



TRANSLATION OF IDIOMS IN LEGAL DOCUMENTS FROM ENGLISH INTO LITHUANIAN

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Research purpose. Idioms are pragmatic, and sometimes, it is difficult to recognize lexical units, which can be challenging for a translator. Idioms, also known as fixed expressions, fall into a fuzzy category of linguistics; however, many linguists and researchers share similar ideas of idiom characteristics, translation strategies and challenges. The study aimed to analyze and compare the translation of idioms in legal documents from English into Lithuanian. This was achieved by conducting an analysis of theoretical sources and a comparative linguistic analysis that helped identify idiom translation strategies at a practical level.

Research Methodology. The problem question of the research is how idioms used in legal documents are translated from English as the source language into Lithuanian as the target language. To achieve the aim, the following objectives and methodology were set: firstly, the authors reviewed the concept of the idiom and possible ways of their characterisation at the theoretical level and found out the methods of translating idioms from English into Lithuanian used in legal documents. The authors applied the following methods in the research: analysis of theoretical sources applied for building a conceptual portrait of idioms and the ways of their translation and comparative linguistic analysis that helped to identify the strategies of idiom translation used in legal documents from English into Lithuanian at the practical level.

Results / Findings. The results revealed that the most prevalent translation strategy was paraphrasing, and there were few cases of different strategies. This implies that when translating legal documents from English to Lithuanian, most idiomatic expressions from the source language lose their idiomatic nature in the target language.

Originality / Practical implications. The research is relevant to students studying English and young specialists working in the field of translation who wish to better understand idiom translation from English into Lithuanian in official documents.

Keywords: idiom, idiomatic expression, linguistics, strategy, translation