Google Translate Evaluation in the Context of Specialised Culture-bound Texts

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Many scholars advocate a multidisciplinary approach to translation and to assessing its quality. House (2001), sees translation as combining linguistic constituents with a cultural background, and Munday (2012) claims that evaluation in translation fits into a wider social and ideological context. In view of such theories, when cultural issues are considered, translation evaluation should incorporate culture and ideology together with the officially used terminology and linguistic features of specific types of texts. The paper presents the assessment of GT translation of the Polish Constitution in comparison with its official translation to find out how suitable the choice of terminology and structures appear.

Keywords: Google Translate (GT) translations, translation evaluation/assessment, original version (OV), Google Translate version (GTV), culture-specific/culture-bound elements/items

1. Introduction

Can Google Translate (GT) be positively evaluated not only as a practical tool for common use but also as an aid in more challenging translations of texts with some culture-specific features (i.e. realia), or elements the translation of which requires more professional knowledge of a given language type, the social environment, the dominant ideology, and other culture-specific items? Does GT offer solutions that respect cultural specificity of the source text (ST) and its social and ideological environment? Do the GT translations need a lot of corrections to be made more culturally adjusted? Is the claim of Sumita & Iida (1999: 185) that Rule-Based Machine Translation can already be as much as 78% correct confirmable with respect to the research material analysed in this paper?

We will seek answers to the above questions and present the results of research checking how correct a GT translation can be in the translation of a specialized legal text with culture-bound terminology, namely the Constitution of the Republic of Poland 2 April 1997, as published in Poland's Journal of Laws (*Dziennik Ustaw*) No. 78, item 483, being the official English translation of *Konstytucja Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej. Tekst uchwalony w dniu 2 kwietnia 1997 r. przez Zgromadzenie Narodowe*, available on the Polish Sejm website¹. Our hypothesis is that GT can, to some extent, deal with culturally conditioned items to make them understandable in translation. Is it, however, sufficient to accept such translations in the context of quality evaluation as some theorists perceive it, e.g. Julianne House (1997), Basil Hatim (1998), who distinguish translation from non-translation (e.g. adaptation), and include "the text producer's temporal, geographical and social provenance as well as his intellectual, emotional or affective stance (his "personal viewpoint")" in the translation quality assessment (House 2001: 248), or take into account all possible dependencies resulting from existing systems of institutional structures and operations influencing language and translation, as Jeremy Munday does (2012)?

Although Quality Assessment in the case of Machine Translation is often performed according to some special computational methods (Chéragui 2012), in our evaluation we are

going to use traditional methods of assessing the translation quality according to linguistic criteria among which terminology, grammar, spelling, punctuation and language style will be included. We will compare the Google Translate version (GTV) with the appropriate passage of the official version (OV), treated as a model translation, and the source text (ST). the original Polish Constitution, so a double comparative method will be used in the analysis.

The two versions of translation will be compared as to:

- terminology (how the versions correspond or differ)
- grammar (what forms typical of legal language are used in the GTV)
- errors in GTV
- cohesion of GTV

All the passages taken from the ST have been carefully selected as bearing traces of culture-specific language, because they are composed of terms either connected with institutional structures in Poland, or political nomenclature, or specific, culturally conditioned functioning of law. The amount of text of the OV selected for the analysis is 2,639 words out of 19,840 words in the full text, which constitutes 13.30%. The criterion for the selection has been the cultural specificity of the ST contents. Finally, 1,674 words (8.5%) are included in references in the Appendix and quoted among examples mentioned in the analysis. We count the words of the OV and treat the GTV as being of more or less the same length, though it is difficult to measure precisely.

2. Terminology – comparison of the OV and GTV

In the process of the analysis, it has been observed that GT very often uses the same translation equivalent as the OV translation, when we take into consideration both more objective and defined institutional terminology and other types of terms. We have divided the types of terms into those two groups to have an insight into GT expertise in rendering the more common terms and translation of less frequently occurring ones. The number of cases in which the same equivalents are introduced in the first group is 17, in the second, 10 (27 altogether). Different equivalents are used appropriately in both groups 19 and 17 times (36 cases in all) and are sometimes wrongly chosen TT options in GTV. These are:

I. The group of institutional terms:

1. the same terms used:

- (1) the Sejm and the Senate
- (2) the Council of Ministers
- (3) the Prime Minister
- (4) the Supreme Court
- (5) the National Assembly
- (6) the Minister of National Defence (GTV the Minister of National Defense)
- (7) the Cabinet Council
- (8) the First President of the Supreme Court
- (9) the President and Vice-President of the Constitutional Tribunal
- (10) the President of the Supreme Administrative Court
- (11) vice-presidents of the Supreme Administrative Court
- (12) the National Council of Radio Broadcasting and Television

- (13) voivods (GTV voivodes)
- (14) the General Assembly of the Judges of the Supreme Court
- (15) the General Assembly of the Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court
- (16) the National Council of the Judiciary
- (17) the General Assembly of the Judges of the Constitutional Tribunal
 - 2. differing terms (OV GTV):
- (1) the Commissioner for Children's Rights the Ombudsman Child/Ombudsman/Ombudsman for Children's Rights
- (2) the Constitutional Tribunal the Tribunal
- (3) the Marshal of the Sejm and the Marshal of the Senate the Marshal of the Sejm and The Speaker of the Senate
- (4) the President of the National Bank of Poland the National President Bank Polski
- (5) the President of the Supreme Chamber of Control the President of the Supreme Audit Office
- (6) the Commissioner for Citizens' Rights the Ombudsman Civic
- (7) the Council for Monetary Policy the Policy Council Pienieżna
- (8) the Chancellery of the President of the Republic the Chancellery of the President Rzeczpospolita
- (9) a Marshal of the Sejm and Vice-Marshals the Marshal of the Sejm and deputy marshals
- (10) the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland the Supreme Commander of the Forces Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland
- (11) the Chief of the General Staff and commanders of branches of the Armed Forces the Chief of General Staff and commanders of the Armed Forces
- (12) the National Security Council. the Security Council National
- (13) the Presidential Chancellery the Chancellery of the President of the Republic
- (14) the Council for Monetary Policy the Monetary Policy Council
- (15) the National Council of the Judiciary the National Council for the Judiciary
- (16) the Public Prosecutor-General Prosecutor General
- (17) the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces
- (18) the Board of the National Bank of Poland the Management Board of the National Bank of Poland
- (19) the Boards for Adjudication of Misdemeanours attached to district courts misdemeanor courts decide on misdemeanor cases in district courts

