

PERCEPTION OF TRANSLATOR STATUS AMONG STUDENTS OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Abstract

This paper presents a survey of the perception of translator status among graduate students at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb. The study included 126 respondents belonging to three groups – students of translation, students of modern languages but not of translation, and non-philology students. The research method used was an online questionnaire. Following Dam and Zethsen (2008, 2009), the statements were formulated to examine the four categories used to operationalize status – education, visibility, salary and occupational prestige. The primary objectives of the study were to investigate the students' perception toward translation as a profession, as well as to draw conclusions about the influence of study programmes on the respondents' attitudes by analysing possible patterns in their answers. The results indicate that non-philology students perceive translation as an average-status occupation, while both the students of languages and translation students perceive translation as an occupation of high status, with only a slight difference in their ratings.