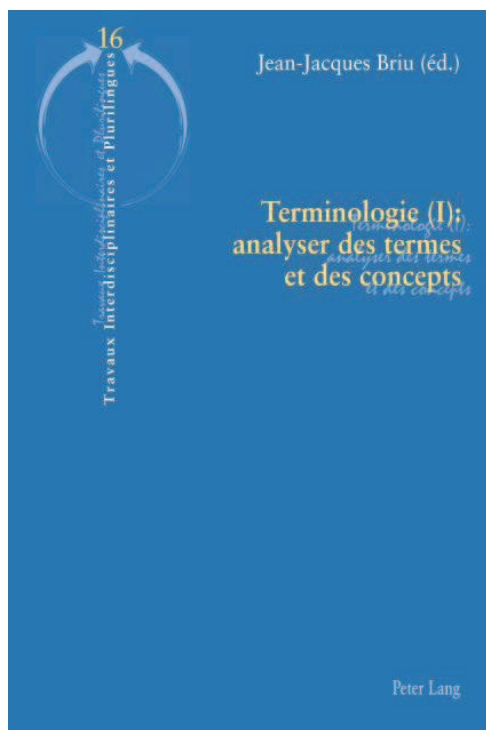


Jean-Jacques Briu (éd.), *Terminologie (I): analyser des termes et des concepts*, Bern, Peter Lang SA, Editions scientifiques internationales, 2011, 224 p. (+2p. Non numbered) (Diana Cărburean)



The book *Terminologie (I): analyser des termes et des concepts*, was published in 2011, being the 16th volume of the collection coordinated by Yves Hamant and Brigitte Krulic, *Travaux Interdisciplinaires et Plurilingues*. The volume was published under the guidance of Jean-Jacques Briu, a researcher and Professor at the University of Paris, Germanic Studies Department, Multilingual Multidisciplinary Research Centre. In the following year (2012), the volume *Terminologie (II): comparaisons, transferts, (in)traductions* appeared as well under the guidance of the same professor. Both parts are dedicated to studying terminology and traductology.

Consisting of nine contributions, the book starts with a *Presentation (Présentation)* (p. 1-16) signed by Jean-Jacque Briu, in which he speaks, throughout the three sub-units *La terminologie en devenir* (p. 1-3), *Terminologie et néologie* (p. 4-7), *Pluridisciplinaire et plurilingue* (p. 8-16), about the appearance and evolution of the Terminology as a science, about its goals and current status. Thus, if in the 18th century the methodological study of vocabulary (origins, borrowings, formants, taxonomies) belonged to other linguistic fields, such as Morphology, in the 20th century linguistics autonomous fields, such as Lexicology and then Terminology, appear and then develop.

The first books on Terminology were published in the 18th century, belonging to Leibniz, Levoisier and Linné. One century later, William Whewel (1794-1886), Mineralogy professor and head of the philosophy chair at the Trinity College, was the first using the term *terminology* in *History of Inductive Sciences* (1837). Progressively, as well as during the international congresses of botanists, zoologists and chemists, it has been found that the vocabulary of a language does not consist of random elements, but it is a set of elements grouped by certain related criteria and hierarchies.

An example of applies Lexicology, anticipating the Terminology, may be the book *Vocabulaire technique et critique de la philosophie* (1902-1923), published under the signature of Pierre André Lalande (1867-1963).

Today, Terminology as a discipline is more often defined as an “organization of the special lexicon belonging to specialized fields” (Briu 2011: 2), being a discipline in continuous expansion under the influence of new knowledge fields and sub-fields. It set its goals and *modus operandi* at the end of the 19th and during the 20th century. Under the influence of extra-linguistic factors, such as technology, multilingualism and international communication, there is effervescence in creating the terminology

corpuses, glossaries, monolingual and multilingual terminology databases. This required the adoption of international standards, the best known being ISO 704: 2000, replaced by ISO 704: 2009 concerning the terminology work (principles and methods).

The coordinator of this first volume dedicated to Terminology asks or reformulates questions this scientific discipline is concerned of, to which answers have been and are being given depending on the perspective of each researcher on the field: “If a term is always the term of a ‘specialized field’, do we have as many meanings as there are fields?”, “Do we have as many words/signs as there are meanings?” “Should we separate the ‘literal’, ‘abstract’, general, particular and metaphoric meanings?”, “Do we have to keep the synchronic meaning and forget about the diachronic one?” etc. (Briu 2011: 6-7).

Briu is also interested in the difficulty of translating certain terms and concepts, which occurs mainly in humanities and is caused mainly by the different political and social realities, by the cultural particularities of the society employing that language.

