



International Conference

Moving texts: mediation and transculturations

(Aveiro, 12-14 July 2017)

Carmen Expósito Castro
University of Cordoba

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The International Conference *Moving texts: mediations and transculturations* was held in the *complexo pedagógico* of the Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal, on 12-14 July 2017. The purpose was to trigger discussion of interlinguistic and intercultural dialogues from linguistic, cultural or literary viewpoints and to encourage the intertwining of disciplines.

The opening session on 12 July was presided by Manuel António Assunção (Rector of the University of Aveiro), João Manuel Torrão (Head of the Department of Languages and Cultures), Maria Teresa Cortez (Head of the Languages, Literatures and Cultures Research Centre) and Maria Eugénia Pereira (member of the organizing committee).

The conference offered participants the opportunity to choose from a wide range of panels in many areas of expertise with a special focus on interdisciplinarity. The twenty-nine panels addressed a variety of topics: Cultural mobility and the crossovers of disciplines; Dynamics of mediation: literature and culture; Studies of intercultural reception and hermeneutics; Travels and images; Territorial and textual mobility; Readings and rereadings: intertextuality, intermediality; Translation and cultural filters; Poetics in dialogue: intercultural constellations; Translation and editing; Domestication and foreignization; Linguistic variation; Language and its speakers: language in different environments; Cultural hybridity and multilingualism; Second and third language acquisition and Translation and terminology.

Panels were held in the morning and afternoon, with the exception of the last day, on which there was only a morning session. The morning sessions began with a plenary lecture given by prestigious researchers, followed by two series of five panels each, which were held simultaneously with a pause for a coffee-break to allow the conference goers to meet and mingle. Scholars from many different countries presented three or four papers in each of the panels, which were followed by a fruitful discussion and some time to exchange views. The experience was very enriching for both the participants and the audience. Unfortunately, it was impossible to attend all the sessions since the panels were held simultaneously.

The sessions highlighted the conference's intercultural and transcultural focus from a pragmatic approach. All of the papers were of great interest and contributed to the study of mediation, language acquisition and transculturation. Given the incredibly large number of conference papers (119 in all), it is impossible to list all of them. Although most were in Portuguese—as was to be expected—many others were given in French, English and Spanish.

Over the three days of the conference, the event brought together speakers from universities around the world—Portugal, Brazil, the United States, Tunisia, Canada, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Morocco, South Korea, Germany, Denmark, Turkey, United Kingdom, China, Italy, Mexico, Slovenia, Colombia, Senegal, Poland, France and Spain—all of whom shared a wealth of enlightening information and knowledge with those attending.

To complement the presentations, the organizing committee of the University of Aveiro hosted a dinner on July 13th that allowed participants to network with researchers and scholars from other universities and discover the beautiful city of Aveiro, known as “the Portuguese Venice.”