II. The group of non-institutional terms:

1. the same terms:

- (1) the Polish Nation
- (2) the Constitution of the Republic of Poland
- (3) the Third Republic
- (4) the territorial system of the Republic of Poland
- (5) the national anthem of the Republic of Poland

- (6) the ratification of an international agreement
- (7) the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland (Dziennik Ustaw) (GTV the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland)
- (8) a vote of confidence
- (9) the commune (gmina) (GTV the commune)
- (10) the Official Gazette of the Republic of Poland, Monitor Polski (GTV the Official Gazette of the Republic of Poland "Monitor Polski"

2. differing terms (OV - GTV):

- (1) the First and the Second Republic the First and Second Polish Republic
- (2) the supreme law of the Republic of Poland the highest law of the Republic of Poland
- (3) the system of government of the Republic of Poland the regime of the Republic of Poland
- (4) the coat-of-arms of the Republic of Poland the emblem of the Republic of Poland
- (5) Dąbrowski's Mazurka the Mazurka of Dąbrowski
- (6) communal assets or property of the State Treasury property municipal or property of the Treasury
- (7) the right to participate in a referendum and the right to vote the right to participate in a referendum and the right election
- (8) schools other than public non-public schools
- (9) standing committees and [...] special committees standing committees and [...] extraordinary commissions
- (10) an investigative committee an investigative commission
- (11) a vote of no confidence a majority of no confidence
- (12) local government local self-government
- (13) constitutive and executive organs executive and executive bodies
- (14) regional audit chambers the regional accounting chambers
- (15) territorial organs of government administration local government administration bodies
- (16) judgments of the Constitutional Tribunal decisions of the Constitutional Tribunal
- (17) the chief organ of state audit the supreme organ of state control.

As has been shown in these examples, dissimilarities between OV and GTV translations result from either the use of different words comprising terms (often synonymous), or GT mistakes, especially the use of wrong equivalents of homonymous ST words in the target language (TL) and leaving words of the ST untranslated. The majority of differing terms, though, still produce appropriate and intelligible versions of the original Polish Constitution and would not cause problems with interpreting the ST message.

3. Classification of mistakes

Errors consist not only of terminological mistakes. Referring to grammar, apart from the lack of proper conjugation or prepositions and using wrong syntax, there are some rules typical of legal language usage that GT does not always follow (i.e. the modal verb "shall" referring to judicial guarantees), but their application is, on the other hand, an important factor showing the GTV connection with real texts, not artificially produced structures.

There are also mistakes concerning spelling and cohesion, the latter of which will be discussed in a separate section. Where spelling is concerned, the differences between the British and American spelling are ignored (GT uses the American version as a rule, unlike the OV), but there are still some cases of misspelling which will be included among the mistakes quoted.

The number of words counted as mistakes within the analysed text is 64, which constitutes 2.42% of the total. It is a small number, but we have to be aware that correctness is assessed within culture-specific elements, which centres around terminology and relates to words, phrases, and, only occasionally, short sentence constructions. The result would change for the worse if longer text fragments were analysed. That would be due primarily to possible problems of GT with interpreting declensions, conjugations, and word order.

The kinds of errors found are as follows:

1. Lack of a preposition²:

- (1) when basic freedoms and laws [of] human beings
- (2) an unshakeable foundation [of] [the] Polish Republic
- (3) the Marshal [of] [the] Senate
- (4) appointed by the President [of] [the Republic] Rzeczpospolita
- (5) in the field [of] internal and external security

2. Wrong preposition³:

- (1) the President of the Republic of Poland, presents to the Sejm a program of action of the Council of Ministers [with] [an] *from* application for granting it a vote of confidence
- (2) The Sejm shall pass a [voice] majority of no confidence [in] by the Council of Ministers
- (3) their tasks for [through] [constitutive] executive and executive bodies.
- (4) Judges are appointed by the President of the Republic, [on] *for* application of the National Council for the Judiciary

3. Lack of an article⁴:

- (1) an unshakeable foundation [of] [the] Polish Republic
- (2) the Marshal [of] [the] Senate
- (3) the President of the Republic of Poland, presents to the Sejm a program of action of the Council of Ministers [with] [an] *from* application for granting it a vote of confidence
- 4. Grammar mistakes (other types) concerning number, wrong conjugations, or lack of a verb⁵:
- (1) the compliance of a law or *other* [another] [normative] act with the Constitution normative
- (2) a given one *Affairs* [affair]
- (3) The President of the Republic gives the statute of the Chancellery and [appoints] appoint and [dismisses] dismiss the Chief
- (4) The provision of para. 2 [is] not applicable

- 5. Wrong choice of words (direct, not contextual equivalents caused by wrong interpretation of homonyms in the source language (SL))⁶:
- (1) the Constitution of the Republic of Poland as *fundamental rights* [the basic law]
- (2) the right *election* [to vote]
- (3) the compliance of *a law* [a statute] or other *act* [another normative act] with the Constitution normative
- 6. Wrong choice of words (accidental or with a Polish word)⁷:
- (1) in the presence of *every* [at] least half of the statutory number of deputies
- (2) the Sejm and the Sejm Senate
- (3) the [Monetary] Policy Council *Pieniężna*
- (4) the Chancellery of the President [of] [the] [Republic] Rzeczpospolita
- (5) The Sejm shall pass a [voice] *majority* of no confidence [in] by the Council of Ministers
- (6) their tasks for [through] [constitutive] executive and executive bodies
- (7) appointed by the President [of] the [Republic] Rzeczpospolita

