

**A Note on the Textbook *Tlmočník ako rečník (The Interpreter as a Speaker)*, Vertanová, S., Andoková, M., Štubňa, P., Moyšová, S., Bratislava: Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, 2015, pp. 231. Edited by Vertanová, S., Andoková, M.**

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In an era of segmented research in the humanities, a stress on the relationship between rhetoric and interpreting studies provides a welcome starting point for the textbook *Tlmočník ako rečník (The Interpreter as Speaker)*, written in Slovakian and published last year.

In recent times, scholars and practitioners from different fields have renewed their attention to rhetoric not only as a way of understanding social and cultural phenomena, but also as a way of teaching that has entered into many areas of study. Also, interpreting studies are promising to be one of the most lively disciplines in the humanities. Nowadays, these two fields have converged into a shared area of research and practice, and this book aims at delving deeper into the nature of their connections.

In the first chapter, entitled “Translation as a Conscious Activity”, the authors give the outlines of the cultural and historical contexts of interpretation as both a practice-oriented activity and an academic discipline. The three following chapters (“Interpretation as Communication”, “Interpreter as an Orator”, and “Communication Situations in the Interpreting Process”) rest on the idea that interpreters should develop good communication and public speaking skills and, therefore, they need rhetoric as a storehouse of communicative tactics. The fifth chapter bearing the title “The Slovak Language as a Communication Code” deals with readers’ mother tongue and its cultivation. The sixth chapter, entitled “A Message from Antiquity to Modern Rhetorici”, is dedicated to rhetorical theories from ancient times and their development through the Middle Ages. The seventh chapter, bearing the title “The Rhetorical Minimum for an Interpreter”, contains information and tips for interpreters to prepare themselves for a public speech. The last chapter, entitled “Common Latin Expressions and Maxims in the Speech of Today’s Orator”, gives the reader a sort of selective dictionary comprising Latin phrases used in contemporary Slovak, including the explanations of their origin and meaning.

The major contribution of this book is in showing the significance of rhetoric for translation and interpreting studies. As a result, future interpreters are becoming increasingly receptive to the relevance of rhetocial strategies and encouraged to use them. Combining theory and

practice, with a special emphasis on practical advice to future interpreters, the textbook *Tlmočník ako rečník* (The Interpreter as Speaker) is a valuable resource for interpretation students, as well as for a wider audience. I enjoyed this book's admirable advice and the methodologies it brings to the field of translation studies. Therefore, I strongly recommend reading and using it within the framework of university courses and as a reliable guidance for practitioners.