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The Individual and the Collective in Institutional Translation: A Case Study of Political News in Kuwait

By: Abdullah Bezea

Thesis submitted to the University of Durham for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures

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Abstract

The translation phenomenon is one that is affected by many factors. In an institutional setting these factors can vary. Institutions are collective in nature with translators being individuals in these institutions. This research has three aims. First, to explore the influence of the individual and the collective on the translation process and product in an institutional translation setting. Second, the research aims to examine the agency of the translator in an institutional setting dealing with political news. Third, to examine the effects of personal social attributes (nationality, religion, and political views) of translators in an institutional setting.

This research examined the institutional translation of political news in Kuwait as a case study to achieve these aims. This case study explores the previous phenomena by analysing three qualitative data sets and one quantitative data set. The qualitative data sets are critical discourse analysis (CDA) of political news texts in Kuwait (30 texts), translators' interviews analysis (33 participants), and three open-ended questions analysis. the quantitative data set is from a multiple-choice questionnaire (33 participants). This corpus was collected from four Kuwaiti news translation institutions, two public institutions and two private ones. The public institutions are the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information and the Kuwait News Agency, the private ones are the *Arab Times* newspaper and the *Kuwait Times* newspaper.

The results show that, in the institutional translation of political news, collective (institutional) influence on the translation process and product exceeds that of the individual (translator) influence. This institutional influence was observed in the guidelines and protocols of each studied institution. This was more prominent in public institutions compared to the private ones. Mainly, this is due to public institutions having to be reflective of the state's political views and policies.

The translator's agency in an institutional setting was found to be limited, due to the translator having to be in line with the institution's guidelines and established translation process. The translator's agency seems to also be affected by the general policy of the institution, which makes a translator working in an institutional setting likely to have limited agency.

The effects of the personal factors of political views, religion, and social background were limited as the translators and their translations were found to be more affected by institutional factors rather than personal ones. This was observed in two main instances. First, the majority of interviewed translators argued against the effects of personal factors. Second, the translations' analysis showed that the translations were more affected by collective/institutional factors rather than personal ones. This made the translations more reflective of their respective institution.

A general overview of the state of institutional translation of political news in Kuwait was established. This was achieved by studying the recent translation processes and products of four prominent news translation institutions in Kuwait as a case study. Institutional translation of political news in Kuwait follows a defined translation process at the four institutions. This process is governed by strict procedures, guidelines, and protocols that the translators and their translations must abide by for the translations to be published. The translation process and product were found to be affected by external factors such as strict Kuwaiti publication laws, Kuwait's foreign state policy, Kuwait's diplomatic relationships, and the Amiri Diwan.

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List of Used Abbreviations

CAT: Computer-Assisted Translation

CDA: Critical Discourse Analysis

HOD: Head of Department

KUNA: Kuwait News Agency

KTV2: Kuwait Television Channel 2

MOI: Kuwait's Ministry of Information

TR: Target Readership

ST: Source Text

TS: Translation Studies

TT: Translated Text

IJMES TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM FOR ARABIC, PERSIAN, AND TURKISH

Consonants

A = Arabic, P = Persian, OT = Ottoman Turkish, MT = Modern Turkish

	A	P	OT	MT		A	P	OT	MT		A	P	OT	MT
ء	ʾ	ʾ	ʾ	—	ز	z	z	z	z	ك	k	k *or* g	k *or* ñ	k *or* n
ب	b	b	b	b *or* p	ژ	—	zh	j	j				*or* y	*or* y
پ	—	p	p	p	س	s	s	s	s				*or* ğ	*or* ğ
ت	t	t	t	t	ش	sh	sh	ṣ	ṣ	گ	—	g	g	g
ث	th	s̲	s̲	s	ص	ṣ	ṣ	ṣ	s	ل	l	l	l	l
ج	j	j	c	c	ض	ḍ	ż	ż	z	م	m	m	m	m
چ	—	ch	ç	ç	ط	ṭ	ṭ	ṭ	t	ن	n	n	n	n
ح	ḥ	ḥ	ḥ	h	ظ	ẓ	ẓ	ẓ	z	ه	h	h	h[1]	h[1]
خ	kh	kh	h	h	ع	ʿ	ʿ	ʿ	—	و	w	v *or* u	v	v
د	d	d	d	d	غ	gh	gh	g *or* ğ	g *or* ğ	ي	y	y	y	y
ذ	dh	z̲	z̲	z	ف	f	f	f	f	ة	a[2]			
ر	r	r	r	r	ق	q	q	ķ	k	ال	[3]			

[1] When h is not final. [2] In construct state: at. [3] For the article, al- and -l-.

Vowels

	ARABIC AND PERSIAN		OTTOMAN AND MODERN TURKISH	
Long ا or	ىٰ	ā	ā	words of Arabic and Persian origin only
	و	ū	ū	
	ي	ī	ī	
Doubled	ـِيّ	iyy (final form ī)	iy (final form ī)	
	ـُوّ	uww (final form ū)	uvv	
Diphthongs	ـَو	au *or* aw	ev	
	ـَى	ai *or* ay	ey	
Short	ـَ	a	a *or* e	
	ـُ	u	u *or* ü / o *or* ö	
	ـِ	i	ı *or* i	

For Ottoman Turkish, authors may either transliterate or use the modern Turkish orthography.

Declaration

I declare that this dissertation has been composed solely by myself and that it has not been submitted, in whole or in part, in any previous application for a degree. The work presented is entirely my own.

Statement of Copyright

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Introduction

Translation as a phenomenon can be seen as a product or as a process. As a product, translation is the result of meaning mediation. As a process, translation can be defined as the operation of transferring meaning from one source to another. This process was divided into three types by Jakobson (1959). These three types are inter-semiotic, inter-lingual, and intra-lingual. First, inter-semiotic translation is concerned with the transfer of meaning from one form of language to a different medium. One example of this is the translation of a novel's story into a theatrical play. Second, inter-lingual translation occurs when transferring meaning across languages. An example of this is translating an English news article into Arabic. Third, intra-lingual translation is the transfer of meaning within the same language. An example of this is transferring meaning from one dialect of the same language to another dialect. This research is concerned with the second type of translation: inter-lingual translation between two languages.

The language pair targeted in this research is the Arabic-English language pair. Specifically, this project examines translation from Arabic as a source language (ST) into English as a target language (TT). The rationale behind this choice lies in the case study of this research, which is present-day political news translation in Kuwait. This language pair is the predominant translation pair in the Kuwaiti news translation industry.

The case study for this research is the present-day translation of political news in Kuwait in an institutional setting. Here, political news refers to the translation of news concerned with political entities such as nations, political parties, and their geopolitical relationships. Valdeón (2016, p. 219) argued that political news translation can be used to construct a national image for an international audience. Therefore, translation

as a social practice can be adopted on a national or social level to present an intended image for a social collective.

This research aims has three aims. First, to explore the influence of the individual and the collective on the translation process and product in an institutional translation setting. Second, to examine the agency of the translator in an institutional setting dealing with political news. Third, the research aims to examine the effects of personal social attributes (nationality, religion, and political views) of translators in an institutional setting.. The dynamic of the individual (translator level) and the collective (institutional level) influences is the focus of this project.

On the individual level, personal influence on the translation could stem from the translator's own personal views, which can be a result of social factors such as their political views, social background, and religion. On the collective level, institutional influence on the translation could be a result of institutional policies, guidelines, or state-wide publication laws. The extent to which these factors influence the translation *process* and *product* are examined on an institutional level in this case study.

The research attempts to examine these two levels of influence in a political news translation context. In addition, possible effects of social and personal factors such as the translator's social background, religion, and political views are also considered. In addition, the research aims to contribute to a further understanding of political news translation between English and Arabic in Kuwait. This project hopes to establish a general overview of how the translation of political news is being practiced by news translation institutions in Kuwait.

The corpus for the analysis consisted of translations, questionnaires, and interviews with translators in present-day Kuwait. More specifically, this corpus was

collected from four news translation institutions – two public institutions and two private ones. The public institutions are the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information and the Kuwait News Agency, and the private ones are the *Arab Times* newspaper and the *Kuwait Times* newspaper.

1.1 Research Background

Scholarly work in the field of translation studies (TS) has paid an increasing amount of attention to the relationship between the translator and the society in which they work (see Wolf & Fukari, 2007, pp. 93-95). This interest has produced a new research scope from which the translation process and product can be analysed. There has been increasing interest in the effects of social factors and their possible effects on not only translation, but also different disciplines as well. For example, the effects of social factors were observed in the fields of politics (see Latour, 1988) and linguistics (see Kasper, 1990).

Various approaches have been adopted by translation scholars to study translation from a social perspective. This has resulted in what is widely known as the social turn/paradigm in the field of TS (see Angelelli, 2014; Tyulenev, 2014). Due to the nature and number of social factors, TS research analysing their effects and influence has varied. Social factors include but are not limited to cultural values, religious beliefs, and political views. In the context of political news translation in Kuwait, many of these social factors exist in a news translation institutional setting.

Political news items are often considered sensitive in the Middle East (see Bazzi, 2009). The sensitivity of translating political news items seems to be more explicit in regions in conflict, as was found by Daraghmeh et al. (2010). Similar findings by Ayyad (2012) show that translations of sensitive political terms can differ from their source texts based on how their target readers might receive them. This research

project reviews the state of translating political news in Kuwait and analyses the intertwined social factors, both individual and collective, that might affect the translation practice.

This research adopts Fairclough's (2003) critical discourse analysis (CDA) framework. The decision to use CDA was made based on how it can address different aspects of political news translation. The used analysis model, Fairclough's relational model, considers three levels of analysis when dealing with textual data. These levels are the internal level of the text, the intermediate level of the text, and the external level of the text.

Various studies have used CDA as a method of examining political news. For example, a study by Al-Hejin (2012) found that translations carried out by the British Broadcasting Cooperation (BBC) regarding Muslim women are more likely to present them as oppressed. Another study by Bazzi (2019) found that different media outlets present current wars in the Middle East in terms of different causal dependencies that might affect the reader's perception of the translated political news item. In addition, a study by Shojaei and Laheghi (2012) concluded by stating that:

> Translation therefore takes the form of rewriting that is carried out within the framework of the target language, culture, and ideology in the service of a control factor wielded by the patron or the receiving system (p. 2540).

This showcases the interaction between the different social agents and collectives involved in the translation operation. This makes the need to contextualise translation research imperative as there are many aspects involved in the translation practice.

The above studies showcase some of the different aspects involved in the translation of political news. Furthermore, these studies demonstrate how the translation of political news by news institutions could be influenced to frame the news

in a specific light. This framing aspect was argued by Aslani (2016), who found that the ideologies of news translation institutions play a significant role in the production of translated news items. Moreover, Aslani argued that this influenced account of news reporting is a result of institutions' social and political situations. Therefore, the news items are likely to be translated from certain political perspectives (p. 245).

This research's theoretical framework breaks down translation analysis into three levels based on Fairclough's critical analysis model. First, the internal level is concerned with the text's linguistic units. These units are the used words, sentence structures, and what each linguistic choice indicates. Second, the intermediate level analyses the text's style and theme. Third, the external level encompasses outside factors that might have affected the translator and the translation's production and process. Some examples of these factors include but are not limited to a translating institution's political views, translation protocols, and relevant political conflicts. This analysis level tries to determine if/how such outside factors affect the translation product/process.

The importance of this breakdown of translation analysis lies in how it helps analyse a translation from three perspectives. The internal level analyses the translation text independently as it is considering the text's linguistic features. The intermediate level analyses the translation in accordance with common interdiscursive and thematic features. In this case, political discourse features of a text are analysed as well as thematic features. The external level considers outside elements that might have influenced the translation/translator such as the political situation, the institution's protocols, and so on. Here, it can be argued that this level is more focused on the collective level influence on the translation rather than the individual level. This is due to the level's focus on external social factors rather than internal linguistic factors.

By analysing translations from three different perspectives using these levels, it might be possible to identify what influenced the translation and how was it influenced. In addition, this CDA framework can also be used to analyse a source text (ST) alongside its translated text (TT) to help inform the analysis of the ST. This analysis would also follow the same CDA analysis model of three levels.

1.2 Research Significance

Baker (2006, p. 105) views translators as those who make ethical choices every time they translate. Translators can sometimes face texts expressing certain views or ideas that they may or may not personally agree with. This might lead the translators to wonder whether these elements should be translated as they are, or if they should be changed for a myriad of reasons. One possible reason is to disassociate themselves from any possible controversies or negative reactions. In fact, Tymoczko states that "translators must make choices, selecting aspects or parts of a text to transpose and emphasize" (2000, p. 24). The translator, in the event of agreement with text, may opt to amplify those views by influencing them, pushing them onto the readers. This could be an attempt to reflect the translator's own views. Such situations illustrate the different approaches translators adopt in their translation, raising the possibility that a translator can consciously/subconsciously influence the translation.

Previous studies analysed the agency of a translator (for instance, Kinnunen & Koskinen, 2010). This agency reflects the translator's role as more than a practice of translation. However, in an institutional setting, the translator's agency is often bound by the protocols of the employing institution. Buzelin (2011, p. 10) argued that in institutional settings, the "translating agent" is hybrid in nature because it can consist of the translator's personal views as well as the institution's views. So, it can be argued

that institutional translation is influenced both on the individual level (translator) as well as the collective level (institution). In addition, Buzelin also argued that due to the translation process in such a setting being more collective than individual, translation centres can have their "own translation norms" (ibid.). Therefore, it is difficult to separate a translator's agency from their translation environment, especially if the translation is an institutional one. Arguably, a translation environment's effects on the translator's agency and practice should not be underestimated. This is especially the case when the translator is working on sensitive materials like political news with all its jargon, deadline pressure, and loaded language. Compared to other translation subfields, political news translation is time-sensitive. Sárosi-Márdirosz (2011) illustrated how political language and terminology translation can be problematic as a secondary discourse derived from the primary one. This derivative discourse manifests political ideas such as ideologies and policies (p. 164). A derivative discourse could be explained as an inferred or covert discourse being delivered alongside the primary one. In a sense, it can be seen as the subtext of the primary text. In such a context, the translator could face personal conflict when dealing with political views they do not agree with or that might not fit the translation institution's policy. This in turn could lead to influencing the translation to be more in line with the translator's or the institution's political views. The translator's influence on the political event being translated can also be affected by the target audience. In the case of this research, the target audience is most likely people concerned with the geopolitical affairs of the Middle East.

Tymoczko (2000, pp. 40-43) argued that for translation to be effective in making a political change, it needs to have a large enough audience to make shifts in the political sphere. This research's case study examines the four major news

translation institutions in Kuwait. Therefore, it can be argued that their target audience might be large enough to make shifts in the political sphere, which in turn could illustrate the importance of influencing translations published by these institutions.

The translation environment, or the workplace is an aspect worth considering in this context. Previous studies showcased how workplace research in translation studies is imperative—for example, Kuznik and Verd (2010) and Abdallah (2012). On the one hand, Kuznik and Verd (2010) found that the activity of translation is preceded and followed by translation management activities such as proofreading and editing. This study also found that the translation activity itself is largely uninterrupted due to the concentration needed for it. Moreover, the study found that the final translation product is the result of collective effort in the translation process, rather than of a single translator's work. This shows how the translation process is affected by the workplace's polices or structure.

On the other hand, Abdallah (2012) found that the translating agent includes more than the translator, as was argued by Buzelin (2011). Moreover, Abdallah (2012) found that the agency of translators in production networks and translation institutions is "restricted and narrow" (p. 44) due to the "undemocratic principles of production networks and their hierarchical structure" (ibid.). So, it is clear that the workplace can be influential in the process and the product of translation. The workplace also affects the translator as a social agent.

Both studies have argued for more research into translation workplaces. The implications of these studies showcase how the translator's agency in an institutional setting should be considered alongside the institution itself. So, in addition to the translators themselves, TS workplace research should consider the translation

process, the network of social actors involved in this process, and the hierarchy of the relevant translation institution.

The collective nature of the translation process in an institutional setting should be viewed and analysed alongside the translation activity itself. Therefore, when trying to analyse institutional translations and how they can be affected by external factors, it is imperative to consider the institutional environment as well as the collective translation process.

One instance in which institutional news translation differs from other types of translations is that in some cases, a translator is asked to collect and edit the news alone, a hybrid of the roles of translator and editor (see Bielsa & Bassnett, 2009, p. 82). This hybrid role gives the translator the unique role of choosing their sources and editing the news they will later translate. In this case, the translator is tasked to make more decisions that could have different effects across many levels of the translation process. This also can extend the influence an individual can have on the translation process and product.

By starting at the text selection phase, the translator can choose a text containing views in line with the translator's own views. For example, the translator can choose an ST portraying a terrorist attack as martyrdom. In this case, the translator can translate this political event in a positive light according to the ST's views. Furthermore, since the same individual chooses the ST, it can be argued that they can choose how to influence the framing of the political event based on its source.

Manipulation of texts by selecting them specifically and translating them as a means for political engagement was described by Tymoczko (2000). Tymoczko stated that "texts must be chosen for translation with political goals in view, and, if need be, there must be a willingness to manipulate the texts in translation" (p. 41). Therefore,

having a translator and editor hybrid role could result in a translator having more agency within the structure of the translation institution, since the translator is more engaged in the translation process. While no clear link was found in recent studies (see Chen 2011 and Schrijver et al. 2012) This seems to be due to the lack of establishing a strict methodology as the translation differences observed could be the result of other factors such as translation supervisors or newspapers' policies.

In essence, this means that a hybrid translator is tasked with the text selection and translation, making the translator responsible for what news to report and how to present them in translation. This in turn increases the translator's agency as well as influence in the translation of the political news item.

Political news translation in recent years has been explored by applying different approaches to showcase its aspects. Valdeón (2020) illustrated three general approaches used by translation scholars from 2015 to 2020 to study journalistic translation. These three approaches were from the perspective of discourse analysis and linguistics, sociology, and communication/journalism.

First, Valdeón (2020) found that the discourse analysis and linguistics approach resulted in finding translational strategies and linguistic features of news translation (p. 328). Moreover, this approach resulted in finding discourse-level translation strategies related to news translation.

Second, the sociological approach resulted in finding how relevant parties can be portrayed in a specific light (positive/negative), as well as the relationship between those parties (pp. 328-329). These results are based on five studies that applied CDA's narrative theory (2006) and that were discussed by Valdeón (2020). These studies were as follows: Zanettin (2016), Spiessens and van Poucke (2016), Sashi and Talebinejad (2017), Liao and Pan (2018), and Spiessens (2019).

Third, the communication/journalism approach resulted in finding how concepts from communications studies, notably gatekeeping, can intertwine with translation and affect it (pp. 329-330). One such example was illustrated by Song (2017), in which text selection as a translation process phase was used to avoid negative representation of the South Korean government by a state-owned news agency. These different studies show how the translator's role is being reconceptualised, as Baker (2006) argued, "to find more realistic and nuanced models for conceptualising this role, based on actual rather than idealized practices and behaviour" (p. 4). In addition, institutional translation entities can play a role in circulating news in a way that is reflective of the state's political agenda by using translation as the method of circulation (for instance, see Kim, 2019; Spiessens, 2019). This argues that institutional influence on translation might be the result of larger collective factors such as a society's values or a state's political views.

Therefore, this research's significance lies in its aim to contribute to a further understanding of translation in the context of political news translation in Kuwait from Arabic into English. Moreover, the research hopes to examine the individual-collective influences that might affect the process and product of political news translation. Additionally, the significance of this research lies in developing knowledge related to institutional translation in Kuwait by analysing the relevant translation aspects. These aspects are the translation processes, products, and individuals in Kuwait-based translation institutions.

1.3 Research Aims

This project has two main aims. First, the research aims to establish and inform how translations are being produced in an institutional environment from Arabic into

English. In this research, the translation corpus consisted of translations of political news in the state of Kuwait published by both public and private institutions. The publication period is from 2017 to 2018. This is the period in which the data were collected. In addition, the research also considers the role played by the translators carrying out these translations. Therefore, those translators were interviewed to evaluate their translation process and personal views. The translators were also given a questionnaire that aimed to establish the general features of each institution as well as its translation process and protocols.

Second, the research aims to identify the influence of the translator and the institution on the translation product. Moreover, the research aims to establish whether social factors such as the nationality, religion, social background, and political views of the translator influence the translation product. Furthermore, the relationship between the individual translator and the collective institution is examined to help understand how this dynamic relationship might affect/influence the translation process and product.

As this research aims to analyse political news translation and its interaction with social factors, the following questions were formulated to help present the research goals:

- What is the dynamic of individual and collective influences in Kuwait's political news translation institutions?
- How do these individual or collective influences affect the translation of political news in Kuwait?
- What affects the translator's agency in a political news translation institution in Kuwait?

- To what extend does a translator's social background, religion, or political views affect the institutional translation of political news in Kuwait?

1.4 Research Rationale

The rationale of this research can be broken down into two parts. The first part is the researcher's scholarly interest in studying translation as a social activity since the work of translators is arguably influenced by factors other than pure linguistic proficiency. This social approach to translation and its sociology considers broader fields of research that range from professional translation institutions and their working conditions to socio-political aspects of translation (Wolf, 2010, p.337). Therefore, this research's rationale is to help shed more light on translation as a social practice in an institutional setting and examine how the different individual and collective factors influence this social practice.

It can be argued that translations in textual form, which are studied in this research, can be affected by three types of factors. These three types are based on Fairclough's critical discourse analysis relational model (2003). The first type is the internal factors, which are concerned with the linguistic aspects governing a text. In the context of translation, factors of this type can be analysed by viewing the translation independently. The second type is the intermediate type, which is concerned with the overall textual features of the text such as its style and theme. In the context of political translation, one example of this type is a formal style of writing. The third type of factor that may affect a translation is the external type. These factors include any factors other than those belonging to the previous two types that affect a translation's process or its production. These factors may include social elements or

a translator's work environment. Therefore, in addition to the linguistic nature of translation, which can be seen as the internal level of a text, external factors such as social factors should also be considered in this research.

Viewing translation as a social activity and translators as social agents may indicate how translations are affected by external factors, especially social elements. Some examples of these social elements are social belonging to a certain community, nationality, political views/ideology, etc. Such elements were of interest and led to this project exploring individual influence on the translation of political news.

The importance of analysing the process of translation can contribute to shedding light on the role and influence of news translation institutions in the context of political news translation. The relationships and the power dynamic between the translator/individual and the institution/collective are explored as well. This first part of the research rationale may be more relatable to translation studies scholars interested in the sociology of translation. The next part of the research rationale is more specific in comparison.

The second part of the research rationale is concerned with Kuwait as one of the drives of the research. The news industry in Kuwait plays a role in the rationale of this research, as its roots were planted in the early twentieth century and is considered one of the oldest in the Middle East. The news industry in Kuwait enjoys more press freedom compared to others in the region (Odine, 2011, p. 179). Also, news in Kuwait is produced in two sectors: the government/public and the private sectors. This presents the opportunity to study institutional translation from two perspectives. Translation produced in the two different sectors might be influenced differently, depending on its respective sector.

1.5 Research Structure

Chapter One, the research project introduces Kuwait and the current state of its news translation industry, as well as the role translation occupies in Kuwait. The goal of this introduction is to provide the necessary context and background knowledge for this research. This is necessary because some of Kuwait's politics and laws for news publications differ from those of other countries in the Middle East (see Odine, 2011). In addition, this introduction to Kuwait as the backdrop of this research project should aid in establishing some of the necessary aspects of the state of translation in the country. Moreover, other aspects like the country's demography and practiced religions are briefly discussed. In essence, the goal of this chapter is to inform readers unfamiliar with Kuwait about its social structure, as well as present them with a general overview of the state of translation in the country.

Chapter Two of the project provides an overview of translation studies as well as the relevant literature. The overview consists of an introduction to translation in practice generally as well as translation between Arabic and English. Then, the three main paradigms/turns (linguistic, cultural, and sociological turns) of translation studies are introduced, with a specific focus on the sociological paradigm and where this research falls in this context. Next, a detailed look into news translation and its various features will be presented. Understanding news translation, especially political news, is essential to this research's aims. In addition, presenting relevant literature regarding news translation is necessary to provide an understanding of the nature of the research's corpus as well as its analysis. Afterwards, an introduction to critical discourse analysis (CDA) will be presented. The application of CDA in this research's methodology and framework means that it is necessary to discuss its advantages and shortcomings. Moreover, the CDA model applied in this project (Fairclough's relational

model) will be discussed in this chapter. This second chapter provides the relevant literature to this research.

Chapter Three of the research introduces the used methodology and discusses it in detail to showcase how this research plans to achieve its goals. This detailed information is concerned with the research's methodology and the used research tools and programmes. In addition, this chapter also details the data collection phase of the research project.

Chapter Four presents the quantitative data analysis and its results. This first part of the data analysis focuses on general aspects of the translation environments at the four studied news translation institutions. Examples of these general aspects include how often the translators work collaboratively, and whether they use computer-assisted translation tools (CATs) to clarify whether the use of specific terminology was due to personal choice or by a CAT tool. Establishing these aspects for each of the news institutions means that the following analyses are informed by quantitative evidence. The analysis of the quantitative data marks the start of the research's main body, which is focused on analysing the collected four datasets. The first set is a multiple-choice questionnaire to translators at the four news translation institutions (quantitative), while the second dataset is made up of open-ended questions (qualitative). Both of the first two data sets were collected from participating translators using a distributed questionnaire The third dataset is the analysis of interviews with the same translators who answered the questionnaire (qualitative). The fourth and final dataset is the analysis of the collected texts from the four institutions (qualitative).

Chapter Five is concerned with the qualitative data analysis and its results. In this chapter, the data analysis focuses on the analysis of the answers for the open-ended questions, the analysis of the translators' interviews, and the translations

analysis using the CDA model. The analysis incorporates knowledge from the previous quantitative analysis to inform its results.

Finally, the research ends with its Conclusion which presents the overall research findings of this research. Here, these findings are discussed in relation to the research's aims and questions. Next, the chapter presents limitations and challenges this research faced and how they might have affected the research's findings. Finally, possible directions for further research are provided based on the findings of this research project.

Chapter One: Translation and News in Kuwait

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a general introduction to the state of Kuwait, as well as an overview of the translation practice in the country. Furthermore, the states of the news industry as well as the translation and translators in Kuwait are discussed. This is all to help contextualise this research and provide the necessary background knowledge on Kuwait and the state of its news translation industry.

2.2 The State of Kuwait

Kuwait is a small country in the Middle East with a relatively small population of around 4.4 million[1]. The official language of Kuwait is Arabic. The official and main religion of Kuwait is Islam, with the majority being *Sunni* and the rest *Shia*[2]. The percentage of Muslims is estimated to be more than seventy percent in Kuwait according to the Kuwaiti Public Authority of Civil Information[3], and this percentage includes both Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis. As a result, Islamic Sharia law is one of the legislative sources for Kuwait's constitution and laws. However, Kuwait can be considered a relatively modern state rather than a theocratic one.

Kuwait's governance system consists of three branches, with the Amir as the state's ruler. The Amir is selected from the Kuwaiti royal family of Al-Sabah through Shúrá[4] within the royal family. In Kuwait, the Amir is the highest state official and holds executive power. The Amir can issue royal decrees that establish new laws without

[1] Source: Kuwait's Central Statistical Bureau at: https://www.csb.gov.kw/Default_en

[2] Source: Kuwait's Government Online at: https://e.gov.kw

[3] Source: stat.paci.gov.kw

[4] Islamic consultation amongst high-ranking officials, usually after a ruler passes away or steps down.

the need to consult three main branches of governance as long as these laws are constitutional.

The three branches of governance are the executive branch, the judiciary branch, and the legislative branch. The executive branch is headed by the prime minister, who is also a member of the royal family. The prime minister is appointed by the Amir and then in turn appoints the government's cabinet of ministers. The government is responsible for developing and representing the country's policies through its many ministries. The judiciary branch is also appointed by the Amir and mainly consists of judges. The judiciary branch is concerned with Kuwait's legal system. The legislative branch is the Kuwaiti parliament, officially designated as the National Assembly. The National Assembly consists of fifty elected members and is responsible for legislation and oversight over the government's work and performance.

Even though Arabic is the only official language of Kuwait, English is also widely used in Kuwait as a means of communication. This is due to the many different nationalities from around the world, especially Asia, that come to Kuwait looking for job opportunities. In fact, according to the Kuwaiti Central Statistical Bureau (2019), around three million of the population are expatriates. This has resulted in popularising English since more than sixty percent of those three million are not native speakers of Arabic.

Consequently, translation has become more relevant in Kuwait in recent years. The increased need for translators cannot be overstated, as non-Arab expatriates suffer from a lack of translators in Kuwait. This is especially important in legal or medical contexts, which can have severe ramifications. Although small steps are being taken to improve this situation, it is still not clear how this dilemma will turn out. Some sectors, such as commercial (shopping malls) and education (private schools and

universities), are trying to tap into this market of non-native Arabic speakers in Kuwait. So, it has become quite common to find employees in those sectors that speak only English or their native tongue. This way, they ensure that they can reach the largest possible demographic in Kuwait.

Nowadays, English usage in Kuwait is increasing exponentially due to the described factors. Dashti (2015) argued that in Kuwait, English can be considered an additional language due to such frequent usage. A study conducted by Malallah (2010) found that in general, Kuwaiti society regards and holds the English language in high regard. The study also found that there was a positive relationship between achievements and attitude towards English. This indicates that proficiency in English is more likely to be appreciated in this social environment. This situation is not exclusive to Kuwait; a study by Bolton (2008, p. 8) found similar findings in Asian countries such as China which made English language learning compulsory in all primary schools in 2001, and since 2004 China has been a massive economic success story.

When it comes to Kuwait, this approach to English has arguably made translation as a less relevant practice in daily life in Kuwait. This is probably due to the high number of people having basic knowledge of English. As a result, people with minimum English proficiency in Kuwait are often assumed to be translators. This misconception is apparent in the assumption that any English major graduate who applies for a job in Kuwait through the Civil Service Commission[5] and is accepted is given the job title of *translator,* even if the job is not related to translation[6].

[5] This is the governmental body responsible for employment in the public sector in Kuwait.

[6] This was mentioned by one of the Ministry of Information participants. The same participant argued that the only exception in this case is applying for a teaching position. Here, the applicant would be awarded the title of *teacher*.

The importance of understanding Kuwait's social environment and the general perception of translation and translators could be beneficial because such knowledge could inform the analysis of external social factors that may influence the translation process/product. As Tymoczko (2000) found, translation can be used as a political engagement tool to seek geopolitical change. More broadly, Heilbron and Sapiro (2018) found that both the Netherlands and Israel employ translation as a way to promote national literature. This translation policy and national support to translation institutions made translation a tool used to represent national interest on the global scale. Arguably, these factors necessitate having adequate knowledge about the political nature of the country of which the research aims to study.

2.3 Translation and News in Kuwait

The roots of the Kuwaiti news industry were planted as early as 1928 when the first printed magazine, the monthly *Al-Kuwait* magazine, was published under the oversight of the late Sheikh Abdulaziz Al-Rasheed, who pioneered the news industry in Kuwait during the early 20th century (Al-Najdi and McCrea, 2012). Nowadays, Kuwait has 24[7] newspapers ranging from daily, weekly, and monthly editions, as well as two established English-language newspapers. However, the number of newspapers differs over time as new newspapers are established and other newspapers close. Some printed newspapers also provide electronic news through their own websites or social media websites, primarily Twitter. Additionally, there are many electronic-only news websites that are concerned with the local news of Kuwait

[7] Source ABYZ News Links at: http://www.abyznewslinks.com/kuwai.htm

and are required by law to register with the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information to conduct their news reporting if they are situated in Kuwait.

Kuwait also features two newspapers that publish in English. The first is the *Kuwait Times* daily newspaper, established in 1961, which is the first daily English newspaper in the region. The second is the *Arab Times,* which was established in 1977 as a weekly newspaper but then moved to daily publication. Additionally, the Kuwaiti government has two official bodies that routinely deal with news translation: the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) and the Ministry of Information (MOI). These two news institutions, along with every publication business based in Kuwait, must adhere to the media and publication law passed in 2006 (see Duffy, 2013). Amongst its many articles, one article obligates every newspaper/publication to fact-check their work before publication. It also states that all such institutions in Kuwait must not harm the country's international relations using its publications[8].