7. Word order⁸:

- Polish pattern, not English:
- (1) property municipal [municipal property]
- (2) the Security Council National [the National Security Council].
- wrong word order:
- (3) the compliance of a law or other act with the Constitution normative [the compliance of a law or other normative act with the Constitution]
- (4) the National President Bank Polski [the President of the National Bank of Poland]
- 8. Repetitions of words:
- (1) the Forces Armed Forces
- 9. Use of "shall" typical of legal language (Cao 2007:22):
- only 11 times, whereas there are 34 cases of using the Present Simple Tense, other modals (may and cannot x 3) and gerunds (x 2) (see Appendix)
- 10. Spelling mistakes and inconsistencies:
- (1) OV: Deputies / GTV: deputies
- (2) OV: the Sejm / GTV. The Seym
- (3) OV: Senators / GTV: senators
- (4) OV: the State/GTV: the state
- (5) OV: vice-presidents / GTV: vice presidents
- (6) OV: programme / GTV: program
- (7) OV: voivode / GTV: voivode
- 11. Lack of terminological cohesion:
- (1) zakłady wychowawcze OV: educational development institutions / GTV: educational facilities or plants upbringing
- (2) ustawa OV: statute / GTV: act (statute x 3) (see the Appendix)

- (3) kadencja OV: the term of office / GTV: the term (term of office x 1) (see the Appendix)
- (4) na wniosek OV: on a motion / GTV: [on] [an[for / from application⁹
- (5) samorząd terytorialny OV: territorial / local government / GTV: local / territorial self-government (local government x 4) (see the Appendix)
- (6) organy OV: organs / GTV: bodies (organs x 2) (see the Appendix)

12. Punctuation:

- using punctuation marks according to normal rules in the GTV, as GT applies the American version of English, including the legal language, with more organized punctuation than in British legal language, which normally lacks punctuation¹⁰ (Mellinkoff 2004: 164, 251-252, Jopek-Bosiacka 2006: 72).

4. Cohesion

Apart from the lack of terminological cohesion in the GTV, the text cohesion and coherence is a broader problem to consider.

According to the appraisal theory, developed by Martin and White (2005), and followed e.g. by Munday (2012), the evaluation of all language propositions is what human beings normally do while producing and perceiving a language. According to Munday, discourse can be characterized by two factors – ideological, relating to ideas and beliefs, and axiological, incorporating values and negotiating solidarity or community among the participants of the discourse (Munday 2012: 11-12, 16). White (2015), recapitulating basic aspects of what we have already quoted after House (2001: 248), claims that:

The appraisal framework accordingly makes possible nuanced explanations of the particular evaluative workings of individual texts and, similarly, nuanced accounts of how texts are similar or different according to their particular evaluative arrangements. Thus it offers the possibility of new insights into how texts enact individual and collective identities, into the evaluative dispositions of particular registers and genres [...]. (White, 2015: 6)

According to this claim, what a nation does in writing their constitution is to praise all the positive values and show the homeland in its best light. This is particularly visible in the Preamble to the Constitution, e.g. in statements such as:

- (1) "Having regard for the existence and future of our Homeland"
- (2) "We, the Polish Nation all citizens of the Republic, both those who believe in God as the source of truth, justice, good and beauty, as well as those not sharing such faith but respecting those universal values as arising from other sources"
- (3) "Equal in rights and obligations towards the common good Poland"
- (4) "Beholden to our ancestors for their labours, their struggle for independence achieved at great sacrifice, for our culture rooted in the Christian heritage of the Nation and in universal human values"
- (5) "Recalling the best traditions of the First and the Second Republic"
- (6) "Obliged to bequeath to future generations all that is valuable from our over one thousand years' heritage"
- (7) "Recognizing our responsibility before God or our own consciences"

- (8) "based on respect for freedom and justice, cooperation between the public powers, social dialogue"
- (9) "paying respect to the inherent dignity of the person, his or her right to freedom, the obligation of solidarity with others, and respect for these principles as the unshakeable foundation of the Republic of Poland."

Bearing in mind the emotional tone of this preamble's language, a conscious translator has to be consistent in his or her linguistic choices in order to make the text coherent. We can state that such a feature is typical of the OV, but not the GTV. There we find some inconsistencies in the word choice combining positive and negative connotations of words. On the negative, or neutral, side would be such expressions found in the GTV as:

- (1) "the highest law of the Republic of Poland", instead of "the supreme law of the Republic of Poland" (OV), showing just an objective evaluation and not respect, as in the OV
- (2) "the regime of the Republic of Poland", instead of "the system of government of the Republic of Poland" (OV), having negative connotations apart from the neutral meaning of the word "regime;

whereas on the positive side we could place such expressions as:

- (1) "the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces", instead of "the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces" (OV), which expresses dignity as well as mere function, as in the OV
- (2) "standing committees and [...] extraordinary commissions", instead of "standing committees and [...] special committees" (OV), which incorporates positive evaluation, but does not specify a function, like the OV.

The choice of words in the expressions quoted shows that GT cannot evaluate meanings in a human manner. It produces translations that need a human mind's control and corrections. However, GT provides a wide range of aiding possibilities to facilitate the translation of even difficult texts, belonging to specialized types and possessing culture-specific elements.

5. Conclusions

Due to the research we have carried out, we can state that GT can be a tool facilitating translations in such specialised texts as propositions of law in specific cultures. The criteria chosen for the analysis, such as the terminology, features of grammar, and cohesion, show a moderate number of mistakes, while plenty of very specific terms or even grammar elements are introduced by GTVs correctly. The most serious problems with GT are, first, the lack of unambiguity exemplified in giving random propositions and, second, incoherence, resulting from the lack of text meaning evaluation. But, under translators' control, the errors occurring in GTVs can be easily eliminated, especially the ones concerning spelling or word order in terms, and the process of translation may be facilitated. Without such control, GT would not be a safe enough tool to use for professional translations.

