



Translation and Conference Interpreting at the Intersection of Technological, Cognitive, and Cross-Cultural Transformations

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Conference interpreting and translation are currently undergoing one of the most consequential transformations since the institutionalization of the profession in the second half of the twentieth century, a transformation driven by rapid technological advances and, most recently, by the widespread adoption of artificial intelligence, including automatic speech recognition, machine interpreting, large language models, and computer assisted interpreting tools, that is reshaping professional practices, training paradigms, and ethical frameworks at an unprecedented scale. Often described as a 'third technological turn' in the field, the shift affects not only how interpreters and translators work, but also how they are trained, assessed, and socialized into the profession, shedding meaningful light on how 'language workers' relate to their subject areas in the post humanities.

From a theoretical standpoint, the integration of AI technologies challenges foundational concepts within TIS, including agency, mediation, authorship, and equivalence, while simultaneously reactivating longstanding debates between humanistic, cognitive, and sociological paradigms. The emergence of hybrid human-machine translation environments invites renewed dialogue between process-oriented research traditions, such as cognitive and psycholinguistic approaches, and socially oriented frameworks, including Actor-Network Theory, sociological models of professionalization, and Bourdieusian analyses of symbolic capital and field dynamics. At the same time, developments in digital humanities and

platform studies foreground the infrastructural and algorithmic dimensions of multilingual communication, raising questions about technological governance, data *regimes*, and the political economy of language services.

The proposed special issue seeks to provide a multifaceted, forward-looking, and empirically-grounded exploration of the latest trends, indeed of the condition of the subject in conference interpreting and translation, with particular emphasis on the implications of AI for professional practice, training models, and pedagogical paradigms. It combines theoretical reflection with applied research and pedagogical perspectives, addressing a topic of high relevance to language professionals, educators, and scholars in translation.

Overall, the issue aims to foster a critical and well-balanced debate on the opportunities and epistemic reconfigurations of the disciplines, bringing together insights from experienced practitioners, trainers and researchers.

Contributions to the special issue will address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- Ø AI-assisted conference tools, workflows, and professional practices;
- Ø Opportunities and risks of generative AI and CAI tools in interpreting and translation;
- Ø Cognitive, ethical, and professional implications of AI integration;
- Ø Pedagogical responses to technological change in interpreter and translator training;
- Ø Feedback, assessment and quality assurance in interpreter education;
- Ø Trainer and student roles in technologically mediated learning environments;
- Ø Curriculum development and competence models of AI;
- Ø Human-machine collaboration and the future of professional standards.

The proposed special issue seeks to address the aforementioned theoretical, methodological, and socio-cultural challenges by fostering interdisciplinary dialogue among translation and interpreting studies, cognitive science, sociolinguistics, digital humanities, intercultural communication, and educational research.

Selected Bibliography:

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Languages Accepted: English, French, and Spanish

Deadlines and Selection Procedure:

- September 1, 2026 – deadline for paper proposals (abstract of 200 words, 7 keywords, minimum 5 theoretical references, author's bio note of 150 words);
- September 15, 2026 – notification of acceptance;
- December 15, 2026 – submission of full articles; the required format for referencing can be found at:
<https://studia.reviste.ubbcluj.ro/index.php/subbphilologia/article/view/6341/6042>
- June 30, 2027 – publication of the special issue.

Proposals and completed articles should be sent to the following addresses:

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Double-blind peer review: All articles that pass the first screening will undergo anonymous evaluation by two external reviewers following the journal's standard peer-review procedures.