Nowadays, the landscape of news reporting in Kuwait contains all kinds of news. Most of the newspapers and news publishers do not have a specified genre, which means that most Kuwaiti news institutions are not limited to a single kind of news. Furthermore, the rise of social media platforms meant that the speed of news delivery was essential to the publishers. This resulted in a wider use of computer-assisted tools in translation, albeit not always in a good way. This could result in translations not up to the standards of the institution. One example of this was reported by the *Arab Times*[9] on how the Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior blatantly used Google Translate to translate an official government billboard. This would be an process

[8] Source: MENA Rights Group at: https://menarights.org/sites/default/files/2019-01/KWT_PressAndPublicationsLaw_EN.pdf

[9] Source: *Arab Times* at: https://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/lost-in-translation/

optimal translation process if the CAT tool is producing a translation of acceptable quality or if it was edited by a translator afterwards. However, if the CAT tool's translation is ungrammatical/incorrect, then this would be detrimental to the institution and will be negatively received by the target readership.

Translation in Kuwait has been attracting more and more interest in the last few years. During 2018, the Kuwait Translators Society (KTS) was founded[10]. However, it has not yet been officially established, since any professional society in Kuwait requires at least 150 members to be officially and legally established[11]. According to the KTS, the latest number of registered members in the society is 72, which includes translators and interpreters[12]. This indicates how few translators are in Kuwait.

On the academic side, Kuwait University offers a master's degree in Translation Studies, as well as currently developing a PhD programme for the field. In fact, in March 2019, the English Department of Kuwait University held its first International Conference on Translation[13]. Some older work includes a dictionary of parliamentary terms that was intended for translators/interpreters in the Kuwaiti government (see Alajmi, 1995). Recently, more work has been done to enrich the practice of translation in Kuwait by providing needed tools. For example, a political thesaurus aimed specifically at translators/interpreters in Kuwait has been published (see Al-Maosherji, 2019). Additionally, a proposal for a new translation system for students with hearing disabilities was made to help them in their education (see Al-Khaldi & Sarfraz, 2020).

[10] Source: Almajlis Television covering the founding ceremony at: https://almajlistv.com/294336571

[11] Source: Dr. Emad Abulnsr in an interview with the *Kuwait Times* newspaper at: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/translation-specialist-describes-challenges-experience-in-kuwait/

[12] Source: Dr. Mohammed Bin Nasser in an interview with Almajlis Television at: https://almajlistv.com/294336571

[13] Source: http://www.wikicfp.com/cfp/servlet/event.showcfp?eventid=84211&copyownerid=138069

While the state of translation in Kuwait can be seen as vibrant, there are some standing issues facing it. For instance, there is no clear code of conduct for translators, nor is there any type of official guidelines or rulebook to follow. The lack of a clear code of conduct and any officially designated guidelines means that translators are not officially bound by legal bylaws or codes of conduct. In this case, translators would have to make an error first before knowing that such conduct is unacceptable. This was observed during an interview with one of the participants in this research[14].

According to multiple professional translators interviewed by the researcher, this is one of the primary elements that the translation practice environment lacks. The lack of a clear code of conduct could lead to legal complications if a translated work contained elements that can be readily misinterpreted. This might have been one of the reasons many translators have campaigned for an official body to represent them. Even though a translators' society was founded during the time this research was conducted, there is still no clear guidance or help in sensitive cases or matters that a translator might face. One possible solution is that a union for translators could set official standards or requirements for their employment rather than leaving the matter as it is with barely any professional oversight. Currently, it seems that some institutions just require basic proficiency in the English and Arabic languages for an applicant to work as a translator.

Furthermore, due to workforce reforms in many of the private newspapers over the past few years, some translation departments were shut down to save costs. In turn, this led to newspapers hiring freelance translators, or even in some cases laying the translation workload on secretaries. The issue that this caused was translators'

[14] Ministry of Information interview participant 3: "I would like a guidebook […] there are certain websites you can use and others not, but this is also through trial and error […]"

wages plummeting, especially non-nationals, since they do not enjoy the same financial benefits that the government provides to Kuwaiti nationals. Still, even public-sector translators seem to be suffering from the same issues of low wages and limited job opportunities.

Also, even though Kuwait enjoys a considerably healthy academic translation environment, the lack of training courses and institutions is clear. Professional and novice translators looking to improve their knowledge or train themselves mainly use online courses or rely on trial and error, especially when it involves technical matters like computer-assisted tools due to the lack of training courses. The main reason for the lack of training courses is probably lack of exposure. Training courses are likely limited to being in-house—for example, a training course for employees of a specific institution by their experienced translators or a university training course limited to their registered students. Recently, however, some training courses have been introduced and have enjoyed relative success due to social media exposure.

It can be argued that the political status of Kuwait plays a role in shaping its translation landscape. As Odine (2011) argued, Kuwaiti relatively offers more press freedom compared to its neighbouring countries. Freedom House[15], which is an non-governmental organisation founded to gauge levels of freedom, placed Kuwait as the third country in the region behind Israel and Lebanon. This makes Kuwait the top *monarch* state in the region. This placement might be due to the Kuwaiti constitution's article 36, which grants freedom of opinion within the law[16]. In turn, this has led to

[15] Website: https://freedomhouse.org

[16] "Freedom of opinion and of scientific research is guaranteed. Every person has the right to express and propagate his opinion verbally, in writing, or otherwise, in accordance with the conditions and procedures specified by law." Source: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/kw/kw004en.pdf

news reporting and the media in general having more leeway. Without this freedom, the scope of translation in Kuwait would probably be more limited.

These previous issues may make translation in Kuwait an interesting case study that may also lead to a better understanding of the process of translation in similar contexts (Middle Eastern countries, Arabic-English translation, political/institutional translation). In addition, the previous overview shows how different factors of this study's backdrop (for example, geopolitical and social factors) may affect the translation of political news in an institutional setting.

2.4 Translators in Kuwait

As indicated by the Kuwait Translators Society (KTS) member Dr. bin Naser, the number of professional translators in Kuwait is relatively low. In fact, the latest number is 72 registered members in the KTS[17]. Based on this number, it is safe to assume that the total number of professional translators in Kuwait is not that high, possibly due to the limited number of places that employ professional translators.

When it comes to working as a freelance translator in Kuwait, it is not a very desirable career compared to employment in the public or private sector since a freelance translator does not enjoy the financial benefits or job security that employers like the Kuwaiti government or the private sector provide. However, it is still possible to work as a part-time or freelance translator in Kuwait. This was the case for one of the interviewed participants in this research who stated they were working as a high-

[17] Source: Dr. Mohammed Bin Nasser in an interview with Almajlis Television at: https://almajlistv.com/294336571

school English teacher in the morning and as a part-time translator for the *Kuwait Times n*ewspaper in the evening[18].

Most translators in Kuwait work in one of three general areas: the Kuwaiti government, news institutions, or publication companies. First, the government offers jobs interpreting for higher officials in the government or translating news or official documents/laws. Second, some news institutions employ translators to help in translating local news into foreign languages, although they generally focus on English. Translators in these news institutions sometimes help in reporting international news and translating them into Arabic as well. Third, publication companies employ translators to help in translating international publications like novels into Arabic or the other way around.

According to the ABYZ, which lists and links to all the available official news publication websites, 23 news websites are listed as based in Kuwait[19]. Five of these websites publish in English, while the others publish in Arabic. None of the listed publications based in Kuwait are translated into languages other than English. This indicates that the majority of the demand for translators in Kuwait is focused on Arabic-English translators. Therefore, it is safe to assume that the number of translators working on other language pairs in Kuwait is likely smaller in comparison.

Based on the previous discussion, it can be argued that currently not many people are seeking to work as translators and commit to the profession, at least not totally. It is likely that these previously mentioned factors have resulted in a waning

[18] *Kuwait Times* newspaper interview participant 3: “I am working here as a part-time translator for about four hours daily.”

[19] Source: http://www.abyznewslinks.com/kuwai.htm

demand for translators, as well as a general lack of interest in the career on the part of those who can be considered qualified.

2.5 Summary

Introducing Kuwait as the background of this research project as well as its demography is necessary to this research and its context. This brief introduction establishes some of the social aspects that might affect the state of translation and translators in Kuwait. These effects might have extended to the way news translations are being processed in present-day Kuwaiti news translation institutions. Therefore, the information presented in this chapter is used to inform the analysis of this research project's corpus.

Furthermore, understanding the state of translation and news production in Kuwait is central to this research. The goal of this chapter was to help provide the necessary information and context for people unfamiliar with how translation is being practiced in Kuwait. Knowing how translators work and where (translation environment) and the state of news reporting in Kuwait are essential, as these factors will be examined and discussed in this research. Therefore, presenting this general overview should help contextualise the discussion in the following chapters as well as develop the necessary background knowledge relevant to this research.

Chapter Two: Relevant Literature and Theoretical Frameworks

3.1 Introduction

This chapter focuses on literature relevant to this research project and consists of three main parts. The different relevant literature is discussed in these three parts. The first part delves into how translation as a discipline has undergone recent developments that explore the social aspects involved in the translation phenomenon. This part also shows some of the features of translation between Arabic and English, as this is the language pair studied in this research.

The second part focuses on the translation of news, especially political news. This part discuses aspects of news translation, specifically in the case of institutional translation. In addition, the phenomena of censorship and gatekeeping are discussed here as well. This part hopes to establish how the translation environment in in the subfield of news translation is different from other types of translations. Furthermore, such a discussion is likely necessary because it is directly relevant to the case study of this research, which deals with political news translation. This part also discusses the relationship between translation and politics. Other relevant concepts are discussed here as they could be beneficial to in understanding the collective and individual aspects involved in news translation at an institution. these discussed concepts are the translator's (in)visibility and the theory of narrative.

The third part of this chapter introduces critical discourse analysis (CDA) and discusses its relevance to translation studies. The third part also presents the CDA model used in this research's theoretical framework and methodology. This is arguably imperative as it showcases the advantages of adopting CDA in this project.

3.2 Translation

Defining translation has long been debated amongst translation studies scholars. Tymoczko (2005) argued that due to translation being an “open concept”, it is impossible to clearly define (p. 1085). For this project, translation is defined as the inter-lingual reproduction of meaning from one language to another.

Translation can take different shapes and forms like interpreting or texts translation. Jakobson (1959) broke it down into three types: intra-lingual, inter-lingual, and inter-semiotic translation. Each of these translation types is bound by different factors that can affect the translation process. For example, an Inter-lingual translation between two languages can face a wide variety of linguistic or cultural challenges, since the translator would be working with two or more languages. This research is concerned with inter-lingual translation from Arabic into English.

Jakobson’s triadic breakdown of translation has been criticised by translation scholars on some of its aspects and limitations (see Jia, 2017). For instance, Toury (1986) argued that Jakobson’s breakdown of the different types of translations was heavily influenced by linguistics, as it used verbal signs as a unit of translation. Recently, the adoption of multimodality in the field of TS was argued as the next development in the field (for instance, see Jewitt, 2011; Taylor, 2016; Kaindl, 2019). This multimodal approach aims to redefine translation in contexts dealing with different modes such as texts, images, music, visual arts, and so on. However, in the context of this case study, the translations carried out in the four studied news translation institutions are mainly textual in nature. Therefore, it can be argued that such a multimodal approach is not necessary here. The previous discussion shows that translation as a phenomenon is still being examined from various points of view, so

defining the used translation approach as well as its aspects should help contextualise this research and showcase its scope.

3.3 Translation Between Arabic and English

Arabic and English are languages with millions of native speakers, as their demographic data shows. The basic natures of the two languages are different in many aspects. For example, the two are opposites both in their orthographic and syntactic nature. Orthographically, Arabic is written from the right to the left (RTL) while English is the other way around (LTR). Syntactically, Arabic's syntax mostly starts with the verb, then the subject followed by the object (V > S > O). In contrast, English mostly starts with the subject then the verb then the object (S > V > O). However, there are some aspects in both languages that are similar in concept, albeit still with some differences.

Both languages contain several different dialects. On the one hand, English has dialects like British English and American English. It can be said that the differences are minimal and often involve issues of pronunciation and spelling. On the other hand, Arabic contains a plethora of dialects and vernaculars throughout the Arab world. The differences between them can be quite significant and deal with not only phonetic features, but also semantic ones. Additionally, much like the Anglophone world, the Arab world contains several different cultures which, in turn, yield multiple cultural terms and idiomatic expressions. This is further complicated because Arabic, as argued by Versteegh (2014), has diglossia as one of its linguistic traits. Diglossia, which is defined by Ferguson (1959, p. 325) as two variants of the same language existing together with each having a role to play (one for official use and the other for

daily conversation), has existed in Arabic since at least the pre-Islamic era (630s BC) during the days of *Souk Okaz*[20] in the Arabian Peninsula (Al- Dīdāwī, 2005, p. 22).

Nowadays, native speakers of Arabic would use their own vernacular in everyday verbal communication but use Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) in written communication or official contexts. Furthermore, a study has shown that this MSA form of Arabic is processed as a second language in the human brain (Ibrahim & Aharon-Peretz, 2005).

As a result, a non-native speaker of Arabic would need to be proficient in two or more dialects to practice Arabic efficiently (Husni & Newman, 2015, pp. 70-71). This can be viewed as a form of intra-lingual translation that a translator should be aware of and would first have to process before performing inter-lingual translation. A translator should be aware of such differences as well as the aspects related to the language pair being translated to avoid mistranslations or incomplete meaning transfer. The importance of such aspects in the context of this research lies in how they might affect political translation. Political translation is arguably often written in a formal manner. Therefore, recognising some of the special aspects of the two languages involved in this research can be considered necessary to help inform views about the project's corpus and results.

3.4 Translation Studies

The state of translation as a theoretical concept garnered interest since at least the time of Cicero and Horace (Steiner, 1998, p. 419). This came four centuries after Herodotus's concern with how people of different languages perform cross-cultural communication (Robinson, 2002, p. 1). However, it is only recently that Translation

[18] Transliteration: sūq ʿukāẓ, in Arabic: "سوق عكاظ".

Studies (henceforth TS) started to be extensively researched (Munday, 2013 p. 13). One of the reasons affecting TS research is that it can be difficult to study translation and its elements in the past diachronically (Bassnett, 2014, p. 51). Furthermore, interest in automated translation was strong during the 1950s and 1960s (Steiner, 1998, p. 422), which in turn helped the discipline grow further. Nowadays, the results of such research work can be seen in machine translation, computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools, and artificial intelligence, as they all play a major role in moving towards that sought-after automated translation.

TS evolved as an academic discipline that gave birth to new theories, frameworks, and paradigms. TS has been described as having three main paradigms, or *turns* as they are widely known, in which the field has focused prominently on a specific aspect and its relation to translation (Snell-Hornby, 2006).

Firstly, the *linguistic turn*—which was approximately in the 1960s—delved into translation as a linguistic operation and examined it in the framework of language. Secondly, the *cultural turn*—which was mainly around 1970 till the turn of the millennium—examined translation in the context of cultures that produce the translations and other cultures where the translation itself would be received. Finally, *the sociological* turn of translation sheds light on translation in the context of society where the translators are seen as "*social agents*" (Angelelli, 2014, p. 5). These different paradigms of TS showcase how translation as a phenomenon has been studied from different perspectives. In the case of this research, the focus is on viewing translation as a social activity with the translator as an individual social agent who is part of a social collective such as a translation institution. In essence, this research tackles how translators as individuals in Kuwaiti society from four different news translation institutions (collectives) approach political translation (social activity). The

research also examines the dynamic relationship of the individual and the collective in this context.

3.5 Sociological Paradigm in Translation Studies

The sociological approach to translation aims to analyse the relationships, interactions, and processes related to translation and the surrounding society of which a translator is a part. The result of such analysis may lead to understanding the patterns of collective human behaviour, which is the aim of the sociological paradigm (Tyulenev, 2014, p. 85). As Lefevere (2003) stated,

> […] translators function in a given culture at a given time. The way they understand themselves and their culture is one of the factors that may influence the way in which they translate (p. 14).

This shows that there can be two main pillars in a sociological translation study: the society/collective and the translator/individual. According to Calhoun (1994), society can be defined as a group of individuals inhabiting a common territory and sharing the same set of values, beliefs, and customs. Such an example of this would be a nation-state or a tribe, both of which contain social institutions that are distinct from other societies. On a smaller scale, a society could arguably be the translator's workplace/institution.

Translators are individuals who work and live within the dimensions of their respective societies. A translator's understanding of values through their society's context or nurturing can influence the understanding of the meanings or the implications presented in the discourse being translated. An example of this would be a translator who is in a society that denounces gay marriage. This can lead to the use of implicit language to present a biased opinion against gay marriage in the translated

text. In a sense, this means that the *values* of the translator's society are projected onto the translator's readership through their work. This can happen vice versa as well, with the translator being affected by the target readership's assumed values. Roland Barthes's theory of myths (1957) helps in portraying this as well. Myths, as Barthes describes them, are what a society, community, or entity form to represent their values/ideology. Myths are presented to be eternal and absolute to their respected followers, and they are received in such a way that they cannot be interpreted otherwise. Myths rely on language and more specifically denotations and connotations to be conveyed.

TS scholars have considered the aforementioned potential of using sociology to present us with new perspectives and approaches to translation. Some recent examples are the use of sociological theories and frameworks, like Pierre Bourdieu's theory of field (1993) and its application to literary translation (see Hanna, 2016) and symbolic goods (see Gouanvic, 2014). Additionally, the application of Niklas Luhmann's social systems theory (1995) views translation as a social function system (see Tyulenev, 2012). Another example is the actor-network theory (Callon, 1984) and how it might affect translation from the perspective of comparative literature (see Felski, 2016). Furthermore, a human being who is fluent in two languages is not necessarily a translator. The profession of translation is usually attained through a certain type of education or training programme. However, as was discussed previously (section 2.3), a society might affect who can be considered a translator.

The entity that provides the translator with the licence to practice translation often has a set of rules/guidelines that are required to be respected. This entity's rules may possibly clash with the rules of the translator's society and thus create a social struggle for the translator. An example of this is international students who travel to a

country with different social values to seek a degree that allows them to practice translation. The translation entities belonging to their respective societies are likely to practice said values, and it is improbable that the values of two different societies are the same. This in turn would create a type of social dilemma for the said trainees. This example illustrates some of the possible social features that the human translator can develop or receive. It can be assumed that because of these features, as well as the social upbringing of the translator, their performance or manner of translation can be affected or shaped according to these social features.

The sociological paradigm of TS can be described as focusing specifically on the social context of the translator's behaviour in a given society and how it affects the process of translation. This research's approach considers both the sociological aspects of translation and the translator as a social agent or individual with agency. Moreover, the research considers the sociology of translation in an institutional setting. Wolf (2010) argued that some aspects of the sociology of translation are understudied compared to other aspects. Zheng (2017) viewed the recent developments in TS regarding the sociology of translation and argued that it has been gradually developing. This research aims to contribute to this aspect of TS by providing empirical data analysis about the state of news translation in an institutional setting.

3.6 News Translation

Media translation can come in many forms, each with their own features (see Elewa, 2016). This type of translation includes areas like news reports/headlines, magazines, and television shows. Every kind of these translation types has certain features that are important to note. For example, translation of television shows must adhere to the allotted time to show the subtitles (see Linde & Kay, 1999). Therefore,

the translation type is an integral to the translation process and affects its product. More important is the kind of media translation involving news translation.

Van Doorslaer (2010, p. 180) argued that news translation as a subfield of media translation in TS has not seen enough research like its other siblings. More aspects in media translation, especially those concerned with news, need to be further researched (ibid.). Bassnett (2014, p. 147) also asserted the same point about news translation by underlining the great potential in this subfield of TS, possibly because of the vast landscape of media translation. News reporting is dynamic due to the various types of news it contains, ranging from investigative journalism to weather forecasts. If there were at least one common element between these different types of news, it would be communication. Communication in any form can be regarded as the principal way of circulating news. Clark and Marchi (2017, pp. 20-21) believe that the collective experience of news, whether in the old times of oral reporting or contemporary social media, all provide people with stories and representations that shape a collective world view.

News translation can be described as informative communication. The main goal of news is to provide updates on specific topics, and this should be the same for their translations as well. Individuals are exposed to this news, which contributes to an individual's understanding of various aspects of life. The news can affect the individual's perception.

Translators as individuals are involved in this field and can be considered social actors within it. However, the task of presenting information can be delicate. An example of this is illustrated by Elewa (2016, pp. 332-338), who demonstrated through some examples the intricacies of the translation of news headlines. Headlines can have a play on words or be sarcastic to grab the attention of readers, So the translators

should be conscious of these intricacies. Another study by Farghal and Al-Hamaly (2004) found that translations of news can have detrimental effects, especially in argumentative contexts. This can happen in controversial topics/news that argues one point of view in an event compared to the another.

The translations are sometimes presented as the news itself, not as translations. This can be common when translating international news for a local audience (Gagnon, 2010, p.254). This can be a form of what Snell-Hornby (2006, p. 53) calls *communicative* translation. This translation can differ substantially, as it *adapts* the source text to the target culture/audience (ibid.). This is also similar in its nature to Newmark's communicative translation theory (1981), which is a receptor-oriented approach to translation. Here, the translation is driven mainly by the target audience. Therefore, the main factor being considered in this kind of translation is the target audience.

News translation deals with a wide selection of elements that may not exist in other forms of translation. For example, translating the news is often carried out by institutions like news agencies that can be governmental, commercial, private, or even voluntary. Darwish (2006) argued that the process of news translation and how it is later presented to the audience can be quite complicated. Darwish elaborated by stating that "[…] translation-mediated news reporting is largely a reframing process of already framed text […]" (p. 55). This reframing is subjected, as Darwish argued, to "professional, institutional, and contextual influences" (ibid.). These contextual influences in news translation need to be further developed to understand how translations are produced in such a setting. Therefore, Bielsa's argument (2010) for the importance of a sociological perspective into news translation seems more

compelling. This sociological perspective should contribute to a renewed understanding of TS as a field (ibid.).

When it comes to news agencies, translators are often an integral part of their workforce. Some global news agencies like the BBC have multiple channels broadcast in different languages with employees of the designated country to help increase the speed of news reporting. However, the need for translators is still there for not only international reporting, but also for news gathering (Bielsa, 2007, p. 138) One possible result of the different roles that an individual can play in such a field is the rise of what Bielsa and Bassnett (2009) call “the translator-editor hybrid” (p. 82). Here, the individual would edit different texts and have them rewritten in the target language of the intended readership. This is also similar to what Stetting (1989) dubbed *transediting*. Stetting’s view is that translations carried by transeditors are functional in nature and is affected by the target readership. Such tasks would need at least some degree of understanding of both journalism and translation between the languages involved. This could further complicate the translator’s role in this setting.

In this case, the translator could have the freedom to gather information from whichever sources they feel appropriate, edit them, and then translate them personally. Tsai (2010) found that such a phenomenon is practiced in Taiwan and that this resulted in translators having very diverse roles in the process of news translation, indicating that the extent of the translator’s role in this setting should be reconsidered (pp. 191-192). This distinctive role was encountered in Kuwait based on the interviews conducted as part of this research. Translators from different news agencies stated that they filled editorial roles in addition to their translation workload. Furthermore, some participants stated that they edit the news they will later translate by collecting information from different news sources. They would edit them to have a broader view

of the news topic and then personally translate them. Here, the translator is not necessarily working with a single source text, but multiple texts.

Translating news also means that translation is at the centre of inter-cultural communication. House (2009, p. 79) argued that because of technological advancements and globalisation (see Cronin, 2013), news consumption is almost immediate. As a result, more pressure is put on the translators. House (2009, p. 80) added that this resulted in a more explosive demand for translators. It can also be argued that this is one of the factors that led to the translator-editor hybrid.

3.6.1 Censorship and Gatekeeping

News translation, like any other kind of media translation, can be under the influence of censorship. Censorship is practiced across many contexts and principles (see Billiani 2014). While censorship is often viewed in a negative light, Merkle (2010) argued that “censorship is motivated either by a desire to protect the vulnerable or to create a cultural or political system” (p. 19) and can sometimes be positive. This desire to protect can result in censoring words that can be sensitive to the target audience. One example of this was observed in in the Japanese cartoon show “Case Closed”, in which an adult character is shown drinking the Japanese alcoholic beverage saké. However, in the Arabic adaptation (aired on the Arabic television channel Spacetoon) the translator opted to translate the saké into orange juice. It can be argued that the reason behind this decision is the probability that most viewers of the show are children, and the translator opted to not expose them to alcoholic beverages due to their young age. In addition, alcohol is prohibited in Islam. So, it is possible that the translator’s personal religious beliefs or the institution’s protocols opted to omit any reference to alcohol in the Arabic translation. Other examples were provided by

Thawabteh (2017), who analysed censorship in subtitling three American movies into Arabic. Abbas (2015) also analysed how some taboos in written literature are translated into Arabic by using different strategies. Two of these strategies are the use of euphemisms and a form of (self-)censorship, as Abbas found. Furthermore, Nader (2018, p. 371) argued that censorship has been pertinent to translation policy and political news reporting in the Arab World.

The other side of censorship that Merkle mentions is arguably more common. This type is often practiced by an official body of the government with the authority to ban products ranging from books to news articles if it deems necessary. Sometimes, this official entity can dictate changes to the material for it to be published. Woods (2012) argued that such form of censorship can be driven by different factors like ideology or gender.

Censorship can also exist on the individual level in what is known as *self-censorship* (see Moniz & Seruya, 2009; Tan, 2019). Toury (2012, p. 313) described it as phenomenon in which the translator internalised the norms of the target audience's culture and used them as guidelines for the translation. Somló (2014, p. 199) believed that self-censorship can be a result of internal or external elements. External elements vary from personal livelihood to freedom and physical well-being, while internal elements originate from the translator's personality and the different factors shaping it like their social environment. One phenomenon resulting from censorship and its accompanying restraints is the use of translation to express one's thoughts or views not only by using words, but also by omitting them and reading between the lines (Somlo, 2014, p.193). Furthermore, this issue could become more complicated if the individual is a translator-editor. Self-censorship is one way that the individual might

influence the translation in an institutional environment. The translator can opt to censor/omit aspects of the news to be more in line with the translator's personal views.

It is important to distinguish between censorship and what is known as *gatekeeping.* The concept of gatekeeping was popularised in the 1950s (see White, 1950) and mainly deals with the flow of information and how it is presented to its consumers (Shoemaker & Vos, 2009). Vuorinen (1997) defined gatekeeping as "the process of controlling the flow of information into and through communication channels" (p. 161). The need to control the flow of information can be due to many reasons. One possible reason is the countless number of events happening worldwide. As a result, news agencies must choose and specify what to report/translate.

Gatekeeping can affect the news for consumers by constructing their view of the world (Shoemaker & Vos, 2009, p. 3). Shoemaker and Vos argued that although one gatekeeping decision may seem to be of little consequence, these decisions stack up due to the nature of mass media and news. An important question that should be asked, then, is who is the gatekeeper in a news translation context? The answer indicates who selects the texts/news to be translated and might help us understand how the translation was produced. In most cases, institutions dealing with news reporting have journalism editors select which news to report. However, what if the translator is reporting and translating the news like the previously discussed translator-editor? This would mean that the role of a news translator extends beyond only communication/information one in the news context.

The combination of censorship and gatekeeping in an institutional news translation setting means that it is important to establish how each news institution operates and the social actors involved. This helps to specify the extent of the

translator's role in a specific institution. Also, this should showcase other possible social actors that are involved in the process of news translation production.

3.6.2 Institutional Translation

Human interactions often consist of language. This language is affected by many conditions that can be sociocultural, historical, or institutional (Schäffner & Bassnett, 2010, p. 2). A translation can be carried out in many ways and under many situations. When it comes to the translation of political news, it can be argued that most of it is done in an institutional setting. The phenomenon of translation in such setting can be a gateway from which human agency and social causation can be studied (Schaffner & Bassnet, 2010, p. 12). There are two types of institutional translation: intra-cultural communication and inter-cultural communication (Koskinen, 2000).

Intra-cultural communication takes place within the institution, like the case of the United Nations. Inter-cultural communication is the more relatable type here as the type of translation targeted at the general public. News translation is often carried out in this context. According to Schäffner et al. (2014, p. 3), there are three types of institutional practices for translation. The first is the national type, which often refers to governmental institutions that practice translation. An example of this is the Kuwaiti News Agency. The second type is the super-national institutions, which are mainly organisations that span across multiple nations, like the European Union. The third type is the non-governmental institutions, an example of which is Amnesty International. In the case of political news translation, most institutions are either governmental or commercial, but there are still some exceptions, like non-profit organisations.

Mossop (1988) advocated the inclusion institutional translation as a key subfield in TS. Moreover, Mossop argued that it needs to be studied from a sociological perspective (p. 69). Even though some research has been done on institutional translation, still more studies are needed. This is especially the case for empirical research (Svoboda et al., 2017, p. 5). Furthermore, most of the published research centres around the European Union (see Koskinen, 2014; Biel, 2017). More research has also been conducted on a smaller scale to observe how religious norms are upheld through institutional translation (see Bettiza & Dionigi, 2015). This kind of research is almost non-existent in the Arab world. Seçkin (2021) argued that in institutional translation many *constrains* are affecting the translators, translation process, and the translation product. Still, Seçkin believed that there is still a need for more empirical research to establish these constrains.

There are many possible reasons for this lack of empirical research on institutional translation. One possible reason is that institutional research generally requires official permission to be conducted. This could hinder researchers, as not all official bodies might welcome such research into their practices. Understanding the environment in which translation takes place is fundamental to understanding the phenomenon. Schäffner (2012a) states that:

> In order to fully understand and explain both the processes and the products of media translation, the whole framework of actions surrounding the translators, as well as the policies and ideologies that underlie these actions, need to be taken into consideration. (p. 881)

Essentially, this means that it is crucial to understand the institution in which the translation was made. Moreover, knowing the translation process of an institution

should provide insight into possible influences that affect the translation product or process.

Institutions are basically a collective entity of social actors. In the case of news institutions, these could include news reporters, editors, supervisors, and translators. All those social agents form a collective entity that produces the translated news for consumers. The resulting translation from such an entity is often made collectively but anonymously by its agents (Schäffner et al., 2014, p. 2).

For example, an institution's members can use shared resources such as computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools. The results of using such tools can be helpful in the standardisation of certain aspects of translation. An example of this is if an institution applies CAT tools or uses in-house dictionaries/glossaries in its translation work. The use of such tools is very important, as it can help in the standardisation of terms in the said institution (Serpil et al., 2016, p. 78). Another example is the use of guidelines. These range from style guides to glossaries. Svoboda (2017, pp. 98-104) found that these guidelines can vary substantially even within institutions. Therefore, knowing if such resources are being used in an institution could be valuable when analysing its translation products.

It is imperative to mention legal aspects related to translation in an institutional setting. In the wider spectrum of general translation practice, simple contracts and rules of the trade are prevalent (Cabanellas, 2015). However, in an institutional environment, the employer-employee relationship and hierarchal structure of most institutions often leads to having rules and bylaws that govern the workplace and its politics. Furthermore, news translation institutions might have their own political views/agendas that govern their protocols and publishing/translation practices.

Consequently, these factors could influence the translation process/product and the translators as individuals in this setting.

All the previously mentioned aspects of translation within institutions show some of the translation environment's intricacies. Considering these intricacies is part of this institutional translation research project. As Gagnon (2010) stated:

> translation choices are linked in many ways to institutional discourse. By investigating the context of a political translation, as well as its textual and paratextual features, it is possible to come up with a better understanding of hegemonic power processes involved in a text, including the intricacies of audience/speaker relationship. (p.255)

There is one more consideration in this present project: the relationship between translation and politics.