A separate problem in the assessment of GTV correctness is its compliance with the ST register and the text cohesion and coherence. With regard to such criteria we have to state that GT and any Machine Translation is incapable of performing a good translation, as no technically generated text can replace human reasoning and adjust what is included in the

source text to linguistic and cultural sensitivities, like e.g. formal or informal register, language style which includes words with positive or negative connotations etc.

All in all, disregarding advanced requirements characterizing official translations and assuming the ability of a translator to control translation quality, GT can perform a satisfactory and legible translation of a specialized text including culture-specific items and function as an aiding tool assisting the process of translation.

Appendix¹¹: Terminology and grammar analysis:

Original phrasa	Official version of	Coods Translate version
Original phrase		Google Translate version
1 N. / 1D 11'	translation	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1. my, Naród Polski	1. We, the Polish Nation	1. we, the Polish Nation
3. wobec dobra wspólnego –	3. towards the common good	3. towards the common good
Polski	– Poland	– Poland
4. w chrześcijańskim	4. in the Christian heritage	4. in <u>Christianity</u> heritage of
dziedzictwie Narodu	of the Nation	the Nation
5. Pierwszej i Drugiej	5. the First and the Second	5. the First and Second
Rzeczypospolitej	Republic	Polish Republic
6. z naszymi rodakami	6. with our compatriots	6. with our compatriots
rozsianymi po świecie	dispersed throughout the	dotted around the world
	world	
7. gdy podstawowe wolności	$\frac{1}{7}$ when fundamental	7. when basic freedoms and
i prawa człowieka były w	freedoms and human rights	laws human beings were
naszej Ojczyźnie łamane	were <u>violated</u> in our	broken in our homeland
	Homeland	
8. Konstytucję	8. this Constitution of the	8. the Constitution of the
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej	Republic of Poland as the	Republic of Poland as
jako prawa podstawowe dla	basic law for the State	fundamental rights for the
państwa		state
9. dla dobra Trzeciej	9. for the good of the Third	9. for the good of the Third
Rzeczypospolitej	Republic	Republic
10. za niewzruszoną	10. as the unshakeable	10. they had an unshakeable
podstawę Rzeczypospolitej	foundation of the Republic	foundation Polish Republic
Polskiej	of Poland	Joundation I otish Republic
· ·	11. assistance to Poles living	11 assistance to Dolos living
1 2	S	11. assistance to Poles living
zamieszkałym za granicą w	abroad to maintain their	abroad in maintaining their
zachowaniu ich związków z	<u>links</u> with the national	relationships with the
narodowym dziedzictwem	cultural heritage	national cultural heritage
kulturalnym	10 551	12 5
12. Konstytucja jest	12. The Constitution shall be	12. The Constitution is the
najwyższym prawem	the supreme law of the	highest law of the Republic
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej	Republic of Poland	of Poland.
13. Ustrój Rzeczypospolitej	13. The system of	13. <u>The regime</u> of the
Polskiej	government of the Republic	Republic of Poland

- 14. Sejm i Senat; Rada Ministrów
- 15. Ustrój terytorialny Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej
- 16. Małżeństwo jako związek kobiety i mężczyzny
- 17. weteranów walk o niepodległość
- 18. Podstawą ustroju rolnego państwa jest gospodarstwo rodzinne.
- 19. Stosunki między Rzecząpospolitą Polską a Kościołem Katolickim
- 21. Godłem Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej jest wizerunek orła białego w koronie w czerwonym polu.
- 22. Hymnem Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej jest Mazurek Dąbrowskiego
- 23. mieniem komunalnym lub majątkiem Skarbu Państwa
- 24. Obywatel polski ma prawo udziału w referendum oraz prawo wybierania
- 25. Rodzice mają wolność wyboru dla swoich dzieci szkół innych niż publiczne
- 26. Rzecznika Praw Dziecka
- 27. wnieść skargę do Trybunału Konstytucyjnego w sprawie zgodności z Konstytucją ustawy lub innego aktu normatywnego
- 28. Każdy ma prawo wystąpienia, na zasadach określonych w ustawie, do

- of Poland
- 14. the Sejm and the Senate; the Council of Ministers
- 15. The territorial system of the Republic of Poland
- 16. Marriage, being <u>a union</u> of a man and a woman
- 17. veterans of the struggle for independence
- 18. The basis of the agricultural system of the State shall be the family farm.
- 19. The relations between the Republic of Poland and the Roman Catholic Church
- 21. The image of a crowned white eagle upon a red field shall be the coat-of-arms of the Republic of Poland.
- 22. Dąbrowski's Mazurka" shall be the national anthem of the Republic of Poland.
- 23. communal assets or property of the State Treasury.
- 24. Polish citizen shall have the right to participate in a referendum and the right to vote
- 25. Parents shall have the right to choose schools other than public for their children 26. the Commissioner for Children's Rights
- 27. shall have the right to appeal to the Constitutional Tribunal for its judgment on the conformity to the Constitution of a statute or another normative act
- 28. In accordance with principles specified by statute, everyone shall have

- 14. the Sejm and the Senate; the Council of Ministers
- 15. The territorial system of the Republic of Poland
- 16. Marriage as <u>a</u> relationship of a man and a woman
- 17. the veterans of the fighting for independence
- 18. The basis of the state's agricultural system is the family farm.
- 19. Relations between the Republic of Poland and the Catholic Church
- 21. The <u>emblem</u> of the Republic of Poland is the image of the white eagle in crown in a red field.
- 22. The Mazurka of Dąbrowski is the national anthem of the Republic of Poland.
- 23. *property municipal* or property of the Treasury
- 24. A Polish citizen has the right to participate in a referendum and the *right* election
- 25. Parents have the freedom to choose non-public schools for their children
- 26. the Ombudsman Child.
- 27. has the right to lodge a complaint with the Tribunal [...] on the compliance of a law or other act with the Constitution normative
- 28. Everyone has the right <u>to</u> <u>submit</u>, on <u>the terms set out</u> <u>in the Act</u>, to <u>Ombudsman</u>

