Abstract

This diploma thesis examines the interpreting of nostrification exams for foreign students. The theoretical part consists of a study of legislation on the stay of foreign students in the Czech Republic, analysis of their number, a description of the process of recognition of foreign education and professional practice in the Czech Republic and the conditions of admission of foreign students to study here. The specifics of the interpreting context for interpreting exams are described, and their differences from ordinary interpreting examined.

The empirical part of the thesis uses both quantitative and qualitative research methods and draws mainly from questionnaire surveys and semi-structured interviews. The different participants' experience and opinions in this situation are examined – secondary school teachers, foreign students and interpreters themselves. The research focuses on preparing participants for the exam (specific education or training for teachers working with foreign students, preparation of interpreters and their qualifications), their expectations, the course of the exam, most common problems and the satisfaction of all participants with mutual cooperation. Special attention is given to interpreters and their role in this communication situation. The research also looks at specific strategies and procedures that interpreters apply in interpreting.

The research results show, that nostrification exams take place in an environment which could be described as community. This tempts the interpreter to be more active in the interpreting process and try to help their client, who is at a disadvantage against institutions' representatives. However, despite all good intentions, a court interpreter must not forget main principles laid down by law and code of ethics for the performance of this type of interpretation.

Key words

the interpreter's role, code of ethics, confidentiality, impartiality, neutrality, community interpreting, court interpreting, foreign students, school setting