Introduction

Legal translation refers to the language of the law in addition to the language related to the law and legal process. It is a highly specialized and technical discourse. Legal English reflects the mixture of languages which has produced the English language in general, In legal English words have different meaning and use from ordinary language. For example , one hears of *construction* of a contract, or about parties *seeking relief*. Legal translation is a complex and special type of linguistic activity. It involves mediation between different languages and cultures, and above all different legal systems. It requires special skills, knowledge, and experience on the part of the translator.

legal translation defined

Legal translation is a type of specialist or technical translation, a translational activity that involves special language use- that is language for special purposes (LSP) in the context of law, or language for legal purposes (LIP) . For our purposes, legal language refers to the language of the law and language related to law and legal process, including language used in various legal communicative situations. Legal translation refers to the rendering of legal texts from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL).

Legal translation criteria

Legal translation can be classified according to different criteria. For instance, legal translation has been categorized according to the subject matter of the SL texts into the following categories: (a) translating domestic statues and international treaties; (b) translating private legal documents; (c) translating legal scholarly works; (d) translating case law. Legal translation can be also categorized according to the status of the SL texts (a) translating enforceable law, e.g. statues; and(b) translating noneforceable law, e.g., legal scholarly works. Furthermore, legal translation may be classified according to the functions of legal text in the SL: primarily prescriptive,e.g, laws, regulations, codes, contracts, treaties, and conventions.(b) primarily descriptive,e.g.,judicial decisions and legal instruments.(c)purely descriptive,e.g., academic works such as legal opinions and articles

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