quite satisfied with the translation I proposed. I knew it could certainly use some revision, but after reading the text repeatedly and trying to make the translation perfect enough, my content was inevitable.

### 4.3. Revision

After finishing the daft translation, I started revising my document. I found that this process was the most important part of the whole translation process. As mentioned, I did not try to form the draft stylistically on the first try, so a thorough revision was necessary. Later, I revised my colleague's translation. I did this task in Word, using the option Track changes, which we learned how to use extensively during our courses. I will now provide a detailed analysis of my first steps of the revision task.

In fact, revision was the first thing I had to do for this article since its abstract was written in English. Surprisingly, this proved to be harder than translating a text from scratch. English that the author used was rather pompous, complicated and incorrect. However, I constantly asked myself about the extent to which his original words should be changed. The trick was to correct almost everything but also remain faithful to the original.

First, I noticed the incompatibilities in the terminology used. For example, the author was inconsistent in using different terms for the United States of America. Therefore, I had to settle for one option. I found the solution in the *English Style Guide* (2021: 102), which said that after the first mention, the term should be shortened to USA if used as a noun and to US if used as an adjective. North America or American, which is what the author used, is not advisable. The author also made many mistakes regarding punctuation, idiomaticity and house style. His spelling was good, but it needed consistency (polarization/polarisation).

Furthermore, the average number of words per sentence in the original abstract was 29. Therefore, in order to write tight and make the text clear and concise, I had to delete redundancies (needless adjectives, adverbs and complicated structures). This did not harm the text because long and complicated sentences were only harming the readers' comprehension. In the end, the number of words per sentence was 23, which is an average in scientific texts (Costello, 2020: 45). As mentioned, the main thing I had to change was the use of the passive voice. When I first started writing the abstract, I noticed that 50% of the sentences were passive. When I finished, none of them was. Although some authors prefer the use of the passive, I find it quite pompous and confusing. I also think that in an article like this, the constant use of the passive is unnecessary. Avoiding it even makes the text more smooth and personal. Besides, the author wrongly put verbs at the end of the sentences, which was impossible to leave. Sentences in English should start strong and use early verbs (Costello, 2020:72). I also tried to avoid nominalizations, prepositional phrases, circumlocutions and multisyllabic words and keep the modifiers and the antecedents as clear as possible. For example, I avoided complicated structures such as: "It comes as a surprise..." and wrote: "It surprises us..." instead.

Overall, I think I did a good job with the abstract. The importance of the revision and mistakes I corrected was vast. In the end, the abstract remained clear, cohesive and

accurate. In continuation, I will address the copy and style editing guidelines that I judiciously followed throughout the whole text in more details.

*4.3.1. Copy editing.* There are five copy editing guidelines: house style, spelling, idiomaticity, punctuation, and usage (Costello, 2020: 8). While I was translating and revising my draft translation, I intended to have all of them in mind. In this chapter, I will show some of the examples that demonstrate what I had learned.

When it comes to house style, this guideline implied checking the style manuals' advice on writing certain words. That is, the advice on the use of italic letters in keywords, book and movie titles; capital letters with titles and names of political parties; an article with the word Earth, etc. In this article, I did not have any problems with spelling and usage. However, idiomaticity did cause certain issues. Such is the case with the proper use of the following synonyms: film and movie; intersperse and interspread; make ridiculous and mock; in this manner and therefore; sacrilegious and heretic, etc. The punctuation guidelines were also extremely useful, so I tried to apply each rule of the English punctuation judiciously. In general, an important thing that I learned is that punctuation can really improve the understanding of any text. I will now present an example of two differently punctuated sentences that confirm this hypothesis:

(3) Moreover, the politicians of other countries – as Andrew Scheer and Angela Merkel, the conservative leaders of Canada and Germany, respectively – appear in some cartoons.

Moreover, the politicians from other countries show up in some cartoons as well – Andrew Scheer and Angela Merkel, the conservative leaders of Canada and Germany, respectively.

The first sentence was my first, literal option. The second sentence is the revised option included in the final translation. The two en-dashes used in the first example interrupted the main idea and made the sentence sound rough. That was sorted out in the second sentence, which certainly sounds more smooth and clear.

All of these guidelines were applied in each sentence of the translation. They can also be noticed in the examples included in the next chapter on style editing.

