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**Specialty: Translation Arabic-English-Arabic**

**Translating and Directing Political Discourse**  
**A Case Study of the Western Sahara Cause**

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*To those who have been the light of our path and the primary motivation to continue.*

*To the companions of the journey who have departed, their words still echo in our ears.*

*To our families who have never held back their prayers, compassion, and support every step of the way.*

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*To our friends who have been a source of support and good companionship at all times.*

*We dedicate this humble work in gratitude and thanks to everyone who has been a part of our journey.*

## Dedication

*The journey has ended. It was neither short nor easy. The dream was not close, and no matter how long it took, it passed with its sweet and bitter moments.*

*At this moment, I proudly dedicate the work to the one who raised me and strived for my sake, to the light that lit my path and sacrificed her years for me: **My mother** the source of my pride. May Allah bless her life and grant her long life. To **My dear father**, who his prayers were the reason for my success. May Allah bless your life and grant you well-being.*

*To my dear siblings, the warmth of my heart and strength in life...*

*Moreover, to our dear teacher, who gave us guidance and assistance throughout this journey...All praise is due to Allah for the completion and conclusion.*

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*Tadjine Narimane*

## Dedication

*To my mother whose prayers have been my shield, and to my father, whose quiet strength has been my support, I owe you more than words can express, I am forever grateful.*

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*This achievement is not only mine; it belongs to all of you.*

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## **1. Introduction:**

### **1.1 Statement of the problem:**

This research investigates how directed political discourse is constructed around the Western Sahara Cause and how language is used to guide public opinion and serve specific ideological interests. It focuses, in particular, on the strategic use of linguistic characteristics in shaping the recipient's political perceptions. Since political discourse on this cause is often presented in two languages Arabic and English. The research also seeks to explore the impact of translation in conveying political messages. Accordingly, the study seeks to answer the following question: To what extent does translation contribute to directing political discourse in the context of the Western Sahara cause?

### **1.2 Aim of the study:**

The study aims to investigate the impact of translating and directing the political discourse that is related to by studying models of media and official discourses to reveal the ideological dimensions and political influences produced by translation in this context.

### **1.3 The Significance of the study:**

This study is significant because it highlights the importance of translation's role in shaping and guiding political discourse on a sensitive and persistent issue. It illustrates how translation can influence the representation of political reality and contributes to supporting certain positions or changing the public's perception, making it an effective tool in diplomatic conflict.

### **1.4 Research Questions:**

- ✓ To what extent is translation used to influence public opinion on the Western Sahara cause?
- ✓ What are the most prominent linguistic and stylistic differences between translations issued by different Parties, such as Morocco, Front POLISARIO, and international media?
- ✓ How can media translation influence in shaping public opinion about the conflict in the Western Sahara?

## **1.5 Rationale:**

This study is conducted for the following reasons:

- ✓ The significant impact of translation on international public opinion.
- ✓ The Vital role of translation in peaceful settlement of conflicts.
- ✓ The importance of translation in representing marginalized political positions parties including Saharans, thereby prompting justice and transparency.

## **1.6 Hypotheses:**

The research raises the following hypotheses:

- ✓ The media translations influence the formation of international public opinion on the issue of Western Sahara.
  - ✓ It assumes that media translations are significantly in the use of political terminology.
  - ✓ It is also hypothesized that official translations at the United Nations and the international organizations seek to preserve their political neutrality; however, cultural and political ideologies may remain evident in the choice of words and style.

## **1.7 Limitation of the study:**

Time constraint is one of the main limitations encountered in this study. More time would have allowed for a broader analysis, possibly including additional political speeches or a comparison between different translations of the same political discourse. Moreover, the lack of previous studies focusing on the translation and direction of political discourse, especially in sensitive contexts such as the Western Sahara cause, made it difficult. This represents an additional limitation that affects the comprehensiveness and depth of the analysis.

## **1.8 Structure of the dissertation:**

This dissertation is headed by an introduction that answers the question related to the study itself, including a statement of the problem, the aim of the study, and the significance of the study; research Questions, rationale, and hypothesis.

The main body of the study consists of 3 logically-invited chapters. The First chapter introduces the translation of the political discourse, while the second one presents the direction of the political part. The third chapter, which is the practical part experimentally, evaluates patterns of translations' media and official discourses on the Western Sahara cause from English into Arabic and vice versa, including analysis, discussion, and results. Finally, the study ends with a conclusion including recommendations followed by the abstract English and Arabic versions.

### **1.9 Literature Review:**

This chapter will examine relevant literature and research on political discourse on the Western Sahara cause, paying special attention to the role of translation in conditioning and steering that discourse. The chapter intends to set the tone of this study the wider academic realm, pinpoint the research's missing links, and make a case for the need for the current research.

Political translation is not a neutral process. Research papers in the like of "Ideology in Translating Political Discourse" and "Understanding Interpreting and Engagement in Translating Political Discourse", have proven that the translator has a filtering process, which may show ideology, ranging from subconscious kind to the self-aware. This particularly happens in media translation, which serves as an intermediary between the contradictory political discourses.

Most studies focus on ideological representation, media coverage, or legal aspects. For example, the study "Returnees and Political Poetry in Western Sahara: Defamation, Deterrence and Mobilization on the Web and Mobile Phones" addresses gender discourse in POLISARIO FRONT statements.

Translation plays a pivotal role in shaping international narratives about Western Sahara. There are some studies study the importance of terminology in the Western Sahara and illustrate how verbal choices such as "refugees" versus "displaced persons" carry political connotations that may affect the way the issue is presented in international forums. However, these studies still ignore how translation contributes to building political reality by reformulating languages.

It is clear from reviewing the previous literature that there are several aspects that have not received sufficient study. Including:

- Analysis of translation strategies used to translate political discourse related to Western Sahara (such as speeches, statements, and international resolutions).
- Study the impact of translation on the international public's perception of the issue.
- Conduct a comparative analysis of translated political discourses between various parties (Morocco, POLISARIO, International organization).

This study seeks to fill these gaps by analyzing how political discourses about Western Sahara translate with a focus on the ideological dimensions of translation.

This chapter provides a comprehensive review of the literature on political discourse and translation, particularly in the context of the Western Sahara conflict. Although some studies are rich in the analysis of ideology and language, they show an urgent need for deeper studies in the field of translation and multilingual discourse analysis. In the following chapters, the theoretical and practical framework will be reviewed, and then the data will be analyzed to highlight the role of discourse in the regional conflict.

## **Theoretical Part**

### **Chapter One: Translation of Political Discourse**

#### **1.1 Introduction:**

Political discourse translation is one of the most important fields in translation, as it transfers political messages from one language to another while preserving the accuracy of the meanings and intentions of the speaker. Political discourse is also used by an individual or group in certain places, such as a government or political parties, to express their positions and express their opinions regarding certain political events, which makes political discourses have social, cultural, and ideological dimensions and can be represented in press releases, international agreements, or political debates. Political discourse also aims to influence the audience and public opinion. Therefore, translating this type of speech requires great effort, greater accuracy, and knowledge of the language in which it will be translated, because any errors or distortions can significantly alter meaning and lead to serious consequences.

#### **2-1 Definition of Political Translation:**

According to (Said, 1978)" Translation is a form of interpretation. It is a process that links two cultures, two languages, and affects the way we understand and perceive the other"

Translation, in general, contributes to facilitating communication between countries and peoples, as it plays an important role in conveying international agreements and diplomatic relations between countries.

It also contributes to understanding complex political issues through the accurate interpretation of political terminology.

Hence, Political translation can be defined as a type of translation that deals with texts related to political affairs, such as government documents, international agreements, political speeches, and analytical articles that address political issues .Political translation aims to convey exactly meaning of political texts from one language to another, taking into account the cultural and political

context, to ensure that the text is understood correctly in the receiving environment.

(Steiner, 1975) Stated, "Political translation presents a unique challenge because it requires the translator to be not only a reader but also a participant in the deep understanding of the cultures involved."

"Political translation often involves strategic choices that affect the public image of the political and cultural system being translated". (Lawrence, 1995)

It relies on a deep understanding of the political system, ideologies, and international agreements, in addition to the patterns of political discourse and terminology used in this field.

### **1.3 Definition of Political Discourse:**

According to (Shafei, 2015) "Political discourse is the type of discourse used by Politicians or political leaders to communicate with the public to influence public opinion, strengthening political power, promoting political ideas and positions, or inciting certain actions". It relies on a set of linguistic and rhetorical methods that persuade or motivate the public to take certain positions".

Political discourse varies in its forms and styles. It may be an official discourse in public events or elections, or a media discourse in the media or social media platforms.

#### **1.3.1 Key concepts in political discourse:**

Key concepts are a crucial element in political discourse, contributing significantly to the way individuals perceive, interpret, and interact with political issues. Among the most prominent roles they play are:

##### **A. Linguistic hegemony:**

"Political discourse contributes to the construction and organization of power through language. By using a particular language, ruling classes can influence how people understand political reality". (Fairclough, 1989)

**B. Ideology:** Political discourse often reflects the ideologies held by individuals or political parties.

(Dijk, 2008) Point out that political discourse is linked to ideology because it contributes to shaping the way individuals and societies think politically.

### **C. Symbolic Content:**

Political discourse also includes cultural and political symbols that may be central to the transmission of ideas and attitudes. Symbols are used to reinforce collective identities or promote particular issues.

### **1.4 Translator strategy for translating a Political Discourse:**

To convey accurately the message, tone, and context, the translator needs to consider several important factors when translating a political discourse. Political texts often contain ideological, cultural, and emotional nuances, so the strategy needs to be adapted to address these challenges effectively.

#### **1.4.1 Understanding the Political and Cultural Context**

**A. Political context:** The translator must be aware of the political context in which the speech is taking place, whether it is a political speaker speaking in the context of an election, a political crisis, or a government speech. Knowing this context helps in conveying the political message accurately.

