



Universität
Basel

Research Project

Corpus-based analysis of linguistic variation in simultaneous interpreting

Project funded by own resources

Project title Corpus-based analysis of linguistic variation in simultaneous interpreting

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Organisation / Research unit

Departement Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaften / English Linguistics (Locher)

Project Website <https://www.dariadayter.org/research>

Project start 01.02.2015

Probable end 30.05.2021

Status Completed

The project has been concluded in May 2020 with the submission of the habilitation thesis.

Simultaneous interpreting (SI) is the key mode of interpreting at high-level international institutions such as the United Nations. However, the difficulty of obtaining and processing data has led to the current dearth of empirical, corpus-based investigations into SI.

This methodological problem inspired the project to create a representative corpus of SI based on political discourse. The corpus has two components, Russian-English and English-Russian, and comprises about 500,000 words or 60 hours of speech data. Corpus annotation combines POS-tagging with the descriptive annotation of interpreters' disfluencies and enables a wide variety of fully automated linguistic searches.

The main purpose of the project is to conduct macroanalysis of linguistic variation between interpreted and non-interpreted texts. This will be done using the multidimensional approach inspired by Biber's (1995) work on register variation, although based on a different, relevant set of variables.

Keywords corpus linguistics, interpreting studies, translation studies, translationese, linguistic variation

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