*4.3.2. Style editing.* Style editing guidelines were crucial for exporting a well-written translation. During the *Revising, editing, and post-editing translated texts* course, I learned about most of the key points I have to pay attention to. There are twelve style

editing guidelines (Costello, 2020:43). In this chapter, I will explain each of the ones that I used and provide an example from the translated text. The following examples will also demonstrate the improvement of my first draft translation.

Guideline 1 – Write tight. Opposed to Spanish, the English language does not support long sentences. As the standard word per sentence number is around 25 for scientific papers, I had to split many of them in order to remain clear and concise. There are several strategies to use while following this guideline. One can use a list, remove unnecessary words or simply split a sentence. Here is the example in which I applied this advice:

(4) In fact, Donald Trump becoming, in 2017, meant a definitive change in the environmental policy of his country and drastically worsened the confrontation between the republicans and the democrats (De Pryck and Gemene, 2017; Seo, 2018).

When Donald Trump became the president in 2017, the environmental policy of the United States changed completely. In addition, the confrontation between the Republicans and the Democrats worsened drastically (De Pryck and Gemene, 2017; Seo, 2018).

Guideline 2 – Prefer verbs. English prefers verbs to nouns, specifically abstract nouns. In addition, many authors use complex structures filled with nominalizations. The aim is to recognise them and revert them into verbs correctly.

(5) As Trump gained more power, one of the most decisive moments of this change of course of the North American government was *the withdrawal* of the country from the Paris Agreement in 2017 (Zhang et al., 2017; Gervasi, 2019).

Once Trump came to power, one of the most significant steps in the US government's change of course was *to withdraw* from the Paris Agreement in 2017 (Zhang et al., 2017; Gervasi, 2019).

Guideline 3 – Use parallel structure. I applied this guideline in some cases in order to make the text smooth, balanced and easy to read. Many sentences needed this strategy in order to maintain the text consistent.

(6) Al Gore también recibe críticas mordaces, presentándolo como un oportunista, y persona de poco fiar, como un agorero (Gary McCoy, EEUU).

Al Gore also receives scathing criticism. Cartoonists present him as an opportunistic, pessimistic and untrustworthy person (Gary McCoy, USA).

Guideline 4 – Prefer the active voice. As mentioned, this guideline was one of the most important ones I had to follow. In fact, writing in the active voice means using fewer words, avoiding ambiguities, making the text more personal, using less complicated constructions, etc.

(7) Different studies show how the public opinion is understood better from cartoons regarding conflictive topics, and how that pulse is expressed better than in other opinion-based journalistic genres (Forceville and Urios-Aparisi, 2009; Domínguez and Mateu, 2014; Domínguez et al., 2014).

Different studies show that cartoons express the public opinion on conflictive topics better than other opinion-based journalistic genres (Forceville and Urios-Aparisi, 2009; Domínguez and Mateu, 2014; Domínguez et al., 2014).

Guideline 5 – Impersonal writing. Along with the passive voice, impersonal writing causes a lot of debate in the scientific world. However, using impersonal writing also implies long sentences with complicated structures. Therefore, it should be omitted. In addition, a personalised text attracts more readers.

(8) Del muestro realizado por los buscadores antes citados se obtuvo un total de 758 viñetas, 568 no negacionistas y 190 negacionistas.

We took a sample of 758 cartoons from the mentioned search engines: 568 non-denialist and 190 denialist.

Guideline 6, 7 and 8 – Small is beautiful, avoid ambiguity and cut the strings. Using wordy structures can confuse readers. Therefore, avoiding circumlocutions, multisyllabic words, misplaced modifiers, unclear antecedents, prepositional phrases and specialized terminology can help with producing a well-written translation. Remaining short and simple also prevents mistakes. For example, using *use* instead of *utilize*; *undoubtedly* instead of *without a doubt*; *Graphic humour is useful for* instead of *The use of graphic humour is very useful for*, etc.

Guideline 9, 10 and 11 – Start strong, be positive and be consistent. English prefers early verbs. In the line of 6–7 words, one of them has to be a verb. In this case, expletives and other meaningless words should be avoided. Using early verbs, avoiding double negatives and remaining consistent in terminology are three guidelines that were respected throughout the whole translation. I made no exceptions for this advice, not even while making the draft translation.

