



DIFFICULTIES AND SOLUTIONS IN THE TRANSLATION OF SPECIALIZED TERMS IN THE SOCIAL FIELD FROM FRENCH INTO UZBEK

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Abstract

This article examines the difficulties and solutions involved in translating specialized social domain terms from French into Uzbek. The study highlights issues of terminological equivalence, cultural and institutional differences, as well as semantic and pragmatic features of social terms. Based on a comparative and contextual analysis, the article proposes translation strategies such as borrowing, descriptive paraphrase, and functional adaptation. The findings demonstrate that translating social terminology requires an analytical approach grounded in an understanding of the social systems of both languages.

Keywords: Specialized translation, social terminology, equivalence, French, Uzbek.

Introduction

The translation of specialized texts occupies a central position in contemporary translation studies, particularly in the field of the humanities and social sciences. Unlike general translation, specialized translation entails the accurate transmission of precise concepts that are closely linked to cultural, institutional, and social realities specific to a given linguistic community. As emphasized in international guidelines on the translation of social science texts, this process extends beyond the mere transfer of linguistic units and requires a comprehensive



understanding of the conceptual and terminological frameworks underlying the source text.

Within the social domain, specialized terminology refers to concepts related to public policy, social institutions, social protection systems, employment, and professional relations. Such terms carry a significant conceptual load and are deeply embedded in the socio-institutional structure of the country in which they originate. Concepts such as *social protection*, *family allowances*, and *non-take-up* reflect specific features of the French social system that do not always have direct equivalents in Uzbek due to structural differences between the two social systems. One of the principal challenges in translating social terminology lies in the absence or inadequacy of direct terminological equivalents in the target language. Literal translation may lead to semantic loss, conceptual distortion, or excessive simplification. Research in social science translation demonstrates that translators frequently resort to alternative strategies, including explanatory paraphrasing, contextual adaptation, and terminological creation, in order to preserve the conceptual integrity of the source text.

Cultural and institutional divergences further complicate the translation process. Social terms are often associated with specific legal and administrative mechanisms that require in-depth knowledge of the sociocultural context. International terminological research underscores the importance of consulting specialized resources—such as glossaries and terminological databases—and conducting rigorous contextual analysis to ensure terminological accuracy.

In this context, the study of the difficulties and solutions involved in translating specialized social terminology from French into Uzbek possesses both scientific and practical relevance. This article aims to identify the principal terminological, semantic, and pragmatic challenges encountered in such translations and to propose effective translation strategies grounded in comparative analysis and the systematic use of specialized terminological resources.

Specialized translation refers to the translation of texts belonging to specific domains of knowledge characterized by precise and standardized terminology. Its primary objective is the accurate transmission of conceptual and informational content. Contemporary translation theory emphasizes that specialized translation requires domain analysis, terminological competence, and contextual awareness.



In the humanities and social sciences, specialized translation exhibits distinctive features. Social texts do not merely present factual information; they convey abstract concepts, social values, and institutional realities unique to a particular culture. Translators therefore function as conceptual mediators, reconstructing meaning in the target language while respecting the structural logic of the source social system. Specialized translation is thus not a simple linguistic transfer but an interpretative and analytical process in which the translator must evaluate the communicative function, conceptual status, and textual role of each term.

The Social Field as a Terminological Domain

The social field encompasses a wide range of concepts related to social organization, welfare systems, employment, public policy, and institutional relations. Social terms are characterized by a strong institutional dimension and are frequently defined within precise legal frameworks. Terminological studies demonstrate that such terms are not universal; their meaning depends on the social system in which they operate.

In the French context, social terminology developed alongside the evolution of the welfare state and social policy frameworks. Concepts such as *social security*, *family allowances*, and *social integration* are products of a specific socio-administrative history. Their translation into another language therefore necessitates a thorough understanding of the conceptual structures that underpin them.

From a terminological perspective, social domain terms are characterized by:

- high conceptual precision;
- strong dependence on institutional context;
- significant cultural and pragmatic load.

These features often render direct translation impossible, particularly into languages whose social systems are structured differently, such as Uzbek.

Equivalence constitutes a fundamental concept in translation studies; however, in the translation of social terminology, it acquires a specific dimension. Terminological equivalence does not imply strict lexical correspondence but rather functional and conceptual equivalence. In many instances, a concept expressed in French does not exist in the same institutional form in Uzbek, compelling the translator to adopt alternative solutions.



Studies in social science translation confirm that the absence of direct equivalents represents one of the principal obstacles to faithful translation. Literal translation risks conceptual misinterpretation, while excessive adaptation may distort the original meaning. Consequently, specialists advocate a contextual approach based on conceptual and functional analysis.

For example, the French term *protection sociale* appears in the source sentence: *La protection sociale garantit aux citoyens une couverture contre les risques sociaux.*

A possible literal translation into Uzbek would be:

Ijtimoiy himoya fuqarolarni ijtimoiy xavflardan himoya qiladi.

However, the French term *protection sociale* refers to a complex institutional system encompassing social security, insurance schemes, allowances, and public welfare policies. In Uzbek, *ijtimoiy himoya* represents a more general notion and does not necessarily encompass all these mechanisms. The primary difficulty here is the absence of direct conceptual equivalence.

A recommended solution is the use of explanatory paraphrase or contextual adaptation, such as:

Davlat tomonidan aholini ijtimoiy xavflardan himoya qilish tizimi.

The central issue in translating social terminology therefore lies in achieving a balance between conceptual fidelity and intelligibility in the target language. This theoretical concern underpins the analysis of translation difficulties and solutions developed in this study.

The translation of specialized social terminology from French into Uzbek requires the application of appropriate translation strategies aimed at achieving functional and conceptual equivalence rather than strict lexical correspondence. Given the institutional and cultural differences between the two linguistic systems, literal translation often proves inadequate.

Borrowing or calque may be employed for institutional terms lacking established equivalents in Uzbek; however, such strategies require contextual clarification to prevent ambiguity. When borrowing is unsuitable, explanatory paraphrasing allows for the accurate transmission of conceptual content, particularly in academic and informational texts.

Contextual adaptation represents another effective strategy when a concept exists in the target culture in a modified institutional form. This approach preserves the



communicative function of the source term while integrating it into the target social system. In certain cases, terminological creation may also be considered, provided it conforms to Uzbek linguistic and terminological norms.

The combined application of these strategies enables translators to overcome the absence of direct equivalence and to produce clear and conceptually faithful translations of specialized social terminology.

The translation of specialized social terminology from French into Uzbek constitutes a complex process that extends beyond mere linguistic transfer. The principal challenges identified in this study stem from the absence of direct conceptual equivalents, institutional divergences, and the semantic and pragmatic specificity of social terms. These factors render literal translation insufficient for accurately conveying meaning.

The analysis demonstrates that strategies such as borrowing, explanatory paraphrasing, and contextual adaptation facilitate functional equivalence and enhance conceptual clarity in the target language. A contextual and analytical approach, grounded in knowledge of social systems and supported by specialized terminological resources, is therefore essential for ensuring the quality and accuracy of translations within the social domain.

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