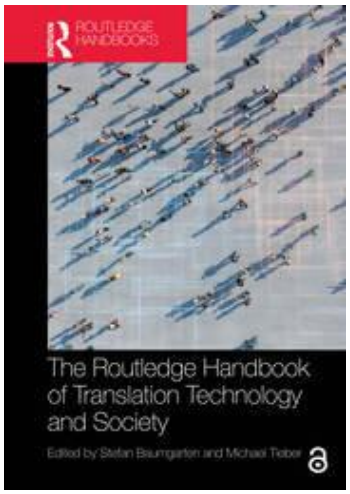
Final Variable

The Final Variable section highlights noteworthy publications in translation and interpreting studies and related disciplines. Reflecting the theme of the Translation, Interpreting & Culture 2025 conference, *Translators, Interpreters, and Society,* this issue presents four works that explore translation and interpreting as socially situated practices. Together, they examine how technological infrastructures, public discourses, and institutional arrangements shape language professionals' work, multilingual access, and relations of power.



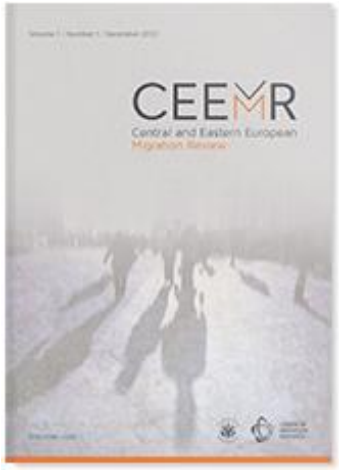
The Routledge Handbook of Translation Technology and Society (2025), edited by Stefan Baumgarten and Michael Tieber, examines translation technology in relation to contemporary social, political, and economic structures. Its chapters address the ethical, ideological, socioeconomic, and environmental implications of AI-driven translation, everyday machine translation, crowdsourcing, and platform-based work. They consider linguistic inequality, data colonialism, the commodification of language, labor conditions, and changing relations between human and machine agency. By situating translation technologies within the broader structures of digital capitalism, the handbook offers a critical perspective on their effects on professional practice and multilingual communication.

https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003271314



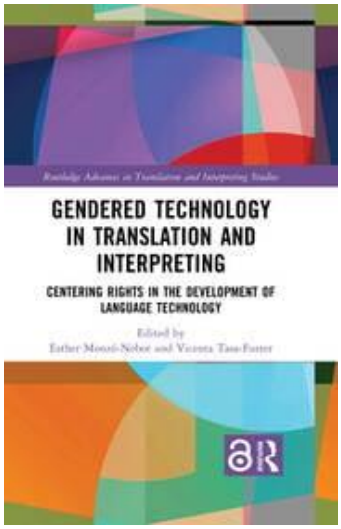
Concepts of Translators and Translation in Online Social Media: Construal and Contestation (2025) by Haidee Kotze investigates how translators and translation are conceptualized in online social media. Using a corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis of 2,639 English-language tweets concerning the 2021 debate over the selection of translators for Amanda Gorman's poetry, the article examines how these representations are constructed and contested. It also considers how links to traditional news media circulate within these debates. Kotze shows that references to translation can serve as discursive resources through which users express ideological positions and construct online identities, rather than merely commenting on translation practice itself.

https://doi.org/10.1080/14781700.2023.2282581



Who Accommodates Meaning? The Privileges of Being Interpreted and Housed from the Perspective of Ukrainians in Slovakia (2026) by Martina Wilsch, Miroslava Hlinčíková, Helena Tužinská, and Markéta Štefková examines how interpreting and institutional communication shape the experiences of people displaced from Ukraine to Slovakia. Based on qualitative research with displaced persons, ad hoc interpreters, and institutional actors, the study analyzes epistemic injustice in the contexts of housing and healthcare. The authors show how gaps in professional interpreting provision, institutional monolingualism, and inaccessible or uncertain information can marginalize refugees' knowledge and constrain their ability to understand entitlements, communicate needs, and act on their own behalf. The study thus situates language mediation within broader questions of refugee agency, equitable service provision, and social inclusion.

https://doi.org/10.54667/ceemr.2026.14



Gendered Technology in Translation and Interpreting: Centering Rights in the Development of Language Technology (2024), edited by Esther Monzó-Nebot and Vicenta Tasa-Fuster, brings translation and interpreting studies into dialogue with law and gender studies to examine how language technologies reproduce or challenge inequalities. The chapters consider machine translation, large language models, remote interpreting, and their effects on language professionals and communities. Particular attention is given to gender bias, legal regulation, and the protection of individual and collective rights, including concerns affecting marginalized groups and speakers of less-resourced languages. The volume advocates a more inclusive, rights-centered approach to developing and using language technologies.

https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003465508