

BOOK REVIEWS:

La Traducción Español-Ingles De Documentos Academicos. Los Sistemas Universitarios Español, Británico y Norteamericano Frente al Futuro EEES.

[Translating Academic Texts from Spanish into English.
The University System in Spain, the UK and the USA
within the Future ESHE]

Esther Vázquez y del Árbol

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Reviewed by :

Begoña Montero Fleta
Universitat Politècnica de València
Departamento de Lingüística Aplicada
Spain

European education faces multiple changes; the latest thread is called The European Space for Higher Education (ESHE). The university structure is changing and European degrees with it, meaning increased mobility for students, lecturers and professors and the internationalisation of policies. (European Commission, 2005, Benítez et al., 2006). Recognition and evolution of European studies involves more competent teachers, more transparent structures, balanced systems, credit equivalences for internationally recognised qualifications, and university quality. The author covers and explains all of these changes from their very origin in this study and offers some predictions about the future changes.

There are a great many differences between the British, American and the Spanish educational systems (ACAP, 2006, Gearon, 2006), and the author

explains how each system works, exploring them from the early stages, from nursery schools to universities that offer Master and Doctoral degrees. What is more, she goes into the complex world of results and marks and tries to connect and compare the grading systems available in the three systems. At the end of this first section, she includes several tables regarding international language examinations, degree classifications, marks equivalences, certificates available, and so on.

Every document related to the academic environment needs to be translated (usually an official one), and this translation can only be performed, signed and sealed by an official sworn translator authorised by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to translate official documents into and out of the English language (Mayoral, 2003). That is the reason why the author, in the third section of her study, analyzes and discusses eight original academic Spanish texts accompanied by their sworn English translation. All of them entail the most demanded translation briefs and assignments.

This research also considers the changing role of sworn translator—especially seen from the perspective a professional and a lecturer at Universidad de Granada (interview included). The study ends with a useful glossary of academic terms (English-Spanish; Spanish-English), which in itself could serve as a summary of the academic structures and frameworks explored. To sum up, this book can be a useful tool for students, teachers, lecturers, and sworn translators.

References

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