

S. P. Gruschko

---

## THE ROLE OF COMMUNICATIVE AND FUNCTIONAL APPROACH IN THE TRANSLATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL LITERATURE (Ukrainian — German discourse)

*Стаття присвячена дослідженню ролі комунікативно-функціонального підходу у перекладі науково-технічної літератури, коли сам переклад розглядається як інструмент здійснення предметної діяльності комунікантів, представників різних міжмовних груп. У практичному вимірі труднощі перекладу науково-технічних текстів зумовлені особливостями наукового стилю, недостатнім ступенем розумінням терміносистеми тієї чи іншої галузі знань, що ускладнює вибір адекватних перекладацьких рішень. У цьому контексті важливу роль відіграє стратегія перекладу, де домінуючим є комунікативно-функціональний підхід. Переклад імпліцитно включається в структуру комунікації між автором і реципієнтом. Актуальність статті зумовлена потребами дослідження проблем перекладу науково-технічної літератури з урахуванням сучасних реалій міжмовного обміну інформацією.*

**Ключові слова:** комунікативно-функціональний підхід, міжмовна комунікація, переклад, структура.

*Статья посвящена исследованию роли коммуниктивно-функционального подхода при переводе научно-технической литературы, когда сам перевод рассматривается как инструмент предметной деятельности коммуникантов, представителей разных межъязыковых групп. В практическом аспекте трудности перевода научно-технических текстов обусловлены особенностями научного стиля, недостаточной степенью понимания терминосистемы той или иной области знаний, что усложняет выбор адекватных переводческих решений. В этом контексте важная роль принадлежит стратегии перевода, где доминирует коммуниктивно-функциональный подход. Перевод имплицитно включается в структуру*

*ру коммуникации между автором и реципиентом. Актуальность статьи обусловлена потребностями исследований проблем перевода научно-технической литературы с учетом современных реалий межъязыкового обмена информацией.*

**Ключевые слова:** коммуникативно-функциональный подход, межъязыковая коммуникация, перевод, структура.

*The article investigates the role of communicative-functional approach in the translation of scientific and technical literature, when the translation itself is seen as a tool to accomplish purposeful activity of communicators, representatives of different interlingual groups. In practical terms, the difficulties of translating scientific and technical texts are due to the peculiarities of scientific style, insufficient understanding of the terminology of a particular field of knowledge, which complicates the choice of adequate translation solutions. In this context, an important role is played by the translation strategy, where the communicative-functional approach dominates. The translation is implicitly included in the communication structure between the author and the recipient. The relevance of the article is determined by the necessity of studying the problems of scientific and technical literature translation, taking into account the current realities of interlanguage information exchange.*

**Key words:** communicative-functional approach, interlingual communication, translation, structure

**Problem-setting.** The interest in the problems of translation in various sectors of the humanities as one of the main means of cross-language communication has become more prominent over the recent years. This aspect of intercultural activity is becoming more and more actual in terms of increasing cooperation between Germany and Ukraine. The current state of the interlanguage communication presupposes scholars' special attention to the problems of scientific and technical translation, which is conditioned by the extremely important role of information the texts of this type have. In practical terms, the difficulties of translating scientific and technical texts are largely due to the peculiarities of the scientific style, the insufficient degree of understanding the terminology in a particular field of knowledge, which complicates the choice of adequate translation means. Translation activities require knowledge of a specific scientific and technical area, the structure of the scientific and technical text, a proper understanding of the relationship between all its elements and the ability to apply adequate translation strategies.

**The relevance of the research.** The interconnection of spoken communication and translation is a scientific fact. However, the essence of the

processes occurring in the course of the information exchange through interlocutory barriers requires further clarification. The translation of scientific and technical texts is complicated by the uncertainty of terminology, the stylistic specificity of the language of the source (in our case- German language) and the target language, Ukrainian, etc. Without the sufficiently formed professional communication and communication skills, the translator is unable to provide an adequate intercultural dialogue in such an important field as science.

