

CEATL's Click List

Links to the world of translation

Machine translation, ethics and the literary translator's voice

Hans-Christian Oeser collaborated with Dorothy Kenny, Dublin City University, and Marian Winters, Heriot-Watt University, on their research project entitled 'Machine Translation, Ethics and the Literary Translator's Voice'. The set-up and results of the study were published in [Translation Spaces](#), a biannual, peer-reviewed, indexed journal that recognizes the global impact of translation. It envisions translation as multi-dimensional phenomena productively studied within complex spaces of encounter between knowledge, values, beliefs, and practices.

An abstract of the article on the study by Kenny and Winters can be read [here](#).

Both Dorothy Kenny and Joss Moorkens, editors of [Translation Spaces](#), work with the [Centre for Translation and Textual Studies](#), Dublin City University.

Words Without Borders

The online magazine [Words Without Borders](#) is a monthly English language publication on international literature founded in 2003. The magazine's aim is to expand 'cultural understanding through the translation, publication, and promotion of the finest contemporary international literature'. Apart from the monthly thematic publication – in October, for instance the theme was 'Writing on Climate and the Environment' – WWB also has a blog, [WWB Daily](#), featuring articles on literature, book reviews, news and literary fiction and nonfiction texts in translation. Furthermore, WWB has a '[Translator Relay](#)' where every couple of months a translator is interviewed according to six questions. Afterwards the translator chooses the next interviewee. WWB also gives out prizes and hosts events on international literature, and in 2016 they won the [London Book Fair Literary Translation Initiative Award](#). Lots of good stuff on literature and translation to be found!





Three arrested translators and members of the Belarus PEN centre
Photo: PEN International

Three translators from Belarus arrested: CEATL joins declaration of solidarity

In the crackdown on voices of independent civil society currently going on in Belarus fundamental human rights as the freedom of expression and the freedom of opinion **are being violated** by the regime under President Aleksandr Lukashenko.

In September 2020 three translators and members of the Belarus PEN centre, Hanna Komar, Uladzimir Liankievic and Siarzh Miadzvedzeu, were arrested and administratively imprisoned for participating in peaceful demonstrations in Minsk, though these are legal according to the present constitution of Belarus.

CEATL **condemns** the unlawful arrests of our colleagues, and several delegates, including the CEATL president, have participated in the digital solidarity manifestation **#freewordsbelarus** for our fellow translators and writers in Belarus.

On the initiative of the **Swedish Writers' Union**, and in a cooperative effort between CEATL and the **European Writers' Council**, representatives of 120,000 authors from 22 countries has taken part in a reading the poem "The Border" by Barys Piatrovič, the Chair of the **Belarusian Writers' Union**. The poem was translated into English by a translator who, for safety reasons, prefers to stay anonymous.

Digital exhibition of Polish translators

On the event of International Translation Day, the [Polish Literary Translators' Association](#) together with [EUNIC Warszawa](#), the European Commission and the City Culture Institute prepared a multimedia online exhibition entitled 'Portraits of Translation'.

The [exhibition](#) comprises of 35 'portraits' of Polish translators, translating from more than twenty European languages. Each portrait consists of the presentation of one book in Polish translation, including the book cover and a short introduction, a video and an audio recording in which the translator presents the book, excerpts from the book in both the original language and translation, and the translator's bio and picture.

Translators' lives and impact through the ages

'We use translated works all the time. But how about the translators themselves, and their influence on shaping languages and cultures?' Marie Lebert, a linguist, librarian and researcher whose areas of interest include multilingualism, translation, translators and the way digital technology has changed our lives across borders and languages, tries to answer this question in her recent overview *A history of translation and translators from antiquity to the 20th century*. The history can be read [here](#).

French online panel on literary machine translation

Last November, as part of its 37th annual conference ([les Assises de la traduction littéraire](#)) which took place this year not in Arles but online, the French association for the promotion of literary translation Atlas, devoted a panel to machine translation.

In conversation with Jörn Cambreleng, director of Atlas, Laurence Danlos, professor emeritus from the University of Paris and researcher in automatic language processing, Dominique Nédellec, literary translator from Portuguese, and Bruno Poncharal, researcher in contrastive linguistics, translation and translation science at the University of Paris 3 – Sorbonne Nouvelle, [gave their] exchanged views on the developments in machine translation of literary texts, and the future role of literary translators. You can watch the video [here](#).

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