#### **B. Cultural references:**

"Political speeches often include references to cultural and historical symbols that may be foreign to the audience in the target language. The translator here needs to ensure that these references are understood in the local context, by interpreting them or replacing them with what is appropriate for the target culture

". (Stegmeier, 2012)

**1.4.2 Analyzing rhetorical elements:** Political speech includes rhetorical devices such as metaphors, tropes, and repetition (such as the use of emphasis or circular sentences).

#### **A-Rhetorical style:**

According to (Dares, 2019)," the translator must maintain the same rhetorical effect in the target language by using similar techniques, s such as repetition or emotional direction".

#### **B-Symbolism and suggestion:**

"Many political speeches include cultural symbols or indirect references. The translator should avoid translating these symbols literally, but should understand

their implicit meaning and convey the concepts behind them correctly". (Smith, 2015)

#### **1.4.3 Maintaining political neutrality:**

**A. Ideological neutrality:** The translator should maintain ideological neutrality during translation. In political speeches, the text may contain clear political positions that may be controversial. The translator should be careful not to influence the original message or add his own opinions.

#### **B. Clear and accurate translation :**

(Graeme, 2017) Stated, " Political discourse depends on accuracy of expression and the translator should be careful in choosing words, especially in political terms that may carry special ideological meanings".

#### **1.4.4 Translation according to the target audience:**

##### **A. Defining the audience:**

The translator needs to be aware of the audience to whom the translated text will be addressed. They must take into account the characteristics of the target audience, such as their language level, interests, and cultural background, to be able to convey the meaning in an appropriate and accurately.

##### **B. Considering the local cultural context:**

"Some sentences or phrases may need to be modified to suit the local culture of the target audience without changing the political essence of the message". (Janus, 2014)

#### **1.4.5 Adapting political and historical references:**

Political speeches often include references to historical events or past statements 'so it is necessary to adapt these references to suit the context of the text and the target audience

##### **A. Political history:**

(Cooper, 2016) Declared that "the translator must be familiar with these events and concepts to ensure that they are conveyed accurately. If the reference relates to local history that the target audience is not familiar with, the translator must either clarify this reference or find an equivalent in local political history."

### **B. Replacing local references:**

"Some references may be specific to certain regions or cultures. In such cases, the translator can either keep the reference and clarify it, or replace it with something that suits the local context to make the message more impactful. " (Moore, 2014)

### **1.4.6 Dealing with specialized political terms:**

**A. Legal and economic terms:** In political discourses, many legal and economic terms are used that may differ in their translations between languages. The translator needs to be fully aware of these terms in both the source and target languages, especially those that may carry specific ideological or cultural meanings.

### **B. Consistency in terminology:**

(Allen, 2013) Claims that the translator must be consistent in using terms throughout the text, especially in sensitive political matters such as "democracy" or "civil rights. Which may have a strong impact on the recipients

### **1.4.7 Flexible and innovative translation when needed:**

#### **. Creativity in translation:**

Some political phrases may require the translator to be creative in choosing words or formulations that are close to the original meaning but more effective in the target language. For example, some political slogans may be difficult to translate literally, and the translator needs to provide an innovative formulation that elicits the same impact on the target audience. (Yassin, 2015)

### **1.4.8 Verification of the translation through**

#### **. Review and proofreading:**

(Ali, 2020) Ensures that "since political translation may influence public opinion or lead to a change in political positions, the translation must proofread be careful. The translated text should be review by Political experts or academics to ensure the accuracy and quality of the translation".

### **1.5 Conclusion:**

This Chapter clarifies how translating political discourse requires a set of strategies that ensure the preservation of the meaning, style, and cultural content of the original discourse. The translator must be aware of the cultural and political context of the recipient; he/she must be able to employ linguistic and intellectual strategies that ensure the desired impact is achieved. Because political translation is not just a linguistic process, but also rather a process that requires precision and deep awareness of the terms and rhetorical styles that influence the audience.

## **Chapter Two : Directing of political discourse.**

### **2.1 Introduction:**

Political discourse reflects power's relationship with society and shows its effectiveness only through the extent to which it influences the direction of society, identifies the political problem, diagnoses it and portrays a particular political reality. The recipient and play a role in the consciousness making must understand political concepts in a social setting and meaning building in society; adopting through politicians a successful communication with the recipient depends on him receiving some mass satisfaction through persuasion and argument. Political discourse is a speech in itself that is directed to the recipient to understand, influence and convince the recipient. This chapter will represent the tools, the strategies of directing political discourse, and the difficulties in translating political discourse .

### **2.2 The tool of directing political discourse:**

#### **2.2.1 Persuasion:**

As cited in (AL-Azaoui, Language and Argumentation, 2006)"persuasion provides arguments and evidence which leads to a particular result as cited in ,it is represented the completion of inferential sequences within the discourse, in other word it is a completion of declarations some of them are linguistic arguments, and the other ones are results which inference from it."

The Politician uses effective and successful discursive methods while persuading the recipients with his/her main thoughts, which are linguistic tools. Its role is not only restricted on the political reality or described it, but go beyond that to win minds and influence them. (AL-Azaoui, Language and Argumentation, 2006)

Political discourse is considered a persuasive discourse because the main objective of it is to reach its owner's point of view and achieve it through arguments and evidence.

#### **2.2.2 Using distinct language:**

Professor Issa Barhouma declared, "The politicians do not need physical violence to achieve control, but it is only with the political language."

In an interview broadcast by Al Jazeera (2018), Muhammad Sabila and Abdssalam Benabdelali emphasize the power of language stating, "If it is known that language is a tool of control or authority. A tool of politics and politicians but the achievement of linguistic studies highlighted that language itself is an authority on minds; it is itself provides the vision of the world, and analyzing the authority's language should be undergo first through the authority's language itself".

Language is a key element of the political debate. It is a tool, which may help Politicians in directing the recipients and influencing them and altering public opinion on a matter. It is a device of controlling and dominating the collective mind of the recipients through manipulation of vocabularies and sentence structures but could also create new vocabularies in order for the recipient to exist with it consciously and mentally. In addition to the controlling of the Politician in a language owning a language considered as the first objective for control people and their emotions.

According to (Keith, 2006)," One of the most important features of political language is verbal euphemism, which could define it using diluted mystery. In the event that there is more than one expression or a name for reference, only one thing will occur".

### **Example:**

The president of Egypt Jamal Abdu Elnasser used the word "Blowback" in the release of their resignation described the war result of 5 June 1967. When Abdu Elnasser was poising to direct his speech, he made clear that the Egyptian army was defeated a terrible defeat but the release used the word "blowback". It was the first appearance of the word "blowback" in the release, and then the word appeared 4 times with linguistic accompaniments such as the lesson of blowback and the consequences of the blowback. At first glance, utilizing the word blowback appears to be a part of the strategy of verbal euphemism its aim is decrease Egyptians' feelings about the enormity of the consequences of the war .This kind can call it verbal underestimated which typically achieved through hiding the direct name .(El-Kouly, 1998)

### **A. The figures of speech:**

(Al-Messadi, 2004)Pointed out "The mechanisms' figure speech are speech metaphor and simile ."In this case, figures of speech are considered as an

external trick decorated the political speech if it attended, it works and if it does not, it does not hurt ."

In the same release of The Egyptian President, which is full of metaphors and similes. From its beginning until its end, there is a conceptual metaphor all the release revolving around it, which is "the blowback stop walking" in this metaphor the future of Egypt and the political s' Arabic World was describe it as walking in the path, and this path holds the object." (El-Kouly, 1998)

### **B. Pronouns:**

It is a strategy of solidarity, dribbling, and inclusion, which the speaker seeks to select it carefully according to the type of the recipient, and the purpose behind the speech. Politicians use pronouns to build different identities for themselves and others; it is a central element in building reality where the Politician works to build his/her speech. Pronouns of all kinds are studied, whether they are personal pronoun, possessive pronoun, reflexive pronoun, and demonstrative pronoun or the other ones. Each type performs a specific function in the speech.

In the previous speeches of the President Bill Clinton. It was found that the speech included 100 pronouns, 122 plurals' pronouns and only 10 singulars' pronouns. The use of personals 'plural pronouns and possessive pronouns (we, our) had been frequent when talking about the change and the spring that will be generated in America when he takes the office. The personals' singular pronoun had been presence sparsely at the end of his speech after sating the recipients hearing the future aspirations and promises through it the speaker attributes responsibility to himself to transition to the authority.

**2.3The strategies of directing a political discourse:** there are two strategies approved in the political discourse :

#### **A. The strategy of incitement:**

Using incitement in provoking others by inviting them to make a decision or attitude or aggress others.

A browser for FRANCE24 reads completely clear John Kerry says:" Russia's strategy about humanitarian corridors in Aleppo might be a trick " (FRANCE24).

The word trick in the speech: First, advocate the recipient and before anything beware of Russia, because it is tricky for what is orchestrating plans related to

Syria and advocate doubt in its attitude. In fact, its plan is incitement against it and the word "trick" is an explicit call to incite against Russia. (Goui D. , 2017)

### **B. The strategy of containment:**

Containment here means a feeling of being a part of an affair or a part loyal to a tendency or a certain attitude .

In FRANCE 24 respond: French Muslims Attend Catholic Mass to Express Solidarity after Priest's Murder .

Which is translate into Arabic to:

(مسلمو فرنسا يشاركون في قداسة بعض الكنائس بعد جريمة قتل الكاهن)

In this speech, there are a number of dimensions for the containment's strategy. For example, we noted the use of "solidarity", which injected Muslims to struggling against the enemy is indefinite, might be terrorism, radicalization, or a crime in general. It is noticeable that this word was omitted in the Arabic text that highlighted for containment and incitement both the word (الجريمة). (Goui D. , 2017)

## **2.4The difficulties of translating political discourse:**

### **2.4.1Translating terminology and idioms:**

According to (Khalfi, 2016, p. p67)" the political terminology mystery and complexity its meaning changed over time and space and it characterized by suggestion, for example: it is easy to know that the terminology such as democracy, secularity, and Marxism, communalism, Masonic, and Islam phobia... etc. Its meaning and suggestion vary depending on cultures, religions, and ideologies".