3.6.3 Translation and Politics

Politics in translation encompasses many aspects that affect the translation phenomenon. Politics of translation can be defined as historical, ideological, or (geo)political issues affecting the translation process or product. Translation and politics as a subfield has been widely contested in TS studies (see Schäffner, 2007; Hermans, 2009; Evans & Fernandez, 2018). This contention is due to the many aspects of politics involved in language and translation. Hlavac et al. (2018) argued that translation can be seen as a tool representing public policy, especially in New World countries like Australia. In the context of news reporting and politics, translation plays a major role. Schäffner (2010) stated that "there is a direct, though usually invisible link between politics, media, and translation" (p. 2). Schäffner (2012) later found possible translation strategies and approaches that are used to recontextualise

a political discourse in mass media. Similar findings were made by Daghigh et al. (2018) in the translation of articles containing political opinions. One way that translation can be used as a political tool is through *explicitation*. This phenomenon occurs when an implied meaning in the ST is explicitised in the TT (Murtisari, 2016, p. 64). Gumul (2010, p. 108) found that explicitation in a political discourse can communicate an altered political view. However, it is hard to ascertain when explicitation is done consciously or unconsciously. A study by Farghal and Samateh (2016) found that in the case of translation into Arabic, explicitation can be generally attributed to the syndetic nature of Arabic discourse.

Translation can be used to manipulate a political discourse text to fit the specific views of the TT's target audience. Daghigh et al. (2018) identified such manipulation in translations from English to Persian. Daghigh et al. found that representation is used to miniplate the news and its influence by using pronouns such as *us* for the Iranian government and *them* to refer to the other political groups in the reported news (ibid. p.4). Daghigh et al. further argued that such an approach to translating the news is intended to present the TT in accordance with the political views and values of the target society (ibid.). Also, translation can be used to present a better view of the source culture's political views. Al-Harrasi (2003) argued that translators are experienced in transmitting ideologies as well as information. He adds that they sometimes try to present a more acceptable image of their source culture. This indicates that translators can influence the text to be more in line with their positive personal views about their social background. These special conditions and texts could lead the translator to adopt a general strategy of domestication or foreignisation in the translation. Such strategies could make the translator more/less (in)visible as a social actor in the circulation of news. For example, an invisible translator can present

the news translation as an unbiased text compared to a visible translator who assert their own views in footnotes or additions.

3.6.4 The Translator's (in)Visibility

The concept of the translator's visibility was first introduced in 1995 by the TS scholar Venuti (1995). The concept of the (in)visibility of the translator is quite broad and involves many factors ranging from the translation's fluency to cultural representation and transparency. Venuti (2008) argued that due to how translations are being received culturally as foreign products/text "it seems inevitable that fluency would become the authoritative strategy for translating" (p. 6). This would present the translation products as part of the target culture since their fluency render them in a native language. Venuti argued for two general approaches to translation: domestication and foreignisation of the ST into the target culture. This means either introducing special cultural traits of the ST into the TT or adopting the ST itself to the TT's culture. For example, the omission or lessening of frowned upon activates in the target culture (for instance, alcohol in Islamic or Arab cultures). On the one hand, domestication makes the translator am invisible agent in such instances. On the other hand, foreignisation would render the translator visible.

It is worth mentioning that Venuti mainly focused on the literary genre of translation in his work, specifically in Anglophone languages. While some aspects of this concept can be argued as being useful, it still received a fair share of criticism (see Pym, 1996; Lane-Mercier, 1997; Sherrif, 2008). The criticism is mainly concerned with three general aspects of the theory. The first is its nature as a dichotomy of visible or invisible. The second is its limited linguistic scope on European languages. The third

is its initial context of literary translation. However, it can still be of interest in this research's context of political news translation.

When it comes to the translation of political news, translators are tasked with translating news to their target readership. As discussed previously, political texts can be very sensitive and receptor-oriented, so the translations could also be affected by the identity/culture of their target audience. The translators can often face STs that challenge their beliefs, ideologies, or social principles, which could lead to a form of resistance. Venuti argued that an ethnocentric resistance is inevitable in translation (2008, p. 267), which might result in the translator influencing the political news translation as a form of this ethnocentric resistance. Ethnocentric resistance in translation could be defined as the translator's view that certain translation choices must be made to protect the translator's ethnicity/society's beliefs. Furthermore, Venuti (2008) argued that reduction or even exclusion of the ST's cultural features could take place in the translation. As was discussed previously, sometimes news translators work as news editors and choose which news to translate. This could result in STs and TTs that are different in certain aspects like cultural/social features or norms.

In addition, a translation strategy of invisibility could be seen as an unbiased form of news reporting by the target audience since the used language would supposedly be fluent. The translator's role in this context and how the translator wishes to present this role is also of concern. On one hand, translators could opt to consciously make himself/herself visible by adding paratextual elements like footnotes or exegetical additions to the TT. While this could be done to adhere to the needs of the target audience, it can still influence the translation and steer it where the translator wants. For example, when explaining a specific term in accordance with the

translator's views or presenting additional information about one of opposing two terms or entities, the unexplained second term could be seen as foreign by the receptor and might lead to shaping the receptor's view in favour of the other explained and understood term/entity. This is commonly known in media reporting as being biased through selection and omission. In certain instances, the translator can be in the perfect place to practice translation in this manner, especially a translator-editor hybrid who chooses their own news and texts to translate. Obeidat and Halalsheh (2020) found that strategies of omission, addition, paraphrasing, and lexicalization were used by translators to influence the news reception and frame it in a specific light.

Translators might also opt to make themselves as invisible as possible. This is most likely the case in a news reporting context. Here, translations are often carried out by a department of translation in the news reporting institution. This department could be influenced by the modern work environment in these institutions (see Gambier, 2014). Nowadays, some of these big institutions have adopted advanced technological tools (CAT tools) and collaborative translations in their process. In such a setting, it would be more difficult for the translator to be visible. As a result, a translator might lean towards being invisible to the translation's readers.

In essence, the translator's (in)visibility when translating political news could possibly indicate the translator's personal influence on the translation. It can also illustrate the general translation approaches adopted by the translators in this context. Two more concepts that has been argued as an integral aspect of political news translation are ideology and narrative. On one hand, the dynamic of translation and ideology has been mainly focused on contexts of literature and religion (Cunico & Munday 2007). On the other hand, the adoption of narrative theory as a new

perspective to study translation is relatively new and was proposed by Mona Baker (2006).

3.6.5 Translation and Ideology

Ideology is a hotly debated concept across multiple disciplines. Mason defined ideology as 'the set of beliefs and values which inform an individual's or institution's view of the world and assist their interpretation of events, facts and other aspects of experience' (2010, p.86). In the field of TS, ideology has been examined in multiple subfields as Cunico and Munday argued (2007). There have been studies that examined ideology in the context of media such as Kuo and Nakamura (2005) which used Taiwanese press as a case study. The study found that translation differences between the two studied newspapers are ideologically motivated rather arbitrary. In recent years more studies analysed ideology in the context of news and translation (see Aslani & Salmani, 2015; Al-Awawdeh, 2022; Azodi & Salmani, 2015; Hosseini, 2016). Therefore, the importance of ideology in the subfield of news translation should not be ignored as it could be an underlying factor in the translation process. Hodge argued that language is the method from which ideology manifests (1979, p.81).

In the context of this research, language can refer to either the ST or the TT since both are linguistic in nature. However, the TT is the text in which translation is used to manifest ideology. The translator here would be the agent responsible for this manifestation/process. Tymoczko (2003) argued that TS research should carefully consider the translator's specified role and how ideological engagement occurs to avoid misleading findings. This results in the need to contextualise the translation process and product by considering aspects such as translation environment, social backdrop, and the political situation. Munday (2007) added that in the TS context

ideology as a system of ideas should consider both individuals/translators as well as the society in which they operate. This is another aspect in the dynamic of the individual and the collective which this research aims to examine.

On the empirical side, a study by Mohamed (2013) found that translations of English political news to Arabic "[…] tend to support streamlined narratives […]" (p.125) in their target society. Moreover, the study found the use of specific terminology (Arabian Gulf rather than Persian Gulf) to be ideologically motivated. Another study by Abuzeid (2014), using backtranslation, found deliberate changes made in the news translation which could be seen as a manipulation of the ideology. These changes include deletion and lexical choices which the translators made to engage ideologically with the translation. These empirical findings bring ideology and narrative into focus as aspects of political news translation.

3.6.6 Narrative

Defining narrative can be problematic due to the lack of a consensus on a universal definition as well as its abstract nature. This may be a result of the existence of narrative as a concept in a plethora of disciplines (for instance, narratology, literature, and sociology). Baldwin argued that the expansion of narrative into different disciplines resulted in "[…] an increasing lack of shared understanding as to what exactly is meant when the term narrative is invoked […]" (2016, p. 1). Polkinghorne (1995. p. 7) described narrative as the linguistic form containing human complexity in relation to changing interpersonal and environmental contexts in a relevant temporal sequence. From the perspective of a sociology of translation, this definition arguably considers the translator's relationship with their society or employing institution.

Baker introduced narrative theory as a means to understand the choices that translators make (2006). Baker argued that personal experiences affect people's behaviours, in this context translators. She elaborates by stating: "[…] people's behaviour is ultimately guided by the stories they come to believe about the events in which they are embedded […]" (p. 3). Baker's approach seems to lean more towards the translator's influence in creating and circulating narratives rather than a collective influence (social/institutional). As a result, the theory views the translation process and product as mostly being influenced by a single individual based on their personal experiences. This is illustrated in Baker's argument that it is the translator/interpreter's actions as a social actor that influence the translation to circulate narratives (ibid., p. 139).

It can be argued that Polkinghorne's aforementioned definition of narrative (1995. p. 7) considers both the individual level (translator) and on a larger scale the collective level (society/institution). This is unlike Baker's approach, which leaned more towards the individual level. Still, Baker argued that a "higher-level pattern" (2006, p. 114), which can be considered collective influence, was used to omit translations rather than affect them. The method used was the selective appropriation of textual materia*l.* This was a Nazi Germany censorship programme that dictated that any translation submitted must provide the author's racial background for it to be considered for approval. This programme would then omit translations done by Jews. Countries such as Saudi Arabia are thought to have employed translation as a device to control the narrative or national image of the country in global media. This was made by employing Saudi nationals to translate news as well as literary texts concerned with Saudi Arabia (see Alharthi, 2020).

A way to analyse the different decisions that a translator faces in the context of political news translation in an institutional environment should take the previous elements in consideration. It should also be able to analyse the agency of the translator in this context as it could be incorporated into the translation. One possible approach to these conditions is CDA.

3.7 Critical Discourse Analysis

Discourse, as Wetherell et al. (2001, p. 3) defined it, is the study of language in use. This means that the focus of discourse research is primarily on language itself. Possible examples include historical texts, video recordings, and so on. Another possible way to view discourse is that it is the use of language in social contexts (Widdowson, 1995, p. 158).

Communication through language often relies on a shared context to establish the discourse (Widdowson, 2007, p. 9). This was further argued by Gee (2007, p. 9), who stated that the meaning of words varies depending on their context. In this sense, Widdowson (2004, p. 42) added that if context is an abstract entity in the mind, it makes it more difficult to recognise.

Critical discourse analysis (abbreviated as CDA) studies language as a social practice (see van Dijk, 1993; Fairclough, 1995). CDA as an approach can be defined as analysing a discourse and "the complex relations which constitute social life: meaning, and making meaning" (Fairclough, 2013, p. 3). In CDA, the focus is not on used language only, but also on the related social aspects to this produced language. Wodak and Meyer (2009) stated:

> CDA is therefore not interested in investigating a linguistic unit per se but in studying social phenomena which are necessarily complex and thus require a multi-disciplinary and multi-methodical approach. (p. 2).

Meyer (2001, pp. 15-16) illustrated that the unique nature of CDA makes it special compared to other approaches that are mainly linguistic in nature. Schäffner (1996) concisely expressed the goal of CDA as follows: “to describe and explain, and if necessary, criticise (changing) social and discursive practices, based on solid research” (p. 5). These various views on CDA mean that in the context of TS, CDA is an encompassing approach.

Furthermore, CDA is adaptive as an approach. The use of CDA is diverse as it depends on the research context and its data (Schaffner, 1996, p. 5). In translation studies, many scholars have adopted CDA to study the translation phenomenon. CDA was used to analyse news translation (see Shojaei & Laheghi, 2012; Aslani & Salmani, 2015; Xia, 2019) as well as analysing the translation of political speeches (see Mahdiyan et al., 2013). CDA has also been used to study ideology in translation (see Alghamdi, 2014; Keshavarz & Alimadadi, 2011; Erel, 2008). Therefore, it can be argued that CDA considers both the social environments in which texts were written as well as the individuals involved in the process of translation.

Zhang and Munday (2018) demonstrated some of the new innovative discourse analytic approaches used recently in the field of translation studies. These approaches were conceived mainly due to the recent approaches of multimodality in translation practice and research (p. 160).

Fairclough believe that CDA research is fundamentally interdisciplinary (2013, p. 3). He also theorised that CDA is *relational* in its nature, as it deals with the relations between different entities. This means that the analysed discourse is not examined in

isolation. CDA research takes the many aspects related to this discourse into account in the analysis.

If this approach was applied to political news translation, it can be generally viewed from three main perspectives. The first is translation as a product. The second is translation as a process. The third is the social environment of the translation. It is also possible to consider the source of the translation as well, whether the source is a text or otherwise. If translation as a product was observed, it would generally be observed from a linguistic or possibly cultural point of view. This can be done on two levels: textual and subtextual. One example of this is Chomsky's *surface structure* and *deep structure* (see Chomsky, 2019). The surface level consist of the units presenting meaning such as words or utterances, while the deep level contains meaning as a unit. Another example is House's *overt* and *covert* translation (see House, 2015). If the translation's function or application does not address the audience of the TT, then the translation can be viewed as overt. This occurs since the translator does not have to address the target readership directly.

In contrast, a covert translation should be equivalent to the ST in terms of function, albeit not necessarily addressing the target readership (House, 2015, pp. 65-66). Furthermore, the use of a "cultural filter", as House termed it (p. 68), helps to identify sociocultural differences in the ST and the TT. The textual-level analysis presents the linguistic/cultural units used to present denotative meaning. The subtextual level contains the associated connotations with the used units. It also contains the tone of the text and can be used to convey implied meaning.

Hatim and Mason (1990, pp. 65-70) also described three dimensions of translating a text: communicative, pragmatic, and semiotic dimensions. Each of these dimensions should be taken into consideration in the translation since they all present

different kinds of problems for the translator. The three dimensions culminate into what Hatim and Mason dubbed *"*the interactive dimension of language*"* (1990, p. 68). Moreover, the context, theme, or genre of the ST should be taken into consideration when translating. For example, the general conventions of the legal genre focus on clarity and unambiguity. In addition, genres could also present certain constraints in translation from the norms of a specific genre (p. 69).

Studying the process of translation has often focused on the translator's work on the text (see Hansen, 2003: Lörscher, 2005: Martín, 2016). However, the process of translation goes through other phases as well. The basic process starts with the selection of the ST. This is followed by the translation itself, and then the publication/delivery of the TT. In many cases, translation can be a result of the interactions between different individuals. For example, in a news translation context, the source for the translation can be selected by a news editor. Then the translation is done by a translator, followed by a review by a proof-reader/editor. The translation would then be reviewed again by a news editor before it is approved for publication.

Therefore, process-oriented research should not be limited to the praxis of translation alone but should also take a look at the process in its specified context/environment. This is especially the case for translations produced in a shared social environment such as an institution. Furthermore, other social actors such as the translation's target audience should be factored into the translation process.

Risku (2014) argued that studying sociological interactions between translators and their clients is essential to deepening the understanding of the translation process. Alves and Vale (2017) built a case for the importance of the drafting and revision phases during the translation process. In an institutional environment, the text can go through phases or individuals that are unknown to the reader. As a result, studying the

process in all its stages is of the utmost value and needs an encompassing approach that can study the process from more perspectives.

The social environment of the translation and it source can be seen as external factors affecting the texts. Pym (2004) argued that many of the sociological approaches in translation studies used to focus mainly on the texts. He illustrated how some sociocultural factors might result in *conditioning* rather than causing translators' decisions. For example. A translator working in a social setting which collectively believes that taboo words in news must be censored might have to follow this approach rather than opt for a different one. Pym further explained that due to such sociocultural factors, practical limitations might hinder observing or explaining these factors. Some examples of these limitations are data accessibility and time. As a result, a definitive explanation of how social elements affect translation would require strong empirical evidence. This can result in many challenges for researchers in TS in observing these social factors in a translation setting. Implementing a CDA approach from the onset in a research methodology can help in observing these factors.

However, it is worth arguing that any CDA approach must adhere to the nature of the related research and its data. This is further encouraged, as Van Dijk (2001, pp. 95-96) strongly argued that a CDA approach should be essentially diversified due to its *critical* nature. Additionally, the interdisciplinary nature of TS means that mixed methods of research are usually essential.

CDA was conceptualised to address some of these previous matters. Scollon (2001) states that: "CDA is founded in the idea that the analysis of discourse opens a window on social problems because social problems are largely constituted in discourse." (p. 140). Scollon further elaborated that discourse can be perceived on a more general level called public discourse. Scollon presented the media as one

possible source for this level (p. 154). Public discourse can be described as one product of translated news, which is part of the media.

3.8 Fairclough's Relations Model

As has been demonstrated, CDA can be an adaptive approach to TS research. One important factor, however, is that any CDA approach should be used according to the intended purpose of the research. Fairclough (2003, p. 15) argued that text analysis is limited, as there are more factors in the meaning-making process. He then discussed how text analysis in an organisational setting is viewed. Fairclough stated that text analysis is a micro analysis that supplements a macro analysis of the network in which the text was produced (pp. 15-16). Furthermore, he illustrated how text analysis is of value as a supplemental addition to social research rather than a replacement.

This leads us to investigate Fairclough's relational model (2003, pp. 35-38). Fairclough demonstrated the many ways CDA can be used as an approach to analyse texts at three levels of relationship. These three levels are internal relations, intermediate relations, and external relations.

The internal level analyses the following relations in the text:

- Semantic relations
- Grammatical relations
- Lexical relations
- Phonological and graphological relations

Each of these relations addresses a specified set of elements in the text. The semantic relations focus on meaning of words and expressions. Grammatical relations analyse units of text and their relationships such as between clauses in sentences. The lexical

relations studies collocations and co-occurrences of lexical items. The final set of internal relations deals with spoken language and graphological aspects of a written text like font size and type.

Intermediate relations serve as the bridge between internal and external relations, a connective tissue to the other two levels of relations. It contains elements like the genre/theme of the text, its style, and possible discourses that the text might contain. In this research, political discourse is the most relevant.

The final relations level is the external relations level, which consists of outside factors that are generally abstract. Fairclough (2003, p. 36) presented these relations in general/abstract terms such as social events, social practices, and social structures. Therefore, it is imperative to contextualise these terms in relation the present study.

If these terms were contextualised in the translation phenomenon, they can be viewed as the social interactions or relations that a translator might have in the workplace. This is mostly on a small scale; a larger scale would be the translator's interactions with society and its norms/values. This relational model can be adopted or adjusted in accordance with a research's goals and data. This relates to the discussion in the previous section of the nature of CDA as a research approach. The type of analysis gained from adopting this CDA model should be beneficial in a translation context. This is a result of the model's adaptability to a spoken or written form of language.

Furthermore, Fairclough's relational CDA model deals with the many dimensions a given discourse might contain, including linguistic, textual, and social dimensions. The adaptability and scale of the model are necessary to consider when adopting any discourse analysis approach. To illustrate, Gee (2001) summarised what an ideal discourse analysis method should be:

> Any discourse analysis needs, at least, to give some consideration, if only as background, to the whole picture. Essentially a discourse analysis involves asking questions about how language, at a given time and place, is used to construe the aspects of the situation network as realized at that time and place and how the aspects of the situation network simultaneously give meaning to that language. (p. 92)

Place, time, and the *situation network* all give meaning to language. Gee's *situation network* also revolves around society, as Collin illustrates (2012, p. 86).

CDA on content (translation) and its aspects of text linguistics are of significant benefit (Gambier, 2010, p. 237). Therefore, the adoption of Fairclough's relational model was made to address the aforementioned special features and aspects of institutional translation of political news. This model also considers the different levels involved in the translation process and product as was illustrated previously.

3.9 Summary

As has been explored in this chapter, the sociological paradigm in TS has paved the way for more research in the field with new perspectives. This is further needed, as it has been demonstrated how some types of translations like news translation can be difficult to analyse. This seems to be especially the case when politics, the institutional environment, gatekeeping, and censorship are part of the translation context. Moreover, relevant translation approaches such as narrative and the translator's (in)visibility were discussed in this chapter.

Finally, the critical discourse analysis approach and its nature were discussed as a tool to study and analyse the factors involved in the production of news

translations. In addition, Fairclough's relational model was also presented in the context of political news translation and why it should be adopted to study it.

Chapter Three: Research Methodology

4.1 Introduction

This chapter introduces the methodology used in this research, describing the methodology design and the data sampling process. It also provides details about the mixed quantitative and qualitative approaches of this research. The rationale behind choosing this mixed approach and how it should help the individual and collective influences on translations is also discussed.

Furthermore, the data collection process is also explained in this chapter, including the analytical framework and research tools that were used in data analysis. In addition, the chapter describes the process of translation in all the studied news institutions to inform the data collection process and paint a picture of not only the translation process, but also the environment in which it took place.

Moreover, the chapter also contains an overview of issues and limitations that arose during the data collection phase of the research. This might help future researchers design their research accordingly to avoid the limitations encountered in this study. Finally, the chapter also provides a section on possible ethical considerations related to the corpus, its collection process, and the participants.

4.2 Type of Methodology

This research used a mixed methodology approach dealing with different data types. The collective data include quantitative and qualitative datasets, necessitating specialised methods of collection and analysis for each data type. The analyses of the different data sets are used to inform the overall results of this research.

4.2.1 Quantitative Research

Quantitative research often presents a general overview of a particular phenomenon. Williams and Chesterman (2014, p. 65) asserted that a quantitative approach can help understand the general state of the researched phenomenon. It is also considered a more objective form of research.

The quantitative part of the methodology consists of using a questionnaire to collect the data consisting of seven multiple-choice questions (seven questions). These questions are rated and analysed using a Likert scale approach. Additionally, the questionnaire also contains basic demographic questions about the participants. These questions pertain to age, employer, translation experience, and nationality of the participant. This basic information is collected to help in the categorisation of the data. Also, data collected by this method has a structured form that can be "represented numerically and analysed statistically" (Saldanha & O'Brien, 2014, p. 21). This means that the data collected should be clear and unambiguous. In turn, this should lead to results that are more factual in nature.

4.2.2 Qualitative Research

Qualitative research mainly deals with the collected data in an interpretivist manner (Saldanha & O'Brien, 2014, p. 22). This means that the analysis is based on describing the phenomenon. The aim of qualitative research is to identify/analyse qualities of a specified phenomenon and study different related possibilities (Williams & Chesterman, 2014, p. 64). The qualitative data consists of the questionnaire's open-ended questions, the conducted interviews, and the textual analysis of the collected translations using CDA.

First, three open-ended questions were analysed in relation to the questionnaire's preceding multiple-choice questions. This dataset aims to inform the overall questionnaire results. Second, the interviews were conducted with 33 translators working at the four news institutions who completed the aforementioned questionnaire. These interviews adopted a semi-structured approach. The interviews were then transcribed and analysed using two methods. The two methods are the grounded theory and thematic content analysis. Third, the textual analysis is of translations from Arabic into English and their source texts when available. These translations were published in the four news institutions. The analysis model used is Fairclough's critical discourse analysis relational model.

This qualitative data was provided in a form different from the statistical form of the previously mentioned quantitative data. As a result, induction and deduction are both necessary to analyse the collected data. Since it can be hard to establish facts from this type of data, describing/interpreting is arguably the more appropriate approach.

4.2.3 Mixed Method

The use of a mixed method was deemed necessary since this research tackles abstract concepts. These concepts are the translator's agency, translator/individual level influence, and institutional/collective level influence on political news translations. Moreover, a mixed methodology provides the opportunity to collect corpora specifically related to the translator (interviews), the translation process (questionnaire), and the translation product (CDA of texts).

The quantitative approach (questionnaire) helps in establishing the general features of each news translation institution, as well as its translation process. This is

then followed by the qualitative approach that uses open-ended questions and translators' interviews to delve further into how each institution and interviewed translator approach their translations. The findings from these datasets are then used to inform the critical discourse analysis of the translation products alongside their source text whenever possible. This way, analysing the translation products would be informed by previously collected and analysed empirical data rather than just the translations independently. Meister (2018) stated that the interdisciplinary nature of TS fundamentally makes its research challenging, resulting in a methodology that draws from different research traditions. Therefore, mixing the previously mentioned two methods in this research can help expand its findings.

Leech and Onwuegbuzie (2007, p. 265) describe a mixed method as the combination of the qualitative and quantitative methods that can help mitigate some of the limitations of using just one type of methodology. For example, Saldanha and O'Brien (2014) stated that "a quantitative phase has the potential advantage of exposing some trends that can then be further probed via qualitative data" (p. 22). Therefore, the use of a mixed method was adopted. In fact, by using a mixed approach in the form of triangulation, the portrayal of the units of data analysed should be more contextualised and comprehensive (Holtzhausen, 2001). In addition, adopting a mixed method helps address the different factors in the research's context. In the case of institutional translation of political news, these factors could include political views, religion/beliefs, or social background.

Studying the possible effects of these factors on the translation of political news requires multiple perspectives. Conway (2015) believed that the use of multiple theoretical frameworks in the study of news translation would be of paramount benefit, as different sociological, political, and linguistic elements converge in this field. In

addition, understanding the social environment and the related individuals involved in the translation process needs more factual data. Although such data is collected quantitatively, it needs to be analysed alongside the translators' personal experiences/views obtained from the interviews to be more comprehensive.

The three main aspects used in this mixed methodology are explanatory, complementary, and triangulation. These three aspects are based on the five purposes of a mixed methods approach as identified by Greene et al. (1989, p. 259). The three aspects of this mixed methodology should help in developing both data types by informing each other. This can result in obtaining data that would otherwise be inaccessible or incomprehensible.

The triangulation aspect can serve as a type of filtration/categorisation system for the units of data to be analysed. For example, data related to institution protocols can be regarded as a category. This data is then collected from the study's qualitative portion (interviews) and quantitative portion (questionnaire). This aspect can also provide varied data in different forms and nuances. It also presents the opportunity to analyse the translation phenomenon on multiple levels. These levels include the textual/linguistic level, the translation process level, the institutional/collective level, and the translator/individual level. The following figure illustrate those levels:

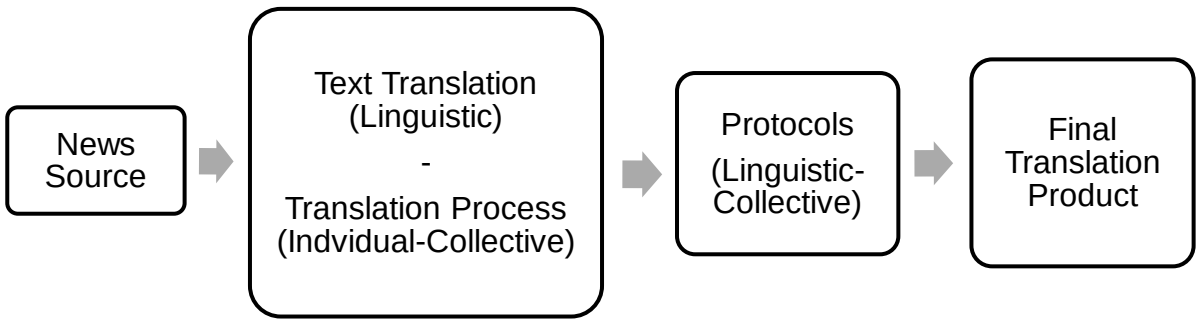

Figure 1. Basic illustration of the translation production process

The above figure gives the basic form of a translation process in an institutional setting, starting as a source text to be translated, and then going through institutional protocols like editing and proofreading by different individuals before the translation is finally published. Malamatidou (2017) argued that in TS, little research has employed a mixed approach combining different methods and corpora using triangulation despite its recognition as a research approach. This project's methodology aims to develop a deeper understanding of the collected data by adopting triangulation.

The explanatory aspect of a mixed method approach helps in explaining both qualitative and quantitative data obtained by using the data analysis alongside each other. The explanatory aspect helps infer explanations about the collected data. As Teddlie and Tashakkori (2006) stated:

> […] create an understanding (e.g., "gestalt" or whole) on the basis of all results, a whole that is bigger than a simple set of isolated conclusions made on the basis of different findings of a study. (p. 250)

Furthermore, explanations can help in connecting the causes and effects related to a given phenomenon (King et al., 1994, p. 34). The results bolster the final analysis of the data and its results.

Finally, the complementary aspect of this mixed method should provide a deeper look into the collected data. Such a complementary addition should also help mitigate the weaknesses/limitations imposed by the some of the used methods/tools. Johnson et al. (2007, p. 197) argued that a combination of qualitative and quantitative data used in a complementary way should produce advantages and "nonoverlapping weaknesses". So, a mixed methodology that incorporates the strengths of multiple approaches should negate or limit the weaknesses of a standalone approach. In essence, the resulted methodology would be tighter than the sum of its parts.

These three aspects (explanatory, complementary, and triangulation) of the mixed method can help in constructing a methodology that can examine the nature of institutional translation of political news. In fact, some research projects in the field of TS have adopted different forms of mixed methods (see Alves, 2003; Pluye & Hong, 2014; Wehrmeyer, 2014; Presas et al., 2016).

Finally, the order of the analysis follows the translation operation as well as a macro to micro approach. the data analysis starts with the quantitative data which sets the general translation process and features of each institution. This is then followed by the qualitative data from the interviews that confirm and elaborate on these features from personal experiences and views of the participating translators. Lastly, data elicited from these first two stages of the methodology is used to inform and critically engage with the CDA of the textual data.

4.3 Methodology Design and Data Sampling

As stated previously, this research aims to provide a deeper understanding of translation in an institutional setting dealing with political news using Kuwait as a case study. Therefore, both quantitative and qualitative data were collected and analysed. This resulted in the decision to opt for a mixed method approach. The following figure presents a basic overview of how the mixed method was used:

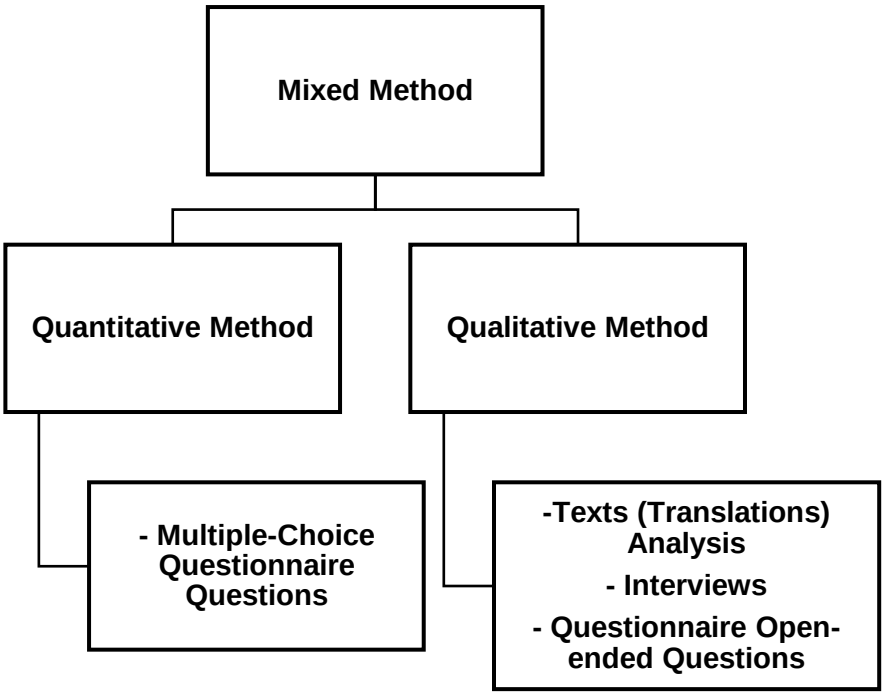

Figure 2. Basic breakdown of the mixed approach

As seen in Figure 2, data of different kinds were collected by this mixed approach. The different data types were collated and analysed accordingly.

Furthermore, one of the important aims of this methodology is to collect representative samples of the different kinds of collected data. This is seldom possible and difficult to validate, since data that can be regarded as a special case makes drawing general conclusions difficult (Williams & Chesterman, 2014, p. 92). Therefore, the number of translators as a population was requested during the data collection from each of the institutions, after which at least fifty percent of the employed translators in each of the institutions were approached to participate in this research.