Modern scientific and technological progress greatly affects the formation, character, peculiarities of human life, especially in the professional field. This fact actualizes the problems of scientific and technical translation, the activity of the translator of scientific and technical texts. The relevance of the submitted article is caused by the needs of scientific and technical translation research problems, taking into account the current realities of inter-language information exchange in the conditions of the globalized world.

**The purpose** of the article is to analyze the role of the communicative and functional approach in the translation of scientific and technical literature, firstly from German to Ukrainian language.

**The analysis** of publications on translation studies has revealed a fairly successful study of the problems of scientific and technical translation in the native educational field. A. Fedorov's classical definition of the translation is to acquaint the reader (or listener) who has no command of a foreign language with the given text (or the content of oral speech) [4: 10]. In such terms, it does not seem to be appropriate for the today's linguists.

In the studies of V. Karaban, A. Kovalenko, I. Kolesnikova, K. Sukhenko, O. Schweitzer, I. Shevchenko not only the uniqueness of the translation process itself as a type of language mediation in the transmission of information is noted, but also the uniqueness of this process as a communicative act that fully applies to scientific and technical translation. This point of view also dominates in the studies of Western scientists (Jody Byrne, Klaus Schubert), who consider the communicative component as an essential element of scientific and technical translation [5]. J. Byrne believes that the task of a technical translator is not only to translate accurately, but also to create the "communication tools" on the basis of the proper understanding of the principles of instructions elaboration, the audience formation and the process of information assimilation [5: 17]. Thus, the communicative ap-

proach to translation is the leading principle of the modern theory of translation. The translation is implicitly included into the structure of communication between the original author and the recipient of the translation. The translated text is perceived as the original text. V. Komissarov defines the translation as “a type of language mediation,” when there is created a text, communicatively equivalent to the source text, “and its communicative equivalence is manifested in its identification by the recipients of the translation with the source text in functional, substantive and structural aspects. For those who use the translation, it completely replaces the original, being its representation [1: 44–45]. That is, the translator becomes the author of the “new” text. J. Byrne considers the activities of scientific and technical literature translators in general, as authors of “technical prose” who create, edit and culturally adapt the texts of the translation [5: 18].

The main data. In the last decade, the search for new approaches to the study and implementation of the translation has been actualized in the translation learning. V. Sdobnikov singles out, for example, the communicative-functional approach as one of the most effective, allowing to consider the translation itself as a tool for carrying out the subject activity of communicants, representatives of different linguistic groups [2; 3].

The scientist emphasizes that this approach to translation has been updated in connection with the use of the concepts of communication theory in translation theory (source, message, receptor, feedback, coding, decoding processes). This toolkit has been successfully “used” in scientific and technical translation. The solution of the tasks that confront the translator of scientific and technical texts, the search for optimal ways to solve these problems, is possible only if the translation act is considered in the context of a certain communicative situation.

The approach proposed by V. Sdobnikov can be considered not only in the plane of interlingual communication in general, but also when translating scientific and technical texts. Nowadays, the needs of modern society, in which scientific and technical translation plays an increasingly significant role, have served as a powerful incentive for the intensification of scientific research in this important area. Modern conditions of existence of the state, globalization project, issues of cooperation and integration actualize the study of foreign languages and the problems of translation, first of all scientific and technical translation, as the basis of the country’s economic development.

The scientific and technical text fulfills the communicative-information function. It is based on the laws of logical thinking, designed for the intellectual sphere. For texts of this type inherent logical-conceptual, objective essence of facts and phenomena and the system of argumentation serve as the basis of analytics. From the standpoint of the structure and function of the expression scientific and technical texts are constructed as rational-logical structures. Of course, as in this case, a certain translation strategy is being chosen, which is formed as a result of a translation analysis of the communicative situation in the translation process. This situation involves orientation in the material, the formulation of the purpose of translation, forecasting, planning.

