

Empirical investigations into the forms of mediated discourse at the European Parliament

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Ever since its inception Corpus-based Translation Studies have been preoccupied with systematic and rigorous investigations of translations in the search of patterns that set translations apart and shed more light on the nature of translation. These investigations took various points of reference: source texts, native non-translated texts, texts translated in a different mode, edited or even paraphrased texts. In light with the recent developments in TS it seems that adding non-translated, non-native texts to this set might bring in an even more illuminating perspective on different forms of bilingual communication involving independent or dependent text production (Halverson 2003; Chesterman 2004; Lanstyák and Heltai 2012; Kruger and Rooy 2016).

Undeniably, the data from the European Parliament presents a great opportunity for such research. Not only does the institution provide a sizeable sample of documents translated into many languages, but also the debates held at the EP are available online with simultaneous interpretation. At the same time verbatim reports of the original speeches can be consulted online and even used to be translated up until 2011. As the speakers speak both their native languages and/or English this data source provides a unique opportunity to compare a variety of forms of mediated discourse both in the spoken and written mode (Shlesinger 2008). The European Parliament website provides information about the speakers and topics of the debate and the translations and interpretations are performed by experienced professionals. From the methodological perspective, the EP material guarantees also a great degree of homogeneity as the speeches in various modes are delivered in the same institutional setting (Monti et al. 2005), which is particularly valuable in corpus studies, where data comparability is frequently a challenge.

In this thematic session we welcome papers which report on empirical explorations of diverse forms of mediated discourse (translation, interpreting, non-native), including, but not limited to comparative studies of two modes based on corpora comprising EP debates, e.g. EPIC (Bendazzoli and Sandrelli 2005), EPTIC (Ferraresi and Bernardini 2019), EPICG (Defrancq et al. 2015), EUROPARL (Koehn 2005) or other. Comparative studies of EP data and other registers are also encouraged.

Proposed speakers: Silvia Bernardini (University of Bologna), Adriano Ferraresi (University of Bologna), Ilmari Ivaska (University of Turku), Marie-Aude Lefer (UCLouvain), Tamara Mikolič Južnič (University of Ljubljana), Neža Pisanski Peterlin (University of Ljubljana)

Abstracts formatted in line with the guidelines on the [PLM website](#) may be submitted until April 15th

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