Those same translators completed the questionnaire and agreed to participate in the interviews. The number of the participants from each of the institutions was as follows:

- Fifteen translators out of twenty-five in the Ministry of information (60%)
- Ten translators out of twenty in the Kuwait News Agency (50%)

- Five translators out of six in the *Arab Times* newspaper (83%)
- Three translators out of three in the *Kuwait Times* newspaper (100%)

As seen above, the participation percentage ranges from fifty percent to one hundred percent.

First, the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information (MOI) translators' sample is sixty percent of the total population of translators. Second, the KUNA sample represents fifty percent of all the employed translators. Third, the *Arab Times* translators sample represents eighty-three percent. Fourth, the *Kuwait Times* sample is one hundred percent of all the translators employed. This should mean that the corpus of data collected from the four news institutions is representative of each institution. It is worth mentioning that in rare cases, these institutions sometimes outsource their workload, dependent on factors like emergencies or holidays. More details are provided in the translation institutions' processes in section 4.5

4.3.1 Quantitative Data of the Research

The quantitative data collected for this research was based on a distributed questionnaire. The participants were all working as translators with one of the four news institutions targeted in this research. First, all participants provided information regarding their age, translation experience, nationality, and employer. This information was used to categorise the data and compare it across different institutions, age groups, experienced and novice translators, and different social backgrounds. Additionally, the data from these questions was used to analyse and compare the state of translation and its environment between government and private institutions.

Next, the main part of the distributed questionnaire contained seven main questions, some of which led to an extra question (questions three, four, five, and six).

These questions were yes-or-no questions and multiple-choice questions. The multiple-choice questions adopted a Likert scale with a series of five responses.

Finally, the questionnaire also contained three open-ended questions that were analysed as a qualitative dataset in section 6.2 Including these specific questions in the questionnaire rather than the interview was intentional and meant to present the participants with more freedom and privacy to provide and elaborate on their answers.

The next part will present the way the Likert scale was used in this research while discussing its benefits and shortcomings. Afterwards, a detailed look at the questionnaire and the rationale behind the used questions will be provided. Finally, the tools used for the analysis will be previewed and discussed.

4.3.1.1 Likert Scale Model

The Likert scale (see Joshi et al., 2015) has been adopted several times in the field of translation studies for many goals. For example, the scale was used to measure the difficulty of text translation (Liu et al., 2019), in teaching translation methodologies (Madkour, 2016), and in translation research in the medical field (RÂholm et al., 2010). The scale has also been used to study some aspects of translation as a profession by Chan (2010). The versatility of the scale meant its adoption in this research should be beneficial. As Saldanha and O'Brien (2014, p. 157) illustrated, the Likert scale can be used in different forms of rating. These are mainly based on the odd numbers of five, seven, or nine points. However, the use of even numbers can be seen in some of the previously mentioned studies (see Liu et al., 2019, Chan, 2010).

The distributed research questionnaire used the scale for eight questions. The rating form for the answers was in a five-point form for five of the questions. In these

questions, the rating was measured according to each question's format and intent. This contains measurements of importance, agreement, similarity, and frequency. The questionnaire also adopted a three-points rating form for questions one, three, and five due to the nature of these questions and their possible answers. The following section presents the questionnaire and the rationale behind its questions. More details are also provided on the collected data.

4.3.1.2 Research Questionnaire

The questionnaire contained a total of nineteen questions presented under two main headings. The start of the questionnaire also contained the basic information section before the two main parts. The first heading, part one, consisted of multiple-choice questions while the second heading, part two, contained the open-ended questions.

Next, every used question alongside the provided answers will be presented, detailing the reasoning behind including these questions in the questionnaire. These questions are broken down in three sections. The first section was the basic information about the participant questions. The second was the used multiple-choice questions. The third was the open-ended questions. The first section is illustrated in the following table:

Questions	Provided Answers
1- Employer?	-
2- Age?	-
3- Nationality?	-

4- Years of translation experience?	-

Table 1. First section of the research questionnaire

The main rationale behind this first section is to help group, organise, and categorise the data collected. Providing information about the translator's employer, age, nationality, and experience should help interpret the data from different perspectives. The four answers to these questions can be used for further analysis alongside other questions in the questionnaire using a statistical tool as later discussed. For example, it is possible to check a translator's experience against their use of a glossary or CAT tool provided by their employer. It can also be possible to use the answers to measure the average experience of translators in each news institution. In turn, this should provide an overview of the translation experience of all the studied institutions.

Data from this section alone can help us postulate which employers are employing young translators. In addition, a descriptive analysis of the translation environment can be provided by observing the answers in this section. This can be made by analysing the number of translators in each institution.

The second section of the questionnaire contains the questions in the next table:

Questions	Provided Answers
Question 1. How do you translate your workload?	A) Individually. B) Collaboratively. C) Both.
Question 2. Does your department provide Computer-Assisted Tools of translation (CAT) like SDL Trados? Question 2.1. If the answer is yes, then how often do you use them?	2. A) Yes B) No 2.1. A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.

Question 3. Are you provided a glossary before the translation task? Question 3.1. If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often do you use it?	3. A) Yes. B) Sometimes. C) No. 3.1 A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.
Question 4. Do you discuss your work with your colleagues? Question 4.1. If the answer is yes, then how often?	4. A) Yes. B) No. 4.1 A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.
Question 5. Does your employer provide a guideline of how the translation task should be completed and then processed? Question 5.1. If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often are you personally provided with the said guideline?	5. A) Yes. B) Sometimes. C) No. 5.1 A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.
Question 6. Does your employer have protocols that you are required to abide by as a translator? Question 6.1. If the answer is yes, then how important would you describe them to be?	6. A) Yes. B) No. 6.1 A) Very important. B) Important. C) Fairly important. D) Slightly important. E) Not important.
Question 7. When you finish a translation task and it is later published, how similar is the final product to your translation?	A) Exactly the same. B) Very similar. C) Similar. D) Slightly similar. E) Not similar at all.

Table 2. Second section of the research questionnaire

As seen in Table 2, this section contains the main part of the questionnaire. Each question is discussed in the upcoming part.

The first question aimed to establish how a translator approaches their workload. This helps us understand whether the published translations of the news institutions were done by one individual or more. The question should also inform the analysis of the texts in the qualitative part of the data analysis. This is done by

analysing the translations as being the product of one individual or more. Furthermore, this question alongside the first section of the questionnaire gives us a general understanding of the translation process in these institutions. This means that the present project can establish which institutions use collaborative translation and how often they use it.

The aim of the second question was to find how often CAT tools are used in the translation process of each institution. The question first establishes if the tools are available. If the answer is yes, the frequency of their usage is then provided. The data from this question is also used to inform the qualitative data. For example, the use of specific terms might be the result of the used CAT tools rather than the translator's personal preference/choice.

The third question focused on the availability and use of glossaries before the translation task. This question should help us learn if resources are provided by the institutions. If such glossaries are provided, the question clarifies how often the translators use them. This question shows how often the translator's decisions were made personally or by a CAT tool

The fourth question aimed to discover whether translators discuss their tasks with their fellow colleagues. If the translation tasks are discussed, the question also clarifies how often. The answer to this question should further our knowledge of the translation environment and help us discern if other individuals could have influenced the translation. For example, a translator who always discusses their workload with fellow translators might receive feedback or help in completing the translation task.

The fifth question attempted to detect if any guidance was provided before tackling a translation task. If such guidance is provided, the question finds out how often the translators follow it. The answer to this question establishes the existence of

outside influence on the translation process. This influence might be from supervisory employees, senior translators, or other individuals in the institution. This question also helps in understanding the translation process of each institution.

The sixth question looked into whether there are translation protocols being used in the news institutions. If such protocols exist, the question establishes their level of importance to inform our analysis of the qualitative data from the interviews and texts. This question should also provide an overview of to what extent translators follow the protocols of their institution.

The seventh question aimed to know if changes are made to the translation after it is submitted by the translation. The extent of these changes, if any, is also provided. The data from this question can clarify the influence editors or senior translators might have on the final translation. For example, if too many participants answered with D or E, it would be safe to assume that the final translation might not represent the intent of the translator who produced it.

To summarise, each of these questions provided a glimpse into how a translation is produced to help us understand the translation environment of all four news institutions. Additionally, the questions also presented another perspective from which the present research can view the collected data.

Finally, the third section of the questionnaire included the three open-ended questions. These are part of the qualitative data and are presented and discussed in a later section (6.2). While this questionnaire proved beneficial in various ways, it still has limitations. Furthermore, some improvements could have been made to the questionnaire. These are discussed in detail in the research methodology limitation section 4.6.

4.3.2 Qualitative Data of the Research

The qualitative data collected consisted of three datasets. The first set is the analysis of the three open-ended questions, which were listed towards the end of the questionnaire. The second set is the conducted interviews with the translators who participated and answered the questionnaire. The third set is the analysed collected texts/translations from the four institutions. The following offers a detailed view on how each qualitative data set is analysed and the rationale behind the used methods.

4.3.2.1 Open-ended Questions

For this part of the qualitative data, the open-ended questions of the questionnaire are presented. These are contained in the following table:

Open-ended Questions	Provided Answers
Question 8. Who chooses the translation tasks that you carry out and on what basis is this done?	-
Question 9. What is the regular procedure that takes place when you finish translating a text before it is finally published?	-
Question 10. How would you describe translating sensitive tasks like political news as a translator in Kuwait?	-

Table 3. Third section of the research questionnaire

As can be observed above, the questions relate to both the translation process as well as the nature of political news translation. These questions were chosen to provide the questionnaire participants with space to elaborate on their experiences.

Arguably, some of these questions might overlap with questions in the interviews. However, the nature of the questionnaire can give the participants freedom to express their thoughts in a different manner. The questionnaire provided full anonymity and was completed privately. The participant was also free from external factors or individuals that might affect the answer. One example of this is what

Saldanha and O'Brien (2014, p. 169) describe as “potential bias” due to the proximity between the interviewer and the participant.

The first question tried to establish who chooses the texts. This ensures that the right context is established for the analysis of the translations. Furthermore, the question also tries to help us understand the way the source material is provided and why. Thus, the conception stage of the source material is established.

The second question aimed at the final stages before the translation is published. Seeking information as to what takes place after the translator is finished is used to deepen understanding of the whole process of translation in each of the institutions. This information is complemented by the previous multiple-choice questions, as well as the interviews following the questionnaire.

The third question asked the participants about their experience with political news. The goal here is to find out if this type of news translation is seen differently compared to other types like soft news. The answers to all three questions help establish the translation process and any special factors it might have in each institution.

The analysis approach to this data set was descriptive in nature. It was also interpretive and inferential depending on the provided answers. The analysis also incorporated the NVivo software to code the answers based on theme or topic as a categorisation method.

4.3.2.2 Text Analysis

As shown in the previously discussed Figure 2, part of the qualitative analysis was the texts/translations dataset. This data focused on the textual elements in the

translation (and its source text when available). This dataset included two main components: the linguistic features of the text and its sociocultural features.

The linguistic features include the lexical, syntactical, and textual attributes of the text. On the lexical level, the use of words or terms is analysed. For the syntactical level, grammar and the sentence structure are analysed. Finally, the textual level also includes factors such as text length and text theme.

For the sociocultural features, the environment in which the ST and TT were produced are considered and analysed in conjunction with the linguistic analysis of the texts. The use of Fairclough's CDA relations model (2003) for this form of data was chosen, as the CDA model can be applied across the two previously mentioned components. This is due to the fact that CDA usage extends to analysing other parts involved in translation production outside the text itself such as the social actors involved and the social environment. The model is used to analyse the textual elements dataset. This CDA model consists of three main levels of relations: internal, intermediate, and external relations. This model is based on the three following components: description, interpretation, and explanation (Titscher et al., 2000, p.153).

First, the internal relations level deals with the analysis of the text itself. This level is focused on the previously mentioned linguistic features of the texts. Here, description is used as the main tool of analysis and involves finding and describing possible patterns. Other linguistic features are described as well, including opting to use specific vocabulary or sentence structures.

Second, the intermediate relations level is concerned with the theme or genre of the text. This level also analysis the style of the text and can help inform the analysis of the other two levels. This intermediate level, as Fairclough (2003) stated, is "a mediating level between the text *per se* and its social context" (p. 37). By using this

level in the analysis of both the ST and the TT, it can be seen if the two texts are not aligned in some manner. If such misalignment is found, it could be insightful to incorporate this into the data analysis. Furthermore, the differences between the Arabic and English languages and their accompanying norms can also be analysed in the translation at this level. As a result, this could lead to providing more insight into the next level.

Third, there is the external relations analysis level. This level is concerned with external social practices and social structures, as Fairclough (2003) describes it (p. 38). This means that it is possible to inform the analysis by explaining external social or cultural factors that might have affected the analysed text. An example of this is the use of specific titles for high-ranking individuals in government or royalty. The use of the relations model provides a three-tiered analysis on the dataset of texts. Therefore, each level should help inform the other two levels.

The corpus of the text analysis is comprised of thirty texts. These are broken down into ten STs and twenty TTs. On the one hand, translations from the MOI and the *Kuwait Times* newspaper did not have a clearly defined source for their translations and use multiple sources in their news reporting and translation. As a result, TTs from these two institutions did not have an accompanying STs. On the other hand, TTs collected from KUNA and the *Arab Times* newspaper had clearly defined STs. Therefore, their STs were included in this part of the data analysis.

The size of the analysed texts varied due to each institution's news reporting practice. Texts from the MOI and KUNA were relatively short (100 to 250 word) as the two public institutions provide news throughout the day and in different formats. The MOI delivers the news on television by having presenters read the translations from a teleprompter. As a result, each news event has to be relatively short to leave ample

time and space for other news besides the political ones. KUNA publishes the news on their website in a short and concise format, so their texts are short as well. The *Arab Times* and *Kuwait Times* are newspapers that publish both in press and online. Therefore, they are not as constrained as the public institutions by space and time. As a result, texts from these two newspapers can be longer (100 to 800 word) in comparison to the MOI and KUNA. The size and length of texts from these newspapers is affected by factors such as the text's urgency, format, or author. For example, a political news article by a reputable analyst might end up being a long text. Still, the newspaper would translate/publish it anyways.

4.3.2.3 Interviews

Interviews as a method has been used in TS to study different aspects of the phenomenon of translation. However, according to Saldanha and O'Brien (2014, p. 168) their use has been mainly concerned with interpreting. The choice to use interviews in this methodology was made due to some of the advantages they can provide. Edley and Litosseliti (2010, p. 169) stated that one major advantage of interviews is their extreme flexibility.

As stated previously, one of the aims of this research is to examine and analyse how translations are affected by social factors. The interviews helped in approaching translators and discussing these social factors with them as involved social actors. The data from interviews, as Edley and Litosseliti (2010) argued, "can be indicative or illustrative of a particular social practice" (p. 173). As a result, an understanding of the translators' process and what might affect it can be established. This understanding can later be used to inform the analysis of the other data collected through this mixed methodology.

The process of interviewing started by asking the willing participants to provide an appropriate time for the interviews. This was then followed by agreeing on the place where the said interview would be conducted. All the interviews were conducted at the participants' respective institutions in a private space away from other individuals. Only the researcher and the participant were present for the interviews. The MOI, KUNA, and the *Kuwait Times* provided a room where the interviews were conducted privately. The *Arab Times* did not have an available private room, so the interviews were conducted in the shared office space. However, the interviews here were conducted in a private manner by leaving ample distance from other nearby individuals. All interviews were conducted in English to make it more accessible for critical review by other researchers dealing with different language pairs. The data analysis process would also be easier, as there would be no need to translate the transcriptions of the interviews into English if originally conducted in Arabic. The length of the interviews varied depending on the participants, ranging from four to eighteen minutes. The participants were given all the time they needed for their answers, as no time limit was set by the researcher.

The interviews followed a semi-structured format and consisted of seven main questions. Saldanha and O'Brien (2014, p. 173) stated that this structure shifts the "balance of power" towards the participant during the interview. Furthermore, this form of interviews is appropriate for exploratory research. Finally, keeping a set of specific questions can provide coherent data. This should be helpful for the upcoming analysis of the collected data. The use of this structure presented many benefits. The most important benefit is that the researcher can opt to ask follow-up questions to elicit more information from the participants. Since not all participants have the same background or experiences, this structure can empower participants to reflect on their personal

experiences. As mentioned above, the interview had a set of seven questions. Some of these questions branched into different questions depending on the participants' answers. The seven main questions and some of their follow-up questions are listed in the following table:

Main Questions	Possible Follow-up Questions
1- Can you Please state your role in this institution and your translation experience?	- Have you worked somewhere else before?
2- What type of news translation do you usually deal with?	- Elaborate on the type of news/translation. - What about political news?
3- Do you deal with political news differently than other news?	- If yes, how? - Do you feel more pressured/responsible when dealing with political news? - Does the final translation reflect the institution's views? - What about your personal political views? - Do you feel affected by protocols/rules?
4- How would you describe your experience in translating political news?	- Do you prefer or avoid political news? - How would you compare political news to soft news?
5- As a translator in this institution and in Kuwait, can you share any special feature/element of this environment?	- Do you feel it is a supportive/unsupportive environment? If elaborate.
6- Do you believe that your nationality, religion, or social background could affect your translation?	- If yes, then how? To what extent? - Do you think it is a factor in your work?
7- Do you have suggestions/recommendations that can improve your institution's translation process?	- What about improving the translators' skills in this institution?

Table 4. List of interview questions

As observed in the above table, the questions mainly focus on each participant's personal experiences and views. The decision to avoid questions of a factual nature was made consciously due to the mixed nature of this methodology.

The generally factual questions were answered in the questionnaire as part of the quantitative data. As a result, the essence of the interview was more personal and relaxed since there were arguably no right or wrong answers.

The rationale behind the choice of these questions mostly lies in how they can help us illustrate the mindset of the translators. As Seidmen (2006, p. 14) argued, interviewing can provide insight into the experiences of individuals through hearing their “stories”. So, this part of the corpus is considerably more personal than the other parts.

The order of the questions was mostly followed in the interviews. A small number of interviews had the order changed due to the answers of the participants. However, all the interviews started with the same question, which was the first one above. The interviews all concluded with asking the participants if they had any remarks to add. Next, the reasoning behind each question is discussed.

The first question aimed to specify the role and experience of each participant to help contextualise the individual’s answers. It can also ease the participant into the interview process by first talking about themselves personally. The question also aimed to identify possible correlations between the translator’s years of experience and role in the respective institution.

The second question identified the participant’s workload, also serving as a way of introducing the main topic of the interview to the participant. This sets the theme of the interview and the questions going forward. This answer would also establish possible patterns between an individual’s experience and workload by using the question as a follow-up one to the previous one.

The goal of the third question was to find if/how political news translation differs from other types of news from the point of view of the participant as an individual. This

might help illustrate the personal views of a translator in this regard. Also, each participant's personal approach to political news translation could be elaborated on here.

The fourth question offered insight into the experience from the translator's point of view, providing the participant with the chance to express personal feelings and views on political news translation. In turn, this contextualises this type of news compared to the rest in an institutional setting.

In terms of the fifth question, details about special features of the translation environment (institution) were examined. This question could lead to exploring how news translation is practiced in each of the respective institutions. Answers to this question are later compared to provide a general overview on institutional translation in Kuwait.

The sixth question attempted to discover if social factors could affect the participant's translation. This also would establish whether the participant is conscious of the matter, also aiming to know to what extent these factors could affect a translation.

The seventh and final main question aimed to find possible shortcomings in each institution by determining what areas need improvements and at what level. On the one hand, it could be on the translators' level by seeking more training courses. On the other hand, the improvements could be on the process or institutional level like having more translators/editors.

To summarise, the answers to these questions could provide a deeper understanding of the experiences of translators, both on the social level as individuals and on the professional level as translators. The answers should also serve as complementary data in this mixed method approach.

4.3.3 Data Analysis Tools

The main tool used to analyse the quantitative data is the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences computer programme, widely known as SPSS (henceforth SPSS). For the qualitative data analysis, the NVivo software was used. While there are many tools to analyse the data, the decision was made to use SPSS. The reasoning behind opting for SPSS in this research is mainly twofold.

Firstly, SPSS is widely recognised in the social sciences as a powerful tool of analysis, containing many powerful features that help researchers interpret their collected data that ranges from descriptive statistics to data analysis tests. The programme can also present the data in other forms like graphs or charts. Secondly, SPSS is commonly used in academic research across many disciplines. This makes the programme both accessible and understood as a tool of analysis. As a result, the data analysis in this research would be conveyed in an easier manner.

SPSS is used by applying its data analysis tests to analyse the answers of the participants on the questionnaire. The analysis of the data includes summary statistics, descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, frequencies analysis, and proportion tests.

Furthermore, SPSS is used to generate graphs of the data analysis. This is used to simplify the presentation of the data analysis. The graphs should also help in providing a new perspective while looking at the data.

For the qualitative side of the data, the computer software NVivo was used in the analysis of the interviews. The software focuses on the analysis of qualitative data. It was used to organise and code the transcripts of the interviews. NVivo also has many features that can be helpful when studying the collected data. One of NVivo's

features is the ability to search for a specified word in the interviews' transcripts. This helps in coding the transcripts, as well as finding relevant data across the different interviews. It is also possible to check a word's frequency across the interviews, which should lead to exploring more aspects of the collected data and could help in recognising emerging unexpected results. Another feature of the software is its ability to create graphs easily. These graphs are quite valuable, as they can be used in many ways such as representing the frequency of similar information expressed by different participants. This in turn can lead to simplifying the presentation of the data analysis.

NVivo also contains a powerful classification and organisation system that can be used to classify and organise many different elements of the data based on the shared information by the participant. This can be based on employer/institution, translation experience, or specific answers to one of the interview's questions. As a result, the data can be observed and compared across many perspectives.

Furthermore, the coding feature of NVivo was also used to analyse the open-ended questions in the distributed questionnaire. The answers were coded based on topic/theme, and NVivo was used to compare many of these answers. Finally, NVivo is one of the most established software programmes available to researchers. This makes it valuable because many researchers could adopt it if they were dealing with a similar research context. Also, since it is a widely known software, many tutorials are available and accessible to researchers.

4.4 Data Collection

The data was collected from four news institutions based in Kuwait, two from the public sector and two from the private sector. The public institutions are the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) and the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information (MOI), and the private

sector institutions are the *Kuwait Times* newspaper and the *Arab Times* newspaper. The rationale behind choosing these specific four institutions is twofold. First, these institutions deal with political news translation on a daily basis. Second, they should be representative of Kuwait.

On the one hand, these four institutions are the most prominent news translation institutions in Kuwait that conduct political news translation on a daily basis. There are other similar institutions, but their translation focus did not align with the goals of this research. For example, the Kuwaiti parliament, officially known as the National Assembly, is a prominent employer of translators. However, the focus of those translators is mainly concerned with legal documents and official communiques, as well as working as interpreters for foreign delegates. Another example is the *Al-Qabas* newspaper, which mainly uses freelance translators rather than employing them full-time. Other than these four institutions, no news translation institution exists in Kuwait that employs translators who deal with political news on a daily basis.

On the other hand, these four institutions should be reflective of their relative sector. First, the MOI and KUNA could be seen as representative of the public sector and generally reflective of the state of Kuwait. Second, the *Arab Times* and *Kuwait Times* newspapers should be reflective of the private sector. Having institutions from both sectors should help illustrate possible differences between the two sectors—for example, how a public institution would deal with news about Kuwaiti affairs compared to a private institution.

The researcher managed to collect data from the four news institutions. The news institutions were approached with a brief letter about the research and were then provided an explanation regarding how the collected data were going to be used. All

four institutions agreed to let their translators participate in this research. The following part discusses the differences in the data collected and its collection process.

The data from the questionnaire and the interviews was consistent in its type. However, the collected data for the texts and translations differed in type, number, and their accessibility. This was due to the nature, practice, or policy of each institution. Also, the archiving practice was not optimal for research of this kind, or in some cases non-existent at all. The following is a simple breakdown of the process of collecting the data.

First, the collected texts were not obtained from a standard archive. The texts were also not consistent in their nature across the four institutions. Some cases did not have an available ST to compare it to the translation (Ministry of Information), while other cases did not work on an ST (*Kuwait Times* newspaper). Some translators worked according to verbal instructions as to what to translate. This was mainly due to the nature of news production and the time-sensitive events involved.

Second, the data collected from the questionnaire was positively simple due to its nature. Translators were approached and asked to participate. Most of the approached translators agreed to participate in the voluntary questionnaire. The process was mainly time constrained as the translators had workloads to translate. In the end, all the participating translators fully answered the questionnaire.

Third, conducting the interviews varied on an individual basis. In general, time was the deciding factor in conducting the interviews. Some translators simply did not have enough time to participate due to their workload, while other translators opted to conduct the interviews during their time off when it was more convenient.

Since the interviews were voluntary, some translators simply refused to participate. However, most were willing. In fact, every questionnaire participant

decided to attend the interview. This was consistent across all four institutions. As a result, the number of interviews conducted in all four institutions arguably provided representative data for each institution as the participation rate was at least 50%.

4.5. Translation Process of Translators and Institutions

The following part discusses each institution's translation process and its work environment. Moreover, details about the translators in these institutions are provided. The details concern the number of translators, their workplace, and how their work is reviewed and submitted. This should provide a general understanding of how translations are being produced in their respective institutions. These details should also provide the required institutional context for the analysis of the collected data.

4.5.1 The Ministry of Information

As was previously mentioned, the MOI is a government entity that deals mostly in news reporting and programme production for television and radio. There are two translation departments in the MOI: the news translation department and the programme translation department.

Since this research focuses on the translation of political news, the second department's translations are needed. This is due to the nature of the texts handled by this second department. Their work is concerned with subtitling the Arabic programmes of Kuwait Channel One. The programmes range from cooking shows to Kuwaiti television dramas. The programmes are then broadcast on Channel Two (KT2).

The news department translates different kinds of news on a daily basis. The translations are then formatted for teleprompters, so that news presenters read the

translations for the viewers. This is done four times a day throughout the week. Moreover, this news is broadcast on Kuwait Channel Two (KT2), which airs exclusively in English and thus arguably targets English speakers.

The news translation department consists of around twenty-five translators who are mostly permanent employees. According to the head of the department (HOD), the number of translators is not consistent, as it fluctuates mildly depending on the department's needs. It sometimes uses Kuwait-based freelance translators. It has been observed that most of the translators are of Kuwaiti nationality while the rest are mainly of Arab descent.

The translators work in a single shared office space alongside each other. The department works in eight-hour shifts throughout the week. This means that the department is active twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The translators translate from Arabic into English, as they are part of the previously mentioned Kuwait Channel Two.

The work process in this department starts by selecting what news to translate. The HOD checks with the main news department, which is in Arabic, on the latest updates. Next, the HOD alongside the Arabic news editors decides what to translate. This consists mainly of news ranging in nature from political to sport news. According to the HOD, the importance of the news and the urgency of its translation are based on whether the news is *hard news* (for example, political news) or *soft news* (for example, sports news). Afterwards, the HOD would instruct the translators on what to translate accordingly. The senior translators translate as well as help the HOD in overseeing the other translations. The translators obtain final approval from either the HOD or specific senior translators the HOD appoints. In emergencies, the news would

be translated as soon as possible and presented on Channel Two in a banner form. It is then relayed to the next upcoming regular news update on the TV channel.

It is worth mentioning that there are no designated editors in the MOI. The translations are generally worked on by single individuals. When necessary, senior translators provide verbal feedback. Also, the news translation department of the MOI does not keep an archive of any kind of their work. Both the translations and any kind of source are discarded as soon as the news is published.

To collect the data for the texts analysis phase of this research, the researcher had to ask the head of the translation department to keep copies of their translated work. This collected data spanned over around two months, as the researcher was conducting the collection of data from the other three news institutions in Kuwait as well. The collected texts were news broadcasts formatted for teleprompter use (provided in Appendix V).

4.5.2 Kuwait News Agency

The Kuwait News Agency, known in Kuwait as KUNA, is another government entity. Although both KUNA and the MOI deal with the news, there are some differences. KUNA focuses only on news, as it is a news agency. This means that it mainly comprises news reporters, editors, and translators. It publishes the news mainly in Arabic and English. KUNA is also widely regarded as the official source of news in Kuwait. Many other newspapers, and even the MOI, cite KUNA on a regular basis as their source of news.

KUNA has four main departments involved in news production. First, the news selection department decides what news to publish and mainly consists of news editors. Second, the Arabic news department focuses on publishing the news in

Arabic. This consists of news reporters who work alongside the editors to publish the news. Third, the English news department translates the published Arabic news into English. Finally, the French news department translates the published Arabic news into French. The French department is the most recently added department.

It is worth noting that KUNA predominantly translates news in a very short format, focusing on quick reporting and news briefs. Since KUNA broadcasts the news on their website, it is more accessible than most other news institutions in Kuwait. The English department consists of twenty translators. All the translators are employed, and KUNA does not outsource any of its work according to the department's head. As is the case with the MOI, most of the translators in KUNA are Kuwaiti nationals. The workplace is shared between all the departments in a fairly large open floor. Since the agency publishes news as soon as it is available, it is also active twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. KUNA follows the standard work shifts of eight hours like the MOI.

KUNA reports only hard news. This means that its scope is more focused than other news institutions in Kuwait. Furthermore, some translators sometimes work on contracts or printed brochures related to the agency. When it comes to translation, the process starts as soon as the news is published in Arabic. A supervisory translator begins by dividing these published news items amongst the translators. Each news item is then translated by a single translator. The translation is then submitted to a supervisory translator, who reviews the translation and revises it as necessary. The translation is then published online.

There are two important matters to note here. First, it appears that the translator does not get to have a look at the revised translation until it is published. Second, all the published translations contain a kind of translator/reporter signature in their final

published format. This is usually the initials of the translator/reporter who worked on the news item. When asked about this, the HOD said that it is a longstanding practice in the agency to keep track of who wrote/translated what. This is not limited to the translation aspect of the institution only, but also to the original published news items in Arabic. However, according to the HOD, this information is inaccessible to the public, as it is considered private and not privy to the public or to the researcher.

As was the case with the MOI, there are no designated editors for the translators. Such a role is fulfilled by supervisory translators who are usually more experienced. While KUNA does not keep a standard archive of their work, the fact that they publish online means that access to the required data is possible.

4.5.3 The *Arab Times* Newspaper

Arab Times is a private newspaper that is published daily. It is a subsidiary of the Kuwaiti *Al-Seyassah* newspaper. The *Arab Times* deals with many kinds of news, but its primary focus is local news and the Arab world news in general. The newspaper also publishes some *Al-Seyassah* opinion pieces in Arabic. The *Arab Times* also publishes its work online on its own website, which is in English only. As a result, the translators mainly translate from Arabic into English. The translation team in the newspaper is small compared to the teams in the government institution.

The translators employed by the *Arab Times* are six individuals. All the translators are non-Kuwaiti. Their work schedule differs from the government sector, as they mainly work twelve hours on weekdays. While the *Arab Times* has employees designated as translators, they do not work as a translation team. Their work is not limited to translation only, as some translators in the *Arab Times* also do other tasks when needed such as typing and copywriting. The translators work in different office

spaces across the newspaper and do not have a designated department for translation.

The translation process starts when the translators receive their workload from the news editors. This workload ranges from political to economic or cultural items. They work individually and submit their work to their translation re-writer. The re-writer then proofreads and revises the translation as needed, and then submits the translation to the news editors to be published. While the *Arab Times* employs re-writers, they mainly work as proof-readers and not editors. Those re-writers' job is quite different from the standard re-writing that newspapers might do when they report the news. Kenzhebekuly et al. (2016) argued that the task of a re-writer is:

> The task of a rewriter is to transform the source, Internet-popular text into a unique one, which was not met anywhere by the word combination. Therefore, text rewriting means to rewrite it in one's own words, keeping its content intact. (p. 1337)

This task is mainly intended to avoid replicating other news outlets' texts, aiming to avoid legal prosecution for intellectual property theft.

