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Abstract: Through the translation activity, the intercultural and transcultural communication have become an obvious part of the literary communication. Among other things literature can be understood as catalyst and product of certain cultural mirroring processes, what comes to light particularly well in the intercultural and transcultural context, because the self inevitably reflects itself in the others.

In the everyday intercultural and transcultural communication, misunderstandings continuously arise, especially when members of different social groups and cultures contradictorily and incongruously interpret other people’s norms and customs, thus they act and react in different ways.

Myths and rituals as products of particular cultures can also be misunderstood. In literary works they are communication acts which can have a “harmonious” or “disharmonious” effect on the communication processes of the work. The communication processes, realized through mythic symbols and rituals, will be analytically represented in this paper on the example of the so-called Indian legend Die Vertauschten Köpfe (The Transposed Heads), written by Thomas Mann. Exotic motifs of the Indian caste system culture do not only determine the plot and the content of the work, but they are used as expedient to depict some aspects of one’s own contemporary German Culture in the light of the others.

Key words: Thomas Mann, transcultural communication, translation

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Abstract: The translation process, which has become an inseparable part of intercultural communication, can be viewed from many angles. The translation science has developed different concepts which, to some extent, describe or explain the translation process. The article analyzes the positive and weak aspects of these theories and also deals with the question of text translatability. Its aim is to show that, although theoretical concepts see the translation process from many angles, one common
view can be found: the effort to find a basic rule for the translation process which allows the most adequate translation from the initial language into the target language without ignoring the aspect of communication. The current state of translation theory shows the need for more detailed analysis of the translation of technical professional texts and associated problems because of their increasing importance for international collaboration today.

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Literature: Serial Bibliographic level: Analytic UDC: 651.9: 800: 681.3 ISSN: 1330-0067 Coden: IORME7 Short title: Informatologia, Zagreb Vol. No. (Year): 41(2008) Issue No: 2 Other indentation: INFO-1021 Page numbers: 140-148 Received: 2008-05-05 Issued: 2008-05-24 Language –of text: Germ. –of Summary: Germ., Engl. References: 20 Tables: 0 Figures: 0 Category: Preliminary communication Title: “LONGING FOR THE SOUTH” BY KONSTANTIN MILADINOV VIEWED FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE INTERCULTURAL COMPARISON OF VERSE TRANSLATIONS Author(s): Silvana Simoska Affiliation: Ss. Cyril and Methodius University- Skopje, Skopje, Macedonia Key words: Konstantin Miladinov, lyrics, Macedonia, translation Abstract: Coming from Struga, the frail and gentle Konstantin Miladinov is overcome by grim feelings of coldness, gloom and loneliness, which are his constant companions during his studies in Moscow. It is these dark and dreary feelings that nurture his yearning for the warm sunshine of the South. By exclusively using positive epithets to depict the native soil, the author evokes the painful, unattainable desire to return to his homeland, symbiotically embracing it. This longing for the homeland culminates in a singular, heavenly exaltation for which it is worth losing one’s life.

Forming a part of Macedonia’s literary cultural heritage, the poem “Longing for the South” by K. Miladinov is above all, the cornerstone of contemporary Macedonian poetry, and as such has been verse translated into 60 languages. In our article, we focus on the comparison between the verse translations of the poem into English, German, French, Serbian and Croatian. The comparison highlights the cultural specificities and their intercultural reflections.

working multilingual proficiency and the recognition of language diversity as a major European cultural asset.
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**Title:** COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT FOR TRANSLATORS AND INTERPRETERS – THE CASE OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSLATION SCIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARIBOR

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**Key words:** translation science, education programme, interpreters

**Abstract:** This paper is a first attempt at making an analysis and trying to present a summary of the main characteristics of a newly founded undergraduate program for Translators and Interpreters at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Maribor. The author tried to outline the structure of the program, which is based on the development of competences in the field of translation science, with the aid of theoretical and didactic approaches. The policy of EU-integration, demands qualified translators and interpreters, and the profession of translation aspires to unified educational criteria. Theoretical and scientific postulates confirm the presented strategy of education in the context of harmonization and optimizing European undergraduate programs and curriculums for future translators and interpreters.

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**Title:** GERMANY, AUSTRIA, LUXEMBURG AND SWITZERLAND: THE IDENTITY AND LANGUAGE POLITICS

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**Key words:** German language, translation, European Union, communication

**Abstract:** This article discusses the varieties of German language and its dialects as well as the development of the identity in Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and Switzerland. The answer to the question whether the similarity between the varieties of German language presents the identity of one or more nations and does it unite those nations will be presented.

Do the speakers of German language in one of the mentioned countries feel connected to the speakers in the other country in terms of identity and common affiliation.

German language is a pluricentric language which has independently developed in those four mentioned countries regardless of the political and geographical borders. The article emphasises more the language politics of each individual country. The short discussion about the position of German language in the European Union will be presented in the article as well.