PREFAZIONE
EDITORIAL PREFACE

This latest issue of RITT displays a much greater balance between articles proper and book-reviews than the previous issues. Also for the first time in its 8-year history, no contribution in the journal deals specifically with the translation of literary texts. In particular, the contributions in the current issue deal with terminology/terminography (Cosmai, Ivancic, Musacchio and Magris), the translation of specific textual genres (Celotti), translator training (Scarpa) and wider-ranging topics of interest to the professional translator (Viaggio).

Domenico Cosmai's contribution provides an account from the translator's point of view of the difficult tasks of creating the language of the European institutions – with particular reference to legal terminology – and adapting it into the 11 official languages of the Union, whilst Barbara Ivancic's article deals with the difficulties of a comparison of Italian and German terms of narratology, which are exacerbated by the wide range of approaches embraced by this relatively new branch of the theory of literature on the one hand and by the vagueness of the concepts underlying many narratological terms on the other.

More general in scope is Maria Teresa Musacchio's and Marella Magris's contribution on the importance of terminological products such as glossaries and terminological data banks in the preliminary stage of translation. The results of an experiment carried out by the authors seem to confirm the usefulness of terminological products in partially making up for the translator's lack of subject-specific knowledge, provided such products also include background information on terms.

Whilst Nadine Celotti's article is focussed on the translation of comics and the semiotic competence that translators of this particular textual genre – which for a long time has been ignored by translation theorists – need to develop, the editor's own paper investigates the use of parallel corpora in the training of translators, which are considered as valuable tools for enhancing translation criticism and providing the students with useful insights into the practices of the translation industry.

Sergio Viaggio's brief contribution – though delivered with the author's informal and, at times, conversational style that characterizes all his other pieces published in RITT in the form of criticisms/replies to Peter Newmark's positions on various translation issues – touches upon a crucial issue for the professional translator such as the definition of his/her moral responsibility for the translation product.

Finally, as already stated at the beginning, in the Book Reviews section six short straight-to-the-point accounts of recently published books on translation and related issues provide a nice counterbalance to the six articles which have been described.

Federica Scarpa