
BOOK BEAT

Constructing a Sociology of Translation

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This book seeks to construct a sociology of translation for Translation Studies, as its title suggests, and also to develop a methodological framework for the same by drawing on the concept of interdisciplinarity. The volume, which is a compilation of ten papers, is divided into four sections with an elaborate 'Introduction' by Michaela Wolf, who is also a co-editor of the volume. The first section, *The Debate on the Translator's Position in an Emerging Sociology of Translation*, has articles by Erich Prunc and Theo Hermans. Eric Prunc in his article, "Priests, Princes and Pariahs. Constructing the Professional Field of Translation", retraces the importance that has been attributed to the translator in translation theory and practice. Theo Hermans in his contribution "Translation Irritation and Resonance" brings the translated text to the core of the debate and discusses the role of translation within society. The second section, *Bourdieu's influence in conceptualizing a sociology of translation*, has articles by Jean-Marc Gouanvic, Johan Heilbron and Gisele Sapiro and Michaela Wolf. The section opens with the article of Jean-Marc Gouanvic, which is written in French. Johan Heilbron and Gisele Sapiro in their contribution, "Outline for a Sociology of Translation. Current Issues and Future Prospect", discuss the contribution of sociology to translation studies. Michaela Wolf in her paper, "The Location of the 'Translation Field'. Negotiating Borderlines between Pierre Bourdieu and Homi Bhabha", engages with Bourdieu's work but at the same time draws attention to some of the drawbacks of application of Bourdieu's concepts to translation as a social practice and argues that Homi Bhabha's notion of *Third Space* might enable for a better analyses of

translation as a social practice. The third section, *Mapping the Field: Issues of Method and Translation Practice* begins with Mirella Agorni's paper, "Locating Systems and Individuals in Translation Studies", in which she points out an important direction for further research in sociologically oriented translation studies. The second paper "Translations 'in the Making'" by Helene Buzelin argues for a process oriented view of translation. Andrew Chesterman's "Bridge Concepts in Translation Sociology" identifies the need for 'bridge concepts' to link up multiple approaches to the conceptualization of a sociology of translation. The concluding section, *Constructing a Sociology of Translation Studies: Overviews and Perspectives*, has two contributions by Daniel Simeoni and Yves Gambier which focus on sociologically oriented meta-discussion of translation studies.

