

Kif għelibt il-ħondoq kulturali bejn tliet ilsna fit-traduzzjoni tiegħi tar-rumanz ta' Charlotte Link *Der Beobachter/In-Nem mies* Breaking Barriers through Translation

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Abstract

In my short presentation, I shall focus on some of the problems encountered by the translator when translating from one language (German – an Indo-Germanic language) into another (Maltese – Semitic /Romance) particularly, in the case of *In-Nem mies*, which is set in an English setting (English – Anglo-Saxon, German and English long lost siblings). By means of practical examples I shall show some of the methods I adopted to overcome these problems whilst remaining as close as possible to the original text whilst using as many Maltese words as possible. However, sometimes I had either to resort to using English words, particularly those which have been accepted in everyday usage or to coin new words or paraphrase the original word or phrase.

Keywords: Translation problems, Indo-germanic/semitic, romance, *in-Nem mies*, methods of translation.

Fl-ewwel parti tal-prezentazzjoni tiegħi, nibda bil-kelma Ġermaniża għal traduzzjoni i.e. *übersetzen* li għandha żewġ tifsiriet skont fejn wieħed jitfa' l-aċċent 1) tiegħu nies jew oġġetti minn post għal ieħor (aċċent fuq *über*) u 2) taqleb minn ilsien għal ieħor (aċċent fuq *setzen*). Dawn iż-żewġ tifsiriet, barra li huma marbutin ma' xulxin, imorru tajjeb ħafna ukoll mat-tema tal-konferenza 'Breaking Barriers' fis-sens ta' 'breaking barriers through translation' jew kif wieħed jegħleb il-ħondoq kulturali bejn tliet ilsna (Ġermaniż/Ingliz/Malti) meta jkun qed jaqleb minn ilsien għal ieħor.

Dan jien għamiltu fl-aħħar traduzzjoni tiegħi tar-rumanz polizjesk '*Der Beobachter/In-Nem mies* tal-awtriċi internazzjonalment magħrufa Charlotte Link li twieldet Frankfurt u wara karriera brillanti bħala avukatessa, bdiet tikteb rumanzi polizjeski kif ukoll dwar il-ħajja kontemporanja li għamluha magħrufa mad-dinja kollha.

Ir-rumanz miktub bil-Ġermaniz imma Charlotte Link ambjentatu bħal ħafna mill-kotba l-oħra tagħa, l-Ingilterra, u b'hekk ħolqitli problema oħra biex insib kliem ta' kulturi oħra li fil-Malti m'għandnix u biex negħleb il-ħondoq lessikali u kulturali li

jifred dawn it-tliet ilsna magħżulin għal kollox minn xulxin (indo-germanic, anglo-saxon, semitic/romance).

Fejn stajt, użajt il-kelma bil-Malti, drabi oħra il-kelma bl-Ingliż, l-aktar jekk din tkun daħlet u giet aċċettata f'islienna, drabi oħra kelli jew noħloq kelma ġdida jew nipparafrazizza. Dan kollu spjegajtu f'nota tat-traduttur li hemm fil-bidu tar-rumanz u wrejtu permezz ta' xi eżempji waqt il-preżentazzjoni.

Bio-note

Mr Alfred Scalpello is Senior Lecturer of German at the University of Malta, where he has been teaching German since 1989. For a time he also taught German – Maltese translation at the Department of Translation and Interpretation of the University of Malta. He studied German and its teaching as a foreign language at the Goethe Institute and the University of Munich where he was awarded the Deutschlehrerdiplom and the Grosses Sprachdiplom. He is the author of *Malta- Island of Christian Heroes* (together with Dr. Thomas Freller), *Il-Loġġa tal-innoċenti*, *Glossarju Ġermaniż Malti*, *Malti Ġermaniż* (together with Ms Ritianne Stanyer and Professor Anthony Aquilina), and *In-Nemmies*, a translation into Maltese of Charlotte Link's bestseller *Der Beobachter*.