Translators in the *Arab Times* also work as news reporters. This is similar to the "translator-editor hybrid" Bielsa and Bassnett (2009, p. 82) observed. The translators have to report some news that starts trending after they get the approval from the news editors. This is usually practiced by the more experienced translators. Nevertheless, the translators mainly focus on translating. According to one translator (participant 4), the MOI sometimes sends notices to prohibit the newspaper from delving into certain topics like sensitive ongoing court cases. It is worth noting that notices of this type are usually issued by the Kuwaiti attorney general, and the MOI simply circulates it to all news agencies.

The *Arab Times* keeps a private archive for its previously published newspaper issues, and also has an online archive for electronically published newspaper issues on its website. The private archive for the hard copies is not accessible to the public, but the online one is and goes back to September 2015. However, the newspaper does not keep any records of their source texts or news sources. The researcher had to track down the original Arabic texts of the newspaper, the source of which was mainly the aforementioned *Al-Seyassah* newspaper.

4.5.4 The *Kuwait Times* Newspaper

Kuwait Times is a private newspaper that publishes daily in Kuwait in paper form and online on its website. The newspaper mainly deals in reporting and translating local news, events, and crimes from Arabic into English. These events sometimes include cultural events like art competitions or social events like important weddings. They also publish opinion pieces, which they sometimes translate from Arabic. Others were written in English by their authors, so they are published as they are.

The translation team consists of only three translators, with one working part-time, all in an open space office with other employees. All the translators are non-Kuwaiti, and they work daily with weekends being paid overtime. According to one of the translators (Participant 3), the newspaper in general is understaffed. The translators in *Kuwait Times* work as translator-editor hybrids. Furthermore, translators are sometimes issued special assignments other than news translation or reporting, including interpreting interviews or working as interpreters for visiting foreign dignitaries.

The translation process is not definitive, as it changes depending on the source of the news. The source can be news from local Kuwaiti newspapers in Arabic. Other translators are asked by news editors to report in English on a specific event in English like a recent crime. Sometimes, the translators are given a picture or clipping related to an event. They are then asked to translate something into English pertaining to the said picture or clipping. This means that the translators would have to look up information regarding the event to report on it in English. As a result, the final translated product is usually not based on a single definitive source.

When the translation is finished, it is presented to the managing translation editor. The translation editor, who is part of the three translators' team, would review the translation and revise it if necessary. The translation is then given to the news editors to be published. While the *Kuwait Times* does not employ translation editors, the team works collaboratively to review and revise their work before publication.

Like the *Arab Times*, the *Kuwait Times* keeps a private archive of previously published newspaper issues. It keeps an accessible online archive for the electronic newspaper on its website. This online archive goes back to October of 2015. Moreover, the newspaper does not keep any records of their source texts or news sources. Finally, according to two of the translators, the *Kuwait Times* gives their translators the opportunity to write opinion pieces in the newspaper. Noticeably, this practice was recorded only in the *Kuwait Times.*

4.6 Methodology Limitations

It is worth reiterating that analysing a translator's agency, individual influence, collective/institutional influence, and social factors is likely affected by contextual knowledge. This research's methodology hopes to establish this knowledge as it takes into consideration macro social factors (Kuwait/institution) as well as micro social factors (translator's personal views, social attributes).

The possible limitations of to this methodology extend to both the quantitative and the qualitative data. The two data types are distinctly different, resulting in different limitations for these two data types. Moreover, some of these limitations were observed during the data collection or the data analysis. As a result, avoiding some of these limitations was not possible. The following part details the encountered limitations. It also provides possible ways to improve on the used methodology for similar research in the future.

4.6.1 Quantitative Data Limitations

The methodology for collecting and analysing the quantitative data had some limitations. On the one hand, some of these could have been avoided before data collection, while on the other hand, other limitations became apparent during the data collection process.

Firstly, some extra questions could have been added to the distributed questionnaire to provide better/clearer results. Some of these questions are listed in the following table:

Possible Questions	Provided Answers
1. Does your translation pass through an editor before it is published? If the answer is yes or sometimes, then: 1.1 How similar is the published translation compared to your translation?	1. A) Yes B) Sometimes C) No 1.1 A) Exactly the same. B) Very similar. C) Similar. D) Slightly similar. E) Not similar at all.
2- Are you required to report news in addition to translating? If yes or sometimes, then: 2.1 How often you do report them?	2. A) Yes B) Sometimes C) No 2.1 A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.
3. Do you work on other tasks besides translation? If yes, then: 3.1. Please list these tasks: Then: 3.2. How often you do them?	3. A) Yes B) No 3.1. - 3.2. A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.
4. Please tell us who chooses the source text? and Then: 4.1. How often do they choose the texts?	4. - 4.1. A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.

Table 5. Possible questions to improve the quantitative data and the questionnaire

As seen in the table above, these are some possible questions that could have improved the data collection.

The first question would have clearly established if there were translation editors in the news institutions. It would also have indicated whether the translations

had been vetted before being published. The researcher assumed that employing designated editors was the standard in the studied news institutions, but this was not the case, which is why the addition of this question would have been helpful.

The second question would have clearly helped in stating if translators also work as news reporters in these news institutions. Data from such a question would clearly establish whether the translator-editor hybrid Bielsa and Bassnett discussed (2009) exists in these institutions. The third question would help to inform the second question's results. The answers to this question would list other tasks of the translator; thus, our data would have been more comprehensible. This question would also establish the frequency of such tasks if they existed. On the other hand, the fourth proposed question would have defined exactly who chooses the texts or news to be translated. This would have provided more data to understand the process of each institution. It would also establish how often every individual undertakes this task of text selection.

Furthermore, the order of the questions in the used questionnaire could be seen as a bit arbitrary. If the questions were written in titled sections, then the participants might face less stress as they answer them. So, rather than using two main *parts* in the questionnaire, using titled sections would have been clearer. This could have been done by using another format that lists the questions in a more logical manner. For example, this format would start by using the basic information questions in the first section, to be followed by a second section containing the translation process questions. Then, the questions related to the available translation resources would be listed in a third section. Finally, a fourth section containing the institution protocols would be presented to the participants.

Each section would begin with the multiple-choice questions, and then conclude with the open-ended questions. This would help ease the participant into each section. By distributing the open-ended questions across their relevant sections, the participants could more easily recall related information. This distribution could also prevent overwhelming the participants with open-ended questions at the end, which might yield quick or insufficient answers just to finish the questionnaire.

Finally, the inclusion of a question to identify the gender of the translator in the questionnaire might have provided more insight into the data. Although this is not a focus of this research project, the possible data from such a question could present a new perspective on the data.

4.6.2 Qualitative Data Limitations

The limitations related to qualitative data are mainly due to the nature of the data and its availability. Moreover, the consistency of available data across the four news institutions also limited the scope of this methodology. The textual analysis was limited by the fact that not all institutions have STs and TTs readily available for analysis. This resulted in different methods of data collection for the four news institutions.

None of the institutions provide data on who translated what. The only case where such information exists is in KUNA, but the data was inaccessible and private according to the institution's bylaws. Nonetheless, even if the data had been provided, its value would be less than ideal without having such data from all four institutions.

Furthermore, the type of translated texts differed across the four institutions. First, the MOI mainly dealt with translating news in a teleprompter format for their news presenters on television. Second, KUNA translates news primarily in a digestible

format like headlines or short paragraphs, which results in texts sharing information concisely. Finally, the *Arab Times* and the *Kuwait Times* both translate many kinds of news in different formats. This includes breaking news, opinion pieces, and soft news. As a result, the collected texts were not as consistent as was hoped for. For instance, not all translators deal with source texts when they translate. Some translators read the breaking news from different sources and translate them for publication, as with the *Arab Times* and the *Kuwait Times*. Other translators are verbally instructed on what to write and translate, as in the MOI. Translators in KUNA translate the Arabic ST that is scheduled to be published on their website.

Future research could try to specify a defined type of text before collecting the data. If the ability to acquire clearly defined texts is not possible, then texts of a similar kind should be considered. For example, news headlines and tweets by news agencies on Twitter are generally similar due to their length restriction. This approach to selecting texts of a similar nature should result in consistent results and avoid possible limitations.

The open-ended questions in the questionnaire could use possible improvements. This is especially the case with the third question, which was:

- How would you describe translating sensitive tasks like political news as a translator in Kuwait?

The framing of the question could have been improved by asking the participants to describe their experience with political news translation. The addition of “sensitive tasks” can help in providing a broader understanding of the process, but still could lead to a degree of ambiguity in the data analysis.

Another possible improvement would be the addition of one more question. This question would be optional and would ask the participants to add any remarks or

insights they would want to share. The addition of such a question would be similar to the final question of the interview. This question would present the participants with more opportunities to share any information they want. It would be interesting to compare the answers to such a question between written and oral versions. Furthermore, because the answers are handwritten, this might result in difficulties when reading some of them. So, some answers might not be clearly written due to many possible reasons.

The process of analysing these answers would probably be more time-consuming in their current form. This can be avoided by providing an electronic/online copy of the questionnaire. However, it is worth keeping in mind that face-to-face distribution of hard copies of the questionnaire would probably lead to higher response rate and participation (see Fricker & Schonlau, 2002).

There were also some limitations concerning the interview phase of the study. One of the limitations of interviews is the participant's willingness to give detailed answers. While conducting the interviews, not every participant was willing to answer and discuss every question in detail. This was the case even though the interviews were voluntary and were conducted at a convenient time and place for each participant.

Many internal or external factors could influence the participant's answers and the results of the interviews. Social factors can be an example of this. As Saldanha and O'Brien noted (2014, p. 169), social desirability or impression management can affect the reliability of the data. This can be due to the interviewer's presence or identity. So, the participant might behave or answer accordingly. Abdullah and Raman (2011, p. 129) argued that this makes standardising the interviews difficult. Moreover, it is difficult to inquire about personal historical or social experiences in an interview

setting, even if such information could be valuable to the research. However, this is hard to accomplish due to other factors like participants' privacy and reluctance to answer personal questions.

Even if the opportunity to make this possible was present, the number of willing participants could be affected. As a result, it was imperative to try and find the most suitable manner to conduct these interviews. The nature of qualitative data usually varies depending on the context of the research. So, some of the mentioned limitations might not pertain to other situations.

4.7 Ethical Considerations

Any type of research methodology must directly address ethical issues. The rights of any participant or materials used should be upheld, and the research was conducted on this basis. As a result, many steps were taken to ensure ethical compliance. Both participants and the news institutions were included in these considerations.

First, all participants provided written consent to participate voluntarily in this research. This was signed after providing them with a printed briefing letter about the research and their role in it. Furthermore, their anonymity was preserved across all forms of their participation. This was done by not asking their names either on the questionnaire or during the interviews. As for the recordings of the interviews, they were transcribed to make them accessible without compromising the identities of the participants.

Second, the privacy of the participants' answers was kept by conducting the interviews in a private manner. This was also the case for the distributed

questionnaire, as the participants were asked to answer the questions alone. Additionally, the analysed texts did not include the names of their translators.

Third, the safety of the participants was of the utmost importance. They were not harmed or abused in any way, physically or psychologically. On the contrary, an effort to create the optimal environment was made through finding a convenient place and time for each participant.

Fourth, throughout all the interactions with the participants, they were informed frequently that they could withdraw from participation at any time. They were told that they did not have to give a reason if they wanted to leave. Also, they were permitted to refrain from answering a question during the interview or the questionnaire if they wanted to do so. All participants were also given the contact details of the researcher in case they changed their mind and wanted to withdraw at a later time.

Fifth, all news institutions were briefed on the research and how it is conducted. All four news institutions were approved to participate in this research through their translators. The translators were encouraged and given approval to participate if they so choose.

Finally, the data used in this research was either publicly available or requested formally. On the one hand, three of the institutions (KUNA, *Arab Times*, *Kuwait Times*) publish their translations publicly online. On the other hand, the MOI translations are kept in-house. Due to this fact, the translations were requested formally along with an explanation of their intended use.

4.8 Summary

It can be argued that institutional translation of political news involves a myriad of intersecting elements. The many elements involved in this translation include

humans as social actors, institutions as social collectives, languages, technology, and even different societies. The many aspects that should be taken into consideration can be overwhelming. Therefore, this methodology tried to accommodate as many of these elements as possible. The use of a mixed method aimed to tackle these many elements. This was done by applying three different methods: critical discourse analysis, a questionnaire, and interviews. Each method resulted in a unique type of data for analysis.

The goal of adopting a mixed method was to mitigate the inherent shortcomings of singular methods. On the one hand, qualitative data could be useful in describing an experience, but it can fall short in providing factual data. On the other hand, quantitative data would present data of a statistical nature, but it would lose the human factor due to that statistical nature.

Chapter Four: Quantitative Data

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the analysis of the collected quantitative data. First, a general analysis of the quantitative data from the questionnaire is presented. This is followed by an analysis of the answers to the questionnaire's multiple-choice questions. Afterwards, a more detailed analysis is presented using tests from the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences analysis tool (SPSS). Finally, the chapter concludes with remarks about the results of the quantitative data analysis.

5.2 Quantitative Data Analysis

The quantitative data analysed here are sourced from a distributed questionnaire (Appendix I), which thirty-three participants answered and completed. The participants are translators working in four news translation institutions based in Kuwait. First, a general overview of the results was established. This was then followed by a descriptive analysis of the answers to the questionnaire, as well as using comparison and inference. Since there is no previous study on the state of political news translation in Kuwait, the analysis of the collected data does not have a previous sample to work from as its basis. Therefore, the researcher's background as a Kuwaiti and his observations during the data collection phase of this project are used to some extent to elaborate on the data. So, this results in the data being interpreted solely by the researcher.

The response rate to the questionnaire was one hundred percent. This perfect response rate was mainly a result of the face-to-face sessions that the researcher carried out to secure this high response rate. This resulting rate is also in line with what Fricker and Schonlau (2002) found when using a face-to-face approach in the

distribution of a questionnaire. Fricker and Schonlau's findings showcased some of the advantages and disadvantages of different questionnaire approaches. They found that a face-to-face questionnaire usually garners a higher response rate compared to an online questionnaire. This is due to the interviewer being present which should minimise misinterpretation of the questions by the participant or leaving them altogether (ibid.). As a result, the response rate would be higher.

The breakdown of this data analysis is in three sections. The first section provides a general overview of the collected data and the basic information provided by the participants (age, translation experience, nationality, employer/news institution). The second section presents analysis of the answers. The third section comprises a deep analysis of the data using correlation and inference.

The nature of quantitative data tends to rely on hard data, as was discussed earlier in the methodology chapter (section 4.2.1). Therefore, the data analysis here was focused on the translation process at the institutions rather than the translation product. The rationale behind this decision is to establish an understanding of how each institution processes and approaches translation. In turn, this understanding is used to inform the translations as products to be analysed later in the research. In contrast, the qualitative data are concerned with both the process and the product of translation, as the datasets include interviews with translators as well as translation analysis using a critical discourse analysis model.

5.2.1 Quantitative Data Overview

In this section, data collected from basic information in the questionnaire are analysed to present a general overview of the state of political news translation in Kuwait. The data also illustrate general features of the translators such as their age

and years of experience. This basic information serves two main purposes. First, it helps to establish a general overview of the state of translators at the institutions. Second, the data could be indicative of how different translators process their translation tasks differently. One possible example could be based on translation experience and if translators at different levels of experience are processing their translation tasks.

Sector

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Public Sector	25	75.8	75.8	75.8
	Private Sector	8	24.2	24.2	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 6. Distribution of translators by sector

Employer

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	The Arab Times	5	15.2	15.2	15.2
	Kuwait Times	3	9.1	9.1	24.2
	Ministry of Information	15	45.5	45.5	69.7
	Kuwait News Agency	10	30.3	30.3	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 7. Distribution of translators across the four employers

The two above tables show that most of the participants approached in this research were employed by the Kuwaiti government in the Ministry of Information (MOI) and Kuwait News Agency (KUNA). The two tables contain four columns related to the frequency of answers provided by the participants.

The first column, labelled “Frequency”, indicates the number of participants who chose the labelled institution in the corresponding row. The second column shows the “Percentage” of the number of participants in relation to the total number of participants. The third column shows the “Valid Percentage”, which does not include missing answers in the percentage. Finally, the fourth column is labelled “Cumulative Percentage” and shows the accumulating percentage up to %100. This fourth column helps in observing the response rate of the questions. Tables of similar structure are used in the following analysis as well.

It can be inferred from this analysis that the public sector in Kuwait is more active in the Kuwaiti news translation industry than its private counterpart since it employs more translators. Furthermore, if this sample is seen as representative of Kuwait, then it is possible to argue that at least more than fifty percent of translators in Kuwait are working in the public sector. This might be the result of many newspapers opting to hire translators based on their needs and often for a limited time rather than full-time employment. More details about this matter were discussed previously in section 2.4.

Nationality

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Kuwaiti	22	66.7	66.7	66.7
	Non-Kuwaiti	11	33.3	33.3	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 8. Distribution of percentages of translators’ nationalities

The above table provides insight into the nationalities of translators in Kuwait. As seen above, around sixty-six percent of translators dealing with political news in Kuwait are Kuwaiti nationals. This was observed in the present project, especially in

the public sector institutions. It can be inferred from this general finding that more than half of the international political news translated from English into Arabic is carried out by Kuwaiti translators. The significance of this matter lies in if/how an individual's nationality influences their translation. Establishing that more than half of the translators dealing with political news items are Kuwaiti nationals means that the present research can observe the influence of nationality as a social element involved in the translation.

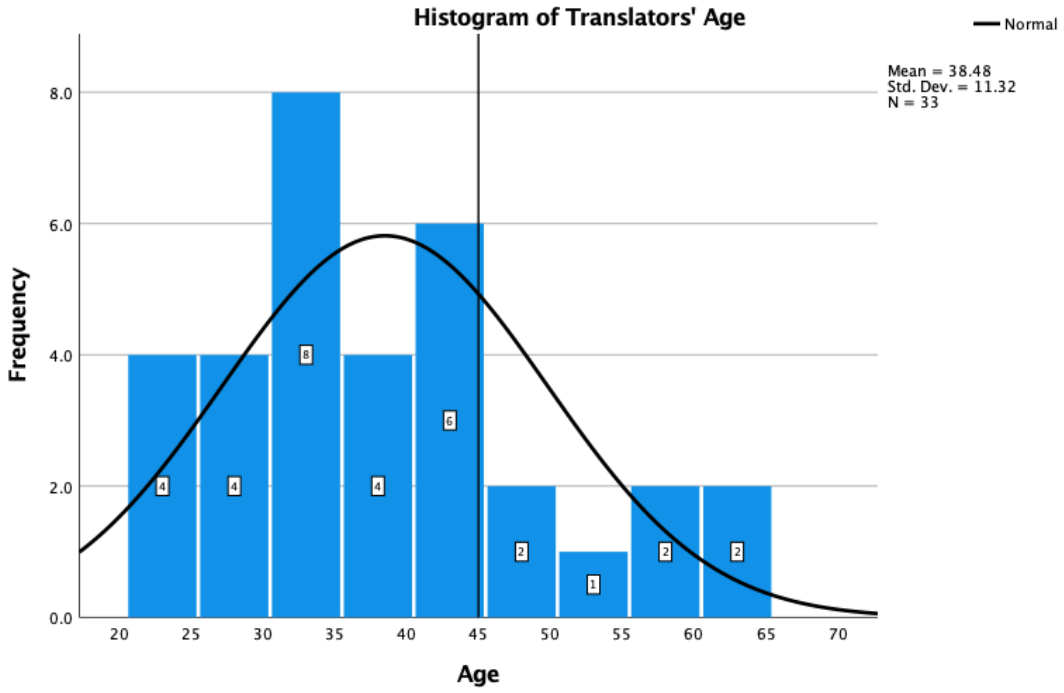

Figure 3. Distribution of translators' age answers

The above figure shows that most translators in Kuwait dealing with political news translation in Kuwait are under forty-five years old, with the average age around thirty-eight years old. This data also shows that translators can start dealing with political news translation from at least the age of twenty-three. Furthermore, translators continue to work up to at least the age of sixty-five in Kuwait. While it is unclear why the number of translators decreases after the age of forty-five, it is

possible that some translators are promoted to other roles in their respective institution or quit/retire. This might explain the fewer translators working after the age of forty-five.

The importance of knowing the age of translators lies in two aspects: first, understanding the state of translation in Kuwait from this perspective; and second, similar data were non-existent prior to this project. So, the data here could be helpful as a basis for future projects. When it comes to this project, age as a factor likely plays a small role in the translation process and product.

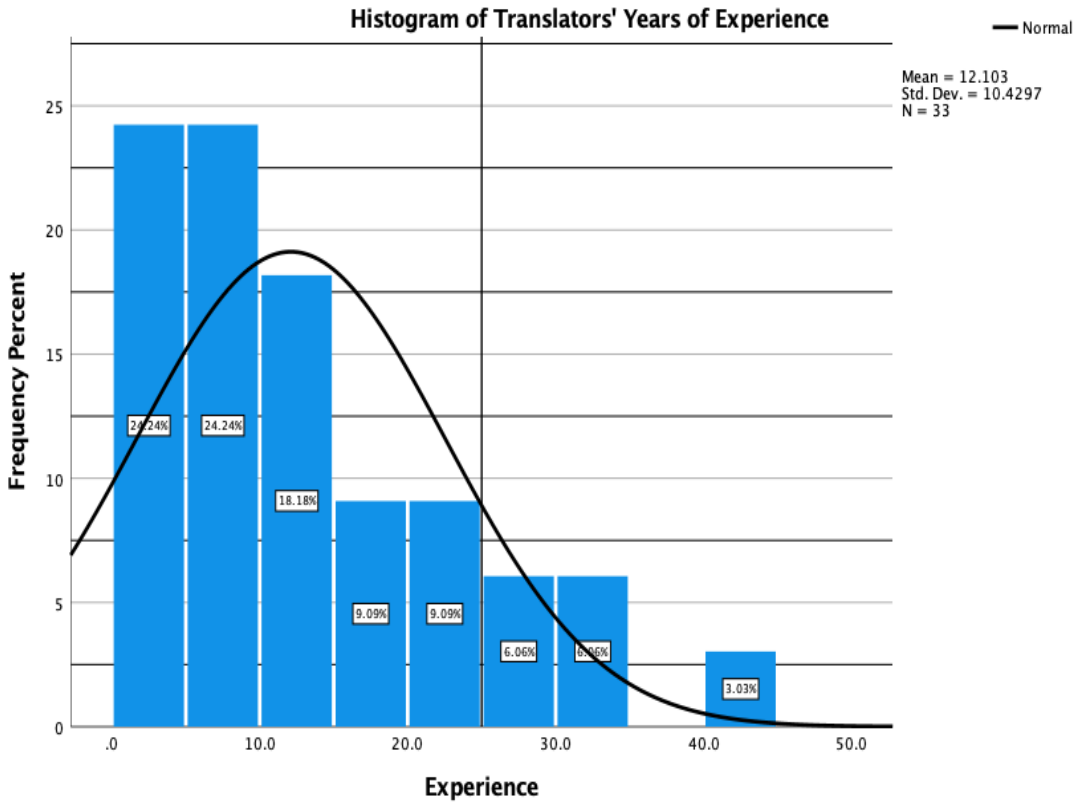

Figure 4. Translators' years of experience

This graph shows the experience of the translators working on political news translation in Kuwait. As can be seen above, more than ninety percent of the translators have less than twenty-five years of translation experience. In fact, the average total of years of experience is around twelve years. Moreover, about fifty

percent have less than ten years of translation experience, and half of those translators have less than five years of experience.

As was the case with ages of the translators, the more experienced translators tend to deal less often with the translation of political news. This negative correlation is clearly illustrated in the previous data. The reason behind this correlation is unclear; however, it can be presumed that it is due to factors such as translators being promoted or transferred to other roles like editor or supervisor. It is possible that the decrease in the number of experienced translators is due to other reasons like retirement after practicing translation for more than thirty years. Still, the data alone does not clearly illustrate the reason behind the decrease in the number of experienced translators.

To summarise, these previous figures illustrate that most translators in Kuwait dealing with news translation are on average thirty-eight years old with average experience around twelve years. About seventy-five percent of those translators are employed in the public sectors, and more than half are Kuwaiti nationals. These numbers could help understand differences between translation processes and products originating from the four news institutions in the present project. In addition, these numbers illustrate the state of news translation practice in Kuwait.

Bayesian Estimates of Coefficients [a,b,c]

Parameter	Posterior			95% Credible Interval	
	Mode	Mean	Variance	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Nationality = Kuwaiti	7.632	7.632	3.388	4.001	11.263
Nationality = non-Kuwaiti	21.045	21.045	6.776	15.911	26.180

a. Dependent Variable: Experience

b. Model: Nationality

c. Assume standard reference priors.

Table 9. Means of experience between Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti translators

The above table is a Bayesian Estimates of Coefficients test made using SPSS. The goal of this test is to analyse how/if experience differs among participants based on their nationality. The test tries to identify if such a correlation exists between the two variables.

Here, it seems that Kuwaiti translators are generally less experienced than non-Kuwaiti translators. The difference is apparent as seen above since the mean average (in years) for the years of experience is 7.6 for Kuwaiti translators and 21 for non-Kuwaiti translators. This finding is in line with the hypothesis that most translators with less experience in Kuwait are nationals and usually work in the public sector, while the more experienced translators are non-Kuwaitis and are employed in the private sector.

5.2.2 Analysis of the Questionnaire Answers

This section analyses the answers provided by the participants to each of the multiple-choice questions. Some of these questions were rated based on the Likert scale, as discussed in section 4.3.1.1.

Question 1: How do you translate your workload?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	A Individually	19	57.6	57.6	57.6
	B Collaboratively	2	6.1	6.1	63.6
	C Mix of both	12	36.4	36.4	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 10. Question 1 answer breakdown

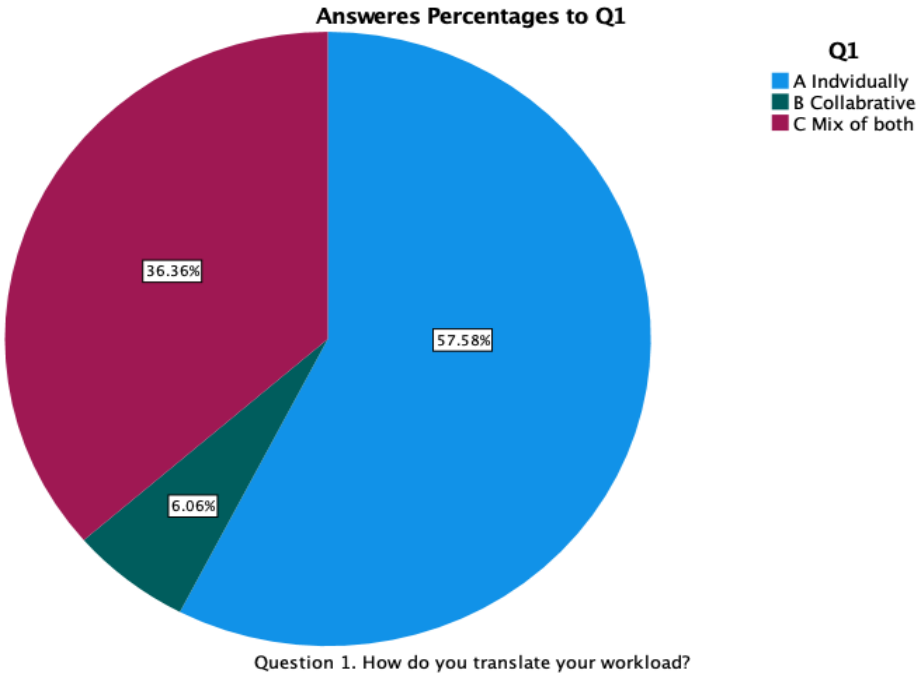

Figure 5. Answer percentages to Question 1

As can be seen in the above table and figure, more than half of the translators mostly work individually. In contrast, about six percent stated that they work collaboratively with their colleagues. Also, more than third of the participants said that they mix both approaches. It is hard to determine the frequency of individual/collaborative translations from "mix of both" answer. However, if the other answers were used as indicators, it can be seen that the individual approach to translation is more frequent.

It can also be inferred from this data that at least more than half of the translations of political news in Kuwait are carried out by individual translators. Therefore, it would be more than likely that TTs produced and published by these institutions are the work of a single individual. As a result, the upcoming analysis of the texts obtained from these institutions will consider the texts as the product of one individual rather than as a collaborative translation. This illustrates the importance of the questionnaire, as it helps inform the analysis of the translations.

Question 2: Does your department provide Computer-Assisted Tools of translation (CAT) like SDL Trados?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	9	27.3	27.3	27.3
	No	24	72.7	72.7	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 11. Question 2 answer breakdown

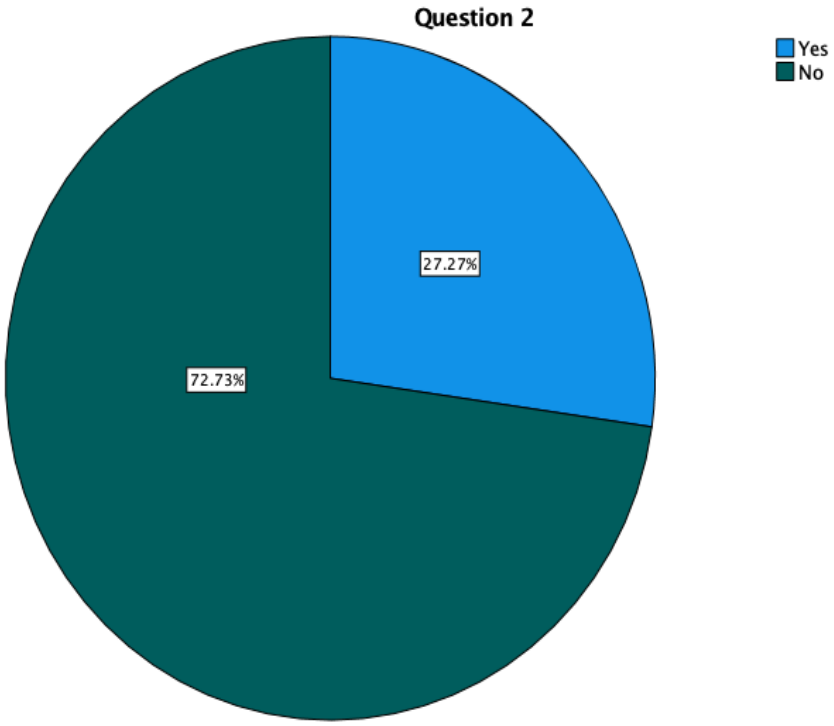

Figure 6. Answer percentages to Question 2

As can be seen from the data, more than seventy percent of the translators said that they do not have access to CAT tools. This indicates that the four translation institutions probably do not provide such tools to their translators. As a result, it can be stated based on this data that the translations do not apply vocabulary/terminology that is generally available at the news institutions. Therefore, it is safe to presume that terms used in the translated news are based on the translator's own decision.

For example, if a TT produced at one of these four institutions contained a term that frames the news in a positive/negative manner rather than a neutral term, then it

is safe to assume that it was used based on individual or collective influence. This finding is made based on answers to question 2. This question was also used as a filter for the next question.

Question 2.1: If the answer is yes, then how often do you use them?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Always	4	12.1	40.0	40.0
	Very often	1	3.0	10.0	50.0
	Sometimes	4	12.1	40.0	90.0
	Never	1	3.0	10.0	100.0
	Total	10	30.3	100.0	
Missing	System	23	69.7		
Total		33	100.0		

Table 12. Question 2.1 answer breakdown

Question 2.1 used a Likert scale answer format that can be seen above (upcoming questions use the same format as well). The valid answers were provided by the participants who answered “Yes” for question 2. As the numbers show, the rate at which the participants use CAT tools differs. The percentage of the translators using CAT tools is about thirty percent. This indicates that the translators of political news in Kuwait generally do not use such tools. Interestingly, though, ninety percent of those with access use CAT tools at least sometimes. It is worth noting that none of the participants answered this question with “Rarely”. This indicates that whenever available, the participants opt to use CAT tools.

The importance of such data lies in establishing the role of CAT tools in the translation process and the extent of its effects on the translation product. Based on the numbers above, it is safe to state that CAT tools are not generally used at the four institutions. In turn, this means that their role and effects are generally limited in the overall translation process/product related to the four news institutions.