Guideline 12 – Break down the stacks. Having a text full of long and complex sentences also means having a lot of enumerations. In order to avoid confusion, I divided many of them into two parts.

(9) Se refleja a un Obama obsesionado con el medio ambiente, traduciendo todo a emisiones de carbono (Gary McCoy, EEUU), sobornando a los científicos para que avalen sus teorías (Branco, EEUU), o incluso dejándose sobornar por las empresas verdes (Glenn MacCoy, EEUU), en algunos casos presentándolo como insensible a las brutales acciones de tortura de los rehenes del ISIS (Rick McKee, EEUU).

Obama portrays a person who obsesses over the environment, translates everything into carbon emissions (Garry McCoy, USA), bribes scientists to support his theories (Branco, USA), and is even bribed by green companies (Glenn McCoy, USA). In some cases, Obama is someone who does not care about the brutal tortures of ISIS hostages (Rick McKee, USA).

*4.3.3. Revising the translation of others.* An important part of the job offer I was chosen for was the revision of my colleague's work. Having followed all of the guidelines mentioned in the previous chapters, I think I did a fairly good job revising her work. I tried to keep as much of her proposals as possible while making the text clear, coherent and smooth. However, there were a few things I would definitely like for her to change. The first one is the overuse of the passive voice and complicated sentence structure. Many sentences were needlessly left intricate. Some sentences that were not in the passive voice in the original were even made passive in the translation. The following example illustrates the aforementioned. The first sentence is the original sentence in Spanish, the second is my colleague's original translation, and the third is my revised version.

(10) Las hipérbolas más recurrentes van dirigidas a ilustrar las consecuencias ambientales del CC.

First, hyperboles are used, especially to illustrate the environmental consequences of CC.

First, the most recurrent hyperboles illustrate the environmental consequences of CC.

As for other necessary changes, I found some mechanical (*The New Green Deal* instead of *The Green New Deal*) and consistency slips (tenses, capitalisation, parallel

structure, etc.). Some sentences contained unclear antecedents, complex verbs or started with complicated expletives.

When it comes to the revision of my work done by my colleague, I am very satisfied to say that she significantly improved some parts of the translation. She especially helped with word order, nominalizations, idiomaticity, collocations, needles adverbs, consistency and logical changes. Some of my misinterpretations and readability issues were also cleared out.

(11) Y se consideró no negacionista si los argumentos que aparecían en la misma no negaban o defendían la existencia del CC.

We considered a cartoon to be non-denialist if its argument did not defend nor deny the existence of CC.

We considered a cartoon to be non-denialist if its arguments defended CC, or did not deny it.

Still, the changes I would highlight are: repeating the subject is allowed in English and introducing the full term first and then the acronym is correct.

After finishing each other's revisions, we had to talk about some technical parts we were missing, such as italicising words, adapting the style of the quotation marks, using capital letters, and positioning the parentheses. In addition, we had to do some structural editing by moving the tables and figures where the text said they should be placed. In the end, we obtained a complete text ready for publishing.

While working on a text like this, it is important to have a team of hardworking people one can trust. It is now safe to say that my colleague and I made a good team because we complemented each other well. We paid attention to different things, which helped us to produce a more complete work.

*4.3.4. Mossop revision parameters.* Apart from copy and style editing, revision also has a few more parameters that should be respected. There are 12 of them, and they are called the Mossop revision parameters (Costello, 2020: 77). Although they intertwine with copy and style editing guidelines, one should go through these parameters to make sure that nothing is foreseen and that the translation is ready for publication. These parameters involve accuracy, completeness, logic, facts, smoothness, tailoring, sub-language, idiomaticity, mechanics, layout, typography, and organisation.

After finally checking all of these parameters, I found that I have completed my task without anything missing. The only thing I was not, and will never be, sure about is



the influence of the source text. Being a non-native English and Spanish translator, I sometimes feel like I have a mixture of both languages in my head. I try to be careful and think twice before writing something, but I can never be 100% sure. That is called perfectionism. After all, the first thing we learned during this Master's course is that no translation is perfect. What I can do is to make sure that it is perfect enough according to my standards. That means that I have done everything to make sure the translation is accurate, clear, technically correct and organised.

