An analysis of the translation strategies used in the translation of legal and institutional terms (LIT) in the legal thrillers written by Gianrico Carofiglio (The "Guido Guerrieri series). (2002 – 2016).

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Abstract:

My research is based on a corpus of five novels by the Italian ex-anti-mafia prosecutor Gianrico Carofiglio and their five English translations. These novels fall under the highly-popular subgenre of crime fiction writing which is termed the legal thriller. What is specific about these novels is that they are written by an author who has first-hand experience of the Italian legal system and consequently they contain a large proportion of language for specific legal purposes. Much of this is in the form of culture-bound terms which provide a challenge to the translator. The novels are written so that authentic legal language and terminology make up a significant part of the texts. Legal writing and legal documents are found within context as the plot unfolds to the extent that the reader is exposed to legal text within the sequence it is found in the criminal justice system.

This research aims to examine how the legal language has been translated by the

three translators who have worked on the texts with a view to considering whether these texts could be used as a tool for teaching the rudiments of Italian to English legal translation.

Research methods used will be purely textual analysis and will consider both the translation strategies used as well as the translation solution provided. Translation solutions will be checked against practitioner texts for their accuracy and appropriateness.

The anticipated impact is that if the research findings demonstrate translation strategies used align with those generally accepted in legal translation this corpus may be considered a new but reliable teaching tool which sets legal writing in its procedural context. The corpus would be a means of negotiating a changed way of situating legal translation in context.