

# Rendering collocations in German-Greek SI

---

Η απόδοση των συμφράσεων κατά την  
ταυτόχρονη διερμηνεία από τη Γερμανική  
στην Ελληνική

Konstantina Liontou, PhD

# Aims

---

- How do interpreters deal with collocations?
  - Are interpreters preoccupied with ST form?
  - Are interpreters only interested in preserving ST meaning?
-

# Corpus

---

- Characteristics
    - Bilingual, parallel, spoken corpus
  - Source
    - European Parliament
  - Time
    - April 2006-July 2008
  - Subject
    - Environment
-

# Methodology

---

- ❑ Downloading of Original **German** video clips
  - ❑ Downloading of Original video clips with **Greek** soundtrack
  - Interpretation
  - ❑ Synchronisation via **Windows Movie Maker**
    - single video with 2 audio streams
  - ❑ Transcription via **EXMARaLDA** (Extensible Markup Language for Discourse Annotation)
-

# Why this corpus?

---

- Initial corpus designed to study **anticipation**
  - **Anticipation** → indication that the collocation has been recognised as such
  - **Crucial question:**  
Does a corresponding collocation exist in the target language?  
How does the interpreter deal with such cases?
-

# Corpus Collocations

---

- 64 collocations involved in anticipation
    - Verb + Nouns + preposition
      - Gewicht legen auf (to attach importance to)
    - (Verb +) Adjective + preposition
      - zuständig sein für (to be responsible for)
    - Idiomatic expressions of various forms
      - jemandem am Herzen liegen (“to lie at somebody’s heart” = to be of importance)
-

# Analysis I

---

- Vast majority of cases → accurate corresponding expression for German collocation  
Specifically
  - ❖ Use of corresponding collocations when possible
    - Es handelt sich um (to concern) → πρόκειται για
    - Maßnahmen ergreifen (to take measures) → λαμβάνω μέτρα
    - Einen Vorschlag einbringen (to make a suggestion) → κάνω πρόταση
-

# Analysis II

---

- ❖ Collocations rendered by simple terms

In case of

- Idiomatic expressions particular to the German language

- Am Herzen liegen (preoccupy) → απασχολούν

- Other syntagms particular to the German language

- Sich halten an (to abide by) → τηρώ
-



# Analysis III

---

- Only in **one** case did the interpreter not use a corresponding Greek collocation even though it existed
  - Sein Augenmerk auf etwas richten (to turn one's attention to sth)
    - “σημειώνω” (to mind, to take into consideration)
    - not**
    - “στρέφω την προσοχή μου σε” etc.
-

# Conclusions I

---

- Interpreter's primary concern
    - to **maintain ST meaning** in TT
  - ST influence can be seen in TT
    - ST collocations maintained in case of corresponding TT collocations
  - A result of choice?
    - ?
      - attempt for faithfulness
      - effort saving technique
-

# Conclusions II

---

- No TT collocation even though it existed probably
    - random linguistic choice
    - dictated by time pressure – many simultaneous tasks
  - Remaining cases
    - result of restrictions dictated by nature of TL
-

# Rendering collocations in German- Greek SI

---

Thank you for your attention!

Konstantina Liontou  
[konstantina.liontou@yahoo.com](mailto:konstantina.liontou@yahoo.com)

---