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## Book Review

**Koskinen, K. & Pokorn, N. K. (Eds)**  
**(2021). *The Routledge handbook of***  
***translation and ethics*. Routledge**  
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With globalization and technology constantly introducing new moral quandaries into translation, translatorial agents today face pressing ethical challenges. At such times, academic research into translation ethics becomes especially relevant as it promises valuable insights and tools to help the agents make and act upon ethical decisions. Since the early 1980s, ethics has returned to Translation Studies and attracted growing attention from translation scholars (Inghilleri, 2020). As researchers have approached ethics in numerous translational scenarios with diverse theories and methodologies, timely reviews are needed to map progress and trends in the subfield. Without retrospection and reflection, we might leave the toddling field in perplexing fragmentations, which will be unbeneficial to translation practitioners wanting ethical aid. In this sense, Koskinen and Pokorn's (2021) edited volume *The Routledge handbook of translation and ethics*, the first-ever exhaustive mapping of translation-ethical studies thus far, deserves admiration. By consolidating preceding research and indicating emerging topics, the collection presents translation ethics as an enlarging research site characterized by augmenting points of research entry.

The volume is thematically divided into four interrelated parts. Part 1 is home to the theories and traditions foundational to global translation-ethical research. Part 2 focuses on the translator's agency and responsibilities in diverse translatorial contexts, hosting contributions on the ethics of both professional and non-professional translators. Part 3 gives visibility to the institutions, collectives, and individuals having a say in the (re-)construction of translator ethics, highlighting the ethical accountabilities of non-translating agents in translation. Part 4 zooms into the ethical dynamics of everyday language-mediating practices such as child language brokering, revealing the situation-embeddedness of translation ethics. Preceding the sections is the editors' introduction to the volume (Chapter 1). Its concise yet pertinent outlining of the handbook's contents is especially welcome since the collection covers a wide range of research streams under translation ethics.

Part 1 (Chapters 2-11) accommodates ten synoptic introductions to virtue ethics in translation (Chapter 2, Chesterman), Confucianism-inspired translation ethics in China (Chapter 3, Xin), politicized translation ethics in the

former Soviet Union and East Germany (Chapter 4, Baer & Schäffner), ethical ingredients in functionalist translation theories (Chapter 5, Hebenstreit), translation-ethical proposals of Antoine Berman and Henri Meschonnic (Chapter 6, Massardier-Kenney), Paul Ricoeur's "linguistic hospitality" and Jacques Derrida's untranslatability (Chapter 7, Pokorn & Koskinen), postcolonial translation ethics (Chapter 8, Robinson), feminist translation ethics (Chapter 9, Ergun), Venuti's ethics of minoritizing difference (Chapter 10, Laaksonen & Koskinen), and the neo-classical translator ethics featuring reciprocal cooperation (Chapter 11, Pym). The contributions concertedly weave the theoretical underpinning of translation-ethical research, which has had lasting influences on dialogues on translation ethics. It is worth highlighting that the editors have intentionally included two articles communicating non-Western translation-ethical theories (i.e., Xin; Baer & Schäffner) in this section. The theories reduce Western bias in translation-ethical theorization, meanwhile reminding readers of the spatial-temporal particularities of translation ethics.

In Part 2 (Chapters 12-19), eight chapters address the translator's ethics in various translatorial contexts. With the first six chapters dedicated to professional translator ethics (Chapter 12, Lambert) and the ethics of literary translators (Chapter 13, Alvstad), conference interpreters (Chapter 14, Ren & Yin), public service interpreters (Chapter 15, Pöllabauer & Topolovec), volunteer translators and interpreters (Chapter 16, Basalamah), and activist translators and interpreters (Chapter 17, Boéri & Luchner), this section in the first place demonstrates the context contingency of translator ethics. The last two chapters concentrate on technology-induced translation-ethical issues (Chapter 18, Bowker) and translation's responsibility towards the planetary ecology (Chapter 19, Cronin). Both chapters represent emerging scholarly contemplations on how new technologies, while enabling faster and cheaper translation, have created ethical challenges for the translator concerning human flourishing and environmental sustainability. Among the contributions, Cronin's cross-disciplinary proposal on post-humanist translation ethics (also Cronin, 2016, 2017, 2019) is particularly intriguing. By situating translation at the center of the "tradosphere" (Cronin, 2017, p. 90) and highlighting its impacts on both living and nonliving organisms, Cronin makes translation ethics an "ecological concern" affecting human survival in the Anthropocene. Such conceptualization offers a new way of imagining translation ethics and speaks of the concept's expansiveness.