Regardless of the difficulty of translating idioms and political terminology, the translator may find himself\herself in front of the inevitability to adopt equivalence and disposition techniques because it may put him \her under accusatory mainly if he\she disrupted the general meaning. Whereas it is not a translator's work to comment on the political, discourse and intervene in it or explain its meanings. While there is no equivalence to the term in the target text (TT), the translator may find himself \herself had to intervene as if use explaining the term itself .

### **2.4.2 Translating implicit:**

The implicit may become a challenge to the translator, who has to identify the right motives and reasons for the political asylum to use it only because of reason but in a kinder and polite language. The previous Secretary of State of United State Hinry Kinsger "the intelligent diplomatic who if he \she says yes he\she means maybe ; if he\she says maybe he \she means no but he \she did not say no." The translator has to follow a strategy to direct the purpose of the politician to the other recipient by using linguistic, encyclopedic, and rhetorical communicative competency that helps in controlling the uses of language. (Abdelhay, 2017)

The politician uses implied language, in addition to the mystery in the situations that are required not authorizing reasons such as neutral and disavowing responsibility.

### **2.4.3 Translating Ideology:**

There is nothing harder for the translator than translating a text carries thoughts against his\her ideology; a kind of conflict will happen between the translators' ideology and the interlocutors' ideology. Moreover, there is an ideological impact on the translator involuntarily as the ideological expression appeared in the political discourse through the translators 'intervention and conducting the translation by following localization , omission , and turning away from literal translation , the omissions' procedure gives the translator the authorities to determinate what needs to be direct and what should not. (Shaffner, 2010)

The full emancipation of the translator from his\her ideological context .He\She may find himself\herself in front of a text crowded with ideological thoughts that contradicted with his\her thoughts and beliefs ;so translation becomes an intellectual and complex process today involving in its output the cultural and ideological factors.

#### **A. Ideology and language:**

(Dijk, 1998)States, "Ideologies are system of ideas and beliefs that can be implicit or explicit, and express themselves through language and discourse".What can mention it is that there is a closely relationship between the discourse and ideology, and between ideology and translation which considered as a new discourse .Ideology articulated in discourse. Therefore, translation can also articulate, that is produce and reproduce, ideology "

In other words the translators' ideology and his attitudes affect in selecting words and grammatical structures when translating the political discourse, as the speeches require always the authority and ideologies, regardless to the close linking between language, the politicians used politics, language since ancient manipulate it and directing ideologies on the other side. (Dijk, 1998)

### **B. The role of the translator in directing ideology:**

Translating a text means just rewriting it through equivalence from one language to another; it is a vision adopted from structuralism and linguistic approaches but under the effect of the tendency of post structuralism and functionalism. The interest move to the issue of Agency and subjectivity, which is, distinguished his \her works .

(Sager, 1994) Declared that the word "Agency" used in translation studies by that referred to the person who is in an intermediary position between a translator and an end user of a translation .

The most important result is the agency of the translator and it considered as an important interest of translation, which is the effect of ideology that used in his\her translation.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

If the political discourse considered as a source text (ST), it produces a certain context, which hold political, social, and ideological dimensions so its translation of that discourse which represents the target text (TT) with all of its political, social, and ideological dimensions by a translator takes into his\ her consideration these dimensions. It led to considering the translated text as the target text (TT) in a new social and cultural context .

As translation in general and political discourse in particular , the process of transferring with political overtones is no point to take into consideration the translation as an action to reproduce a correct TT .In contrast , it is a communicative work reflects by the social reality .

All of that leads to argue that there is a close connection between the discourse and ideology, and between ideology and translation, which frequently takes place in a cultural context, differs fundamentally from the ST's context, which is reflected by it therefore, it reproduces another new discourse.

On the other side, the cultural, social, and linguistic backgrounds of the translator and his\her special experiences may effect somehow in the final production of the translation in the TT. Hence, when the translator works in the social and cultural context it can deprive him\her of neutrality and make his\her translated work as ideological work. It leads the translator to cement his\her ideology and his\her special view to the world in her\his translated work.

## **Chapter 3: Analysis of Translated Political Discourse in the Western Sahara Cause.**

### **3.1 Introduction:**

In the first and the second chapters, investigate the theoretical study of the political discourse with highlighting its strategy while it translates and directs with the aim of the study variables. With a view to drop, the theoretical part on the practical part. This concluding chapter shall investigate the impact of translating the official documents, news and interviews on the Western Sahara cause, this chapter will identify the strategies used in translating and directing the political discourse used by English and Arabic translators. In other words, it attempts to apply the relevant theoretical knowledge developed proceeding on the rendering of news, documents and interviews that includes the cause of Western Sahara.

### **3.2 The definition of the corpus:**

The Western Sahara cause is a dispute between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Front POLISARIO over the Western Sahara, one of the most prominent disputes in the United Nations since Spain's withdrawal in 1975. Morocco seeks to establish its sovereignty the autonomy proposal, while with POLISARIO Algeria's support, demands a referendum on self-determination. International law considers the Western Sahara cause as an unresolved decolonization file. According to the International Court of Justice in 1975 advisory opinion, the Court did not find legal sovereignty links between Morocco and Western Sahara prior to Spanish colonization. Accordingly, the issue remains open to international negotiations.

Western Sahara is a territory located in north-west Africa, spanning 266,000km<sup>2</sup>, bordered by Morocco north Algeria from the northeast, Mauritania from the east and south, and the Atlantic Ocean from the west.

Western Sahara was a Spanish colony until 1975, when Spain withdrew under the Madrid convention, and the administration distributed between Morocco and Mauritania. A war broke out between Morocco and the Front POLISARIO, which declared the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic in 1976, with the support of Algeria and Libya at the time. Mauritania withdrawal from the conflict in 1979, while Morocco continued to control most of the territory.

The Western Sahara cause is a territorial conflict between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Front POLISARIO over sovereignty over Western Sahara, one of the most prominent disputes in the United Nations since Spain's withdrawal in 1975. Morocco seeks to establish its sovereignty the autonomy proposal, while POLISARIO with Algeria's support, demands a referendum on self-determination. International law considers the Western Sahara cause as an unresolved decolonization file. According to the International Court of Justice in its 1975 advisory opinion, the Court did not find legal sovereignty links between Morocco and Western Sahara prior to Spanish colonization, but acknowledged the existence of selling links between Saharan tribes and Moroccan Sultans. Accordingly, the cause remains open to international negotiations.

### **3.3. The description of the samples:**

As part of the study of the impact of translation on the direction of political discourse in the Western Sahara cause, a variety of translated text reflecting the positions of the different parties involved in the conflict selected. The samples are 22 include a series of official political discourses, United Nations reports, press articles and diplomatic statements from various sides, including Morocco, the Front POLISARIO, Algeria, the United Nations and the international media in both English and Arabic. The texts have been selected based on specific criteria that ensure diversity of sources, times allowing in depth analysis of different translation and direction strategies and their impact on political discourse. The focus will be on the use of translating and directing strategies, studying the potential reasons behind that usage.

### **3.4 Methodology:**

This research is based on a qualitative approach specifically on critical discourse analysis with the aim of studying how political discourse related to the Western Sahara cause is guided through translation. This approach was chosen because it allows a deep understanding of hidden and apparent political messages and reveals the ideological and moral dimensions, which may be rephrased or redirected during the translation process. The analysis includes a comparison between the original versions of Arabic texts and there English translations and vice versa.

**1. Translations between different media (International Vs Local news channel)**

**Pattern01: The UN calls for negotiations (From session no. A/C. 4/68dated November 2012. Security Council resolution 1754(2007))**

<b>Al Arabiya</b>	جددت الأمم المتحدة دعوتها للمغرب وجبهة البوليساريو لاستئناف الحوار ، وسط استمرار الجهود الدبلوماسية لحل النزاع.
<b>Saharan News Agency</b>	كررت الأمم المتحدة تأكيدها على ضرورة تفاوض المغرب مع الصحراويين لإيجاد حل عادل يضمن حق تقرير مصيرهم.
<b>Western media ( BBC  France  RT in Arabic )</b>	أكدت الأمم المتحدة على أهمية استئناف المفاوضات بين المغرب وجبهة البوليساريو.
<b>Moroccan channel (2M</b>	دعت الأمم المتحدة المغرب إلى مواصلة جهوده الدبلوماسية لحل النزاع مع جبهة البوليساريو.
<b>Al Jazeera</b>	جددت الأمم المتحدة دعوتها للمغرب والشعب الصحراوي من أجل الدخول في مفاوضات للتوصل إلى تسوية سلمية.
<b>The source text</b>	The UN has repeatedly called for negotiations between Morocco and Sahrawi People to reach a peaceful settlement.

Table01: The UN calls for negotiations.

### **Analysis:**

In the first translation, the translator has redrafting without changing the meaning, which maintains neutrality. In the second translation, he/she replaces Sahrawi People with (جبهة البوليساريو) which makes the cause look like a political settlement not a cause of people. This translation makes Morocco became initiator in a diplomatic solution with reference to its diplomatic effort the (جهوده الدبلوماسية) translator is biased a side, which is Morocco .

