

Preface

This volume of *Comparative Legilinguistics* contains four articles. The first one titled *Legislative History as an Interpretative Tool in Uni- and multilingual Legal Systems (Based on the Example of Poland and the UE)* is written by Agnieszka BIELSKA-BRODZIAK (Poland) and Karolina PALUSZEK (Poland) who analyse and compare the interpretative function of legislative history in the judicial activity of the European Court of Justice and Polish courts. The authors have analysed judgments of the respective courts, focusing on the role of legislative history in their argumentation.

Mateusz ZEIFERT (Poland) (*Grammatical Issues in Judicial Interpretation – Does Legal Practice Needs Linguistic Theory? Based On Polish Courts' Decisions*) deals with interpretational problems caused in Polish courts by grammar (namely: syntax and inflexion) of legal provisions. The author discusses five main sources of grammatical issues in judicial interpretation of law: syntax of a sentence (i.e. order of words), conjunctive words (i.e. *i, lub*), punctuation marks (i.e. comma, semicolon, dash), nominal grammatical categories (i.e. number, gender), verbal grammatical categories (i. e. aspect, tense, mood). He observes that the traditional Polish canons of interpretation are very general and offer no clues on how to deal with such issues.

Olena VELYKODSKA (Ukraine) in her article titled *Legal Discourse: Text Analysis and Translation Strategies* discusses the problem of defining the object and theoretical basis of legal translation. Her analysis reveals that the requirements of professional translators include the knowledge of lexical and grammatical peculiarities of both languages in legal spheres, deep understanding of the concepts employed by specialists in a particular field and the specialist terms used to express these concepts and their relationships in the source and target languages.

The last text in this volume is an article of Paweł BIELAWSKI (Germany) entitled *Zur Verständlichkeit von Übersetzungen Deutscher und Polnischer Gerichtsbenennungen* which focuses on the translation of German and Polish court names. The author analyses terms used in legal literature and dictionaries and concludes that the court names are often being translated in a way that makes it impossible for the reader to correctly identify the institution in question. He compares the court systems of Germany and Poland and identifies, on the basis of the comparative law theory, the meaning features essential for both legal communication and legal translation. Finally, three comprehensive translation techniques are proposed for the translation of the

court names so that the institution at issue is instantly recognizable in the target text.

The editors hope that this volume of our journal will be of interest to its readers.