This finding also helps in the approach to analysis of the texts, as it is safe to assume that CAT tools likely were not used. So, if a text that uses specific terminology is encountered, it is more than likely that the translator did not use CAT tools. This can be stated because just 40% of the translators with access to CAT tools, which is around 27.3% of the whole sample, use them.

Question 3: Are you provided a glossary before the translation task?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	4	12.1	12.1	12.1
	Sometimes	10	30.3	30.3	42.4
	No	19	57.6	57.6	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 13. Question 3 answer breakdown

Here it can be observed that more than half the participants are not provided with glossaries before they start their translation tasks. Around ten percent are given glossaries beforehand. Thirty percent of the time such glossaries are provided. This illustrate that most translations of political news are produced without specific guidelines for their terminology. This question was also used as a filter for the next question.

Question 3.1: If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often do you use it?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Always	2	6.1	13.3	13.3
	Very often	2	6.1	13.3	26.7
	Sometimes	9	27.3	60.0	86.7
	Rarely	1	3.0	6.7	93.3
	Never	1	3.0	6.7	100.0
	Total	15	45.5	100.0	
Missing	System	18	54.5		
Total		33	100.0		

Table 14. Question 3.1 answer breakdown

As seen here, the use of provided glossaries is apparently not mandatory. Half of the translators provided with such glossaries only use them sometimes, implying that the translators use the glossaries as they see fit. The percentage of translators not using glossaries at all is quite low, however. The two previous questions indicate that the four news institutions usually do not distribute glossaries to their translators, and when they do, the translators do not usually use them.

Question 4: Do you discuss your work with your colleagues?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	29	87.9	87.9	87.9
	No	4	12.1	12.1	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 15. Question 4 answer breakdown

It can be observed from the answers here that the majority of the participants discuss their work with their colleagues. This means that although more than half of the translators work individually (according to the first question's answers), they still discuss their work in their work environment.

Question 4.1: if the answer is yes, then how often?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Always	3	9.1	10.3	10.3
	Very often	9	27.3	31.0	41.4
	Sometimes	15	45.5	51.7	93.1
	Rarely	2	6.1	6.9	100.0
	Total	29	87.9	100.0	
Missing	System	4	12.1		
Total		33	100.0		

Table 16. Question 4.1 answer breakdown

The participants who discuss their work with their colleagues do so on a regular basis, according to the answers to question 3.1. This can indicate that the translation work environment in the four news institutions is not strict about their translators' approaches, as discussion is common. Moreover, as was discussed in the data collection section (4.4), the workplace of translators in these institutions is usually an open office space, which helps translators engage more with each other.

Question 5: Does your employer provide guidelines of how the translation task should be completed and then processed?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	11	33.3	33.3	33.3
	Sometimes	12	36.4	36.4	69.7
	No	10	30.3	30.3	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 17. Question 5 answer breakdown

As can be seen above, the results are not consistent. This is probably due to the protocols of each specific institution, which is analysed later in this chapter. The general inference here is that some institutions have specific guidelines for their translators. Around seventy percent of the translators said that they are given guidelines on how the translation task should be completed and processed. These guidelines can range from specific lexical choices to stylistic ones.

Question 5.1: If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often are you personally provided with the said guidelines?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Always	4	12.1	16.7	16.7
	Very often	8	24.2	33.3	50.0
	Sometimes	8	24.2	33.3	83.3
	Rarely	3	9.1	12.5	95.8
	Never	1	3.0	4.2	100.0
	Total	24	72.7	100.0	
Missing	System	9	27.3		
Total		33	100.0		

Table 18. Question 5.1 answer breakdown

It is apparent from the above table that most translators have been personally given guidelines before a translation task. At least fifty percent of the participants

stated that they are very often provided with these guidelines for their translation tasks. It can be inferred from this data that the news translation institutions provide guidelines for translation tasks. The frequency with which these guidelines are provided seems to be high.

Question 6: Does your employer have protocols that you are required to abide by as a translator?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	29	87.9	87.9	87.9
	No	4	12.1	12.1	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 19. Question 6 answer breakdown

This table indicates that the four news institutions have specific protocols that their translators should follow. These protocols could be codes of conduct, ethical protocols, or specific translation processes for specific tasks. As can be seen above, 87.9% of the participants believe that their employer requires them to abide by certain protocols as translators.

Question 6.1. If the answer is yes, then how important would you describe them to be?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Very important	16	48.5	55.2	55.2
	Important	9	27.3	31.0	86.2
	Fairly important	4	12.1	13.8	100.0
	Total	29	87.9	100.0	
Missing	System	4	12.1		
Total		33	100.0		

Table 20. Question 6.1 answer breakdown

This above table shows that more than fifty percent of the participants believe that their institution's protocols are very important. It is possible to infer from their answers that most of the translators strictly follow these protocols, as they view them to be fairly/very important. These protocols can also relate to the Kuwaiti media law that was discussed in section 2.3. This is worth mentioning, as every publication business in Kuwait must adhere to this news publication law. In turn, this might result in certain protocols from these news translation institutions based on the state's laws.

Question 7: When you finish a translation task and it is later published, how similar is the final product to your translation?

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Exactly the same	6	18.2	18.2	18.2
	Very similar	21	63.6	63.6	81.8
	Similar	4	12.1	12.1	93.9
	Slightly similar	2	6.1	6.1	100.0
	Total	33	100.0	100.0	

Table 21. Question 7 answer breakdown

As can be seen from the answers' distribution to question seven, more than eighty percent of the translators stated that their translations are at least very similar to the final published translation, while around sixty percent answered that they are very similar. This is probably due to some small degree of editing/proofreading before the publication of the translation. In contrast, none of the thirty-three participants chose the "*Not similar at all"* answer to this question. This indicates that most of the published political news translations in Kuwait does not differ significantly from the translators' final drafts.

The answers to these previous questions alone help us understand the general status of the translation environment in Kuwait. However, to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the state of translation in these institutions, it is

imperative to delve deeper into these answers and compare many of their elements, which should provide more insight into this quantitative data.

5.2.3 Analysis of the Quantitative Data

This section presents the analysis of the quantitative data collected through the questionnaire using analysis tests in SPSS. This section aims to find patterns and insights from the collected data. By using answers from different institutions and comparing them to different questions, this section delves deeper into the analysis of the data

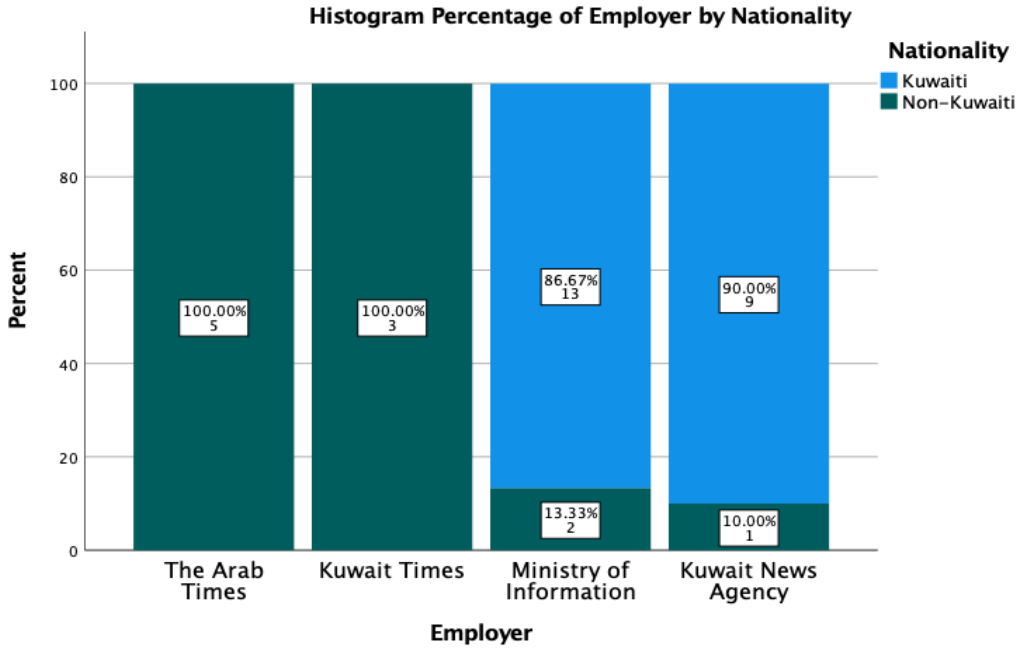

Figure 7. Percentage of translators by employer

The data here shows that the two private sector institutions fully consist of non-Kuwaiti translators. In comparison, most translators in the public sector are Kuwaiti nationals. It can be inferred from this data those Kuwaiti translators are concentrated in the public sector, while non-Kuwaitis are in the private sector. One possible reason for this is that the public sector prefers employing Kuwaitis rather than non-Kuwaitis.

It can also be observed that the two private sector institutions employ a smaller number of translators compared to the public institutions. This can be due to financial reasons, as private institutions are for-profit. The next figure shows a possible explanation for this distribution.

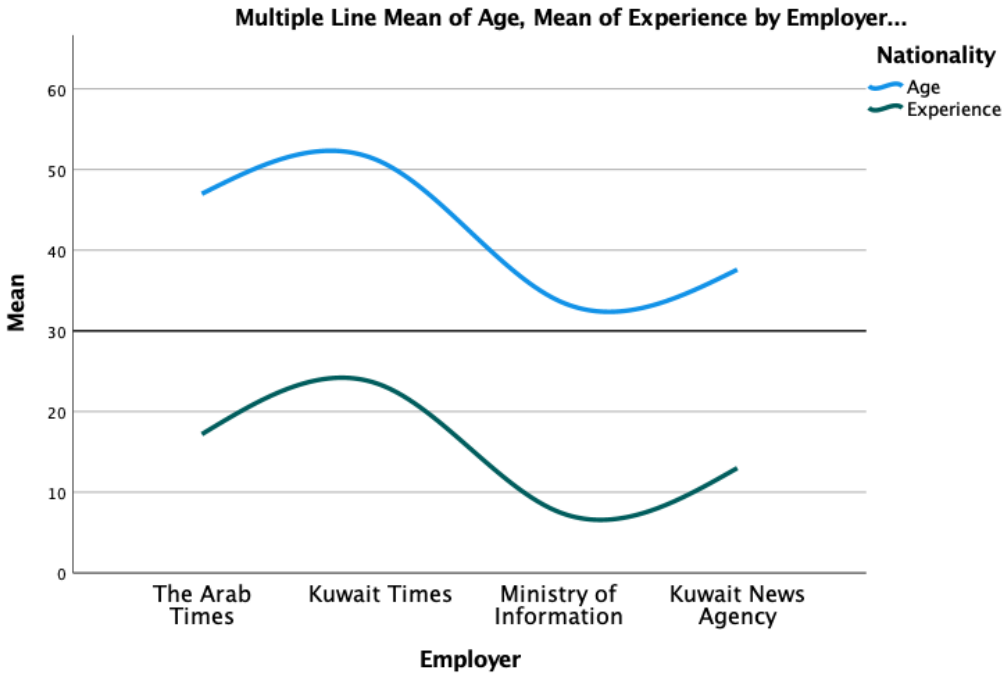

Figure 8. Means of age and translation experience by employer

As can be seen here, the mean experience for the translators in the private sector is much higher than for the public sector. Furthermore, the age of translators corroborates this, as apparently only senior translators are employed in the private sector. In the case of the public sector, it seems to mainly comprise of younger translators as the numbers suggest. The data from this figure, and the previous one, suggest that translators in Kuwait usually start in the public sector to gain more experience. It can be postulated that when translators gain sufficient experience, around twenty years according to the data, they are either promoted to other positions or start working in the private sector.

In the case of Kuwaiti translators, it is inferred that they are promoted within their respective institutions, which are typically part of the public sector. Also, it is possible that those translators are assigned to exclusively report news items rather than translate them. This is a possibility, since some of these institutions task their translators to report and translate as translator-editors hybrid (see section 3.6).

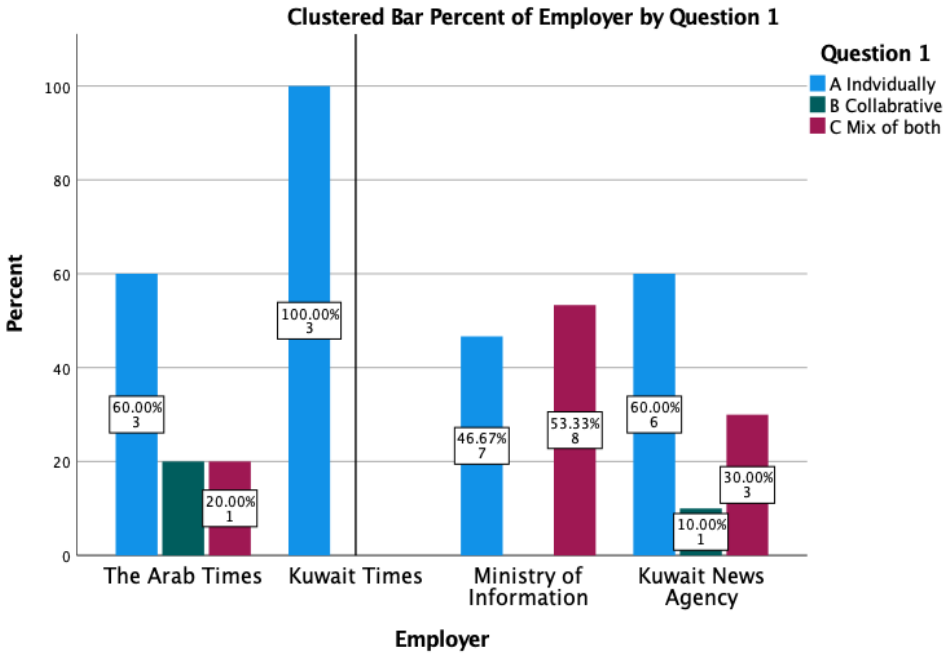

Figure 9. Breakdown of Question 1 answers by employer

The above figure illustrates the work environment in each of the news translation institutions. As seen above, in the private sector more than half of the translators work individually. In the case of the *Kuwait Times*, all the translators work individually. This can be stated since the questionnaire was distributed to all the employed translators working there (see data collection section 4.4).

The public institutions' translators were predominantly leaning towards individual translation as well, which can be inferred since only one participant answered with "Collaborative". This infers that those who translate a "Mix of both" in

the public sector should be leaning towards individual translation. The important takeaway here is that collaborative translation is more common in the public sector.

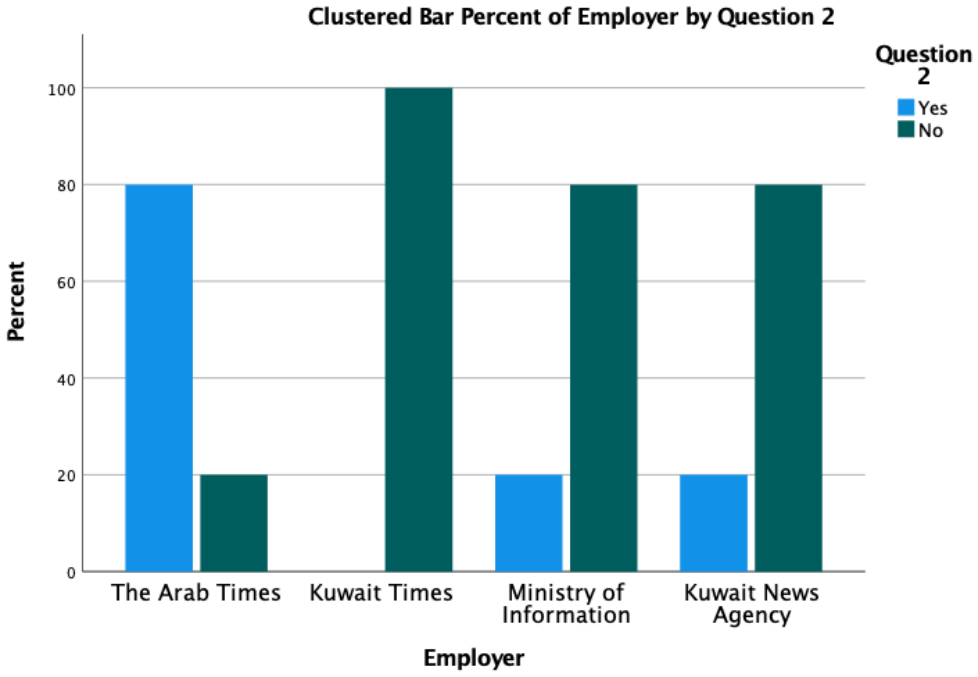

Figure 10. Breakdown of Question 2 answers by employer

The answers here tell us that when it comes to CAT tools, three out of four institutions do not provide them. Except for the *Arab Times* newspaper, the rest of the news translations probably do not provide such tools. While some participants from the public sector stated that they do get access to CAT tools, it seems that this is not always the case. If the previous answer is considered, it can be posited that those translations by the *Kuwait Times* are done entirely by their respective translators without any use of CAT tools.

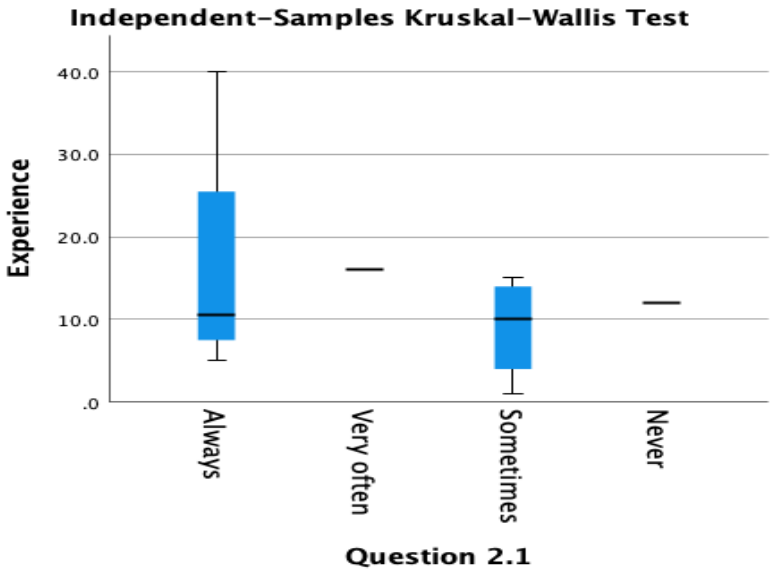

Figure 11. Kruskal-Wallis Test on experience and answers to Question 2.1

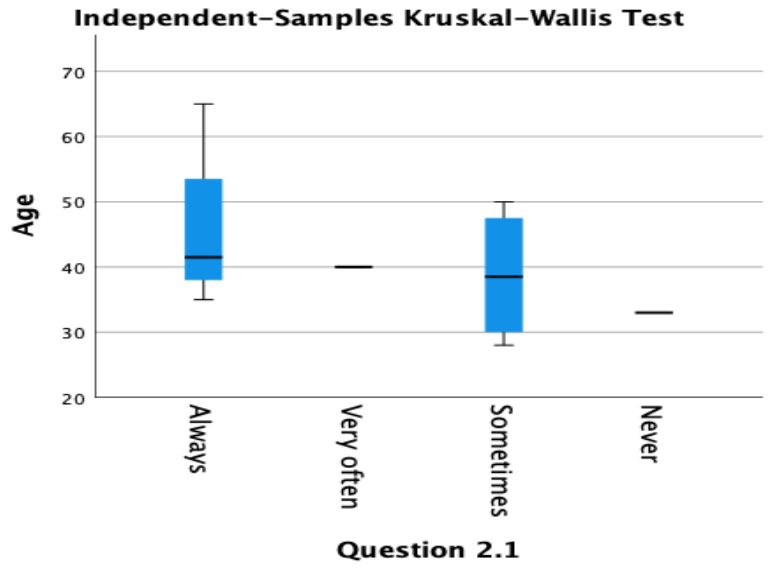

Figure 12. Kruskal-Wallis Test on age and answers to Question 2.1

The analysis tests above show that the more experienced/older translators opt to use CAT tools (when available) more often than those younger or less experienced. This suggests that there is a positive correlation between years of experience/age and usage of CAT tools in the four news institutions.

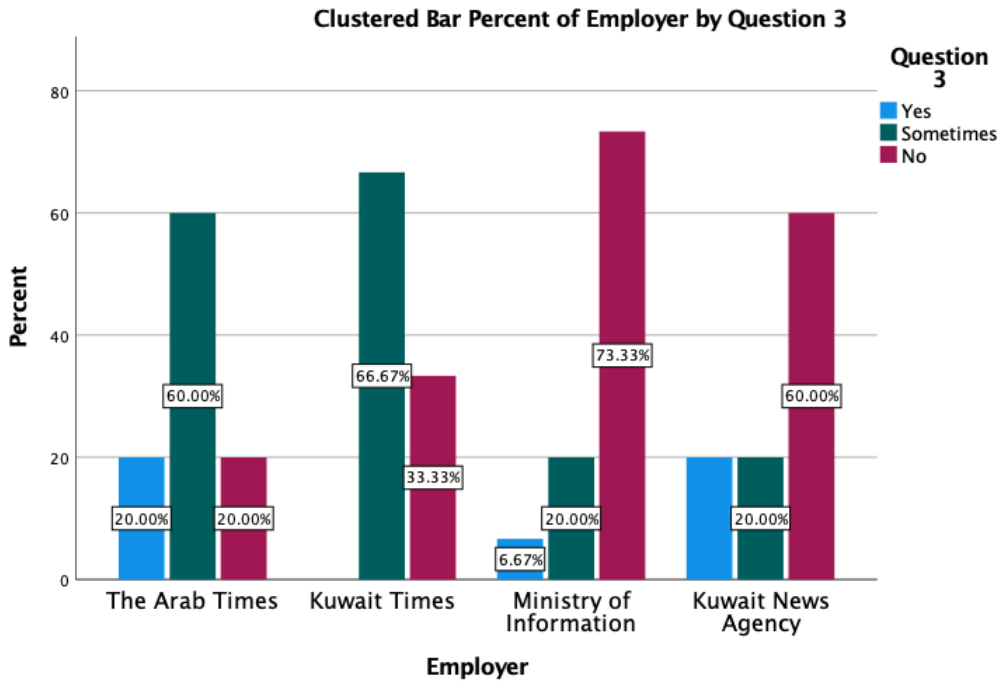

Figure 13. Breakdown of Question 3 answers' percentages by employer

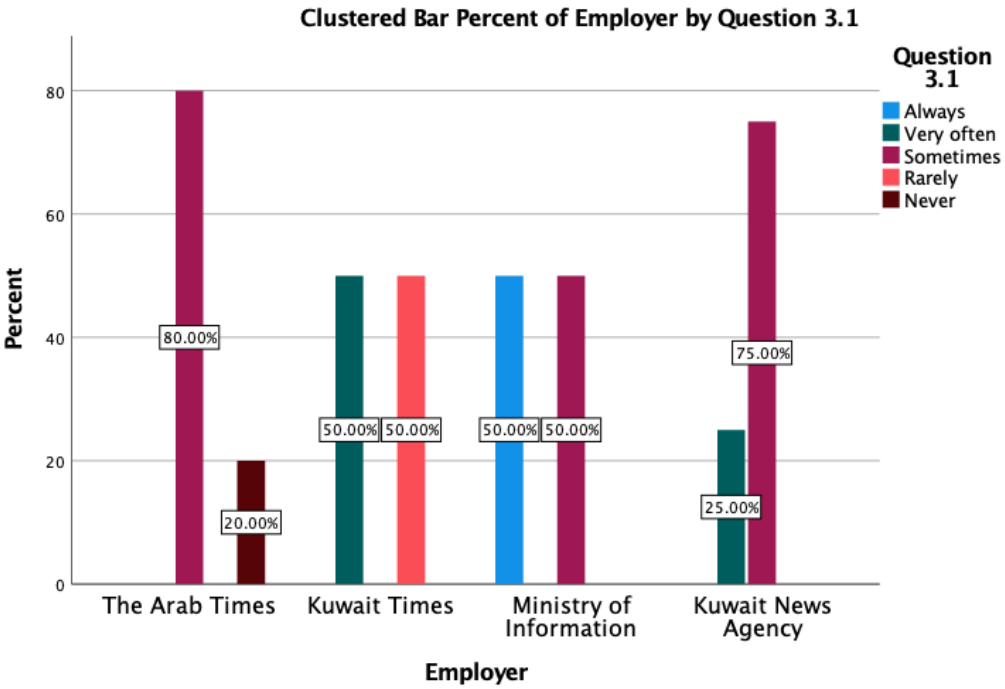

Figure 14. Breakdown of Question 3.1 answers' percentages by employer

The case of glossaries across the two sectors is an interesting one. As can be observed above, more than half the translators in the private sector are provided with

glossaries. However, even if they are provided with glossaries, they do not use them regularly. In comparison, public institutions do not typically provide glossaries to their translators. When they are provided with glossaries, the public institutions' translators do lean towards using them.

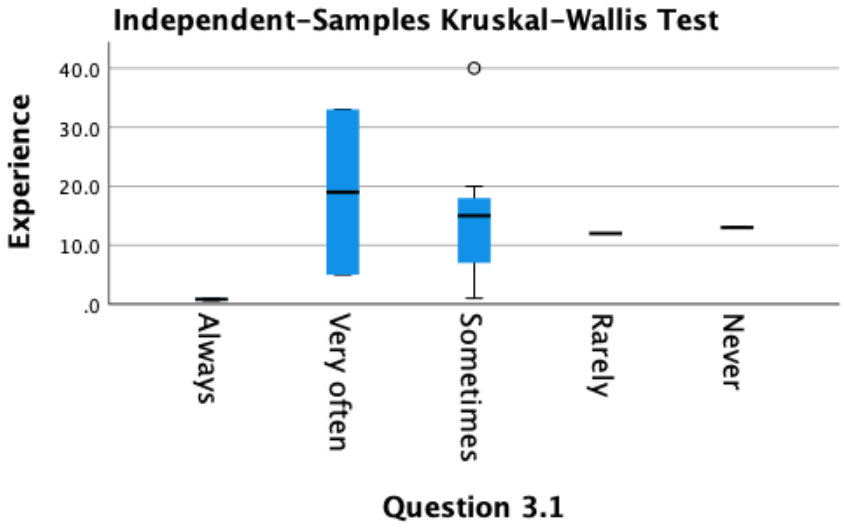

Figure 15. Kruskal-Wallis Test on experience and answers to Question 3.

This test here shows that the more experience translators have, the more likely they are to use glossaries (when available). This indicates that those individuals pay more attention to the importance of glossaries compared to less experienced individuals. One possible inference is that the more experienced translators want to use established/standard terms as much as possible.

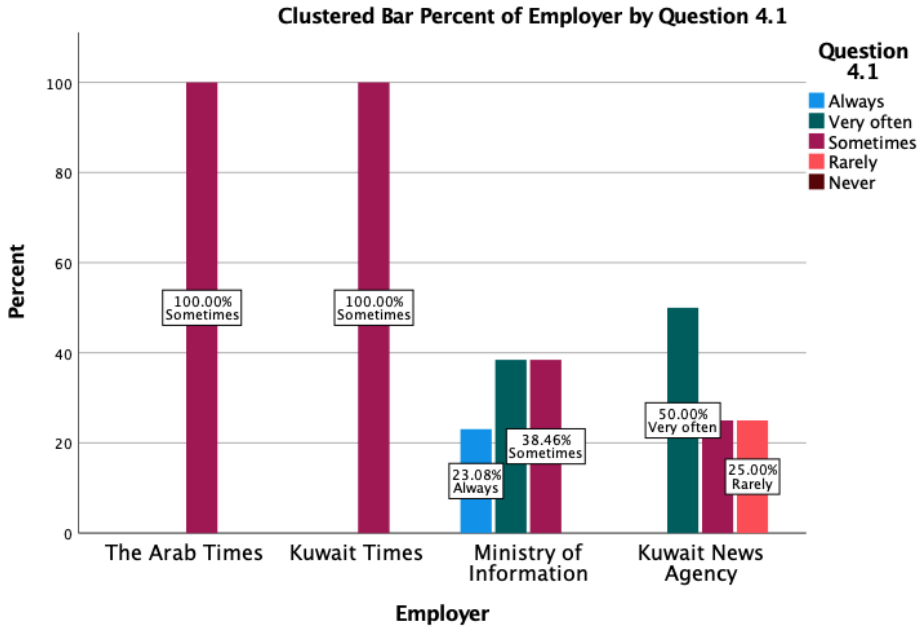

Figure 16. Breakdown of Question 4.1 answers' percentages by employer

Another possibly interesting comparison is between the two sectors in relation to the frequency of work discussions in which translators participate. It is apparent from the numbers that those who work in the public sector discuss their work with their colleagues more frequently.

The previous data analysis in terms of age and experience might shed some light here. As seen previously, translators in the public sector are generally both younger and have less translation experience. Additionally, it is indicated that translators in the public sector lean more towards collaborative translation than their private sector counterparts.

The importance of this data is twofold. First, this shows that public sector translators might seek guidance from their colleagues by discussing their translation tasks with them. This could be considered a form of collaborative translation, especially since the workplace for translators at the four institutions is a shared office space, as was observed during the data collection phase of this research project. Second, if collaborative translation is being practiced in this manner, it could be

influencing a translator's decisions. Therefore, this should be taken into consideration when establishing the state of political news translation in Kuwait.

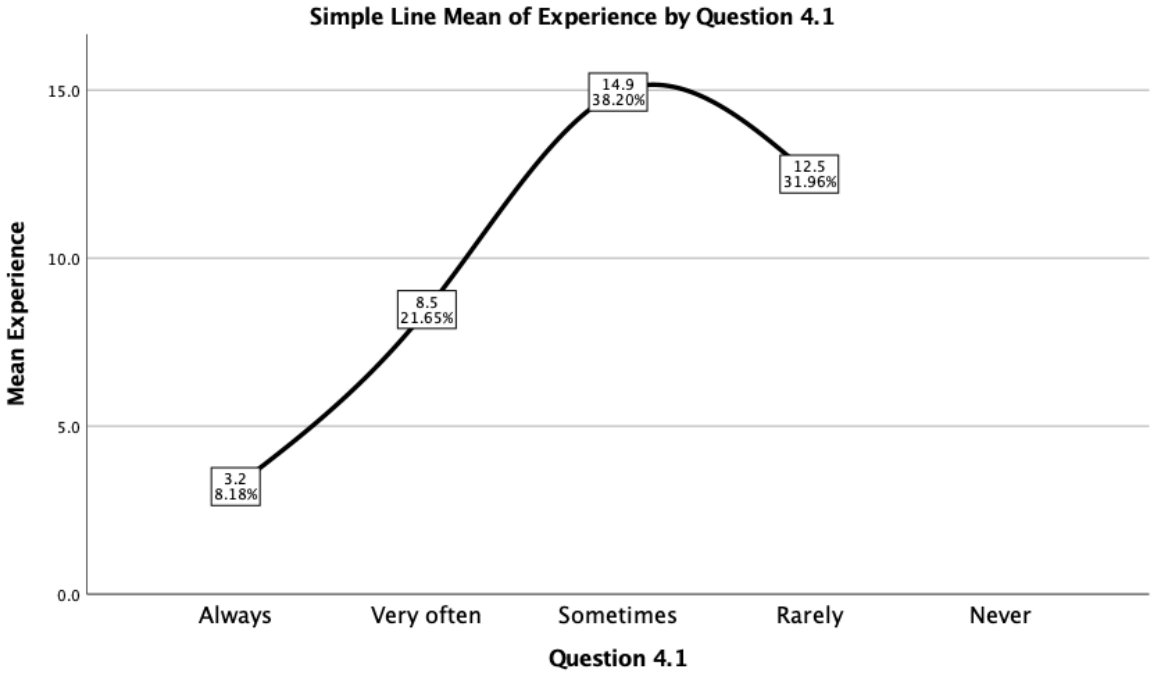

Figure 17. Breakdown of Question 4.1 answers by mean average of experience

It seems that the more experience translators have, the less they discuss their work with their colleagues. This could indicate three possibilities. First, the more experienced translators might have more translation tasks. This can lead them to be more occupied with the translation itself. Second, it is quite probable that less experienced translators discuss their work with their colleagues for guidance or help. Third, it is also possible that the more experience translators get, the more confidence they feel in their work, which can result in less discussion of the work.