The third translation, the translator replaces peaceful settlement(تسوية سلمية)with(حل سلمي للنزاع)also Sahrawi people with(جبهة البوليساريو)which makes the cause as political settlement so the translator and the coverage are neutral .He /she adds the word(أهمية)which is not in the source text but this use of language do not refer to any bias. The fourth one, the translator adds the word(يضمن حقهم في تقرير مصيرهم) and (حل عادل) which made the translation beside a side, which is and POLISARIO makes the coverage incitement for where it is confirmed that the UN called for independence not only settlement. In the last one, he/she uses the word (استئناف الحوار) which is not in the source text; it indicates that negotiations has stopped because of particular party without specifying. He/she adds the word

(الجهود الدولية) which is not in the source text, but its use did not affect the meaning of the source text rather highlighting that the solution did not only in the hands of the conflicting Parties. For the verb "call", the first one translates it into (جددت) which means that the UN had issued the call before and then re-introduce it. It carries a neutral tone with reference to continuity the frequent occurrence of "repeatedly". The second is (دعت) carries the meaning of request or appeal. The last one, which is (أكدت), indicates an emphasis on an existing position not necessarily a new call. In general Moroccan media (2M): uses formulations that emphasize Morocco's legitimacy and minimize recognition of POLISARIO Front as an independent representative. Al-Jazeera and BBC: tend to neutral wording that reflects the original text, and clearly indicates both sides of the conflicts. Sahrawi News Agency: it may highlights the right of the Sahrawi people and show Morocco as an obstructing party. For the impact on the recipient : the Arab recipient who sees the news from Al Arabiya or 2M may be influenced by a narrative supportive of the Moroccan position. A recipient who follows Al Jazeera or the BBC gets a more balance view. The recipient through Sahara News Agency is directed towards adopting the Saharan novel.

**Pattren02: The US seeks for a political solution (Sahrawi news Agency (SPS) March 27, 2024)**

<b>Al Arabiya</b>	جددت الولايات المتحدة تأكيدها على ضرورة حل النزاع في الصحراء الغربية عبر مفاوضات تقودها الأمم المتحدة وسط تزايد التوترات في المنطقة.
<b>Saharan News Agency</b>	أعربت الولايات المتحدة عن قلقها بشأن الوضع في الصحراء الغربية مؤكدة أن المفاوضات الدولية يجب أن تضمن حق الصحراويين في تقرير مصيرهم.
<b>Western media ( BBC  France  RT in Arabic )</b>	أكدت الولايات المتحدة على ضرورة استمرار المفاوضات التي تقودها الأمم المتحدة لحل النزاع في الصحراء الغربية بطريقة سلمية وعادلة.
<b>Moroccan channel (2M</b>	أكدت الولايات المتحدة مجددا دعمها للحل السياسي تحت السيادة المغربية مشددة أهمية المبادرة المغربية كإطار للحل.
<b>Al Jazeera</b>	جددت الولايات المتحدة دعمها لحل سياسي للنزاع في الصحراء الغربية مؤكدة أهمية المفاوضات التي تقودها الأمم المتحدة.
<b>The source text</b>	The United states has reiterated its supports for a political solution to the Western Sahara dispute, emphasizing the importance of UN- led negotiations.

Table02: The US seeks for a political solution.

## Analysis:

The first coverage is neutral because the translator produces the same meaning by using literal translation to keep the translation neutral without being with any side and this is one of the containment's strategies. In the second translation, the translator is not neutral because he is biased Morocco. It is obvious through adding words did not mentioned in source text such as (السيادة المغربية) and (المبادرة المغربية), which suggest to the recipient that United States upholds the position of Morocco. He/ she adds the word (كإطار للحل), and the word UN led negotiations, the translator here is inciting for the Morocco's side. The third translation is neutral because he/she rewrites the source text without any changes. Even though he/she adds the sentence (بطريقة سلمية وعادلة) but did not affected on the meaning. In the fourth one, the translator transfers the news from a neutral diplomatic US position to an incitement for POLISARIO. In the last one the channel (وسط تزايد التوترات في المنطقة) which did not, appeared in the source text and this makes the news spicier and putting the settlement in a sensitive security context which interests Morocco without any bias. In this case, the strategy in this translation is incitement .

In an explicit manner, Al Arabiya used wording that emphasized Washington's position in support of a political solution but without focusing on UN leadership or the process. It may understood as an indirect bias towards the Moroccan position, especially if the reference to "UN-led negotiations is deleted. Sahara News Agency emphasize that the solution must grantee self-determination, which reflects the position of the POLISARIO Front. It adds ideological dimensions not found in the original text making the translation clearly directed. Western Media (2M) maintains balance; remember US support for political solution while emphasizing UN leadership of the negation. Translation is considered the closest to neutrality. Moroccan Channel (2M) highlights the US support for Moroccan's autonomy initiative, ignoring the phrase "UN-led negotiations". This is redirection of the discourse in favor of Morocco, and translation shows translation as a tool to confirm the legitimacy of Morocco's position. Al Jazeera tends to present the text more closely to the original with reference to the American role and the leadership of UN. The recipient of 2M is convinced that the United States fully supports Morocco's position and autonomy plan unlike the recipient of Sahrawi Agency will receives the message that US is not actually committed to just solution, and that there is a distortion of principle of the principle of self-determination. Al Jazeera and BBC's recipient gets a closer view of the balance, he /she has an understanding that the issue is still within an international negation side.

**Pattern03: The situation in Western Sahara as one of the world's oldest conflict (USCRI- backgrounder: Sahrawi Refugees ad Western Sahara 2025)**

Al Arabiya	النزاع في الصحراء الغربية يبقى أكثر النزاعات تعقيدا في العالم مع تواصل الجهود الدولية للبحث عن حل يرضي جميع الأطراف.
Sahara News Agency	
Western media (BBC  France  RT in Arabic )	الصراع في الصحراء الغربية يشكل تحديا طويل الأمد للمجتمع الدولي الذي يحاول إيجاد حل سياسي يناسب جميع الأطراف المعنية.
Moroccan channel (2M)	النزاع في الصحراء الغربية يظل قائما رغم أن المغرب قد قدم العديد من المبادرات الهادفة إلى إيجاد حل دائم بما في ذلك مقترح الحكم الذاتي.
Al Jazeera	تظل قضية الصحراء الغربية واحدة من أطول النزاعات وأصعبها حلا في العالم، رغم الجهود الدولية العديدة التي فشلت في التوصل إلى حل.
The source text	The situation in the Western Sahara remains one of the most prolonged and unresolved conflicts in the world, with numerous international efforts failing to achieve a resolution.

Table 03: The situation in Western Sahara as one of the world's oldest conflict.

## Analysis:

Al Arabiya uses the expression (تبقى أكثر النزاعات تعقيدا في العالم) which carries an indication of the length of the conflict; the word (تعقيدا) conveys the description "prolonged and unsolved". The recipient may feel that the issue is international and complex but that there are effort in hand. The translation is neutral and almost identical to the source text, for the strategy that is used in this translation is containment. Sahara News Agency replaced the word (numerous efforts) with (تواصل الجهود الدولية) which suggests that the conflict was difficult to resolve despite efforts. The use of the words (تحديا طويل الامد) and (يحاول إيجاد حل) which is held responsibility. The speech may encourages the reader to feel angry or resentful. This translation use the strategy of incitement. In Western media the translation is calm gives the recipient a feeling that the issue is under discussion and is still on the solutions agenda. No bias towards one side. It suggests that there is a solution on the horizon without holding a specific side to blame. It uses containment strategy. Moroccan channel directs the recipient to accept a "permanent political solution" mostly self-government. It implied that Morocco is the author of realistic proposal and influences the recipient to accept the Moroccan novel by using the incitement strategy. Al Jazeera uses (الجهود الدولية) links the issue directly to the United Nations, which reinforces the idea that it is an international issue under international guardianship. The recipient may feel that the UN is powerless, without it being said explicitly, it uses the containment strategy.

**Pattern04: the US supports for the Moroccan autonomy proposal (Hespress December 18, 2023 Official Statement from the U.S Department of State)**

The source text	The US reaffirms its support for Morocco's autonomy plan as a serious credible proposal
Saharan News Agency	واشنطن تستمر في دعم المغرب رغم الانتقادات الدولية لمقترح الحكم الذاتي.
Western media ( BBC  France  RT in Arabic )	الولايات المتحدة تجدد دعمها لمقترح الحكم الذاتي المغربي وتعتبره مقترحا جيدا ذا مصداقية.
Moroccan channel (2M	الولايات المتحدة دعمها لمخطط الحكم الذاتي المغربي باعتباره حلا جيدا ذا مصداقية.
Al Jazeera	/
Al Arabiya	/

Table 04: A Statement by the US on its support for the Moroccan autonomy proposal.

**Analysis:**

In Sahara News Agency, the notion of (الانتقادات الدولية) was introduced, which does not exist in the original text. The verb (تستمر) is an imprecise alternative to "reaffirms" which means renewal of support not just continuity. It raises a sense of international conflict and widespread rejection of the Moroccan initiative and it creates an image that the US is ignoring international objections, which incites the reader to question American support or Morocco's position. It uses the incitement strategy. The second translation is an accurate and identical translation of the original text by using literal translation. It uses the containment strategy by showing a clear American recognition of the Moroccan initiative without prejudice or exaggeration. It gives credibility to the Moroccan position and prepares the reader to accept it as a legitimate international position. The last one uses (تجدد دعمها) instead of supports slightly weakens the temporal force in the original text; using (حلا) instead of proposal which may be translated into (مقترحا) adds a final evaluation that does not exist in the original text. It uses the incitement strategy which strengthens the Moroccan proposal as the final and most appropriate solution.

