



REVIEW OF

VOGEL, FRIEDEMANN (ED.). (2019). *LEGAL LINGUISTICS BEYOND BORDERS: LANGUAGE AND LAW IN A WORLD OF MEDIA, GLOBALISATION AND SOCIAL CONFLICTS*. BERLIN: DUNCKER & HUMBLOT.

Javier Moreno-Rivero*

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RECENSIÓ DE

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Paraules clau: llengua i dret; lingüística jurídica; jurilingüística; mitjans de comunicació; globalització.

*Javier Moreno-Rivero, researcher in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, University of Cambridge. jm2227@cam.ac.uk

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The volume *Legal Linguistics Beyond Borders: Language and Law in a World of Media, Globalisation and Social Conflicts*, edited by Friedemann Vogel (University of Siegen), contains a number of contributions that were presented at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Germany) in the relaunch of the International Language and Law Association in September 2017. This book intends to highlight historical and current synergies between law and language from an array of perspectives, since it contains chapters rooted in linguistics, law, sociology, anthropology or political science. The jurilinguistic intersections have been subject to analysis since the second half of the 20th Century, and there is a large number of publications that have bridged the gap between these fields. From legal translation to comparative law, the way in which legal linguistics – or jurilinguistics (Jiménez-Salcedo & Moreno-Rivero, 2017) – is researched has varied broadly, but it has two key points in common, as the author points out in this book: not only does language share and negotiate legal and social norms but also language-based democracy transforms social conflicts. In this regard, the volume is divided into three main parts, followed by a section of reports on the events that took place during the ILLA conference in 2017. The first part, which could be considered the main core of the volume, contains seven chapters that present an overview of legal linguistics around the world. From the United States to Africa, passing through the Mediterranean, Northern Europe, and Russia, a historical perspective of the evolution of jurilinguistic practices reviews bibliographical databases, policies and other relevant scholarship in the field. In the first chapter, Lawrence Solan highlights how corpus linguistics has gained traction in statutory interpretation in recent years and calls for legal scholars and linguists to work in tandem to improve the working of legal systems. On a similar note, Gianluca Pontrandolfo discusses the situations in Italy (Chapter 3) and Spain (Chapter 4), two countries that have produced a solid research body in law and language. With a similar structure, he reviews the academic activity of several university departments in both countries, including conferences, research centres and publications. He places special emphasis on training opportunities (and challenges) in postgraduate programmes in law and language, especially in legal translation and court and police interpreting. Both the Spanish and Italian higher education systems have a considerable amount of postgraduate degrees, making them leaders (alongside Poland and Germany, I would dare to say) in the field. Equally interesting is Chapter 5, with Vogel's contribution to considering the duality 'law' and 'language' as pivotal in the development of society. Furthermore, he vigorously defends the evolution of legal linguistics and establishes the transition from textual-based research – mostly centred in legal genres and phraseology – into computer-aided groups, developing computer tools in the analysis of legal texts.

The second part of the book is entitled "Language, Law and Justice in a Globalized World" and it features five chapters that focus on multilingualism in the European Union (including law-making and diversity, EU law in negotiation, and translation), legislative drafting (and the need to make the law more transparent); and a highly interesting discussion of the impact that language has in engaging with conversations about justice by Frances Olsen (UCLA). In fact, Ninon Colneric writes one of the most informative chapters of the volume, which depicts how multilingualism is constructed around the European Union. She offers a thorough list of the legal instruments that regulate multilingualism in the Union, as well as differentiating the way in which each institutional body operates and the management of their language regime, providing an explanation of their political relevance and their working system. Applying EU norms to translation practice, Biel and Sosoni examine the terminological hybridisation in EU Competition Law, and call for an exploration of various phenomena through experimental methods (and suggesting, particularly, eye-tracking) to study text production processes and reception. The third section includes three chapters that deal with the mediatization of the law. This section sheds light on how linguistics can contribute to constructing the social perception of the law and the way that this can be looked into from mixed methods. In these contributions, Ruth Breeze's focuses on the exploration of the practice of the law across the media, Victoria Guillén emphasizes how law depicts gender-based violence through online media, and Goźdz-Roszkowski and Kopytowska include a case study of the Polish Rule of Law crisis in several media.

In conclusion, in this issue, the editor has successfully chosen a series of topics that are of relevance to the development of language and law both in theory and in practice. This is the only book-length publication that offers a multi-sited perspective on the evolution of legal linguistics, as they are generally published in case studies dealing with a specific issue in the field. The relationship between the two disciplines has proven to be in mutual understanding of the idea that fostering existing and future connections will contribute to scholarly

advances, and to societal benefits as well. The chapters presented in this book are useful for both academics and practitioners who are interested in the way in which language makes the law, or how multilingual legal orders present particular challenges (Leung, 2019), and even which are the key training opportunities that exist in this field. Although some of the contributions are not as extensive, most of the volume is well-structured and explanatory, with a thought-provoking section at the end of each chapter that explains the extent to which the new avenues for research will help develop future initiatives and practices. This book should be mandatory reading for those starting to research law and language from a general perspective, as it provides the readership with (i) a broad idea of its conception, and (ii) it contains a thorough discussion of key bibliography that maps out how law and language has evolved from a textual and jurisprudential perspective onto a more socio-legal ground.

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