Rzecznika Praw Obywatelskich

- 29. Ustawa wyrażająca zgodę na ratyfikację umowy międzynarodowej, [...], jest uchwalana przez Sejm większością 2/3 głosów w obecności co najmniej połowy ustawowej liczby posłów
- 30. po jej ogłoszeniu w Dzienniku Ustaw Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej,
- 31. Uchwały Rady Ministrów oraz zarządzenia Prezesa Rady Ministrów i ministrów
- 32. Władzę ustawodawczą w Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej sprawują Sejm i Senat.
- 33. Sejm składa się z 460 posłów.
- 34. Senat składa się ze 100 senatorów
- 35. Prezydent
 Rzeczypospolitej, po
 zasięgnięciu opinii
 Marszałka Sejmu i
 Marszałka Senatu, może w
 przypadkach określonych w
 Konstytucji zarządzić
 skrócenie kadencji Sejmu.
- 36. Ważność wyborów do Sejmu i Senatu stwierdza Sąd Najwyższy.
- 37. Mandatu posła nie można łączyć z funkcją Prezesa Narodowego Banku Polskiego, Prezesa Najwyższej Izby Kontroli, Rzecznika Praw Obywatelskich, Rzecznika

the right to apply to the Commissioner for Citizens' Rights

- 29. A statute, granting consent for ratification of an international agreement [...], shall be passed by the Sejm by a two-thirds majority vote in the presence of at least half of the statutory number of Deputies,
- 30. After promulgation thereof in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland (Dziennik Ustaw),
- 31. Resolutions of the Council of Ministers and orders of the Prime Minister and ministers
- 32. Legislative power in the Republic of Poland shall be exercised by the Sejm and the Senate.
- 33. The Sejm shall be composed of 460 Deputies.
- 34. The Senate shall be composed of 100 Senators.
- 35. The President of the Republic, after seeking the opinion of the Marshal of the Sejm and the Marshal of the Senate, may, in those instances specified in the Constitution, order shortening of the Sejm's term of office.
- 36. The Supreme Court shall adjudicate upon the validity of the elections to the Sejm and the Senate.
- 37. The mandate of a Deputy shall not be <u>held jointly with</u> the office of the President of the National Bank of Poland, the President of the Supreme Chamber of Control, the Commissioner for Citizens'

- 29. The Act approving the ratification of an international agreement [...], is passed by the Sejm by a majority of 2/3 of votes in the presence of *every* least half of the statutory number of deputies
- 30. after its promulgation in The Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland
- 31. Resolutions of the Council of Ministers and orders of the Prime Minister and ministers
- 32. Legislative power in the Republic of Poland shall be exercised by the Sejm and the *Sejm* Senate.
- 33. The Seym consists of 460 deputies.
- 34. The Senate <u>consists</u> of 100 senators.
- 35. The President of the Republic, after seeking the opinion of the Marshal of the Sejm and The Speaker of the Senate may order in the cases specified in the Constitution shortening the term of office of the Sejm
- 36. The Supreme Court shall <u>determine</u> the validity of the elections to the Sejm and the Senate.
- 37. The deputy's mandate can not be <u>combined with</u> the function of the National President Bank Polski, the President of the Supreme Audit Office and the Ombudsman Civic,

Praw Dziecka i ich zastępców, członka Rady Polityki Pieniężnej, członka Krajowej Rady Radiofonii i Telewizji, ambasadora oraz z zatrudnieniem w Kancelarii Sejmu, Kancelarii Senatu, Kancelarii Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej

- 38. Sejm wybiera ze swojego grona Marszałka Sejmu i wicemarszałków.
- 39. Sejm powołuje komisje stałe oraz może powoływać komisje nadzwyczajne.
- 40. Sejm może powołać komisję śledczą do zbadania określonej sprawy.
- 41. [...] Seim i Senat, obradując wspólnie pod przewodnictwem Marszałka Sejmu lub jego zastępstwie Marszałka działają Senatu, iako Zgromadzenie Narodowe. Zgromadzenie Narodowe uchwala swój regulamin.
- 42. Przed podpisaniem ustawy Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej może wystąpić do Trybunału Konstytucyjnego wnioskiem sprawie zgodności ustawy Konstytucją.
- 43. Prezydent
 Rzeczypospolitej jest
 najwyższym zwierzchnikiem
 Sił Zbrojnych

Rights, the Commissioner for Children's Rights or their deputies, a member of the Council for Monetary Policy, a member of the National Council of Radio Broadcasting and Television, ambassador, or with employment in the Chancellery of the Seim, Chancellery of the Senate, Chancellery of the President of the Republic

- 38. The Sejm shall elect from amongst its members a Marshal of the Sejm and Vice-Marshals.
- 39. The Sejm shall appoint standing committees and may also appoint <u>special</u> committees.
- 40. The Sejm may appoint an investigative <u>committee</u> to examine a particular matter
- 41. [...] the Sejm and the Senate sitting in joint session, shall act as the National Assembly, with the Marshal of the Sejm presiding or, in his absence, the Marshal of the Senate.

The National Assembly shall adopt its own <u>rules of procedure</u>.

- 42. The President of the Republic may, before signing a bill, refer it to the Constitutional Tribunal for an adjudication upon its conformity to the Constitution.
- 43. The President of the Republic shall be the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the

Ombudsman for Children's Rights and their deputies, a member of the Policy Council Pieniężna, of the National member Council of Radio **Broadcasting** and Television, an ambassador and employment in the Chancellery of the Seim, the Chancellery of the Senate, and the Chancellery of the President Rzeczpospolita

- 38. The Sejm shall elect the Marshal of the Sejm and deputy marshals from among its members.
- 39. The Sejm shall appoint standing committees and may appoint extraordinary commissions.
- 40. The Sejm may appoint an investigative <u>commission</u> to examine a *given one Affairs*.
- 41. [...] the Sejm and the Senate, <u>deliberating jointly headed by</u> the Marshal of the Sejm or, in his <u>place</u>, the *Marshal Senate*, act as the National Assembly.

The National Assembly adopts its <u>regulations</u>.