**Pattern05: Western Sahara: An ongoing conflict between Moroccan sovereignty and the demand for independence. (Beynon 2023)**

<p><b>The Source text</b></p>	<p>The issue of Western Sahara has remained unresolved for decades, with Morocco asserting its claim over the region, while the Sahrawi people represented by Front POLISARIO, demand independence</p>
<p><b>Saharan News Agency</b></p>	<p>/</p>
<p><b>Western media, BBC ,France, RT in Arabic</b></p>	<p>/</p>
<p><b>Moroccan channel (2M</b></p>	<p>المغرب يواصل تعزيز سيادته على الصحراء المغربية ويشدد على أنه لا يمكن التنازل عن جزء من أراضيه بينما تواصل جبهة البوليساريو مطالبتها بالاستقلال.</p>
<p><b>Al Jazeera</b></p>	<p>تستمر قضية الصحراء الغربية في كونها نزاعا لم يحل لعقود حيث يصر المغرب على سيادته على المنطقة بينما يطالب الشعب الصحراوي ممثلا بجبهة البوليساريو بالاستقلال.</p>
<p><b>Saharan News Agency</b></p>	<p>قضية الصحراء الغربية لا تزال تشهد تصعيدا مستمرا في ظل مطالبات البوليساريو بالاستقلال عن المغرب الذي يواصل تأكيد سيادته على الأراضي الصحراوية.</p>

Table05: Western Sahara: An ongoing conflict between Moroccan sovereignty and the demand for independence.

**Analysis:**

The translator in Al Jazeera translates the original news in neutral way .He /she used ((نزاعا لم يحل)) which reflects a containment for the continuous situation without providing any bias for any position. He/she provides facts with highlighting the attitudes of the Parties without taking any side.

In the second translation, the translator is bias on the Morocco's' position and choses incitement through using some expression like : ( تعزيز السيادة) and ( لا يمكن ) (التنازل عن جزء من اراضيه).This kind of directing reinforces the Morocco position, which invites to hold on to the Moroccans' power.

The last one using the expression (تصعيدا مستمر) to indicate tension in settlement while continues in focusing on the Moroccan's' position in emphasis on its sovereignty. It considered as an incitement s' position, highlighting the military and security threats on the POLISARIOS' side against the Moroccan sovereignty.

**Pattern 06: The UN continues to stress the importance of dialogue between Morocco and The POLISARIO FRONT (Security Council Resolution 1720(2006))**

<p><b>Saharan Agency</b></p> <p><b>News</b></p>	<p>The UN has long called for a peaceful resolution to the Western Sahara conflict, urging both Morocco and the Sahrawi People to engage in dialogue to find a lasting solution.</p>
<p><b>Western media, BBC ,France, RT in Arabic</b></p>	<p>/</p>
<p><b>Al Arabiya</b></p>	<p>الأمم المتحدة تواصل التأكيد على أهمية الحوار بين المغرب وجبهة البوليساريو للوصول إلى حل سياسي قابل للتنفيذ بشأن الصحراء الغربية.</p>
<p><b>Moroccan channel (2M)</b></p>	<p>الأمم المتحدة تواصل دعوتها لحل قضية الصحراء الغربية ضمن إطار الشرعية الدولية حيث يعتبر المغرب أن المبادرة المغربية للحكم الذاتي هي الحل الأمثل.</p>
<p><b>Al Jazeera</b></p>	<p>طلبت الأمم المتحدة من فترة طويلة بحل سلمي لقضية الصحراء الغربية وداعية كل من المغرب والشعب الصحراوي إلى الدخول في حوار لإيجاد حل دائم.</p>
<p><b>Saharan Agency</b></p> <p><b>News</b></p>	<p>/</p>

Table06: The UN continues to stress the importance of dialogue between Morocco and The POLISARIO FRONT.

**Analysis:**

The first translation presents the text neutrally using (طالبت الأمم المتحدة) and (الدعوة الى الحوار ) without any bias to any side, but highlight the UN call for a peaceful solution without support or preference for Moroccan or Sahrawi side.

The second one uses incitement though clarifying the Morocco's' role in providing solutions like autonomy as the most legitimate and international solutions. The translation enhances the Morocco's' position.

The last translation uses neutral containment reflects the attitude of the international community (UN) with reaffirming the political dialogue between the Parties. The channel did not incite any side but call for a comprehensive political solution.

**Pattern07: Tensions continue in the Western Sahara region (Security Council Resolution 2756(2024))**

<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>The Western Sahara conflict remains unresolved, with ongoing disputes between Morocco and the Front POLISARIO over the regions' political future.</p>
<p><b>Western media, BBC ,France, RT in Arabic</b></p>	<p>/</p>
<p><b>Al Arabiya</b></p>	<p>الخلاف في الصحراء الغربية مازال قائما في ظل استمرار التوترات بين المغرب وجبهة البوليساريو بشأن مستقبل المنطقة.</p>
<p><b>Moroccan channel (2M</b></p>	<p>النزاع في الصحراء الغربية لا يزال مستمرا حيث يواجه المغرب تحديثات بسبب المطالب المتكررة من جبهة البوليساريو حول الوضع السياسي للمنطقة</p>
<p><b>Al Jazeera</b></p>	<p>مازال النزاع في الصحراء الغربية دون حل، حيث تتواصل الخلافات بين المغرب وجبهة البوليساريو حول مستقبل المنطقة السياسي.</p>
<p><b>Saharan News Agency</b></p>	<p>يستمر النزاع في الصحراء الغربية حيث تسعى جبهة البوليساريو لتحقيق مطالبها السياسية بينما يتمسك المغرب بموقفه بشأن المنطقة</p>

Table07: Tensions continue in the Western Sahara region.

**Analysis:**

The first translation does not change the basic words but rearranging the sentence makes the discourse neutral; it provides the Morocco and Front POLISARIO as Parties in the solution without tipping any side (neutral containment).

The second translation instead of ongoing disputes (نزاع مستمر) the channel uses (يواجه المغرب تحديات) which suggests that Morocco is in defensive while POLISARIO imposes demands, which causes disturbing incitement.

Al Arabia replaces ongoing disputes with (استمرار التوترات) is an expression makes the settlement looks like a state of security disorder containment.

Saharan News Agency changes the original text through adding new words in this case the translation uses incitement strategy.

**Table08: The UN supports the negotiation for a lasting political solution (Security Council Resolution 2756 (October 31, 2024))**

<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>The UN reaffirms its commitment to supporting negotiation for a fair and lasting political solution that respects the rights of all Parties involved.</p>
<p><b>Western media, BBC, France, RT in Arabic</b></p>	<p>الأمم المتحدة تجدد التزامها بدعم المفاوضات للوصول إلى حل سياسي دائم وعادل يحترم حقوق جميع الأطراف.</p>
<p><b>Al Arabiya</b></p>	<p>/</p>
<p><b>Moroccan channel (2M)</b></p>	<p>الأمم المتحدة تؤكد التزامها بدعم المفاوضات من أجل حل سياسي دائم وعادل يحترم مصالح جميع الأطراف.</p>
<p><b>Al Jazeera</b></p>	
<p><b>Saharan News Agency</b></p>	<p>الأمم المتحدة تؤكد التزامها بدعم مفاوضات تضمن حق تقرير المصير لشعب الصحراء الغربية</p>

**Table08: The UN supports the negotiation for a lasting political solution.**

**Analysis:**

The Moroccan channel 2M incites for the Morocco side through replacing the word Right that may translate into (حقوق) with (مصالح); it may alleviate the significance of the rights for the Parties especially what concerning the right to self- determination.

The second translation uses incitement; the translator adds ( حق تقرير المصير لشعب ) (الصحراء الغربية) which is not in the source text which may refer to a specific tendency in translation.

In the last translation, the translator is neutral and this translation is the nearest one to the source text because he/ she uses literal translation; he/she uses the containment strategy.

**Pattern09: The UN supports a peaceful solution (Security Council Resolution 2756(October 31, 2024), 2440(October 31, 2024)**

The source text	The UN supports a peaceful and mutually acceptable political solution that ensures the self-determination of the People of the Western Sahara
Western media, BBC ,France, RT in Arabic	الأمم المتحدة تدعم حلا سياسيا سلميا ومقبولا يضمن حق تقرير المصير لشعب الصحراء الغربية.
Al Arabiya	
Moroccan channel (2M	الأمم المتحدة تدعم حلا سياسيا سلميا ومقبولا يضمن الحكم الذاتي لسكان الصحراء المغربية.
Al Jazeera	
Saharan News Agency	الأمم المتحدة تدعم حلا سياسيا يضمن الاستقلال الكامل للشعب الصحراء الغربية.

Table09: The UN supports a peaceful solution.

## **Analysis:**

All the translations are nearest to the original text by using literal translation only the last one removing the word mutually and acceptable which does not effect on the meaning. Each channel translate the word self-determination in its own way, which serves its interests.

The first translation translate it into (الحكم الذاتي) which changes the political meaning, and focus on the Morocco sovereignty for directing the discourse for the Morocco side.

In the second, one translates into (حق تقرير المصير) which reflects more accurate for transferring the original meaning. The last one uses the word (الاستقلال الكامل) which reflects an obvious political tendency.

The first and the last one use the incitement strategy while the second one uses the containment strategy.

**Pattern10: International Law upholds the right of self-determination of the people of Western Sahara (The International Court of Justice (1975), U Resolutions (1965, 1979), Judgement of The European Court of Justice and the African Court (2022))**

<p><b>The source text</b></p> <p><b>Western media, BBC ,France, RT in Arabic</b></p>	<p>International law upholds the right of people in Western Sahara to decide their future.</p>
<p><b>Al Arabiya</b></p>	<p>/</p>
<p><b>Moroccan channel (2M)</b></p>	<p>القانون الدولي يضمن حق الشعب في الصحراء المغربية في تقرير مصيره.</p>
<p><b>Al Jazeera</b></p>	<p>القانون الدولي يضمن حق الشعب في المنطقة المتنازع عليها في تقرير مصيره.</p>
<p><b>Saharan News Agency</b></p>	<p>لقانون الدولي يضمن حق الشعب في الصحراء الغربية في تقرير مصيره</p>

Table10: International Law upholds the right of self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

**Analysis:**

Al Jazeera uses (المنطقة المتنازع عليها) which is a neutral language, reflects the current situation without bias to any side.

