

CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTERS

Translation and Interpreting Processes: Extended Perspectives

Edited volume in [Translation, Interpreting and Mediation](#) (Leuven University Press)

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Statement of Aims

Recent scholarship has increasingly approached, reframed and studied translation and interpreting as a situated, material phenomenon. In this conceptual framework, the various roles within translation and interpreting are seen not only as situated in specific temporal and spatial contexts, but also as deeply entrenched in genuine working contexts, environments, and interactions. Such a focus challenges the traditional emphasis on individuals and texts in translation process research and invites researchers to broaden their analyses to examine individuals and collectives embedded in their particular social and material realities. Recent academic discourse seems to advocate for a renewed focus on the relational, material, and collective dimensions of the translation process. This shifts focus away from the archetype of translators as solitary decision-makers and instead seeks to show how they operate within a complex network of interactions.

Examples of this new understanding of processes can be traced in several new strands of research. Workplace studies (Angelone et al., 2019) reveal how ‘things’ are used and how stakeholders negotiate in environments with people and objects. Littau (2016) emphasises the agency of objects in translation, viewing translation as a material and mediated practice shaped by object properties, with objects as ‘agentic actors’ alongside humans. Sociological approaches highlight the networked nature of translation, where relationships are critical to cognitive practices (Abdallah and Koskinen, 2007; Buzelin, 2005, 2007). Network methods like actor-network theory (Latour, 2007) analyse translation dynamics, revealing reciprocal effects and negotiations. Olohan (2019, 2021) develops a practice-theoretical approach, proposing a ‘practical epistemology’ where knowledge emerges in specific contexts, embedded in dynamic social practices and inseparable from the knower and the practice.

These theoretical advances highlight significant progress in translation studies and the need to reassess translation and interpreting processes, demonstrating the field’s interdisciplinary potential. The pioneering ‘4EA’ cognition framework—embodied, embedded, enactive, extended, and affective—integrates cognitive science into translation studies and emphasizes that cognitive processes extend beyond the mind to include interactions with the body, tools, and

environment. Hanna Risku, a principal advocate of the 4EA perspective, invites scholars to rethink translation process research along these lines.

Building on Risku's work and informed by the line of research developed in Ehrensberger-Dow & Hunziker Heeb (2016), Ehrensberger-Dow & Massey (2019), Koskinen (2008), Muñoz Martín (2017, 2020), Olohan (2019), Risku (2014, 2017), and Risku & Windhager (2015), this volume aims to advance our understanding of translation and interpreting processes from an extended perspective, offering new methodological and conceptual insights and exploring new empirical domains. The introductory chapter to this volume will be written by Hanna Risku.

How can we employ these (and other perspectives) in translation to further our understanding of what translation is and can be? We welcome proposals for conceptual papers, case studies, and empirical research contributions inspired by one or more of the following questions:

- How can theoretical perspectives—such as actor-network theory, activity theory, complexity theory, social network theory, and practice theory—enrich, complement, or challenge our understanding of translation and interpreting?
- How might the key concepts in translation studies be re-examined or redefined?
- How can these concepts be unpacked within an increasingly technology-driven translation ecosystem? How might this re-examination contribute to a more nuanced understanding of common elements across different translation settings, such as tools, contexts, and paratexts?
- What key challenges does an extended view of translation reveal in terms of research methods and methodologies?
- What methods most effectively capture the dynamics of increasingly digitalised and globally distributed translation workflows? How can these methods complement each other, and what problems or boundaries should be addressed?
- How are translation workplaces evolving? How do workplace and institutional elements affect translation and interpreting practices?
- How do socio-technical systems and tools mediate the work of translators and interpreters across different domains? How is translator agency distributed among human and non-human actors in complex translation ecosystems?

To propose a paper, please send your abstract (**500 words**, excluding references and author bio) via Google Forms document: <https://tinyurl.com/yf3p98f9>

Submissions will **only** be accepted via Google Forms. Any questions regarding submissions should be addressed to: extendedperspectives@gmail.com

Important dates

15 January – Abstract submission deadline (500 words) and author bio (300 words)

30 April 2025 – Notification of acceptance

30 September 2025 – Chapter submission deadline (8000 words, including notes and references)

Autumn 2026 – Estimated publication

Selected bibliography

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