Understanding the essence of translation and specific tasks the translator faces, as well as determining the best ways to solve these tasks, is possible only in case the translation activity is considered in the context of a specific communicative situation, in which it acts as a means of ensuring the implementation of the subject activity of the subjects of communication. The translation strategy, which is formed at the stage of translation analysis of the communicative situation and modified by the translator in the process of translation, is a general program of translation activity, including such components as orientation in situations, formulating the translation goal, forecasting and planning. Each translation strategy is implemented through the use of a specific set of translation tactics, formed with regards to the purpose of translation, the type of text being translated and its communicative orientation. Today there is no doubt that the translation is always carried out in a certain communicative situation in the sphere of common interests of multilingual communicants. Within the framework of this communicative situation, communicators solve their own tasks, determined by the specifics of their activities (in our case, scientific and technical). Translation becomes a tool to help carry out certain activities in the scientific or technical fields with their specific objectives and purpose. And the solution of these tasks and the achievement of the goal is ensured by the use of a certain translation strategy, where the communicative-functional approach becomes one of the dominant ones.

It is known that the need for translation is determined by the needs of society (specific people), who in turn carry out their own production or cognitive activities. Scientific and technical translation in this context takes a special place because it contributes to the development of both domestic

scientific base and the development of the country's economy, which is in need of new technologies, approaches and forms. Therefore, the translation serves as an instrument capable of realizing a definite purpose of this activity fulfilling a public function — to provide bilingual communication as much as possible “in the image and likeness of a monolingual” (A. Schweitzer). “The parameters of the communicative situation, including the conditions for carrying out the subject-matter of the initiator / communicants and the nature of the texts they produce determine the purpose of the translation.” (V. Sdobnikov). That is, the translation is always carried out in the interests of a particular person or body and thus must comply with the requirements of the transferee. Therefore, the translation should be performed in accordance with the requirements formulated by L. Latyshev. It should be:

- equivalent to the original text in a communicative and functional respect;
- be as much as possible a semantic-structural analogue of the source text;
- do not contain “compensating” deviations from the original text that go beyond the permissible measure of translation.

Communicative-functional approach is possible only with the activity of an interpreter, carried out within the framework of a specific communicative situation and with certain translation objectives, the result of which performs a certain function.

**Conclusions.** Thus, the communicative and functional approach to translation is a special attitude both to the practical implementation of translation and to its theoretical study, based on the recognition of certain theoretical propositions and statements about the nature of the translation activity.

### **REFERENCES AND NOTES**

1. Komissarov V. N. Theory of translation (linguistic aspects) / V. N. Komissarov. — Moscow: Higher School, 1990. — 253 p.
2. Sdobnikov V. V. Typology of translation: communicative and functional approach / V. V. Sdobnikov // Bulletin of Nizhny Novgorod State Linguistic University named after Dobrolyubov. Series “Linguistics and Intercultural Communication.” Vol. 10. — Nizhny Novgorod, 2010a. — P. 132–143.
3. Sdobnikov V. V. Communicative effect in bilingual communication: clarification of the concept / V. V. Sdobnikov // Modern Problems of the Private Translation Theory: Bulletin of the Moscow State Linguistic University. Vol. 9 (588). — Moscow: IPK MSLU “Rema”, 2010b. — P. 121–130.
4. Fedorov A. V. Introduction to the theory of translation (Linguistic problems) / A. V. Fedorov. — 2nd ed. — M.: Publishing House of Foreign Literature. — 1958. — 376 p.

5. Byrne J. Are Technical Translators Writing Themselves Out of Existence? / J. Byrne // The Translator as Writer. Portsmouth, University of Portsmouth. 2010. — P. 14–27.
6. Nida E. A. Fascinated by Languages / E. A. Nida. — Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2003. — 157 p.

*Стаття надійшла до редакції 04.09.2018*