The second translation uses (الصحراء المغربية) which refers that Sahara is under the power of the sovereignty. The last one uses (الصحراء الغربية) the term used as a reference to an area claim independence under the name Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic.

Pattern11: The use of the word (الانفصاليون).

<b>The context of use</b>	Used to refer the Front POLISARIO negatively, considering it a threat to Morocco's territorial integrity.	Used to support the Front POLISARIO and to promote its thesis, with a focus on solidarity with the Sahrawi people.	A neutral term often used without additional characterization, focusing on the conflict in Western Sahara.
<b>The term used</b>	"الانفصاليون"	"الشعب الصحراوي وجبهة البوليساريو"	"جبهة البوليساريو"
<b>Example of coverage</b>	"الألة الإعلامية والدبلوماسية للبول للمغرب تفضح أكاذيب البول أحلام الانفصاليين" و تسفه يساريو	"الإعلام الرسمي الجزائري يخصص يوما كاملا لترويج أطروحة البول يساريو تحت مسمى التضامن مع الشعب الصحراوي."	جبهة البوليساريو تدعو الأمم المتحدة الى تنظيم استفتاء لتقرير المصير في الصحراء الغربية
<b>Media</b>	Moroccan media (AL DAR.MA)	Algerian media (ARIFFINO.NET)	International media

Table11: The use of the word (الانفصاليون).

**Analysis:**

The first translation used the term to refer the Front POLISARIO negatively, considering it a threat to Morocco's territorial integrity and using incitement strategy. The second one used the term to support the Front POLISARIO and to promote its thesis, with a focus on solidarity with the Sahrawi people by using also incitement strategy. The last translation a neutral term often used without additional characterization, focusing on the conflict in Western Sahara using the containment strategy in his/her translation.

2. Official Political discourses:

Pattern12: Discourse of Ibrahim Gali (POLISARIO Front Leader) to the African Union (2001):

<p>Translation3 (Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</p>	<p>"-The Sahrawi People will never give up their fight for freedom and independence, and we categorically reject Morocco's illegal occupation of our land."</p>
<p>Translation 2 (Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO)</p>	<p>"-The so-called Sahrawi movement cannot justify its separatist agenda under false claims of struggle, and Morocco will never allow any threat to its sovereignty over the Sahara."</p>
<p>Translation 1 (Diplomatic Containment)</p>	<p>"-The Sahrawi People will continue their struggle for self-determination and will not accept the ongoing dispute over their land."</p>
<p>The source text</p>	<p>"إن شعبنا لن يراجع عن نضاله من أجل الحرية والاستقلال ولن نقبل باستمرار الاحتلال المغربي لأرضنا."</p>

Table12: Discourse of Ibrahim Gali (POLISARIO Front Leader) to the African Union (2001)

**Analysis:**

The first translation uses less harsh language to avoid taking sides. The term "Moroccan occupation," which carries strong legal and political connotations, replaces with a more general term such as "dispute," making the text sound more objective. This strategy is commonly used in diplomatic discourse to de-escalate tensions and keep the door open for dialogue.

The second translation adopts inflammatory language that supports Morocco's position and distorts the POLISARIO's position. Expressions such as "so-called" use questioning the legitimacy and existence of the POLISARIO. Expressions such as "false claims" and "movement" give the impression that the POLISARIO is not a legitimate entity but rather a separatist movement promoting false claims.

The third translation adopts inflammatory language that reinforces the POLISARIO's position against Morocco. It uses expressions such as "illegal occupation," a term that clearly condemns Morocco and indicates that its presence in the Sahara is illegal under international law. Phrases such as "never give up the fight" used, which convey a tone of resistance and encouragement for struggle, suggesting that the cause must be resolved through confrontation or continued conflict.

**Pattern13: Discourse of King Mohammed VI at the United Nations (2022):**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>“Morocco’s so-called autonomy plan cannot replace the Sahrawi people’s legitimate right to self-determination, and we reject any attempt to impose Moroccan control over occupied Western Sahara.”</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO)</b></p>	<p>“Autonomy is the only viable solution to this fake conflict, and we will never accept questioning Morocco’s legitimate sovereignty over its Sahara.”</p>
<p><b>Translation 1 (Diplomatic Containment)</b></p>	<p>“Autonomy is the only realistic solution to this dispute, and we reject any attempt to challenge Morocco’s sovereignty over the Sahara.”</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>“إن الحكم الذاتي هو الحل الواقعي الوحيد لهذا النزاع المقفل ونرفض أي محاولة للتشكيك في مغربية الصحراء”.</p>

Table13: Discourse of King Mohammed VI at the United Nations (2022)

**Analysis:**

The first translation describes as "neutral", avoiding the use of terms of an inflammatory nature such as "fake conflict" and replacing them with diplomatic expression such as "realistic solution". This indicates an attempt to maintain a balance in translation and not engage in explicit bias.

The second translation considers biased towards Morocco because it adopts inflammatory rhetoric, whereby terms added such as "fake conflict", "legitimate" and "sovereignty". These words bear strong connotations and reflect Morocco's view of the conflict.

The third translation considers the most biased because it not only introduces some ideological terminology, it completely changes the speech in favour of a particular party. The use of terms such as "so-called autonomy" and "occupied Western Sahara" (Occupied Western Sahara) shows a clearly frank and biased attitude. These terms go beyond mere translation and fall within the framework of the political discourse.

**Pattern14: Discourse of King Hassan II after the Green March (1975):**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>- "The so-called Green March was an orchestrated invasion aimed at illegally annexing Western Sahara. Colonialism may have ended, but Morocco's expansionist ambitions continue to violate the Sahrawi people's right to self-determination."</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>- "The Green March was a historic victory, a demonstration of Morocco's rightful claim to its land. Colonial rule is over, and today we send a clear message to the world: the Sahara has always been and will always be Moroccan."</p>
<p><b>Translation 1</b> <b>(Diplomatic Containment)</b></p>	<p>- "The Green March was not just a historical event, but a genuine expression of the Moroccan nation's will to reclaim its land. Colonialism has ended, and today we reaffirm to the world that the Sahara is an integral part of our country. "</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>"إن المسيرة الخضراء لم تكن مجرد حدث تاريخي بل كانت تعبيراً صادقا عن إرادة الأمة المغربية في استرجاع أرضها لقد انتهى الاستعمار واليوم تؤكد للعالم أن الصحراء جزء لا يتجزأ من وطننا"</p>

Table15: Discourse of King Hassan II after the Green March (1975)

**Analysis:**

The first translation avoids the use of expressions of an inflammatory or politically charged nature such as "victory" or "illegal annexation."

This means that it tries to present the original text in a more neutral way, without provoking biased feelings or sending the message in favour of a particular party.

The absence of these terms indicates a concern to keep the speech objective, which considers usually a diplomatic approach to dealing with sensitive causes.

Second translation uses terms that reinforce the legitimacy of the Moroccan position, such as "rightful claim" and "will always be Moroccan". The choice of these words makes translation biased because it offers a supportive view of Morocco, reflecting a clear ideological position.

The use of the term "rightful claim" suggests that Morocco has a historical and legal right in the region, a framework that supports a particular position at the expense of the other. Unlike the second translation, this translation adopts a pro-POLISARIO stance by using terms with negative connotations against Morocco, such as "invasion" and "expansionist ambitions"

The word "invasion" suggests that Morocco's actions are not merely restoration or control, but military aggression, affecting the recipient's understanding of the events. The addition of the term "expansionist ambitions" reinforces the idea that Morocco has expansionist intentions, making translation adopt a political rhetoric against Morocco's position.

**16-Discourse of Mohamed Abdul-Aziz (POLISARIO Front Leader) at the United Nations (1980s):**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>"The Sahrawi people's resistance against Morocco's illegal occupation will never cease, and we are ready to make any sacrifice for our independence. "</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>- "The so-called Sahrawi separatist movement continues its futile attempts to destabilize Morocco, but the kingdom remains firm in defending its sovereignty over the Sahara. "</p>
<p><b>Translation 1</b> <b>(Diplomatic</b> <b>Containment</b></p>	<p>"The struggle of the Sahrawi people continues against the Moroccan presence, and we remain committed to achieving full independence, regardless of the challenges. "</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>"إن كفاح الشعب الصحراوي مستمر ضد الاحتلال المغربي ولن نترجع حتى نحصل على استقلالنا الكامل مهما كانت التضحيات."</p>

Table16: Discourse of Mohamed Abdul-Aziz (POLISARIO Front Leader) at the United Nations (1980s)

**Analysis:**

First translation avoids the use of strong words such as "illegal", "occupation" and "futile attempts."

This makes the text more neutral and less severe, which may reflect a desire not to adopt a biased attitude or avoid creating controversy.

Second translation sided against the POLISARIO Front, describing it as "so-called movement", thereby reducing its legitimacy or relevance. Also using the word "futile attempts" to suggest that her efforts are futile, which carries a derogatory connotation.

The third translation adopts an anti-Moroccan attitude by describing its presence in the region as "illegal occupation". The phrase "never cease" uses to promote the struggling character of the text, giving it an inflammatory dimension.

**Pattern17: Discourse of Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune at the African Summit (2021)**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>"Algeria will never abandon its support for the Sahrawi people's right to self-determination and will not tolerate Morocco's illegal occupation of Western Sahara. The international community must act to end this ongoing colonial oppression."</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>"Algeria continues to interfere in Morocco's internal affairs under the false pretenses of supporting self-determination. We urge the international community to reject Algeria's destabilizing actions and support Morocco's sovereignty over its southern provinces "</p>
<p><b>Translation 1</b> <b>(Diplomatic Containment</b></p>	<p>"Algeria remains committed to the principle of self-determination and opposes the continuation of colonialism in Africa. We call on the international community to fulfil its responsibility in resolving the Western Sahara issue."</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>"إن الجزائر لن تتخلى عن مبدأ تقرير المصير، ولن تتسامح مع استمرار الاستعمار في القارة الإفريقية. ندعو المجتمع الدولي إلى تحمل مسؤوليته في إنهاء الاحتلال غير الشرعي في "الصحراء الغربية".</p>

Table17: Discourse of Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune at the African Summit (2021)

**Analysis:**

The first translation avoids using terms with a strong political connotation. It uses expressions such as "resolving the Western Sahara cause" instead of "illegal occupation." The goal of this translation is to maintain balance and not take sides.

