Subject matter: Problems of Interpretation and Translation of Legal Text.

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ABSTRACT

The texts of juridical communication including the main law – Constitution, various deeds and bills are created with the aim to regulate social relations between the citizens of a concrete country. Contemporary situation is characterized by intensification of international exchanges not only between statesmen, politicians, diplomats, but also social groups and individual persons. Contacts between official representatives of foreign states and ordinary people of different nations, bearers of different cultures and languages often involve the necessity of deep understanding of the laws and juridical norms of their countries. Under these circumstances it is impossible to overestimate the role of interpreter of juridical discourse and translator of legal texts. These facts prove the importance of the problem of understanding, interpretation and adequate translation of the texts of law and jurisdiction.

The present paper deals with one of the genres of juridical discourse – The Constitution of the Russian Federation, from the point of view of its ontological, gnoseological, linguistic characteristics and principles of its translation into English. The main results of the integral approach to the investigation of linguistic and nonlinguistic characteristics of the Constitution of RF are:

1. The Articles of the main law of RF, as well as other texts of juridical discourse perform both informational and regulating functions. Its composition, syntax and semantics they are restricted by conventional norm.

2. Interpretation and translation of the Articles of RF Constitution is based on the knowledge of conventional norm, native and foreign law, encyclopedic knowledge, linguistic and discourse competence.

3. The language of the RF Constitution presents a specific system, describing lawful and unlawful behaviour of the subjects of the law. It includes the words of the general vocabulary, special terms and standard syntactic formulae, characteristic of the discourse of law in general. The principal linguistic difficulty of its adequate translation and interpretation in English lies in correct compensation of realities denoting the phenomena of the Russian juridical norms.