

## Abstract

The present doctoral thesis investigates book translations of Czech and Slovak literature into European Portuguese in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Portugal.

The Introduction gives reasons for choosing the topic, argues for its relevance and outlines the structure of the thesis. It defines the main research question, ‘What was the presence of Czech literature translated into European Portuguese in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Portugal?’, and formulates the hypothesis to be tested: ‘The translations of Czech literature in 20<sup>th</sup> century Portugal exhibited a tendency, a pattern.’

Chapter 1 attempts to operationalise seven theoretical issues pertinent to Translation Studies in general: (1) ideology, (2) censorship, (3) indirect translations, (4) non-translation, (5) canon and world literature, (6) paratexts, and (7) medium-sized lingua- & socio-cultures.

Chapter 2 delineates the research subject, discusses the most important types of sources and materials used and presents the methodology. The principal research subject is defined as translations of *Czech fiction* into *European Portuguese* published in *book form* in Portugal in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Seminal works by J. Levý and A. Popovič are introduced, discussing the methodology most apposite to analysing the material found.

Chapter 3 provides a general historical, political and cultural background for the topic of thesis. It focuses on the cultural relations between Czechoslovakia and Portugal in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The institution and methods of the Portuguese censorship during the *New State* (1926-74) are presented to the Czech scholarly public for the first time.

Chapter 4 deals with Portuguese translations of Czech literature and the phenomenon of *non-translation* due to censorship. It presents and analyses the censorship files regarding books by Czech authors or otherwise concerning Czechoslovakia, reveals the underlying reasons for banning or authorising the books and examines the repercussions for the reception of Czech literature in Portugal. The chapter is concluded with a micro-textual contrastive analysis of selected excerpts from J. Hašek’s novel *The Good Soldier Švejk*, including the *mediating* French translation by J. Hořejší.

The Conclusion synthesises the results, answers the main research questions, discusses to what extent the original hypothesis has been confirmed, offers alternative explanations, discusses borderline cases and gives suggestions for follow-up research.

The key issues of the thesis are: (a) the impact of *political ideologies* on translation and *non-translation*, especially due to *censorship*; (b) the phenomenon of *indirect translations* in particular and *indirect reception* of the source literature and its *canon* in general; and (c) relations between two European medium-sized lingua- & socio-cultures as seen through the prism of translations of (not only) literature.

Key words: ideology, censorship, indirect translations, non-translation, canon, world literature, medium-sized lingua- & socio-cultures, Portugal, Czechoslovakia, 20<sup>th</sup> century