- 42. Before signing the act, the President of the Republic may apply to the Constitutional Tribunal for the compliance of the Act with the Constitution.
- 43. 1. The President of the Republic is the Supreme Commander of *the Forces Armed Forces* of the

- Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej.
 44. W czasie pokoju
 Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej
 sprawuje zwierzchnictwo
 nad Siłami Zbrojnymi za
 pośrednictwem Ministra
 Obrony Narodowej.
- 45. Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej mianuje Szefa Sztabu Generalnego i dowódców rodzajów Sił Zbrojnych na czas określony.
- 46. Na czas wojny Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej, na wniosek Prezesa Rady Ministrów, mianuje Naczelnego Dowódcę Sił Zbrojnych.
- 47. Organem doradczym Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej w zakresie wewnętrznego i zewnętrznego

bezpieczeństwa państwa jest Rada Bezpieczeństwa Narodowego.

- 48. Radę Gabinetową tworzy Rada Ministrów obradująca pod przewodnictwem Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej.
- 49. Organem pomocniczym Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej jest Kancelaria Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej. Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej nadaje statut Kancelarii oraz powołuje i odwołuje Szefa Kancelarii Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej.
- 50. Przepis ust. 2 nie dotyczy: 20) powoływania
- 20) powoływania Pierwszego Prezesa Sądu

- Republic of Poland.
- 44. The President of the Republic, in times of peace, shall exercise command over the Armed Forces through the Minister of National Defence.
- 45. The President of the Republic shall appoint, for a specified period of time, the Chief of the General Staff and commanders of branches of the Armed Forces.
- 46. The President of the Republic, <u>for a period</u> of war, shall appoint the <u>Commander-in-Chief</u> of the Armed Forces <u>on request</u> of the Prime Minister.
- 47. The advisory <u>organ</u> to the President of the Republic regarding internal and external security of the State shall be the National Security Council.
- 48. The Cabinet Council shall be <u>composed</u> of the Council of Ministers whose <u>debates shall be presided</u> over by the President of the Republic.
- 49. Presidential The Chancellery shall be the organ of assistance to the President of the Republic. The President of the Republic shall establish the statute of the Presidential Chancellery and shall appoint and dismiss its Chief.
- 50. The provisions of para. 2 above shall not relate to:
- 20) appointing the First President of the Supreme

- Republic of Poland.
- 44. <u>During peace</u>, the President of the Republic <u>exercises sovereignty</u> over the Armed Forces through the Minister of National Defense.
- 45. The President of the Republic appoints the Chief of General Staff and commanders of the Armed Forces for a <u>definite</u> period of time.
- 46. <u>During</u> the war, the President of the Republic, <u>at</u> the request of the Prime Minister, appoints the <u>Supreme Commander</u> of the Armed Forces.
- 47.Advisory <u>body</u> of the President of the Republic *in* the field internal and external security of the state is the Security Council National.
- 48. The Cabinet Council is formed by the Council of Ministers meeting in chairmanship of the President of the Republic.
- 49. The Chancellery is the <u>auxiliary body</u> of the President of the Republic President of the Republic. The President of the Republic <u>gives</u> the statute of the Chancellery and *appoint* and *dismiss* the Chief of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic.
- 50. The provision of para. 2 *not applicable*:
- 20) appointing the First President of the Supreme

- Najwyższego,
- 21) powoływania Prezesa i Wiceprezesa Trybunału Konstytucyjnego,
- 22) powoływania Prezesa Naczelnego Sądu Administracyjnego,
- 23) powoływania prezesów Sądu Najwyższego oraz wiceprezesów Naczelnego Sądu Administracyjnego,
- 25) powoływania członków Rady Polityki Pieniężnej,
- 27) powoływania członków Krajowej Rady Radiofonii i Telewizji,
- 28) nadawania statutu
 Kancelarii Prezydenta
 Rzeczypospolitej oraz
 powoływania i
 odwoływania Szefa
 Kancelarii Prezydenta
 Rzeczypospolitej,
- 51. . Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej za naruszenie Konstytucji, ustawy lub za popełnienie przestępstwa może być pociągnięty do odpowiedzialności przed Trybunałem Stanu.
- 52. RADA MINISTRÓW I ADMINISTRACJA RZADOWA
- 53. Prezes Rady Ministrów, w ciągu 14 dni od dnia powołania przez Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej, przedstawia Sejmowi program działania Rady Ministrów z wnioskiem o udzielenie jej wotum zaufania.

Court;

- 21) appointing the President and Vice-President of the Constitutional Tribunal;
- 22) appointing the President of the Supreme Administrative Court;
- 23) appointing the presidents of the Supreme Court and vice-presidents of the Supreme Administrative Court;
- 25) appointing the members of the Council for Monetary Policy;
- 27) appointing members of the National Council of Radio Broadcasting and Television:
- 28) <u>establishing</u> the statute of the Presidential Chancellery and appointing or dismissing the <u>Chief of</u> the Presidential Chancellery.
- 51. The President of the Republic may be held accountable before the Tribunal of State for an infringement of the Constitution or statute, or for commission of an offence.

52. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

53. The Prime Minister shall, within 14 days following the day of his by appointment the President of the Republic, submit a programme of activity of the Council of Ministers the Sejm, to together with a motion

Court,

- 21) appointing the President and Vice-President of the Constitutional Tribunal,
- 22) appointing the President of the Supreme Administrative Court,
- 23) appointing presidents of the Supreme Court and vice presidents of the Supreme Administrative Court.
- 25) appointing members of the Monetary Policy Council,
- 27) appointing members of the National Council of Radio Broadcasting and Television,
- 28) granting statutes to the Chancellery of the President of the Republic and appointing and dismissal of the Chief of the Chancellery of the President

of the Republic,

51. The President of the Republic for <u>violation</u> of the Constitution, statute or for committing a crime can be held <u>responsible before State</u> Tribunal.

52. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

53. The Prime Minister, within 14 days <u>from</u> the date of appointment by the President of the Republic of Poland, <u>presents</u> to the Sejm a <u>program of action</u> of the Council of Ministers *from application* for granting it a vote of confidence.

