

Department of Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/tra · Tel: (852) 3943 7700 · Fax: (852) 2603 7843

## Translation and Time: Exploring the Temporal Dimension of Cross-cultural Transfer

## **Presentation Details**

Title of Paper: Temporality of Narratives for Children in Translation

## Abstract:

The focus of this paper is a very popular picturebook from the former Yugoslavia, which has recently been translated into English for the first time, and its attempt to cross not only cultural, but also temporal barriers. Branko Ćopić's Ježeva kućica is a post-war patriotic narrative, with a war-influenced language reflecting the fact that it was written in 1949. The English translation Hedgehog's Home published in 2010 moves the narrative away from the original patriotic message of the past and introduces it in a new, currently more acceptable, environmentally conscious narrative about protecting the natural habitat, primarily through the illustrations. The analysis will look at how the iconic (visual) and the conventional (verbal) signs, form a whole in this particular picturebook, comparing the images created in the original book with the images produced in the translated volume. Consequently, the text of Ježeva kućica has also seen many modern versions in different Western Balkan languages, which have used new illustrations. These editions can be viewed as more closely related in their visual language to the English version rather than the 1950s original. This suggests that there might be a broader trend of change away from traditional illustrative practices, and with a timelier focus.

## Author's Biography:

**Marija Todorova** holds a PhD in Translation Studies from the Hong Kong Baptist University, as a HKPFS awardee. She also holds a PhD in Peace and Development Studies from University Ss. Cyril and Methodius Skopje. She has taken part in the establishment of the Translation Programme at the University American College Skopje, where she has taught in translation, interpreting and intercultural communication from 2007 to 2011. For her literary translations she was presented the 2007 National Translation Award.

Marija is an Executive Council member of IATIS. Her research interests include interpreters in mediation, intercultural education, and visual representation in translation. She is currently Adjunct Scholar at the Hong Kong Baptist University Centre for Translation.