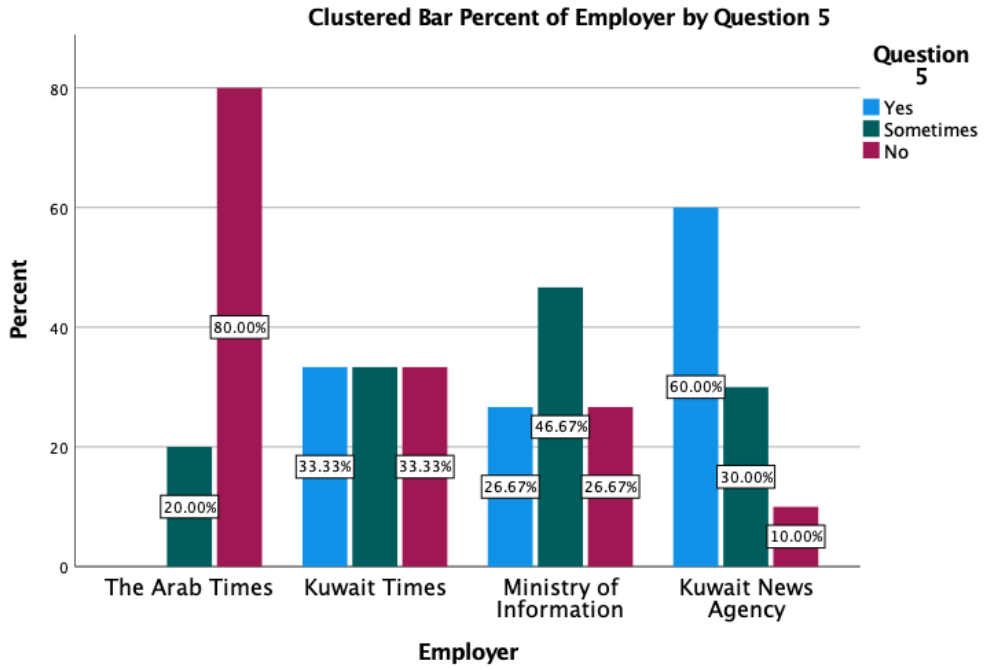

Figure 18. Breakdown of Question 5 answers' percentages by employer

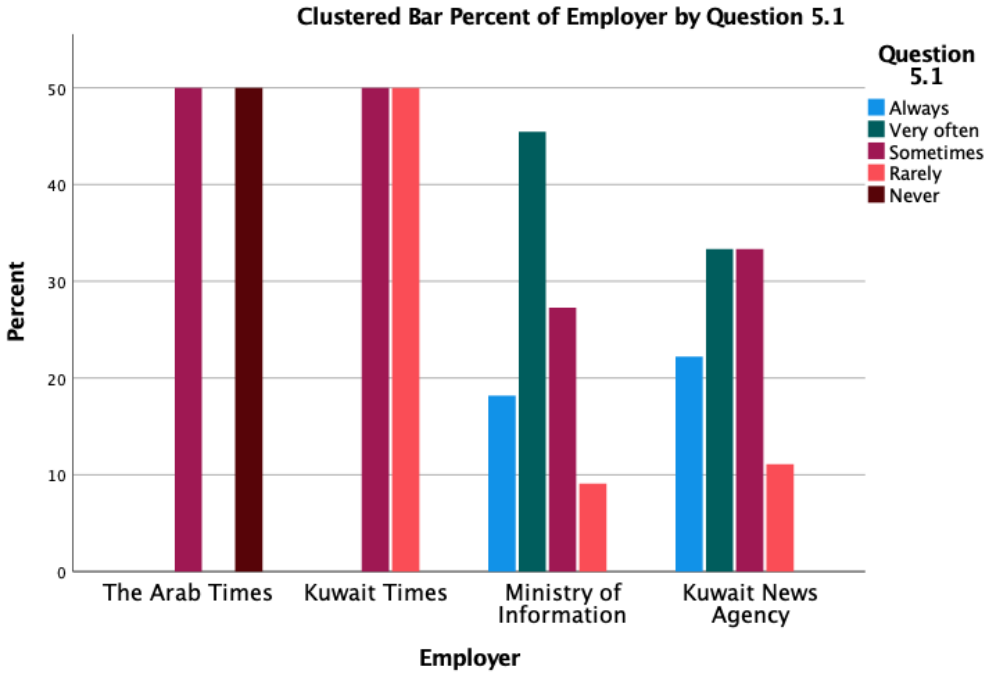

Figure 19. Breakdown of Question 5.1 answers' percentages by employer

The above figures show that public sector institutions often provide their translators with guidelines on how to complete their tasks and how they should be processed. Moreover, those participants are usually personally provided with these

guidelines. In comparison, the private sector does not usually provide such guidelines. In fact, the numbers indicate that even if such guidelines were provided, the participants from the private sector did not usually receive them personally. If the next analysis is taken into consideration, then it can be posited that due to the experience of the translators, they might not be provided with these translation guidelines on a regular basis.

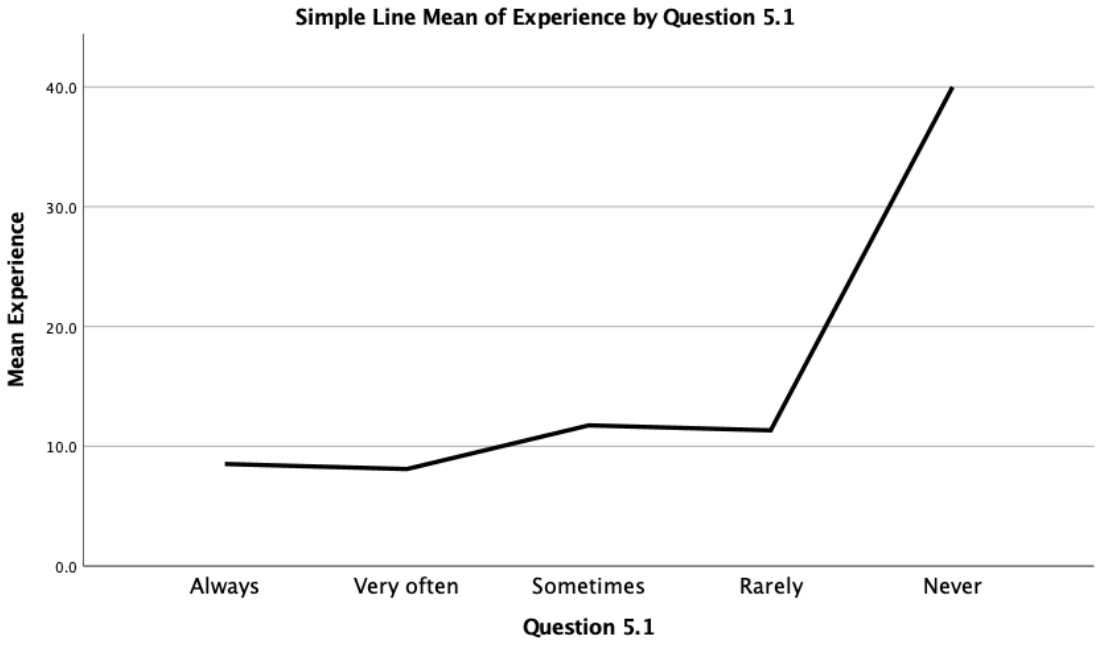

Figure 20. Breakdown of Question 5.1 answers by mean average of experience

As can be seen in the above figure, the more experience translators have, the less they tend to be provided with guidelines. This backs up the hypothesis above that the more experienced translators are not given specific guidelines for their translation tasks as often as their less experienced colleagues. It can be inferred from the above data that experienced translators in the four news institutions are given the choice to translate as they see fit due to the lack of task guidelines.

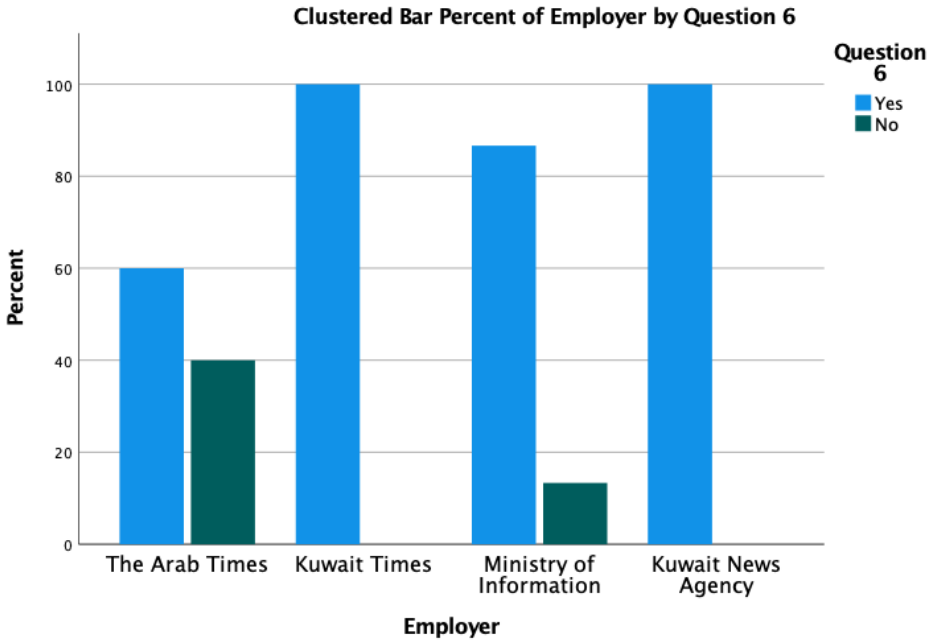

Figure 21. Breakdown of Question 6 answers' percentages by employer

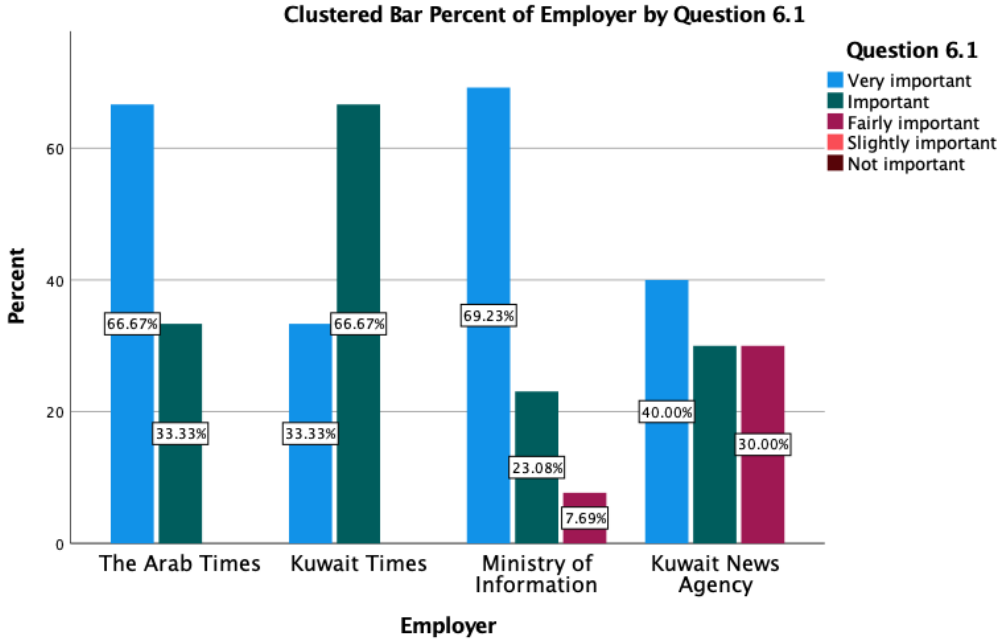

Figure 22. Breakdown of Question 6.1 answers' percentages by employer

The above figures show that the four news translation institutions have protocols that are important to follow. This is especially the case in the private sector. The data from the public sector translators seem to be inconsistent in this regard. On

one hand, more than half of the MOI translators described their protocols as very important. On the other hand, the KUNA translators still believe that their protocols are important, but not to the same extent as the MOI translators. It is possible to infer those public institutions might be more lenient in their protocols, while the private sector is regarded as stricter in this context.

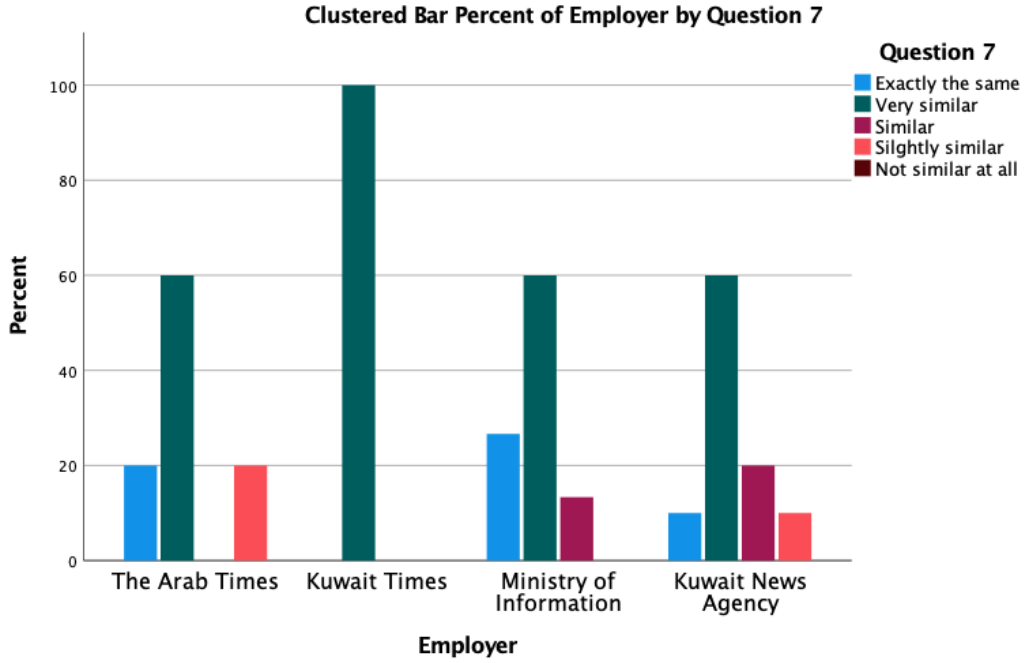

Figure 23. Breakdown of Question 7 answers' percentages by employer

The data in this figure is of extreme importance. Based on the answers to this question, the degree to which translations are altered after their submission by the translators can be inferred. It is apparent from the data that all the institutions change the submitted translations slightly before their publication. The *Kuwait Times,* for instance, seems to make some minor changes to all its translations. These changes are likely due to stylistic considerations or proofreading/editing. In The *Arab Times*, about twenty percent of the answers were “slightly similar”. The data from the MOI and KUNA both show that some changes are present in the published translations. KUNA

publications seem to differ more from the originals than the rest. If the fact that private sector news institutions employ fewer people than the public sector is taken into consideration, then it is possible that there is less time/manpower to review the translations in these private institutions.

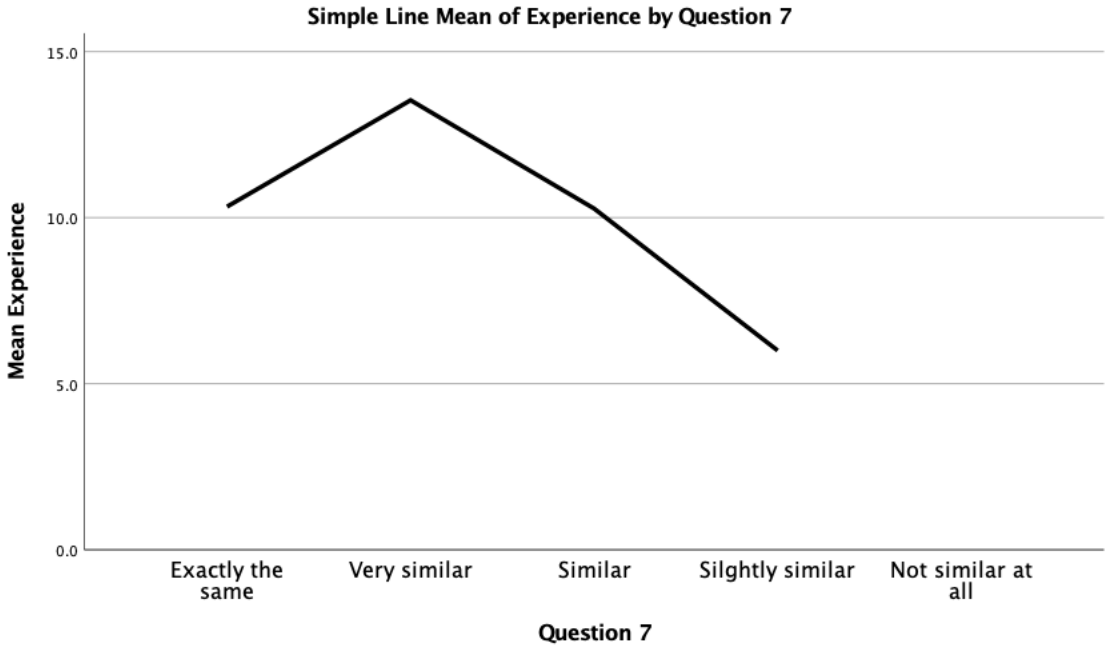

Figure 24. Breakdown of Question 7 answers by mean average of experience

As seen above, there is a pattern of negative correlation between the years of experience and the changes made to the submitted translations. It can be argued that this is likely due to the possibly better submitted translations made by the more experienced translators. It is also possible that the more experience an individual has, the less often their translations are reviewed before publishing. In comparison, the translations of those with less experience seem to be reviewed more often.

These results indicate that in all four news translation institutions, changes are made to the submitted translations before they are published. While it is hard to know the exact type of the changes made, it can be inferred from the degree of the changes that they are minor. Based on this data, it can also be established that these changes were not made by the original translators. Some of the possible candidates who might

have made these changes are editors, proof-readers, or employees working in the online publishing department who changes the translations to fit into a website's online format.

5.3 Summary

The conducted analysis helped us illustrate the general translation environment in Kuwait. This translation environment is one of the factors considered when translations obtained from the four news translation institutions are analysed using a critical discourse analysis model. Furthermore, this chapter observed how different political news translation institutions operate. This quantitative data analysis was mainly descriptive, as its goal was to establish a general understanding of the institutional translation of political news in Kuwait to inform the more focused qualitative data analysis.

The present research managed to maximise the data through the comparison of different elements in the collected data. The data relates to some of the differences between the public and private sectors. One example is how private sector translators view protocols as considerably more important than their public sector counterparts.

As was discovered, the translation institutions of the public and private sectors differ in some respects. On the one hand, it was found that the public sector employs more translators and at a younger age. On the other hand, the private sector seems to employ far fewer translators in comparison. However, translators in the private sector appear to have more translation experience compared to public sector translators.

Additionally, the data makes a very clear distinction in how Kuwaiti translators are mainly working in the public sector. In contrast, the private sector is predominantly

made up of non-Kuwaiti translators. It can be assumed that due to the benefits the public sector provides to Kuwaiti employees, Kuwaiti translators are more likely to work in the public sector.

The analysed quantitative data in this chapter indicates that published political news translations in Kuwait are generally very similar to the submitted translations. This means that when the present project analyses the translations, it can be safely assumed they were produced by the translators themselves with minimal changes from editors or proof-readers. Based on the analysed data, it can also be assumed that the published translations were generally made by a singular individual. This is due to the higher percentage of translators working individually on their translation tasks compared to those who translate collaboratively (57.6% translate individually, 6.1% collaboratively, and 36.3% a mix of both).

Furthermore, since more than seventy percent of translators do not have access to CAT tools, it is safe to assume that no standardised terminology/vocabulary is used in the published translations. This is backed up by the fact that 57% of the participants stated that they are not provided with glossaries in their respective institutions, while 30% said they are only sometimes provided with glossaries. In contrast, only 12% of the participants stated that they are provided with glossaries. Still, this does not mean that there are no customary ways to translate specific terms or titles. This is further illustrated in the upcoming chapter, as the data showed some protocols when translating the official titles of high-ranking Kuwait state officials.

Except for KUNA, the news translation institutions generally do not offer specific guidelines to their translators for translation tasks. Furthermore, the data showed that all four institutions have protocols that are considered important by their employees. They are also required to abide by these protocols.

If the analysis of the collected data is viewed on the macro level, it indicates that Kuwaiti news translation institutions differ from other translation institutions (see section 3.6.2). For example, there seems to be a general lack of translation tools and guidelines, as well as collaborative translation. More importantly, these news institutions seem to lack a standardised translation environment. One example of this is the fact that in some cases, the translators function as news reporters in addition to their work as translators.

It is worth reiterating that the questionnaire used to collect this quantitative data also contained three open-ended questions that are part of the qualitative data. These questions are analysed in the next chapter. The previous quantitative data analysis and the findings stated in this chapter were used to inform the upcoming qualitative data analysis.

Chapter Five: Qualitative Data

6.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the analysis of the qualitative data, which consists of three different sets. Analysing the qualitative data separately from the quantitative data was done for two reasons. First, the quantitative data analysis was used to establish the general features of the translation environment in Kuwaiti news translation institutions. Second, the qualitative data contains more detailed information than the quantitative data. Therefore, the more general data (quantitative) was analysed first. Then, the more detailed qualitative data followed.

The three sets are the open-ended questions in the distributed questionnaire, the translators' interviews, and the textual texts. Each data set is analysed individually using the relevant methodology. The open-ended questions were analysed using inductive reasoning and inferences based on answers given by the participants. The interviews were analysed using a framework that adopts aspects of grounded theory as well as some aspects of thematic content analysis. The textual data consisting of STs and TTs were analysed using a methodology of critical discourse analysis (CDA). The specific analysis model used for the text analysis was Fairclough's relations model.

By trying to reach an informed analysis of the texts, this project hopes to understand if/how institutional translation of political news is individually or collectively influenced. In addition, by interviewing the translators as well as analysing the open-ended questions, the external factors affecting the translations of these institutions are considered at a later phase when analysing the texts/translations.

The way this chapter is presented reflects the research project's mixed approach. The chapter starts by building on the previous data to help inform the

analysis of the other datasets. It then proceeds with the analysis of the interviews to further understand the translation environment as well as the approaches and views of the translators. Finally, all this information is incorporated into the text analysis to help inform it.

In essence, this chapter is broken down into three parts. The first part is the analysis of the open-ended questions. The second part is the analysis of the interviews with the participating translators from the four news institutions. The third part is the analysis of texts obtained from the four institutions. Finally, the chapter concludes with a summary of the data analysis conducted in this chapter.

The analysed qualitative data were collected from the four news translation institutions in Kuwait. The four institutions are the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information (MOI), the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), the *Arab Times* newspaper, and the *Kuwait Times* newspaper. The open-ended questions were part of the previously analysed questionnaire that was distributed to translators working in these four institutions. The same translators agreed to participate in the interviews analysed as part of this qualitative data. Finally, the analysed textual data are translations produced in these four institutions. The nature of the texts differs among some of the institutions due to how the institutions operate (see the data collection section 4.4).

The analysis in this chapter is focused on the translation both as a product and as a process. The aim of the qualitative data is to help understand both matters of translation. The importance of understanding the translation process and product in the context of this research project lies in how it can help address the concepts of the translator's agency and individual/collective influences on the translation practice at news translation agencies. For example, knowing who selects the text to be translated

should help inform the later text analysis. Another example is how translators from these institutions deal with sensitive topics such as religious conflicts based.

Knowing the protocols of the institutions as well as their guidelines should illustrate how translators deal with their translation tasks. Tuckman and Harper (2012, p. 387) argued that a qualitative data analysis is tied to its collection to provide a comprehensive interpretation of the data. This arguably means that an analysis framework for qualitative data should include the data collection phase as part of the framework. So, relevant observations made during the collection should be incorporated into the analysis. For instance, observations regarding the workplace of the translators might indicate the likelihood that translators work collaboratively on their translation tasks. A shared open space is likely to encourage collaborative teamwork compared to closed cubicles.

6.2 Questionnaire's Open Questions Analysis

The questionnaire contained three open-ended questions towards the end that the participants were asked to answer. These questions were intended to ensure that the participants had ample space and time to answer these questions. Using a multiple-choice format for these questions might have been constraining, since the answers to these questions might require a degree of detail. To reiterate, these questions were as follows:

- Who chooses the translation tasks that you carry out, and on what basis is this done?
- What is the regular procedure that takes place when you finish translating a text before it is finally published?

- How would you describe translating sensitive tasks like political news as a translator in Kuwait?

The importance of these questions can be seen from two perspectives. First, the information regarding the translation is garnered from questions one and two. Second, question three helps establish how the participants dealing with political translation view it compared to other types of news. The analysed answers were provided by the thirty-three participants who completed the distributed questionnaire. The answers are presented in the analysis by using quotes as well as the participant's number.

The analysis of these questions should help mitigate some of the possible restrictions that closed questions are known for (Saldanha & O'Brien, 2014, p. 157). For example, closed questions have a finite number of answers. This might lead the participant to choose an answer that they feel is closest to the one in mind. Another possible shortcoming is that a closed question might limit the data's scope.

In comparison, open questions provide some advantages and disadvantages compared to closed questions. For example, the participants might provide information unknown to the researcher in an open question, which might be insightful for the research. Moreover, the freeform nature of the question could provide the participant with more space to express/elaborate their answers. Still, open questions do have shortcomings. As Saldanha & O'Brien argued (ibid.) open questions can be difficult to analyse due to the data size as well the possible difficulty of interpreting the data. As a result, open questions were used in cases where the data might have multiple possible answers, which might be harder to pin down in a closed question format.

The response rate for these open questions was the same as the quantitative part of the questionnaire except for two cases. One, Participant 14's answer to

question 2 was difficult to read due to unclear handwriting. Two, Participant 28 left the second question empty. All the answers are available to view in Appendix IV.

The analysis approach to this data is similar to the quantitative data, as it is interpretive and inferential. In some cases, descriptive analysis was also used with answers that state information of a factual nature. The goal of these questions is to garner more data about the translation of political news as well as the translation environment. Answers to these questions as well as the results from the answers to the previously analysed closed questions, should be sufficient to establish a general idea of the translation environment and process in the four news institutions.

NVivo software, which is a data analysis tool (discussed in section 4.3.3), was used to code the answers to the three questions from all participants. It was also used to group the participants' answers based on their employers. This was made to help compare the answers from different news institutions to give a more insightful look into each of those institutions. This is similar in nature to the process presented by Miles and Huberman (1994, p. 9). Their proposed process is as follows:

- Coding the obtained materials.
- Adding comments.
- Identifying similar phrases, ideas, and themes in the collected data.
- Linking the identified similarities in the collected data.

The analysis is presented in four sections, each relates to one of the studied news translation institutions. The public sector institutions of the MOI and KUNA are presented first, then the private sector institutions of the *Arab Times* and *Kuwait Times* newspapers. Each section follows a general structure based on the order of the three questions. This manner of data analysis presentation was chosen to be in line with the quantitative data analysis presentation. Also, this structure follows a thematic analysis

approach which tries to interpret raw data into key themes or ideas (Matthews & Ross, 2010, p.373). This thematic approach relies on coding of the data, which is where NVivo was used, to interpret them into themes. These themes are based on the three open questions of the questionnaire. The three key themes of this analysis are as follows: text selection, translation process, and personal views on political news translation. Finally, each section would conclude with answers that provided insight into other relevant aspects of this research.

The rationale behind using these three questions and their thematic scope lies in the gaps they might fill from the previous closed questions part of the questionnaire. The first question ensures that we establish how selects the texts in each institution. The second question helps establish the translation process of each institution. The third question presents the personal views of the participating translators on political news translation. It would have been limiting if these questions were structured in a closed format, which is why they are open questions.

This adopted approach relies on identifying insights provided by the participants' answers. Answers that are informative are presented and analysed. Multiple relevant answers are analysed and presented together to establish patterns while presenting a clearer picture of how translations are carried out in the four institutions (text selection and translation process). Furthermore, a general idea about how the translation of political news is being viewed by the participants is established based on their answers.

This thematic analysis approach also considers other themes not directly relevant to the three open questions since answers to open questions might have more than one theme (Saldanha & O'Brien, 2014, p.190). Therefore, it is imperative to keep an open mind to other themes. Each section of this analysis concludes with the

analysis and consideration of ideas and themes unaccounted for in the three open questions. The data analysed here are later used to inform the CDA of the collected texts in this research to identify if/how translations are being influenced by translators, institutions, or external factors.

Finally, this first part of the qualitative analysis concludes with a general overview of the analysis results and findings. It is worth noting that some of the collected answers were very brief, lacked details, or were ambiguous. These answers were analysed but not presented here to keep the analysis concise. Still, all the collected answers are available in Appendix IV.

6.2.1 Ministry of Information Open Questions Data

For the first question regarding text selection, fourteen answers provided insights into this point. The data show that the text selection process differed depending on a few elements. The importance of the ST and its urgency seems to be a main factor according to Participant 20 who stated: “Q1: The chief editors choose what to translate depending on the importance of the script[21].” Important texts are likely about matters that the publics need to be informed about—for example, news about new laws or events that are currently unfolding.

If the translation task is not urgent or important, the translators can distribute the tasks amongst themselves as indicated by Participant 16: “Q1: We distribute the tasks among each other.” In some cases, MOI secretaries could choose the texts and assign them to the translators according to Participant 9’:

[21] Here, “script” likely refers to the source news in Arabic since the translators at the MOI often receive their tasks in the form of written texts.

Q1: For regular everyday tasks, the secretaries do the job and assign the tasks to the translators, while in special cases and events the head of the department chooses the translator suitable for the task.

The secretaries working in the MOI translation department seem to be responsible for receiving the translation tasks from external bodies such as other ministries or departments. They are then tasked with printing these texts and giving them to the translators. This aspect illustrates how institutional translation involves more individuals in the translation process as such social actors would not be clearly visible without an empirical approach to how the MOI translates its news. Schäffner et al. argued that institutional translations are products of collective nature since they involve more than one individual due to their institutional setting (2014, p. 2). The involvement of other individuals besides the translators showcases this collective aspect of institutions.

Another aspect that the answers focused on relating to text selection is experience. It seems that some tasks are assigned to specific translators due to their experience. Participant 22 stated: “Q1: The translation tasks are provided by the head of the department based on translation quality of the individual.” This answer indicates that more skilled translators are tasked with specific texts. Therefore, it is safe to assume that the head of department (abbreviated as HOD) considers each individual’s translation competence, or “quality” as the participant stated, when issuing translation tasks. Participant 12’s answer corroborates this: “Q1: The chief editor usually chooses what is to be translated. It’s done according to the level of the translator and his experience.” The experience of the translators is considered by their superiors. This shows that superiors do select which text to translate and who translates it. The rationale these superiors follow is based on urgency, experience, and efficiency as

Participant 11 stated: “Q1: The work is usually divided amongst all translators, but sometimes can be given to certain individuals based on urgency, experience, and efficiency.” This answer also corroborates the previous finding that texts are selected based on their importance and urgency. Urgent texts are likely related to breaking news or emergency announcements that are time sensitive.

An example of this is condemning attacks or strikes that the Kuwaiti government views as acts of terrorism[22]. Another example of urgency is requests from other MOI employees as Participant 23 stated: Q1: There are two cases: first, the directors or employees needing a translation send the tasks. Second, that HOD chooses the tasks on the basis of society.” This shows that fellow MOI employees sometimes need some text translated for their programmes.

Furthermore, Participant 23’s answer refers to *society* as a basis for selecting the texts. This illustrates how the target readership (abbreviated as TR) might indirectly influence the text selection and possibly its translation. Valdeón (2006) found that institutionally translated news could be heavily influenced by their ST which might be a product of specific ideological views based on their target readership. In the case of MOI translations, society or the TR might have a similar influence on the text selection which would result in texts adhering to their target audience. It is worth keeping in mind that the MOI’s translation department mainly translates from Arabic to English, and Kuwait is an Arabic-speaking country. So, it can be inferred that the target society here is non-Arabic speakers or expatriates living in Kuwait. Still, this target society might

[22] This news item condemns an attack on an educational centre in Afghanistan https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2741546&language=en. The news was published on KUNA’s website and is one example of many that are often published by state-funded Kuwaiti institutions.

not be what is considered in the text selection, rather the society of the ST is the one considered as Valdeón's study found (ibid.).