*4.3.5. Readability statistics.* Apart from all of the tools that I mentioned throughout this dissertation, the Word's readability statistics also proved to be quite handy. I calculated the readability statistics twice. The first time was after making the draft, and the second after producing the final translation. After analysing both, I found that the numbers differ significantly. On the one hand, the average sentence length in the draft translation was 21.8; the percentage of passive sentences was 11; the Flesch Reading Ease was 20.5; the Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level was 15.8. On the other, the average sentence length in the final translation was 19.1; the percentage of passive sentences was 6; the Flesch Reading Ease was 40; the Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level was 11.8. Overall, the improvement of these statistics demonstrates the amount of effort invested and serves as proof of the importance of revision.

## *5. Invoice*

After consulting many sources and making many invoices during the semester, I did not have a hard time creating an invoice for this job. The design, form and my logo were the same as in the budget. The only thing different was that while making the invoice, I was familiar with the source text. In the following lines, I will explain the reasons for my calculations.

The job was different than I anticipated while making the budget. Namely, the number of words was less than 10,000. In addition, the job was split into two persons, but each of us had to do an extra job of revising other's work. Therefore, I had to add more items while calculating the final price. The number of words for my part was 3,427 for translation and 3,212 for revision. The translation rate remained the same, 0.11 euros per word. After consulting many sources, I decided to apply the revision rate of 0.03 euros per word. As expected, I did not count in any discounts because MemoQ

showed only five repetitions, which is negligible. The terms of payment also stayed the same, and all personal and client's details were included. The client was given a month to make the payment.

As for the taxes, I am Serbian and I based my company in Belgrade, so the Serbian way of taxation had to be applied. Therefore, I counted in the PDV tax (similar to IVA), which has the value of 20% of the price. All in all, the final price for this scientific translation was 568 €. However, the estimated time turned out to be more than the anticipated two weeks because it took three whole weeks to finish. Nevertheless, I had to coordinate the work with another person and complete an extra task. In addition, I have to mention that I had no problems talking to the client. Our communication was fluent, without any conflicts.

## *6. Budget and invoice comparison*

In the end, budget and invoice differ because I was not familiar with the conditions of the job offer before being selected. Although the translation rate did not change, what did change was the inclusion of a revision rate. In addition, the number of words was less than anticipated. Therefore, the final price decreased by half. However, I find that I properly estimated the rates, requirements and time.

In conclusion, although this kind of translation requires a lot of work, I think it pays off. I make this statement especially regarding Serbia because a job like this provides one's monthly salary here. Besides, with the conditions I set and good organisation, I could have easily handled other tasks.

## **Conclusions**

This dissertation faithfully elaborated each step of the process of conducting a specialised translation project. From the first step of making our own CV's, through calculations, budgets, invoices, communication, hard work, translation, revision and every other aspect of the translation business mentioned, the initial hypothesis is now proven. This Master's project provided a retrospective of my development as a student because it implemented every piece of information that I learned throughout the

programme. While doing a specialised translation of a scientific article *Climate change and political cartoons* I encountered problems of different kind to which I have offered various solutions. The skills I obtained by completing the tasks that simulated a professional translation job ensure that the knowledge I gained during the Masters in Professional Translation programme was successfully used.

In conclusion, I find that all aspects of the translation job are equally important and require reliable expertise. When it comes to the technical and management part of the profession, every act we make can decide on our future. Developing a good CV and a website, establishing a fair rate, being responsible and communicating properly with the client can prove to be crucial for providing a steady income. As for translating itself, apart from several linguistic and idiomaticity problems that were not surprising for a non-native English speaker, I can say I experienced no issues. However, the biggest conclusion I got to is the extent to which the revision task is important. This applies to the extensive revision of our own translation as well as the translation of others. According to the words of my tutor, consulting many sources and thinking about every guideline makes the translation that I produced a readable text that surpasses the linguistic quality that could have been provided by many native English speakers.

At the end of this dissertation, I would like to recognize once again the amount of hard work invested in this project and the whole Masters in Professional Translation programme. After having elaborated each step of this whole journey, I find myself ready to start my professional career. By following the professional advice given to us during the academic year, this programme formed many skilled translators that could easily work in any particular field of social sciences. Although a lot of experience and practise is yet ahead, this certainly is a good enough springboard for entering the business world.

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