

What is Community Translation?

When you read a translated text of pamphlets (or flyers, websites, road signs etc.), providing information regarding healthcare services, legal services, or any information aimed at the general public, you are enjoying the product of Community Translation.

Now, take a look at the English translation in this sign:



How would you feel if you saw a translation like this when traveling in China or Taiwan? Funny, hilarious, or puzzled?

The problem with a translation like this is more than just puzzlement, but a failure in bridging the linguistic and

cultural gap between the author and the target audience (of the translation). That means, the audience may not be fully informed by the original messages in the sign.

While the purpose of Community Translation is to bridge the gap, and inform the audience, it is this purpose that largely differentiates this type of translation from translation practice of religious classics or literary works. Though not serving to enlighten the target audience, or introduce them into foreign thoughts, philosophies or ideologies, Community Translation serves to empower members of linguistic and cultural minorities to have access to information (closely) related to their legal, healthcare, social and other rights. In other words, Community Translation can help them exercise their basic human rights, and help them integrate with other people in

the society.

So, if you are a translator or researcher or currently working on this type of translation, you are part of an important work because you do not simply replace words in the original with words in the target language. You bridge the communication gap, and facilitate integration.

We welcome you to join us in ICTRG, if you are interested in related issues, and your research and/or professional profile addresses Community Translation. Please contact Mustapha Taibi at

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WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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Latest book on community translation

“Translating for the Community” edited by Mustapha Taibi, November 2017



With the need for in-depth discussion on Community Translation, this book aims to make a contribution to this under-researched area with research works by ICTRG members and other researchers in the field. Following the first International Conference on Community Translation in September 2014, scholars attending the conference or interested were invited to address issues relating to Community Translation, both globally and locally.

Below is an extract from an introduction to the book by [Channel View Publications](#):

* What the situation of Community Translation is in different parts of

the world, and what common issues emerge from local descriptions (e.g. Australia, Spain, South Africa, UK);

- * How to frame and understand Community Translation and its social mission (empowerment of disempowered groups);
- * How to ensure quality and empower communities through a type of translation work that is not sufficiently regulated and does not receive the policy and research attention it deserves;
- * How to design and logistically organise training courses in Community Translation given the linguistic diversity of minority groups and the financial challenges surrounding the decisions of education providers;
- * How to create links between universities and other education providers, on one hand, and relevant govern-

ment and non-government organisations and community bodies, on the other, for more community engagement, civic awareness and societal impact of (translation) training and professional practice;

- * How to integrate new technologies and the work of volunteers to expedite production and access without impacting the quality and effectiveness of community translations.

More details of the book can be found at <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?>

“It is here, in the civic realm, that translation and interpreting also become a basic human right that every individual should enjoy.”
(Vassiliou, 2011: 5)

Call for papers: Special Issue on the History of Translation and Interpreting

International Journal of Translation and Interpreting Research

The issue is scheduled to be published in July 2019, and contributions are invited to address topics on:

- ◇ Translation as a historical event
- ◇ Translation in the history of science
- ◇ Translation and intellectual history
- ◇ Translators' archives
- ◇ Micro-histories of translation
- ◇ Portraits of translators and interpreters
- ◇ Historical perspectives on translation
- ◇ Recording and re-narrating oral traditions
- ◇ Historiographical practices and the history of translation
- ◇ The challenges of periodisation and national boundaries in histories of translation
- ◇ Constructing anthologies of translation and its discourses
- ◇ Digital humanities and the history of translation and interpreting
- ◇ Digitisation of archives and manuscripts

For details, please [click here for Translation & Interpreting.org](http://communitytranslation.org)

Forthcoming conferences in 2018 —

with interests in community translation/interpreting

- ◇ Colloquium 2018: The translator as activist
McGill University, Montreal, Canada
26th-27th April
For details, please [click here](#)
- ◇ NAJIT 39th Annual Conference
San Francisco, California
8th-10th June
For details, please [click here](#)
- ◇ didTRAD Conference 2018 — PACTE
Fourth International Conference on Research into the Didactics of Translation
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
20th-22nd June
For details, please [click here](#)
- ◇ 1st International e-Conference on Translation
Translation in and for Society. Investigating Sociological and Cultural Aspects in Literary and Specialised Domains
Virtual conference - The Universidad de Córdoba (Spain) and KU Leuven (Belgium)
26th-28th September
For details, please [click here](#)
- ◇ IAPTII Conference Valencia 2018
Valencia, Spain
29th-30th September
For details, please [click here](#)

"Once we actually come upon community translation in the sense in which it is used [here], we find that specific programmes or even specific modules on more general programmes are few and far between" (Kelly, 2017: 21)

ICTRG MISSION STATEMENT

- ◇ To create an international research community capable of leading and conducting quality research into Community Translation;
- ◇ To facilitate cross-fertilization of ideas and international research partnerships;
- ◇ To raise awareness of Community Translation needs in different countries;
- ◇ To promote professionalized Community Translation services;
- ◇ To produce and disseminate quality research outputs that inform training, policy-making and professional practice.

We make community translation accessible and understandable to communities!

[ICTRG WEBSITE!](http://communitytranslation.net/)

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