



MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT
HALLE-WITTENBERG

“Boundary Crossing and Participation. Translation in Migration and Education.”

International conference of the research training group
“Mediation and Translation in Transition”

31.03.-01.04.2022 | Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg

The notions of globalization as well as digitalization carry the expectation that access will widen and distances will be bridged. The actual transformations, however, which we currently observe, do not imply a dissolution of boundaries. While spatial distances may shrink, linguistic and knowledge differences come to the fore all the more.

Translational practices address these differences with the aim to enable boundary crossing and to open up participation. The conference scrutinizes these practices and arrangements emerging along newly developing differences and barriers from a critical perspective, by discussing translation as a matter of boundary crossing and cross boundary coordination. Based on contributions of experts from different countries and disciplines we observe and consider the ways in which translation enables and in which ways it challenges participation. This implies issues of dealing with sameness and difference and of negotiating knowledge across boundaries. In that sense, boundary-work is always political and in need of ethical consideration.

In particular, we highlight two fields of boundary work, which are both undergoing far-reaching transformations: migration and education. By looking at the field of *migration* we examine a case in which people are shifting the social contexts, in which they live. This is not merely a process of overcoming physical distances and crossing territorial borders, but is considered as a complex arrangement of communication along and across (national) boundaries. This involves for example bureaucratic procedures in which foreigners are transduced into “European-legible” identities. It also implies sequences of interpreting, which constantly undermine the attempts to assimilate differences and dissolve barriers. By looking at the field of the *digitalization of education* we examine the case of traveling concepts and objects. Digital media techniques are crossing the border of the educational realm, which is accompanied by a massive reorganisation of practices of teaching and learning. For instance, algorithms appear as new actors on the scene. Digitalization, however, not only implies that digital objects get translated in educational terms. At the same time, education gets translated in the context of digital communication. This clearly brings along new potentials for facilitating participation, yet also produces new barriers and boundaries at the same time.

The conference will be held at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle (Saale)/Germany. It is hosted by the interdisciplinary research training group “Mediation and Translation in Transition” which is located at the Martin-Luther-University and co-founded by the “Hans-Böckler-Stiftung”, the research foundation of the German Federation of Trade Unions (DGB).

Notes to the pandemic situation (Covid-19): even though we cannot predict if there will be travel and participation restrictions, we still plan the conference to take place locally in co-presence. As we are carefully watching the development of conditions, we will inform you as soon as possible when we are forced to switch to a virtual format.

For further information and the registration form see

<https://pk-vermittlung-uebersetzung.zsb.uni-halle.de>

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Program

31. March 2022	
09:30	Registration
11:00	Greeting words
11:30	Translating as a way of producing knowledge... across boundaries Prof.in Hélène Buzelin , Université de Montréal, Canada
13:00	Lunchbreak
14:15	Translating Political Participation and Climate Justice: The Future of Democracy in Post Migrant Societies Ass. Prof.in Nicole Doerr , Københavens Universitet, Denmark
16:45	Coffee break
17:00	Sameness-in-Difference: Modes of Translational Practices Prof.in Susan Gal , University of Chicago, U.S.A.
18:30	Closing discussion of the day
19:30	Conference Dinner
1. April 2022	
09:00	Welcome
	Topic: Migration
09:15	Identification as translation: The art of choosing the right spokespersons at the securitized border Prof.in Annalisa Pelizza , Università di Bologna, Italy
10:45	Coffee break
11:00	The As If of Integration, Participation and Empowerment: When Interpreting undermines Borders and Boundaries Prof.in Sebnem Bahadir-Berzig , Universität Graz, Austria
12:30	Lunch break
	Topic: Digitalization of Education
13:30	Learning with machines: more-than-human entanglements in the era of datafication Dr. Jeremy Knox , University of Edinburgh, Scotland
15:00	Coffee break
15:15	Beyond rhetorics: Investigating the (in)visible boundaries of digital education platforms Ass. Prof. Mathias Decuypere , KU Leuven, Belgium
16:45	Coffee break
17:00	Panel discussion and closing of the conference
18:00	End of the conference