- 54. Sejm wyraża Radzie Ministrów wotum nieufności większością ustawowej liczby posłów na wniosek zgłoszony przez co najmniej 46 posłów i wskazujący imiennie kandydata na Prezesa Rady Ministrów.
- 55. Samorząd terytorialny wykonuje zadania publiczne nie zastrzeżone przez Konstytucję lub ustawy dla organów innych władz publicznych.
- 56. Podstawową jednostką samorządu terytorialnego jest gmina.
- 57. Jednostki samorządu terytorialnego wykonują swoje zadania za pośrednictwem organów stanowiących i wykonawczych.
- 58. Organami nadzoru nad działalnością jednostek samorządu terytorialnego są Prezes Rady Ministrów i wojewodowie, a w zakresie spraw finansowych regionalne izby obrachunkowe.
- 59. Sedziowie są powoływani przez Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej, na wniosek Krajowej Rady Sądownictwa, na czas nieoznaczony. 60. Pierwszego Prezesa Sądu Najwyższego powołuje

Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej

- requiring a vote of confidence.
- 54. The Seim shall pass a vote of no confidence in the Council of Ministers by a majority of votes of the statutory number of Deputies, on a motion moved by at least 46 Deputies and which shall specify the name of a candidate for Prime Minister.
- 55. Local government shall perform public tasks not reserved by the Constitution or statutes to the <u>organs</u> of other public authorities.
- 56. The <u>commune (gmina)</u> shall be the basic unit of local government.
- 57. Units of local government shall perform their <u>duties</u> through constitutive and executive organs.
- 58. The <u>organs</u> exercising <u>review</u> over the activity of units of <u>local government</u> shall be: the Prime Minister and voivods and <u>regarding</u> financial matters <u>regional</u> audit chambers.
- 59. Judges shall be appointed for an indefinite period by the President of the Republic on the motion of the National Council of the Judiciary.
- 60. The First President of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President

- 54. The Sejm shall pass a *majority* of no confidence by the Council of Ministers the statutory number of deputies on an application submitted by at least 46 deputies and indicating the name of the candidate for the Prime Minister.
- 55. Local self-government performs public tasks not reserved by the Constitution or statutes for the <u>authorities</u> of other public authorities.
- 56. The <u>commune</u> is the basic unit of local government.
- 57. Local government units perform their <u>tasks</u> *for* through *executive* and executive <u>bodies</u>.
- 58. The bodies of supervision over the activities of territorial selfgovernment units are the Prime Minister and voivodes, and in the area of financial matters, the regional accounting chambers.
- 59. Judges are appointed by the President of the Republic, *for application* of the National Council for the <u>Judiciary</u> for an indefinite period.
- 60. The first President of the Supreme Court is appointed by the President of the

- na sześcioletnią kadencję spośród kandydatów przedstawionych przez Zgromadzenie Ogólne Sędziów Sądu Najwyższego.
- 61. Naczelny Sad Administracyjny oraz inne administracyjne sady sprawuja, W zakresie określonym ustawie. w kontrole działalności administracji publicznej. Kontrola obeimuie również orzekanie zgodności ustawami uchwał organów samorządu terytorialnego aktów normatywnych terenowych organów administracji rządowej.
- 62. Prezesa Naczelnego Sadu Administracyjnego powołuje Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej sześcioletnia kadencje spośród kandydatów przedstawionych przez Zgromadzenie Ogólne Sędziów Naczelnego Sądu Administracyjnego.
- 63. Krajowa Rada Sądownictwa stoi na straży niezależności sądów i niezawisłości sędziów.
- 64. Orzeczenia Trybunału Konstytucyjnego w sprawach wymienionych w art. 188 podlegają niezwłocznemu ogłoszeniu w organie urzędowym, w którym akt normatywny był ogłoszony. Jeżeli akt nie był ogłoszony, orzeczenie ogłasza się w Dzienniku Urzędowym

- of the Republic for a 6-year term of office from amongst candidates proposed by the General Assembly of the Judges of the Supreme Court.
- 61. The Supreme Administrative Court and other administrative courts shall exercise, to the extent specified by statute, control over the performance of public administration. Such control shall also extend to judgments on the conformity to statute of resolutions of organs of local government normative and acts of territorial of organs government administration.
- 62. The President of the Supreme Administrative Court shall be appointed by the President of the Republic for a 6-year term of office from amongst candidates proposed by the General Assembly of the Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court.
- 63. The National Council of the Judiciary shall safeguard the independence of courts and judges.
- 64. Judgments of the Constitutional Tribunal regarding matters specified in Article 188, shall be required to be immediately published in the official publication in which the original normative act was promulgated. If a normative act has not been promulgated, then the

- Republic for a six-year <u>term</u> from among the candidates <u>presented</u> by the General Assembly of the Judges of the Supreme Court.
- 61. The Supreme Administrative Court and other administrative courts shall exercise, to the extent specified in the Act, control over the activities of public administration. This control also includes adjudicating on compliance with the laws of local self-government bodies and normative acts of local government administration bodies.
- 62. The President of the Supreme Administrative Court shall be appointed by the *President Rzeczpospolita* for a six-year term from among the candidates presented by the General Assembly of the Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court.
- 63. The National Council of the Judiciary is responsible for the independence of the courts and independence of judges.
- 64. Decisions of the Constitutional Tribunal in matters referred to in art. 188 shall be immediately published in the official body in which the normative act was published. If the act has not been announced, the decision shall be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Poland "Monitor"

Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej "Monitor Polski".