The second translation uses a language that suggests Algeria is the cause of the destabilization. It includes terms such as "interference" and "destabilizing actions," giving the impression that Algeria is intervening in the issue in a negative way. This translation supports the Moroccan narrative of the conflict.

The third translation adopts terms that portray Morocco as an occupier. It relies on expressions such as "colonial oppression," which give the impression that Morocco is practicing a repressive colonial policy. This translation reflects a biased stance in favour of the party opposing Morocco.

**Pattern18: UN Secretary-General's discourse on Western Sahara 2022:**

<p><b>Translation3</b> (Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</p>	<p>”تدعو الأمم المتحدة إلى إنهاء الاحتلال المغربي للصحراء الغربية عبر حل سياسي عادل يضمن حق الشعب الصحراوي في تقرير المصير وفقا لقرارات مجلس الأمن.”</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> (Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</p>	<p>”تواصل الأمم المتحدة جهودها لدعم المبادرة المغربية للحكم الذاتي باعتبارها الحل الوحيد الواقعي والنهائي لقضية الصحراء المغربية وفقا لقرارات مجلس الأمن.”</p>
<p><b>Translation 1</b> (Diplomatic Containment</p>	<p>”تنظّل الأمم المتحدة ملتزمة بتيسير عملية سياسية تضمن حلا عادلا ودائما مقبولا للطرفين لقضية الصحراء الغربية وفقا لقرارات مجلس الأمن ذات الصلة.”</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>”The united nations remains committed to facilitating political process that ensures a just, lasting, and mutually acceptable solution to the Western Sahara issue, in accordance with relevant security Council resolutions.”</p>

Table18: UN Secretary-General's discourse on Western Sahara 2022

**Analysis:**

The first translation aims to maintain a balanced discourse without favouring any party. It uses diplomatic language that avoids any expressions that might suggest support for one side or condemnation of the other. This translation avoids politically charged phrases, making it suitable for use in international organizations and mediation.

The second translation relies on rewording the text to support Morocco's position, particularly regarding autonomy. It does not use terms such as "occupation" or "colonization," but rather emphasizes the idea of "autonomy" as a solution to the issue. It may use expressions such as "autonomy initiative" instead of "right to self-determination" to indicate that the solution does not include full independence. The third translation reflects the POLISARIO's viewpoint demanding full independence. It uses terms such as "end of the Moroccan occupation," an expression that suggests Morocco's presence in Western Sahara is illegal. It emphasizes "the right to self-determination," the term used by the United Nations in causes of colonialism and independence, giving the impression that the issue is one of decolonization and not simply a territorial conflict.

**Table19: Discourse of the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs at the United Nations General Assembly.**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>"The so-called Moroccan autonomy plan is an attempt to legitimize the illegal occupation, while the international community continues to support the Sahrawi people's right to independence. "</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>"Morocco's autonomy plan is the only legitimate and pragmatic solution, and the world has rejected the baseless separatist agenda that threatens regional security. "</p>
<p><b>Translation 1 (Diplomatic Containment</b></p>	<p>"The Moroccan initiative is the only serious and realistic solution and the international community increasingly recognizes that separatist claims do not contribute to regional stability. "</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>"إن المبادرة المغربية للحكم الذاتي هي الحل الوحيد الجاد والواقعي والمجتمع الدولي أصبح يدرك إن أو هام الانفصال لا تخدم الاستقرار في المنطقة."</p>

Table19: Discourse of the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs at the United Nations General Assembly.

**Analysis:**

First translation, which is “neutral “maintains balance by avoiding emotional or politicized terms. The issue is likely to be submit in an objective manner without any side, either Morocco or the Front POLISARIO. Such impartiality makes it appropriate for impartial media reports or diplomatic discourses.

Second translation (bias in Morocco's favour) uses the term "legitimate solution" gives the impression that Morocco's position is legal and justified. The POLISARIO position has described as a "baseless separatist agenda" that delegitimizes their demands and portrays them as unjustified. This wording supports Morocco's view of its sovereignty over Western Sahara and weakens the opposition position.

Third translation (bias in favour of POLISARIO) Morocco's autonomy has been described as an "attempt to legitimize the illegal occupation" which portrays Morocco as an occupying power rather than a legitimate administration. This is in line with POLISARIO's position that Western Sahara is an illegally occupied territory by Morocco. The choice of such terms questioned the legitimacy of Morocco's proposal and supported the right to self-determination of Western Sahara.

**Pattern20: POLISARIO Front statement after US recognition of Morocco's sovereignty over the Sahara (2020)**

<p><b>Translation3 (Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>“The United States has blatantly violated international law by supporting Morocco’s illegal occupation, but Western Sahara remains an occupied territory awaiting liberation</p>
<p><b>Translation 2 (Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>“The U.S decision to recognize Morocco’s sovereignty over the Sahara is a historic move that confirms the legitimacy of Morocco’s territorial integrity and puts an end to separatist illusions.”</p>
<p><b>Translation 1 (Diplomatic Containment</b></p>	<p>“The united states’ decision to recognize Morocco’s sovereignty over Western Sahara constitutes a violation of international law, yet the territory remains non-self-governing, pending decolonization.”</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>“إن قرار الولايات المتحدة بالاعتراف بسيادة المغرب على الصحراء الغربية هو انتهاك صارخ للقانون الدولي ولن يغير من حقيقة إن الصحراء الغربية إقليم غير مستقل ينتظر تصفية الاستعمار.”</p>

Table20: POLISARIO Front statement after US recognition of Morocco's sovereignty over the Sahara (2020)

**Analysis:**

The first translation provides impartial information, this translation adheres to the objective narrative, presenting the information as it is without adding words of an inflammatory or promotional nature to any party. It does not contain words with strong emotional connotations or terms that may reinforce one party's position at the expense of the other. This type of translation is common in neutral news reports or in diplomatic documents, where the aim is to convey accurately the facts without directing the reader towards a particular situation.

Second translation promotes Moroccan legitimacy by using "puts an end to", this gives the impression that Morocco's move is positive and decisive, and refers to the termination of a previous undesirable situation. The phrase "historic move" gives a positive and supportive character to the Moroccan resolution, describing it as an important development worth celebrating. Describing the opposition position as "separatist illusions" carries a pejorative tone towards the POLISARIO position, portraying their demands as unrealistic or fictional, thereby reducing their legitimacy and making them seem unserious. This wording is in line with Morocco's view that autonomy is the only viable solution and rejects the idea of independence as unrealistic.

Third translation: inflammatory discourse against Morocco. The use of the phrase "blatantly violated" carries a strong accusatory tone, indicating that Morocco has committed a clear and unequivocal violation. This phrase makes Morocco's actions very negative, and makes the reader see his behavior as a flagrant violation of law or rights. The use of "awaiting liberation" reinforces the idea that the area is under illegal occupation and is in a state of resistance or struggle against dominant power. This type of wording is in line with the POLISARIO view, which considers that Western Sahara is still a colony in need of liberation, making translation non-neutral and inciting.

**Pattern21: Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita on the position of the United Nations in 2023.**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>“Morocco falsely claims that the United Nations supports its autonomy plan, while the Sahrawi people’s right to independence remains a core principle of international law.”</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation ; pro-MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>“Morocco celebrates the international community’s growing support for its autonomy plan, which is now widely recognized as the only realistic and viable solution”</p>
<p><b>Translation 1</b> <b>(Diplomatic Containment</b></p>	<p>"Morocco welcomes the United Nations’ support for a political solution based on the autonomy initiative, which has gained increasing international backing."</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>"المغرب يرحب بموقف الأمم المتحدة الداعم للحل السياسي القائم على مبادرة الحكم الذاتي والتي حظيت بدعم متزايد من المجتمع الدولي."</p>

Table21: Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita on the position of the United Nations in 2023

**Analysis:**

First translation describes as "neutral"; it attempts to convey the meaning as it stands without adding words of an inflammatory or exaggerated nature. This means that it adheres to the original content without trying to direct the reader towards a particular situation, bringing it closer to objective and diplomatic translation.

Second translation uses fibers that reinforce the Moroccan narrative, such as "Celebrates", which suggests that Morocco's attitude is positive and widely supported. "Widely recognized", which indicates that Morocco's position enjoys strong international legitimacy. These words create the impression that the international community recognizes and supports Morocco's position, thereby strengthening its position in the conflict.

Third translation tends to support an opposition position to Morocco by using expressions that diminish the legitimacy of its position, such as "falsely claims", which denies the legitimacy of Morocco's claims and suggests that they are incorrect or unlawful. "Right to independence", indicating that the other party (POLISARIO) possesses a legitimate right to independence, which opposes Morocco's position.

This wording suggests that Morocco does not have legitimacy in its position and that the other party is the holder of the right, thus making the translation clearly biased.