The first study of the collection, signed by Loïc Depecker, Professor at the New Sorbonne University, Research Director (language sciences) and member of Modyco – The French Society of Terminology, *Comment aborder le concept d’un point de vue linguistique?* (p. 17-32), presents in its seven sub-units (1. *Idée, notion, concept*, p. 17-19, 2. *Object, signe, concept* 19-21, 3. *Langue commune, langue de spécialité* p. 21-22, 4. *Éléments de terminologie* p. 23, 5. *La conceptologie* p. 24-26, 6. *Concept, percept, affect: vers l’ethnoterminologie* p. 26-28, 7. *Représentation et imaginaire: visées de l’ethnoterminologie* p. 28-30), the status of the Terminology as a study of the discourse specialized from lexical and phraseological points of view, of the concepts based on abstract characters and of the linguistic signs (Briu 2011:11), trying to answer the question in the title by reviewing the terms *idea* (put forward by Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Merleau-Ponty), *notion* (according to ISO 704: 1990, equally used with the term *idea*, having a vague and imprecise meaning for the author) and *concept* (according to ISO 704: 2001), choosing in the end the term *concept*, preferred by the researchers and specialists in various fields. At the same time, the author relates the *concept* to the *object* and the *sign*, both from the perspective of the standards ISO (1087: 1969, 2001) and from linguistic perspective, bringing in two concepts: the common language (including words in arts and sciences) and the specialized language (words used in a certain sector). The author debates the relation concept-perception-affect, leading to the shaping of ethnoterminology. Starting from a terminological unit or from a set of terminological units, the thinking patterns in a language can be reconstructed.

Dedicated to the legal terminology and to the legal translations, the second study, *La terminologie juridique sous l’aspect interlangues. La traduction de „mots étrangers” / „Fremwörter” dans les textes juridiques* (p. 33-56) is signed by Klaus E. W. Fleck, Professor at the University in München, translator, lexicographer, bringing (back) to the attention the difficulty of translating or finding equivalence for certain legal terms from/to French into/from German. This difficulty may be overcome by operating with borrowings or by loan translation (*Emprumuter ou calquer?* p. 36-47), insisting on the dilemma the translator has to face (*Pour traduire un texte juridique: un emprunt fait-il l’affaire?* p. 47-55) when having to choose between the

contextualization of a foreign term and its legal definition (Briu 2011:12), which particular reference to the translation of the names of legal institutions, for which the researcher recommends contextualization.

The third contribution to the volume, *Fonctions lexicales et traduction juridique bilingue français-allemand* (p. 57-82), signed by Thierry Grass, Professor at the University of Strasbourg, refers as well to the legal translation from/into French into/from German and to the lexical functions of certain terms in the French and German civil law, starting from the system put forward by the *Explanatory and Combinatory Dictionary of Contemporary French (Dictionnaire explicatif et combinatoire du français contemporain)*, published under the coordination of Igor Mel'čuk (1984-1999). In the first sub-unit of the article (*Théorie sens-texte et microstructure du dictionnaire*, p. 58-61) Grass takes into consideration the phonologic, semantic, syntactic combinatory, lexical combinatory aspects of the examples and the phraseologic aspect of the lexical unit. The author speaks then of the lexical functions applying in the field of the law, of the paradigmatic lexical functions (semantic relations such as synonymy, hyperonymy and antonymy, adjectival, adverbial, nominal or verbal derivatives, semantic derivatives) (p. 64-66), as well as of the syntagmatic lexical functions (p. 67-70). In the last part of the study, the researcher deals with the lexical functions and with the terminological sheet (p. 71-72), with the lexical functions and with the legal translation (p. 73-76), providing examples in this respect.

Starting from the question “what is a proper name?”, Evgeny Shokhenmayer, a young researcher, proposes, in the fourth study entitled *Les terminologies onomastiques entre l'Europe et l'Asie* (organized in four sub-units *Nom impropre ou ex-propre*, p. 85-90, *L' „impropriation” comme mutation*, p. 91-94, *La procédure comme procès terminologique dur*, p. 94-97, *Terminologisation onomastique*, p. 97-100) a description of the onomastics terminology in French, English and Russian (with a focus on the latter). The author shows that the “main difficulties encountered are related to using a certain term to define a type of proper name” (Briu 2011:13). The interest of the author is also triggered by the transformation or proper names into common names and the other way round.

In the fifth article, *A la recherche du „génie de la langue”* (p. 101-116), Kerstin Ohligschlaeger, Ph.D. candidate at the Universities of Postdam and Paris West, approaches synchronically and diachronically at the same time the meanings of the term *genie*, based on the information provided by a series of dictionaries published between the 17th and 21th centuries (*La notion „génie” dans les dictionnaires*, p. 103-106), as well as of the concept *génie de la langue* which appears in French literary and philosophic texts (*Le concept „génie de la langue” dans des textes littéraire et philosophiques*, p. 106-109), and in the dictionaries of the same language (*Le „génie de la langue” dans les dictionnaire*, p. 109-113).