- 65. Z wnioskiem w sprawach, o których mowa w art. 188, do Trybunału Konstytucyjnego wystąpić mogą:
- 1) Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej, Marszałek Sejmu, Marszałek Senatu, Prezes Rady Ministrów, 50 posłów, 30 senatorów, Pierwszy Prezes Sadu Najwyższego, Prezes Naczelnego Sadu Administracyjnego,

Prokurator Generalny,
Prezes Najwyższej Izby
Kontroli, Rzecznik Praw
Obywatelskich,

- 66. Prezesa i Wiceprezesa
 Trybunału Konstytucyjnego
 powołuje Prezydent
 Rzeczypospolitej spośród
 kandydatów
 przedstawionych przez
 Zgromadzenie Ogólne
 Sędziów Trybunału
 Konstytucyjnego.
- 67. Za naruszenie Konstytucji lub ustawy, w związku \mathbf{Z} zajmowanym stanowiskiem lub w zakresie swojego urzędowania, odpowiedzialność konstytucyjna przed Trybunałem Stanu ponosza: Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej, Prezes Rady Ministrów oraz członkowie Rady Ministrów, Prezes Narodowego Banku Polskiego, Prezes Najwyższej Izby Kontroli,

<u>judgment</u> shall be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Poland, Monitor Polski.

- 65. The following may make application to the Constitutional Tribunal regarding matters specified in Article 188:
- 1) the President of the Republic, the Marshal of the Sejm, the Marshal of the Senate, the Prime Minister, 50 Deputies, 30 Senators, the First President of the Supreme Court, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court, the Public Prosecutor-General, the President of the Supreme Chamber of Control and the Commissioner for Citizens' Rights,
- 66. Art. 194.2. The President and Vice-President of the Constitutional Tribunal shall be appointed by the President of the Republic from amongst candidates proposed by the General Assembly of the Judges of the Constitutional Tribunal.
- 67. For violations of the Constitution or of a statute committed by them within their office or within its scope, the following persons shall be constitutionally accountable to the Tribunal of State: the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister and members of the Council of Ministers, the President of the National Bank of Poland, the President of the Supreme Chamber of Control,

Polski".

65. With a request in matters referred to in art. 188, the following may apply to the Constitutional Tribunal:

1) President of the Republic,

Speaker of the Sejm,

Speaker of the Senate, Prime

Minister, 50 deputies, 30

senators, First President of
the Supreme Court,

President of the Supreme

Administrative Court,

Prosecutor General,

President of the Supreme

Audit Office, Ombudsman,

66. The President and Vice-President of the Constitutional Tribunal shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of Poland from among the candidates <u>presented</u> by the General Assembly of the Judges of the Constitutional Tribunal.

67. For the violation of the Constitution or statute, in connection with the position held or in the scope of its constitutional office, responsibility before Tribunal of State shall be: President of the Republic, Prime Minister and members of the Council of Ministers, President of the National Bank of Poland, President of the Supreme Audit Office members of the National członkowie Krajowej Rady Radiofonii i Telewizji, osoby, którym Prezes Rady Ministrów powierzył kierowanie ministerstwem, oraz Naczelny Dowódca Sił Zbrojnych.

68. ORGANY KONTROLI PAŃSTWOWEJ I OCHRONY PRAWA Najwyższa Izba Kontroli

- Art. 202. 1. Najwyższa Izba Kontroli jest naczelnym organem kontroli państwowej
- 69. Organami Narodowego Banku Polskiego są: Prezes Narodowego Banku Polskiego, Rada Polityki Pieniężnej oraz Zarząd Narodowego Banku Polskiego
- 70. W okresie 4 lat od dnia wejścia w życie Konstytucji w sprawach o wykroczenia orzekają kolegia do spraw wykroczeń przy sądach rejonowych, przy czym o karze aresztu orzeka sąd.

members of the National Council of Radio **Broadcasting** and Television, persons to whom Prime the Minister has powers granted management over a ministry, the Commander-inand Chief of the Armed Forces. 68. ORGANS OF STATE CONTROL **AND** FOR

THE SUPREME CHAMBER OF CONTROL
- Art. 202.1. The Supreme Chamber of Control shall be

the chief organ of state audit.

69. The <u>organs</u> of the National Bank of Poland shall be: the President of the National Bank of Poland, the Council for Monetary Policy as well as the <u>Board of the National Bank of Poland</u>.

70. Within the 4-year period following the coming into force of this Constitution, cases of misdemeanours shall heard be and determined by the Boards Adjudication for Misdemeanours attached to district courts, but punishment of arrest may be

imposed only by a court.

Broadcasting Council, persons to whom the Prime Minister entrusted the Ministry, and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.

- 68. STATE CONTROL AUTHORITIES AND PROTECTION OF LAW SUPREME CHAMBER OF CONTROL
- Art. 202. 1. The <u>Supreme</u> <u>Audit Office</u> is the supreme organ of state control.
- 69. The <u>bodies</u> of the National Bank of Poland are: the President of the National Bank of Poland, the Monetary Policy Council and the <u>Management Board of the National Bank of Poland</u>.
- 70. In the period of 4 years from the date of entry into force of the Constitution, misdemeanor courts decide on misdemeanor cases in district courts, with the court deciding on the penalty of detention.

¹ The Constitution Of The Republic of Poland. 2 April 1997. Available at:

http://www.sejm.gov.pl/prawo/konst/angielski/kon1.htm [cit. 2018-05-27], Konstytucja Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej. Tekst uchwalony w dniu 2 kwietnia 1997 r. przez Zgromadzenie Narodowe. Available at:

http://www.sejm.gov.pl/prawo/konst/polski/kon1.htm [cit. 2018-05-27].

² Prepositions required by the rules of the TL and omitted in GTV, the same as other omissions of grammatical elements, are added in square brackets.

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³ Wrongly used prepositions are given in italics and the correct ones added in square brackets, with the rest of necessary grammatical elements.

⁴ Missing articles are added in square brackets, with the rest of necessary grammatical elements.

⁵ Wrongly used grammatical elements are given in italics and the correct ones added in square brackets.

⁶ Wrongly used equivalents are given in italics and the proper ones added in square brackets.

⁷ Wrongly used equivalents are given in italics and the proper ones added in square brackets with other necessary grammatical elements.

⁸ Syntax corrected in square brackets.

⁹ Corrections of wrongly used grammar in italics are introduced in square brackets.

¹⁰ The OV of the Constitution translation introduces punctuation in the same way, disregarding legal language specificity.

¹⁰ Acceptable options of GTV translations are underlined together with their equivalents in the OV translations, whereas unacceptable versions in the GTV are in italics.

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