Part 3 (Chapters 20-24) temporarily moves the discussion away from the translator to the institutions, organizations, and individuals co-constructing the translation culture (Prunč, 2012). Some of them wield direct influences on the discursive (re-)construction of translator ethics, including translator codes of ethics (Chapter 20, Baixauli-Olmos), translation industry-based agents (Chapter 21, Moorkens & Rocchi), and translator training institutions and trainers (Chapter 22, Floros; Chapter 23, Aguilar & Dizdar); Some indirectly, such as translation and interpreting researchers (Chapter 24, Mellinger & Baer). In both cases, the stakeholders'<sup>1</sup> interplaying agentic voices in (re-)constructing translator ethics make them ethically accountable (Greenall, 2019). In this sense, contributions here jointly advance the emerging trend where non-translating translatorial agents' ethical accountabilities are acknowledged and discussed (previous studies typically included Tiselius (2019) and Valdeón

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<sup>1</sup> In the case of translator codes of ethics (Baixauli-Olmos), "stakeholder" refers to agents responsible for formulating the codes such as professional translation associations.

(2019)). Translation ethics relating to both translating and non-translating agents is indeed a recurrent theme in this volume. For example, Prunč's construct of "translation culture" (Chapter 5, Hebenstreit), with its proposal for reciprocal loyalty between translational stakeholders, underlines that non-translating agents also bear ethical responsibilities. It is a pity, albeit a minor one, that the editors have not accentuated enough this common thread running through this section in the opening introduction. Otherwise, Part 3 could make a more pronounced example of the discerning plural-agency approach to translation ethics.

Part 4 (Chapters 25-31), the final section of this volume, surveys ethics in both longstanding and emerging language mediation activities. It contains contributions on ethical matters in child language brokering (Chapter 25, Angelelli), conflict and crisis translation and interpreting (Chapter 26, Tryuk), linguistic first aid (Chapter 28, Probirskaja), translation of sacred texts (Chapter 29, Israel), industrialized literary translation (Chapter 30, Paloposki & Pokorn), and translation for media accessibility (Chapter 31, Hirvonen & Kinnunen). Besides, there is a chapter on ethical stress in translation (Chapter 27, Hubscher-Davidson), which is universal across contexts. The included articles reveal how translation ethics plays out as moral challenges inherent to daily translational encounters. Many of the topics addressed here resonate with those discussed in the previous chapters. For instance, the ethical discussion on linguistic first aid (Chapter 28, Probirskaja) inevitably relates to that on volunteer interpreting (Chapter 16, Basalamah) since most of those providing translation assistance in communication emergencies are bi/multilingual volunteers.

Perhaps absent from the handbook are chapters on methodologies used for researching translation ethics. Before and at the turn of the new millennium, metaethical theories dominated translation-ethical studies. During the last two decades, however, while metaethical theorization has continued in the subfield (e.g., Baker, 2006), growing studies (e.g., Inghilleri, 2013) have resorted to empirical description of the translator's moral praxis *in situ* to gain practically relevant perspectives. As a result, various empirical methods have been harnessed in translation-ethical research. Dedicating chapters to the methods applied in translation-ethical inquiries in this volume will help readers appreciate the methodological development in the area and give scholars planning to investigate translation ethics useful hints.

As noted at the beginning of this review, *The Routledge handbook of translation and ethics* is a timely endeavor to retrospect and look forward on robustly growing translation-ethical studies. Koskinen and Pokorn are deft enough to bring together contributions approaching translation ethics from diverse perspectives, which promise to inform translation students and scholars alike. Despite its minor shortcomings, the handbook is sufficiently comprehensive and well-structured to guide readers through the decades-long discussions on translation ethics and become an excellent companion for translation researchers.

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