Among the contributors to the reviewed book there is the coordinator himself, Jean-Jacques Briu, with the sixth article, *„démocratie / Demokratie”: variation du sémantisme des deux termes du 18e au 20e siècle* (p. 117-130), who considers the same combination of languages, French-German. The author follows a comparison of the semantic variations of this term in the two languages, by studying 43 general and encyclopaedic French and German dictionaries published between the 18th and the 20th centuries. The author notices variations from the denotative meaning of *form of*

government and *people/popular* (in the French dictionaries in the 18th century) and *people, republic* and sometimes *State* (in the German dictionaries of the same period), to <*form of government + people + sovereignty*>, and also *equality, representation, political freedom, equality* (in the French dictionaries in the 19th century) or <*form of government + people*> (in the German dictionaries in the same century), to <*form of government + people + sovereignty*>, with the variants <*regime/form of government + people*> in the syntagmatic representations *authoritarian, direct, liberal, parliamentary, representative* (in the French dictionaries and encyclopaedias in the 20th century), as well as <*State + people + sovereignty / power*> (in the German ones in the same century).

Then, the seventh study, *Langues et Traductions médiévales: Que de mots! Que de maux!* (p. 131-151), Astrid Guillaume, lecturer at the Sorbonne University in Paris, vice-president of the European Observer for Multilingualism, is interested in the translation of the mediaeval writings, which present difficulties generated by onomastics (*Onomastique et Traduction*, p. 133-135), decorative elements (*Enluminures, Lettrines et Traduction*, p. 136-140), heraldic (*Héraldique et Traduction*, p. 141-145), polysemy of patronymics and toponyms, being known that the texts during this period are characterized by a tendency to encrypt the message. The difficulties are not only terminological, but mainly refer to decrypting and conveying precisely the message of the mediaeval texts.

The eighth and the most extended article in this volume, *Les députés du Parlement russe pensent-ils? Autour du concept de „parlement”: analyse en synchronie et en diachronie de certains termes de langues européennes* (p. 153-190), signed by Serguei Sakhno, Lecturer at the University Paris West Nanterre, analyzed synchronically and diachronically the meanings and etymology of the term *Duma*, the Russian parliament (*Le terme Duma: une première approche*, p. 154-158, *Russe duma: sa famille lexicale, les dérivés, le problème de l'origine*, p. 158-162, *Duma en diachronie come 'souffle' et 'parole': parallèles sémantiques*, p. 162-167), examining at the same time its correspondence in various European languages (Slavic: Old Russian, Ukrainian, Serbo-Croat, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Polish, Northern: Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic, but also in French, English, German) (*Aperçu de certains termes signifiant 'parlement' dans d'autres langues européennes*, p. 167-182). The semantic variations of this term are quite complicated, ranging from *to think, to reflect* (in Russian), *to tell* and *to speak* (in Bulgarian). In Polish, the verb *duma* does not mean only *to think* or *to gather*, but also *pride, arrogance* as a noun within the lexical family (Sakhno 2011: 153).

At the end, in the article *Identification de termes / concepts pour une application pluridisciplinaire: les apports de la terminologie textuelle* (p. 191-224), Christine Fèvre-Pernet, Ph.D. at the University of Toulouse, researcher, debates the role of the terminologist – linguist in facilitating the communication between the specialists in various areas, involved in a common project (in the give case these are agronomists, mathematicians, geographers, sociologists involved in a water management project). The difficulty encountered refers to establishing a common referent for all the actors involved. The researcher tries to establish a multidisciplinary working frame, as well as the terminology needs, debating in this respect terms such as *pluridisciplinarity* and *interdisciplinarity* (*Un cadre de travail pluridisciplinar et des besoins*

terminologique, p. 192-197), detailing the difficulties encountered during the approach (*Etat des difficultés rencontrées*, p. 197-199) and summing up the identified concepts and terms (*Termes / concepts collectés: premier bilan*, p. 199-202, *L'identification de termes / concepts: un travail sur corpus*, p. 209-212, *Identifier les termes / concepts à partir de corpus textuels*, p. 212-217). The difficulty in separating the field and establishing the research corpus is caused by the diverse specialization of the actors and by the instability of the indexes and parameters considered (*Délimitation du domaine*, p. 202, *La question du domaine, la question du corpus*, p. 202-204). For this purpose, the author applies the method ARDI, consisting of identifying the Actors, Resources, Dynamics and Interactions in a given system or space (Fèvre-Pernet 2011: 205).

Occasioned by the works of the Colloquia hosted in 2009 by the University Paris West Nanterre La Defense, the book is a non-unitary set, the studies included therein being useful though to those dealing with terminology, traductology, lexicology and lexicography, with a focus on the combination French-German and on the Slavic languages.