

## SOCIO-POLITICAL DISCOURSE TRANSLATION

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*Author defines socio-political discourse, explains phenomenon of socio-political discourse connected with movement Black Lives Matter (BLM) and specifies socio-political discourse of Afro-American movement BLM. Relevant translation of socio-political discourse elements is highlighted and analyzed through the applying of necessary transformations in the process of translation. Translation of «The Making of Black Lives Matter» by Christopher J. Lebron is analyzed.*

**Key words:** socio-political discourse, translation transformations, Afro-American anti racist movement, BLM, political terminology.

**Problem statement.** Socio-political movements, namely, Black Lives Matter, became popular globally after Murder of George Floyd by police officer in 2020. Several scientific-popular studies and literary works on different aspects of this movement were published predominantly in US, including Christopher J. Lebron's study of BLM history. At the same time, social, political and socio-political discourse was observed by several scientists generally, without any word about BLM discourse. Moreover, these studies were not translated into Ukrainian creating a big gap in perception of BLM movement. Though, BLM socio-political discourse should be revealed by translation of fragments of C. J. Lebron book.

**The purpose of the article.** The primary concern of this research is to examine BLM socio-political discourse in C. J. Lebron's study and its translation comparing.

**Research publications overview.** Fundamentals of political discourse are examined in Izabela and Norman Fairclough (2012) book «Political Discourse Analysis designed for advanced students. Political cultures and political discourses with elements of comparative politico-linguistic discourse analysis, register and genre in the discourses, lexical strategies in the discourses of the Third Way in Germany and UK were described in details by Michael Kranert (2019) in Discourse and Political Culture.

Paul Chilton (2004) was precise in exploring political discourse starting with Aristotle. Thus, researcher analyzed political discourse through communication, discussed language of politics and investigated fundamental connection between language and different aspects of social and political life.

As it was noticed earlier, all these studies were not intersected with works devoted to different problems of socio-political movement BLM.

Jonathan Hsy (2021) in his research «Antiracist Medievalisms From «Yellow Peril» To Black Lives Matter» describes reasoning of BLM foundation and examines historical grounds of it in Medieval era.

Charlton D. McIlwain (2020), Barbara Ransby (2018), Johanna C. Luttrell (2019), Tehama Lopez Bunyasi and Candis Watts Smith (2019) describe different situations, connected with BLM in popular-scientific manner, including their own cases and experience.

Thus, only Christopher J. Lebron research reveals socio-political discourse connected with BLM phenomenon.

**The main material.** Social problems and politics are a part of our communication and understanding processes of society development. Naturally, they reveal specific discourse to support different events, movements, communities. What is discourse?

Longman dictionary of Language teaching and Applied linguistics (2010) presents *discourse* as a general term for language as the result of an act of communication. Grammatically, it is paragraph, conversation, interview (Longman dictionary of Language teaching and Applied linguistics, 2010: 174). Additionally, in Oxford Dictionary of Literary terms (2015), term «iscourse» is considered to denote language in actual use within social and ideological context (Chris Baldick, 2015: 181).

Political discourse, by Isabela and Norman Fairclough (2012), with a new approach, involves more special argumentation for or against particular ways of acting, practical argumentation that can elaborate decision. Nevertheless, they agree that practical argumentation can be applied to social and economic cases. The

United States is identified as a world leader in studies and applying fundamentals of social and political discourse. It is proved by numerous publications with social, economic, political context spread globally.

Recently, after Murder of George Floyd by police officer in 2020, African American protests became breaking news with short but powerful slogan «Black Lives Matter», later associated with socio-political movement BLM. Among numerous stories, studies and memoirs we have chosen «The Making of Black Lives Matters» by Christopher J. Lebron as the best discourse denoting Afro-American anti racist movement BLM context. As mentioned before, all these studies were not accessible to Ukrainian audience because of the absence of any translation into Ukrainian. Providing translation of book fragments, we could specify socio-political discourse of globally spread BLM movement.

«The Making of Black Lives Matters» by Christopher J. Lebron is historical, social and political research of African-American anti racist movement. It discusses the issues of police brutality and racist tendencies in democratic society. While dwelling upon history, art, values, protest culture, social problems and challenges of African Americans, it was impossible for Christopher J. Lebron to avoid special terminology, since all these issues, that constitute problematics of the book and are inseparably connected to political, social and historical discourse of the United States. Therefore, the large number of political, social and historical terminology, extensively used by Lebron in his study, is stylistically and thematically determined. Most of them, therefore, belong to *internationalisms*, with the same or similar lingual form and identical meaning in several languages (Korunets 2017: 128). Most of internationalisms, as a part of socio-political discourse etymologically originate from Greek and Latin as Paul Chilton (2004) noticed, from Aristotle era. While rendering substantial number of source text political internationalisms we applied literal translation and partial transcription:

*Harlem Renaissance* – Гарлемський ренесанс; *national shame* – національна ганьба; *features of American society and democracy* – атрибути американського

суспільства та демократії; *democratic theory* – демократична теорія (Lebron, 2017).

At the same time political, social and historical terminology as a part of socio-political discourse was subjected to descriptive translation and synonymous substitution, when comprehensibility of these terms for the Ukrainian readership is doubtful or when their literal translation would be logically, pragmatically or stylistically inappropriate to standards of the Ukrainian language, as it is illustrated in the examples below:

*Police brutality* – *поліцейська жорстокість* or *поліцейське насилля* instead of «*поліцейська брутальність*»; *biographical factoid* – (сухий) *факт із біографії* instead of «*біографічний фактоїд*»; *self-definition* – *самовизначення* instead of «*самодефініція*»; *politico-cultural timbre* – *політико-культурна домінанта* instead of «*політико-культурний тембр*»; *Emersonian self-affirmation* – *емерсонівське самоствердження* instead of «*емерсонівська самоафірмація*» (Lebron, 2017).

While translating fragments of socio-political discourse of BLM by J. Lebron, we met difficulties in possible loss of the source meaning of discourse argumentation. Here's one of the cases, when, instead of direct Ukrainian equivalents to lexeme *afoot* we applied Ukrainian phraseological collocation «бути на висоті». Moreover, with the help of particularization we replaced *movement* with «Гарлем», thereby avoiding semantical losses and adapting the entire collocation to the norms and linguistic picture of the world of the Ukrainian language.

*... the man to whom Hughes wrote in the spring of 1923 that he agreed a movement was afoot.* (Lebron 2017: 52)

*... чоловіку, якому весною 1923-го року Г'юз напише лист, де погодиться, що Гарлем був на висоті.*

**Conclusion and further research prospects.** Within the context of socio-political discourse of Afro-American movement BLM, we studied scientific research by Christopher J. Lebron, where the author focuses on the most painful background of globally known movement foundation. The importance of relevant translation

of this specific discourse for Ukrainian audience is stressed. Further research of socio-political discourse translation will be based on the most difficult cases from J. Lebron's book and will be used as a guide to similar discourse interpretation.

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