**Pattern22: UN statement on the role of MINURSO**

<p><b>Translation3</b> <b>(Incitation</b> ; <b>pro-</b> <b>POLISARIO</b></p>	<p>تواجه بعثة المين ورسو تحديات مستمرة بسبب العراقيل المغربية مما يؤثر على قدرتها على تنفيذ مهامها وضمان حق تقرير المصير للشعب الصحراوي</p>
<p><b>Translation 2</b> <b>(Incitation</b> ; <b>pro-</b> <b>MOROCCO</b></p>	<p>تواصل بعثة المين ورسو العمل على استقرار المنطقة مما يعكس نجاح المقاربة المغربية في تحقيق السلام عبر مبادرة الحكم الذاتي</p>
<p><b>Translation 1 (Diplomatic</b> <b>Containment</b></p>	<p>تواصل بعثة المين ورسو تنفيذ مهامها في مراقبة وقف إطلاق النار وتسهيل المفاوضات من أجل حل سلمي ومقبول للطرفين</p>
<p><b>The source text</b></p>	<p>“MINURSO continues to fulfill its mandate of monitoring the ceasefire and facilitating negotiations to achieve a peaceful and mutually acceptable solution.”</p>

Table22: UN statement on the role of MINURSO

### **Analysis:**

The first translation conveys the original meaning without prejudice, which means that it maintains neutrality and focuses on conveying the meaning as it is without modification that may alter its connotations or affect a party's position.

In second translation, Morocco's position reinforces, which means that it tends to provide translation in a way serve Moroccan perspective. This done by linking the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) to the "success of the Moroccan approach", that is, it portrays the role of MINURSO as compatible with the Moroccan approach to conflict management.

Third translation promotes POLISARIO's narrative, that is, it tends to provide translation to serve the Front POLISARIO-supported proposition. This is clear from its addition of phrases such as "Moroccan obstacles", which suggest that Morocco is putting obstacles in the face of United Nations efforts, and "guaranteeing the right to self-determination" which POLISARIO defends as a fundamental principle of conflict resolution.

### **Results and Discussion:**

#### **1. Discussion:**

By analyzing the political discourse related to the Western Sahara cause in its original and translated texts, the research reached the following:

- The most prominent thing that the study revealed is that translation in political discourse related to the Western Sahara issue is not only practiced to transfer meaning from one language to another, but it is also exploited as a means to redirect ideological meaning through deliberate rhetorical strategies notably incitement and containment.
- Incitement appeared clearly in translations that used charged language such as (الاحتلال المغربي). Such translation are deliberately used to arouse enthusiasm or anger, and motivate the recipient toward adopting a particular political position. This appeared clearly in the Sahrawi media and some channels supporting the right to self-determination, which used these terms to strengthen the POLISARIO'S position; some Moroccan channels used some terms to strengthen the Moroccan's position such as (الصحراء المغربية، الحكم الذاتي...).

- Containment appeared in the biographies that highlighted the autonomy plan as "realistic" and "credible", ignoring terms such as "self-determination". This type of translation aims to reshape the political consciousness of the public not through direct incitement but rather presenting the political given as something up to date and internationally agreed upon.

## **2. Results:**

- Translation is not a neutral process in political discourse related to Western Sahara but rather practiced through conscious rhetorical strategies.
- Incitement is used to push the recipient into emotional interaction, especially coverage against the Moroccan and Sahrawi positions.
- Containment is used to normalize official positions and present them as realistic and internationally acceptable.
- The absence of neutrality in translation emphasizes the need for critical awareness to the recipient, and not relying on a single source for thorny political conflicts.

**Conclusion:**

This concluding chapter has investigated that rely on directing strategies balance between containment and incitement, where the translator seeks to deliver a text that is accurate and appropriate to the temporal and cultural context without deviating from the original meaning. On the containment side, the translation must take into account linguistic and cultural developments to ensure that the message conveys accurately to the target audience, while preserving the spirit of the original text. On the incitement side, caution must be exercised against manipulating meanings or directing the translation for ideological or political purposes that could distort the original text.

## Conclusion

This study set out to explore the extent to which translation influences and directs political discourse on the Western Sahara cause. By combining both theoretical frameworks and practical analysis, the research has demonstrated that translation is not merely a neutral act of linguistic transfer, but rather a politically charged practice that actively shapes the discourse surrounding contested geopolitical matters. In the case of Western Sahara—a region characterized by prolonged territorial dispute, diplomatic tension, and competing narratives—translation emerges as a discursive tool that both reflects and reproduces ideological agendas.

From a theoretical standpoint, the study drew on discourse analysis, critical translation theory, and political linguistics to illustrate how translation operates as a site of ideological struggle. It challenged the outdated notion of the translator as a passive intermediary, presenting instead a more dynamic view of the translator as an agent embedded in specific socio-political contexts. The research showed that translation decisions are often influenced by political loyalties, institutional pressures, and the translator's own ideological positioning. Terminological choices such as "occupation" versus "territorial dispute," or "Sahrawi people" versus "POLISARIO Front," are far from arbitrary; they carry significant weight in framing the narrative and shaping international perception.

The practical component of the study provided concrete evidence of these theoretical claims. Through comparative analysis of translated political texts—including official statements, news articles, UN documents, and diplomatic speeches—the study identified patterns in the way different actors use translation to promote their agendas. Moroccan translations, for example, consistently highlight terms like "Moroccan Sahara," "territorial integrity," and "autonomy plan," often accompanied by neutral or diplomatic language aimed at legitimizing Morocco's claim. In contrast, translations affiliated with the POLISARIO Front or Algerian sources frequently emphasize terms such as "illegal occupation," "resistance," and "self-determination," often conveyed through emotionally charged language that seeks to mobilize support and present Morocco as a colonial power.

A key finding from this comparative analysis is the use of strategic translation techniques to reconstruct meaning. For instance, downplaying acts of repression or omitting references to human rights violations in Moroccan-aligned texts contributes to the normalization of Morocco's presence in the territory. Conversely, overemphasizing humanitarian issues or altering diplomatic statements to stress Sahrawi victimhood can influence international sympathy and advocacy efforts.

The study also addressed the impact of media translation on public opinion, concluding that translation plays a decisive role in shaping not just the content of political discourse, but also its reception. The same event or statement, when translated differently, can produce contrasting interpretations depending on the linguistic and ideological framing employed. The research found that even international news agencies while often claiming objectivity engage in subtle forms of bias through translation, often reflecting the geopolitical interests of their home countries or institutions.

Through the analysis, two dominant translation strategies identified:

1. **Containment Strategy:** employs a formal, neutral, and restrained tone to present sensitive topics in a depoliticized manner, thereby preserving an impression of objectivity.
2. **Incitement Strategy:** This involves deliberate manipulation of tone, terminology, and content to provoke emotion, persuade audiences, and delegitimize opposing views. This strategy frequently observes in activist discourse and partisan media.

Both strategies were evident in the translated material analyzed, and their use reveals much about the political intentions of the translator or institution behind the translation.

In light of these findings, it becomes evident that translation functions as a powerful actor within the political arena, especially in contexts marked by conflict, identity struggle, and contested sovereignty. It contributes not only to how events narrated, but also to how political legitimacy is constructed, challenged, or affirmed. As such, translation should no longer be seen as

peripheral to political discourse but as a central mechanism in its production and dissemination.

This study calls for a more ethically grounded and critically aware approach to political translation. Translators, journalists, and political communicators must be trained to recognize the ideological implications of their linguistic choices and to uphold standards of transparency, responsibility, and contextual awareness. In regions of geopolitical tension—such as the Western Sahara—where language has the power to escalate conflict or foster dialogue, the translator's role becomes even more vital.

Ultimately, the findings of this research underscore the importance of viewing translation not as a passive conduit of meaning but as an active site of discourse production and ideological negotiation. The Western Sahara cause, like many other global disputes, is fought not only on diplomatic tables and in the media within the invisible yet potent realm of language. Translation, therefore, stands as a critical component in shaping political realities, influencing global perceptions, and constructing the narrative battlefield upon which such conflicts unfold.

This research demonstrates that translation—particularly in political and conflict-related contexts—functions as a dynamic actor in the shaping of discourse. Translators are not invisible intermediaries; they are agents of meaning and interpretation. The Western Sahara cause, as shown in this study, is not only fought on the ground or in diplomatic forums, but also in the realm of language. Translation is therefore an integral part of the conflict's discourse, influencing how it is perceived, discussed, and ultimately addressed.

This conclusion recommends the need for university research that focuses on analyzing political discourse, especially the translator. Translation courses must adopt elective or compulsory subjects that address the translation and direction of political discourses with real cases studies. The study suggests that universities organize periodic scientific seminars translating political discourse with the participation of professors of translation, international relations, and graduated students. Strengthening collaboration between translation and political science departments in joint research, prompting an interdisciplinary understanding of complex issues. Creating intellectual spaces within the university (such as student clubs or research forums) that allow students to discuss major political issues in scientific and impartial ways.



### **Abstract:**

This study explores the issue of translating and directing political discourse in the context of the Western Sahara cause, by analyzing Arabic translations of political statements and media texts issued in English and Arabic. The study focuses on how the media adopt various rhetorical strategies, most notably containment and incitement, with the aim of influencing the recipient's perception and shaping his attitudes. Through a comparative analysis of a selected sample of translations in international and regional media (such as Al Jazeera, Al Arabia...And the Sahara News Agency), it turns out that translation options are not neutral, but rather subject to different political orientations and media contexts. The study concludes that translation represents a guiding tool par excellence, which goes beyond linguistic transmission to perform an ideological role in the management of geopolitical conflicts.

**Keywords: Political Translation, Political discourse, Western Sahara, Media Framing, Ideology, Discourse analysis.**

### **المخلص:**

تكتشف هذه الدراسة مسألة ترجمة وتوجيه الخطاب السياسي في سياق نزاع الصحراء الغربية، من خلال تحليل الترجمات العربية للبيانات السياسية والنصوص الإعلامية الصادرة باللغة الإنجليزية والعربية. وتركز الدراسة على كيفية اعتماد وسائل الإعلام لاستراتيجيات بلاغية مختلفة أبرزها التحييد والتحييز بهدف التأثير على تصور المتلقي وتشكيل مواقفه. من خلال تحليل مقارنة لعينة مختارة من الترجمات الدولية

**الكلمات المفتاحية: الترجمة السياسية، الخطاب السياسي، الصحراء الغربية، التأطير الإعلامي، الإيديولوجيا، تحليل الخطاب**

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