It is also important to consider that the MOI translation department works throughout the week, as was discussed in the data collection section (4.4). This might illustrate why there is a discrepancy in who chooses the texts. During the night or weekends the translators seem to manage themselves and distribute their tasks accordingly as Participant 10 stated: "Q1: I choose my own tasks on a semi-daily basis."

For the second question regarding the translation process, the answers provided a clear look at the process in the MOI. The translation process was clearly described in steps by some of the participants. Participant 11 stated: *"*Q2: The translation goes through five stages 1- translation, 2- initial proofreading, 3- typing on MS Office, 4- final proofreading, 5- super-imposing[23]." This was corroborated by Participant 22, who stated: "Q2: Proofreading, typing, final proofreading and super-imposing." The translation process is followed by proofreading then a type-up phase to be *super-imposed* as subtitles or texts for the teleprompter of the news broadcast. As was discussed in the data collection section (4.4), the MOI mainly use their news translation in the form of scripts for teleprompters. These translations are then read by the news anchors.

Some translators stated that they work collaboratively to revise the translations before they are submitted. The answers from Participants 13, 19, 20, and 21 illustrate that[24]. This is in line with the previous results from the questionnaire (question 1)

[23] "Super-imposing" is the term used by the MOI translators for synchronising the translation/subtitles with the screen during news broadcasts.

[24] Participant 13: "Q2: I would ask one of my colleagues to proof-read my translation."

stating that MOI translators work in a mixed manner. Other translators (Participants 15, 17, and 18)[25] stated that their work is checked by the "editor/manager" before it is submitted. It can be inferred from the previous answers that some of the translators have the freedom to work together before submitting their translations without a supervisory translator/editor to check their final translations. In contrast, other translators have their work checked by a superior or editor before it is published. This can be based on the experience of the translators, since some texts are given to specific translators for their experience or translation competence. The same approach is likely applied to the translation revision phase. Also, Participant 9 stated that an Arabic proof-reader checks the translations for any "outlandish vocabulary items". This is for translations from English to Arabic. Possible examples of these items are words that can be considered as offensive or derogatory. This indicates a form of censorship that targets "outlandish" lexical items. Similar conduct is likely being practiced for the English translations by the editors/proof-readers discussed here. Both cases likely fall in Merkle's interpretation of censorship having two main motivations (2010, p.19), the desire to protect the vulnerable (for instance, obscene language) or to promote political/cultural systems.

For the third question relating to sensitive tasks like political news translation, the participants provided varying answers. The answers differed across participants

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Participant 19: "Q2: A colleague or two critique my work if any issues arise, I must offer justification. If sound it remains if not it changes."

Participant 20: "Q2: After a translation, we have a brief reading to check the mistakes and the protocols".

Participant 21: "Q2: We do a double check with the group."

[25] Participant 15: "Q2: Show to editor/manager."

Participant 17: "Q2: Checked by chief editor."

Participant 18: "Q2: The chief editor usually revises all texts translated and edited one more time before providing the anchors the documents to apply their own personal changes and tweaks."

with no clear consensus on the matter. On the one hand, some of the answers were positive with respect to the translation of political news. On the other hand, some participants showed a negative attitude towards these sensitive types of texts. For example, Participant 21 stated that sensitive tasks like political news are good: “Q3: It is very good”. Another participant (15) simply answered: “Q3: Easy*”.* This shows that some translators in the MOI are positive towards political news translation. Other participants showed a cautious approach towards this type of news translation. Participant 10 answered: “Q3: It is a very sensitive subject, so I would say carefully.” Participant 14 described how political news translation can be very sensitive by answering: “Q3: it is very sensitive, and a person should be conscious because a slight mistake might lead to grave ramifications.” This illustrates that some of the translators tasked with political news approach it carefully and responsibly, as mistakes with this type of news could raise some questions. This is shown in the answer of Participant 22: “Q3: Translation of political news can be tricky and takes more effort.”

Approaching political texts requires certain experience and sense of responsibility due to its sensitivity, as Participant 11 states: “Q3: It can be sensitive for beginners, since you need a wealth of vocabulary and terms, quick recall since these texts are mostly urgent, and you don’t have the luxury of time.” Participant 16 added: “Q3: It is to be taken seriously.” These answers show that a responsible mentality should be maintained when dealing with political news as they illustrate the importance of this type of news translation and the responsibility it carries.

Some answers also presented other aspects. For example, Participant 13 answered: “Q3: Since we are politically neutral in our news, we try to avoid any sensitive news.” This shows that political news items regarded as sensitive are sometimes not translated or reported by the MOI. It can be inferred that these political

news items can be seen as inappropriate for the target audience. This is also a form of gatekeeping as the translators believe that sensitive news items should not be reported/translated. A possible example of this is news regarding Israel. Kuwait bans any type of dealing with Israel as a nation. In fact, the used term by news publications in Kuwait to refer to Israel is often the *Zionist Entity*[26]. The use of this term is to avoid any form of *normalisation* with Israel since Kuwait is an ally of the Palestinians in the Israel-Palestine conflict, propagating a political view that is anti-Israel and pro-Palestine. Consequently, it can be argued that news relating to Israeli affairs is mostly ignored unless it reflects negatively on Israel.

Another aspect is the required background knowledge for translating political news. Participant 12 stated:

> Q3: It is a very sensitive task and needs attention and accuracy because of the special nature of this kind of news and the translator should be aware and updated on the political news every time to have knowledge about his work.

This ties into the next aspect which is knowledge of state policy. Participant 23 stated: "Q3: It needs to be punctual and follow the state's policy. It is very sensitive and has to be very careful." These two aspects show that the translators need to be up to date with both the political context of their tasks as well as their state's policy. This might result in a sense of nationalism when translating.

This sense of nationalism in translation can be similar to the *public narrative* proposed by Somers and Gibson (1993), which Baker (2006, p. 33) presented as a translation phenomenon. Here, the translators would directly/indirectly frame the news and circulate it through translation to be in line with their society's established norms

[26] Source: *Kuwait Times* at: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/mps-propose-law-to-ban-dealing-with-or-traveling-to-zionist-entity/

or views. The MOI is mainly comprised of Kuwaiti translators, so it is possible for such a phenomenon to occur in this setting. As Alharthi (2020) found, Saudi Arabia specifically employed Saudi nationals to work on translation project to promote their own public narrative. A similar translation environment could be in effect at the MOI. Participant 20 added: “Q3: We translate depending on Kuwait’s political matters”, showing that there is an influence of nationalism when translating in the MOI. This can also be understood as natural practice for a public institution representative of the state. Therefore, the institution and the translations it produces are reflective and representative of the Kuwaiti government’s views.

Considering these aspects, they show that public translation institutions are being influenced by collective (national) views. For example, the translated news items are often based on STs from governmental sources which should be in line with the Kuwaiti government’s political views and policies. Participant 19 adds support to this point: “Q3: Unnecessary evil, the finer meanings are lost, the government needs to state its business in as many channels as possible.” Here, as a public institution, the MOI needs to reflect the state’s political views in its television channels by “stating its business”. This seems to affect the translations as products. Participant 18 answered: “Q3: The specific guidelines regarding these topics can be very helpful ensuring I deliver the message correctly; however, sometimes it can be limiting and repetitive.” Participant 17 corroborates: “Q3: Too many regulations.” These answers showcase that there are guidelines/regulations when dealing with political news which limit the translators to a certain extent. In turn, this clearly demonstrate a collective level influence on the process and product of translation related to political news in the MOI.

The MOI views translation of news into English as an important task that needs to be practiced continuously. This is illustrated by the fact that the MOI is the biggest

employer of translators in Kuwait. This fact was observed during the data collection phase of this research, since all the other institutions had fewer translators compared to the Kuwaiti MOI. The importance of translating into English could be based on two main factors. First, translating political news into English, specifically by public institutions, would present Kuwait's political stance and policy in relation to the reported news to the wider English-speaking audience. This audience would include foreign governments and political parties. These English news items can also be considered as formal statements reflective of Kuwait as a society. One example of this can be observed in how Kuwaiti news often condemns the Houthi militia in the Yemeni conflict, as Kuwait stands by the Saudi-led Arab coalition in Yemen. This will further be illustrated in the textual analysis later in section 6.4.1. Second, the importance of translating political news into English lies in informing non-Arabic speakers living in Kuwait about relevant news that could affect their lives. In fact, sixty percent of the expatriates living in Kuwait are non-Arabs (see section 2.2), which means English is most likely the lingua franca of these expatriates. Therefore, translating the news in English would likely be the most efficient way to deliver the news to expatriates living in Kuwait.

Still, this influence by the MOI on its translations could be due to the media publication law discussed in section 2.3. This law would apply to the public institutions especially as they are representative of the state. Therefore, their publications must adhere to the law and avoid any possible damage to the Kuwaiti government and its foreign relationships. Still, the data shows clear institutional influence on the translation of political news.

As the analysis shows, the answers provided by the MOI participants to the open-ended questions were varied. They can be summarised in relation to each of the

questions and how they develop the understanding of the institution. These results illustrate the benefits of this data set to the overall project.

First, the text selection in the MOI appears to be based on the current news and their importance to the target audience. Furthermore, the data indicate that the texts are generally chosen by editors, superiors, secretaries, or sometimes the translators themselves. So, translators in the MOI sometimes act as *transeditors* or a hybrid of translator/reporter. This is in line with what was discussed in the news translation section (3.6). As a result, the translator's role in this institution goes beyond the normal role of transferring meaning. Here, the translator sets the backdrop of the meaning in addition to transferring it. In essence, the translator can choose which views to present and translate the news accordingly. Furthermore, the data shows that sometimes specific translators are tasked with specific source material. This is most likely due to the challenging nature of the news industry and time-sensitive news, which requires quick/experienced translators.

Second, the data shows that the process after the translation is completed seems to be essentially similar. Almost all participants stated that their translations are reviewed before they are published. Some are reviewed by colleagues, while others are reviewed by editors or superiors. This shows the adaptive nature of an always on-the-clock translation department. It can also be inferred that the translators who review their fellow colleagues' work are most likely the more experienced translators. In fact, some analysed data also indicates that collaborative translation is more relevant to the process after the translation than the translation itself.

Cases	Collaborative Translation	Individual Translation	Total
Participant 10	0	1	1
Participant 11	0	0	0
Participant 12	0	0	0
Participant 13	1	1	2
Participant 14	0	0	0
Participant 15	0	0	0
Participant 16	1	0	1
Participant 17	0	0	0
Participant 18	0	0	0
Participant 19	1	0	1
Participant 20	1	0	1
Participant 21	1	0	1
Participant 22	0	0	0
Participant 23	0	0	0
Participant 9	0	0	0
Total	**5**	**2**	**7**

Table 22. NVivo Query, comparison between counts of individual and collaborative translation in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information

As the above table shows, more mentions of collaborative translation were recorded from the participants' answers than individual translation. This is mostly related to the revision phase after the translation. An example of this is the answer from Participant 13: "Q2: I would ask one of my colleagues to proof-read my translation." Additionally, the translations are handed to typists/super-imposers that insure the correct alignment/timing of the text to the screen/teleprompter. This element is unique to the MOI, as the nature of their work dictates it (discussed in the data collection section 4.4). It is also possible that some of the translators practice this super-imposing role, but the data did not clearly indicate this.

Third, the data from the answers to question three showed that there are both positive and negative views on the translation of political news from the MOI translators. On one hand, some translators felt it was easy to translate tasks related to political news. In addition, others felt that these tasks got easier with more

experience. On the other hand, some translators felt that they needed to be extra careful when translating political news.

Cases	Negative Response to Political News	Positive Response to Political News Translation	Total
Participant 10	1	0	1
Participant 11	1	0	1
Participant 12	1	0	1
Participant 13	1	0	1
Participant 14	1	0	1
Participant 15	0	1	1
Participant 16	1	0	1
Participant 17	1	0	1
Participant 18	1	1	2
Participant 19	1	0	1
Participant 20	0	0	0
Participant 21	0	1	1
Participant 22	1	0	1
Participant 23	1	0	1
Participant 9	1	0	1
Total	**12**	**3**	**15**

Table 23. NVivo Query, comparison between counts of positive and negative views on translation of political news in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information

The table above is the result of a query comparing the number of instances that positive/negative views were provided by the participants from the MOI. As the numbers indicate, there is a clear negative view of translation tasks pertaining to political news. Three participants out of the total fifteen were positive, while the rest were negative. These translators also cited regulations as a limiting factor in their work. Furthermore, the data showed that the policy of Kuwait plays a role in translating. This is evident in the answers that stated they should keep the country's policy and international relations in mind when they translate. All in all, the data analysis of these questions in addition to the multiple-choice questions provides us with an overall picture of the translation environment in the MOI.

6.2.2 Kuwait News Agency Open Questions Data

For the first question, KUNA participants indicated that the text selection in the institution is mostly made by the head of the department (HOD) or the shift leader. Participants 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 all corroborated this[27]. The data suggest the texts are chosen due to them being part of the news bulletin. Participant 32 stated: “Q1: The nature of my work necessitates that I do the translation for the news items that must be broadcast on the news bulletin.” The news items are first reported in Arabic on the KUNA website, then the translations are made to be published alongside these Arabic news items. In some cases, the more experienced translators seem to choose their own tasks. Participant 31 stated: “Q1: Sometimes I choose as translation section head, and sometimes my boss chooses for the employees what to translate.” Participant 25 corroborates: “Q1: When shift leading, I would usually choose the items/news that I edit. The opposite occurs when I work as a desk editor.” The answers also show the role of the translators in KUNA in editing news in addition to translating it. Additionally, specific translators are tasked with the translation of specific news, as it is their specialty. Participant 33 stated: “Q1: My boss chooses the translation tasks, in my field (politics) it should concern Kuwait, GCC, and Arab issues or articles.” So, some tasks are chosen to be handled by specialised translators due to their expertise in the tasks’ genre.

The data showed that the texts are chosen mainly based on the Arabic news KUNA publishes. However, reports from outside sources are sometimes translated as

[27] Participant 26: “Q1: The head of the department.”
Participant 27: “Q1: Shift leaders.”
Participant 28: “Q1: The shift leader chooses the tasks according to work-related considerations.”
Participant 29: “Q1: My supervisor usually distributes the items.”
Participant 30: “Q1: The shift leader chooses the tasks.”

well based on Participant 24's answer: "Q1: We receive different kinds of news articles from our correspondence all around the world, then we decide which one to use according to its importance." The answer also shows that deciding which text to translate is based on importance. These findings are similar to the MOI findings.

For the second question related to the translation process, the editing phase after the translation is submitted seems to be of importance. The editors are usually the supervisors/shift leaders, as the answers show[28]. Also, it seems the translators get a chance to review the final translation before it is published. The answer from Participant 29 indicates this: "Q2: I usually translate a text and send it to my supervisor, she goes over it, correct it if there is anything to be done, and I go over it again." So, at least sometimes, translators in KUNA get the chance to make final edits before their translations are published.

Another aspect of the translation process in KUNA is that literal translation is undesirable as Participant 32 stated: "Q2: Editing first then carry on with the translation that must not be word for word." The use of "must" in the participant's answer indicates that the translation strategy in KUNA leans towards a sense-for-sense approach rather than a word-for-word approach. This kind of translation is similar to the communicative translation approach Snell-Hornby (2006, p. 53). the news in the TT would be communicated while not being constrained by the ST.

[28] Participant 24: "Q2: When I finish my translation, I send it to the grammarian to check it, then he sends it to the shift leader to publish it."
Participant 26: "Q2: I submit the final revised copy to my supervisor, who also revises the text before being published."
Participant 31: "Q2: Revised by my boss (head of department)."
Participant 33: "Q2: After I revise my translation, my boss does the second and final revision."

Therefore, it can be posited that the KUNA translators adopt a communicative approach in their translations.

One more aspect of KUNA's translation process is that the translations go through a fact-checking phase in addition to the editing phase. Participant 25 stated: "Q2: Most of the time, the process involves fact-checking and proofreading before issuing the news." This a unique aspect to KUNA's news translations. None of the answers from the other three news institutions mentioned fact-checking as part of the process before publication.

For question three related to political news, the answers were varied. Some participants demonstrated a negative view of translating political news, while a smaller number of participants stated that such tasks were easy. Other participants answered with indifference towards these tasks.

Case	Negative Response to Political News	Positive Response to Political News Translation	Total
Participant 24	0	0	0
Participant 25	1	0	1
Participant 26	0	1	1
Participant 27	0	0	0
Participant 28	0	0	0
Participant 29	0	0	0
Participant 30	1	0	1
Participant 31	0	0	0
Participant 32	1	0	1
Participant 33	1	0	1
Total	4	1	5

Table 24. NVivo query, counts of positive and negative views on translation of political news in the Kuwait News Agency

As the above table shows, there were more instances of negative views of political news translation from the KUNA participants' answers. Participant 25 stated:

"Q3: A bit hectic. However, with time it becomes less of a problem." The answer indicates that the more experience the translator has, the easier these tasks become. Also, Participant 26 stated: "Q3: It's easy as long as the translator abides by given known protocols." These protocols are likely the institution's protocols, as will be shown in upcoming answers from other participants. The participants showing indifference towards sensitive tasks were 27, 28, and 31[29]. Participant 27 stated that the approach to the translation productions is the same as to news production itself. Participant 28 showed a clear sense of keeping to the ST's text as much as possible with the use of quotes. This indicates that when dealing with statements, the translators try to be faithful to the ST by using quotes rather than paraphrasing. This is important, as ambiguity in translated political statements can be misunderstood and could cause issues for the translator/institution. This is affirmed by the answer of Participant 31[30], who described translation as a task of accuracy and honesty.

The negative views were varied but some show it to be difficult. Participant 30 stated: "Q3: It's challenging work." Participant 32 elaborated by answering: "Q3: Very sensitive is dealing with political news, as one word can make a big difference." These answers show that political news translation can be taxing as the needs for accuracy and vigilance are important. In addition, Participant 33 argued that not all chosen news items should be translated: "Q3: It is sensitive because not every article chosen is suitable for translation or suitable for publishing." This indicates that sometimes the

[29] Participant 27: "Q3: We deal with translating as we deal with news."
Participant 28: "Q3: I have to stick to the text and often use quotations."

[30] Participant 31: "Q3: Translation is that important task which needs accurate work in addition to honesty."

translators work on news items that they believe should not be published. This might be due to personal views or the nature of the news item itself.

Furthermore, guidelines, protocols, and Kuwait's policy were brought up by some of the participants. Participant 24 stated: "Q3: When we receive sensitive tasks, we work with it in a way that doesn't contradict Kuwaiti policy." This demonstrates that conscious/subconscious translation decisions are made to keep the translation in line with Kuwait's polices. This is similar to some of the answers that the MOI participants provided and how public institutions might be ideologically driven in their translations. It is also unclear if this is made at the behest of the translator or due to certain protocols/guidelines. Participant 29 added: "Q3: I have to abide by the guidelines of KUNA regarding sensitive issues." This confirms that KUNA has some set guidelines/protocols when dealing with sensitive matters. These guidelines or protocols need to be taken into consideration by the translators, as the aforementioned answer from Participant 26 illustrated. As a result, KUNA translations are clearly influenced by external factors not directly related to the text itself.

Other aspects were not present in the data. For example, unlike the MOI, the post-translation revision/editing in KUNA is usually carried out by supervisors/shift leaders. The translations are then published online alongside the Arabic news items. Also, there were no indications of collaborative translation in KUNA. This means that texts published by KUNA are the product of a single individual. The participants' answers to the three open-ended questions illustrated how this public institution differs from the MOI. The analysed answers also showcased the importance of factors like protocols and guidelines in this institution. In addition, some of the analysed data complements and corroborates the previous quantitative data from the multiple-choice answers like collaborative translation which was found to be non-existent in KUNA.

6.2.3 The *Arab Times* Open-ended Question Data

For the first question, the answers were consistent regarding who chooses the texts to be translated. Participants 1, 2, and 4[31] all stated that a senior colleague chooses the texts. this senior translator (Participant 3) corroborated this as their answer was "Q1: I tend to choose". In fact, Participant 3 is the one with the most years of experience (40 years) among the participants. Therefore, it can be safe to assume that Participant 3 is the person who chooses the texts to be translated in this institution.

Participant 5 added: "Q1: Head of the department chooses the translation according to the importance of the stories and events experienced by the country." It is safe to assume that the HOD refers to Participant 3. This answer also illustrates the basis of the text selection which is the importance of the news. The importance is specifically related to events and stories relevant to the country/Kuwait, which means that the translation is driven by local interest. Compared to the previous public institutions, the *Arab Times* seems to be focused on local events rather than international ones. This is likely due to the target audience of foreigners in Kuwait as Participant 4 answered that expatriates are often regarded as an important element in the selection and translation phases. More than half of Kuwait's population are expatriates[32] (see section 2.2), this reflects their importance as an audience for the news industry in Kuwait.

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[31] Participant 1: "Q1: One of my colleagues and without specific basis."
Participant 2: "Q1: A senior colleague performs the task. He considers importance of the stories based on the target audience and the company."
Participant 4: "Q1: A senior colleague does the task, and he puts top priority to stories that are important to expatriates in addition to local stories in different fields, including politics, the economy and social affairs."

[32] Source: Kuwait Central Statistical Bureau.

For the second question, the participants' answers[33] were consistent as they all cited the same process after finishing their translations. The translations go through to re-writers, then proof-readers/editors, then to the editorial desk to be reviewed before publication. The answer from Participant 4 suggests that translators also report the news in the *Arab Times*, since the participant seems to work on news stories as well as translating. This in turns confirms that translators in the *Arab Times* newspaper are working as transeditors as well.

The role of the translator here becomes more dynamic as was argued by Tsai (2010) and should be reconsidered as the translator can gather news from whichever sources deemed trustworthy. In the case of the Arab Times, the senior translator can be a translator, a news editor, and be responsible for selecting which texts to translate. This diversity of responsibilities complicates the role of the translator in news translation institutions compared to settings. Here, the translator can have an active role in framing the translated news as well as the flow of information by acting as a gatekeeper. Shoemaker and Vos (2009, p. 3) argued that a constant practice of gatekeeping in news can have a severe effect on the readership's perception of ongoing events. This is why it is essential to reconsider the translator's role here as Tsai (2010, pp. 191-192).

[33] Participant 1: "Q2: It goes through a re-writer and then proof-reader and finally to the editorial desk."
Participant 2: "Q2: I have to save it for a re-writer to work on before sending to an editor for further corrections if necessary."
Participant 3: "Q2: I tend to give the translated text to the re-writer, and who in turn gives the text to editing secretary."
Participant 4: "Q2: By finishing translating or a story I forwarded to the re-writers to be revised and refined."
Participant 5: "Q2: The stories should be revised by the re-writers then proofreading."

For the third question, the answers showcased how they addressed the translation of sensitive political news. Participant 1 answered: “Q3: A translator needs to be keen, very keen in such cases, and also be aware of the political topic at hand in order to avoid mistranslation.” This answer demonstrates how awareness or knowledge of the topic should help avoid mistakes. The answer also indicates that mistakes are not limited to linguistic ones only, but also political ones that require adept knowledge of the news context. Participant 4 added: “Q3: I find it as sensitive as a precise surgery.” The answer demonstrates the complexity of political news translation. The participant’s analogy shows the responsibility translators carry when dealing with these tasks. Next, Participant 5 argued that keeping the ST’s meanings intact is another important aspect of dealing with sensitive tasks stated: “Q3: […] the translator attempts to be accurate in finding the correct words and keep on the balance of the text without any change in the meaning.” This means the ST’s meaning is the most important element of the translation. The translation’s stylistic quality seems to be of less importance if the meaning is accurate and conveyed correctly on the lexical level.

Participant 2 added: “Q3: We abide by the content of the original text while the managing editor decides its worthiness for readership. In some cases, we notify the management if a circular had been received in that regard previously.” This demonstrates how the role of translators extends to other tasks. A circular in newspapers usually refers to a notice of some kind. For example, the translators could be instructed to either report or not report specific news items. As Participant 2 stated, in some cases they should notify the management. This can be a form of gatekeeping (discussed in section 3.6.1) practiced by the management rather than the translators. The management could decide the worth of the news items, how to translate them, or

even neglect to report or translate them. One important note to keep in mind is that it is hard to say definitively that management is the only source of these circulars. It could also be the Ministry of Information (MOI) that publishes these notices, as it is within its legal power as an official body of government.

Participant 3's answer provided a different perspective to how political news translation is being practiced in the *Arab Times*, the answer was: "Q3: I tend to deal with sensitive tasks, taking into account the interest of the country and its relations with the others." This answer, as well as previous answers from the other institutions, show a recurring theme of considering the country's (Kuwait's) interest and its international relations when translating sensitive news. These two factors were especially considered at public news institutions according to their participants' answers. The effects of these two factors of the state's interest and its international relations on news translation showcase a collective influence that is apparent across all four examined institutions.

As the answers showed, the *Arab Times* has a relatively static translation process which means that their process is almost always the same and the translators rarely derives from it. So, the process beginning from the text selection to the final pre-publication process is static in nature. This is likely due to the smaller translation workforce in the institution. Additionally, unlike the previously discussed two public institutions, the translation department at the *Arab Times* does not function twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. This steady work environment probably helped in creating a more stable process. Moreover, the fact that the news items are selected mainly by the translators indicates that this department is relatively independent in how they approach their work.

It seems that the participants' answers did not show clear positive/negative views towards sensitive translations like political news items. When it comes to collaborative translation, it seems from the data that the translators generally work individually. This is in line with the quantitative data indicative of individual translation. Finally, the data from these answers helped fill some of the gaps in the quantitative data. It is now safe to state exactly how the translation of news items is approached in the *Arab Times.*

6.2.4 *Kuwait Times* Open-ended Question Data

The data collected from *Kuwait Times* are smaller in size compared to the other three institutions. This is due to the smaller sample size of only three participants. However, this sample completely represents the institution since *Kuwait Times* only employs those three translators. Therefore, the participants' answers should be reflective of the institution's translation practice.

For the first question, the answers were consistent. The three participants[34] cited the news editorial desk as the source of the texts. Also, based on Participant 7's answer, the advertising department provides press releases that affect the choice of news items. While it is difficult to establish the extent of these press releases, it can be presumed that they take up some space in the final published paper. As a result,

[34] Participant 6: "Q1: The translation tasks are chosen by the editorial staff, and they have to be approved by the editor-in-chief."
Participant 7: "Q1: My editing manager and local news manager according to ongoing news and the press releases provided by the advertising department."
Participant 8: "Q1: Personally, some are chosen by the local desk editor, and certain topics by the managing editor."

the allocated space for news items could be affected and considered beforehand when selecting them.

As Participant 7's answer shows, the news items are chosen by the editing desk based on ongoing news and press releases. The editor-in-chief approves these news items to be translated. Participant 8 stated that certain topics are chosen specifically by the managing editor. This is one possible form of gatekeeping, as the editorial desk and the managing editor specifically can choose certain topics and are also the ones responsible for the approval of news items translation. As a result, the translators' role in this institution is mainly focused on translating rather than news reporting when compared to the other examined institutions.

For the second question, the answers showed that the post-translation process is consistent in *Kuwait Times*. Participant 7 answered: "Q2: I always type and pass them to the concerned page editor to be edited then passed on to page makers pending referral for printing." As with the previous question, it seems that page layout is taken into consideration, even in the editing phase. This is important because the *Kuwait Times,* like the *Arab Times*, is a printed newspaper. In comparison, the MOI and KUNA do not issue their translations in a newspaper form. Participant 6 and 8 corroborated Participant 7's answer with their similar answers[35]. As the answer also showcase, all translations in the *Kuwait Times* are proofread and edited before they are published.

For the third question, the answers regarding sensitive tasks provided insight into the translation of political news were complementary to other analysed data sets. Participant 6 answered: "Q3: Very challenging. In addition to maintaining accuracy,

[35] Participant 6: "Q2: The translated text is first copy-edited and then edited before going to publish." Participant 8: "Q2: It is submitted for the post editor, who refers it to rewriters and proof-readers."

the translator has to be very careful not to cross lines that could have him and the publication held liable under the state's press and publication law." Here, the participant believes sensitive tasks are challenging and should be approached carefully. Moreover, the participant argued that accuracy is extremely important in sensitive news. The answer showcases the external legal factors (press and publication laws) influencing the translators as they translate. These legal factors could also affect the institution itself and hold it liable. The 2006 Kuwait media law (discussed in section 2.3) should be considered as an external factor that influences news translation in Kuwait. This law draws the lines translators/institutions should not cross as the participant alluded to by stating "not to cross lines".

Participant 8 provided more details on this matter by stating: "Q3: Kuwait is relatively easy on certain issues. Guidelines are given to bear in mind the status of his Highness the Amir and the country's security in general." Here, guidelines seem to be given to the translators on two main topics. First, the royal status of the Amir must be kept in mind when translating. This relates to the use of specific titles to refer to the Amir and the Crown Prince. Second, the security of the state should be considered when translating. This likely relates to the 2006 media law's clause about preserving Kuwait's international relations and refraining from publishing anything that could harm these relations. Furthermore, Participant 7 added: "Q3: I usually take whatever task professionally and translate stories selected by my boss, who fully respects Kuwait press laws." As can be seen here, the role these press laws play seems particularly important in the context of political news translation. The translators in *Kuwait Times* are provided with news items that could be sensitive, and they must deal with them cautiously. Otherwise, the translators or their institution could be held responsible if

the translations were regarded as harmful. Additionally, Participant 7's answer shows that even at the text selection stage, the laws are considered by "the boss".

As the data showed, the *Kuwait Times* translators are presented with news items to translate. They also follow a static post-translation process since they just submit their translations and are done with the task. They also seem to keep in mind external factors like legal issues that might be detrimental to them or their employer. The translators' views towards political news translation lean towards being negative due to it being challenging and sensitive. In addition, the answers provided by the translators in *Kuwait Times* did not refer to any form of collaborative translation. This is in line with the previously analysed quantitative data, which showed a completely individual translation environment. Finally, these answers were from all the employed translators in the institution. As a result, it is safe to state that they are representative of the translation environment in the *Kuwait Times* newspaper.

6.2.5 Results of the Open-ended Question Analysis

As the previous analyses demonstrated, there are more elements to the environment of political news translation than the quantitative data were able to show. The effects of these elements vary across the four examined news institutions. Their effects especially vary between public and private institutions. The effective elements found relate to the number of translators, time-sensitive translation tasks, translation quality, and the 2006 media publication law. These elements will be discussed while comparing their effects on the public and private institutions examined.

The data indicated that the number of translators in the institutions affect the translation process from the news items selection and to the post-translation and publication phases. The more translators the institution has, the more their post-

translation process differs. On one hand, the public sector institutions have more translators, and their translation departments are working day and night. On the other hand, the private sector's institutions are working daily under limited hours and with fewer translators. The data shows that there are a few differences between the two sectors when it comes to translation.

Firstly, the data analysis shows that more translators in the public sector are working as news reporters in addition to their translation tasks compared to the private sector's translators. Moreover, those translators tend to work collaboratively on more than translation when compared to the private sector. This collaborative work is more concentrated in the post-translation phase like editing/revising the translation before its publication. In contrast, the data shows that private sector translators are concentrated on their translation tasks. Also, the private sector's translations tend to be carried out individually, as the data showed.

Secondly, the public institutions translations are generally based on the urgency/importance of a particular news item or event. This is most likely due to the nature of the examined institutions. On one hand, the MOI translate tasks to be read by their news presenters on the official Kuwait Television Channel Two. This results in the translations being more concise and time sensitive. On the other hand, KUNA translations are published online alongside their Arabic ST throughout the day as news breaks. Additionally, KUNA's publication format is short, as they publish the news as *briefs*. This results in their translation being concise and time sensitive as well. In comparison, the two analysed private sector's institutions are daily newspapers. This means their translations are also time sensitive. However, their translations can take multiple forms as they are newspapers. These forms range from news items to opinion pieces to advertisements. The length of the texts also differs due to this fact, which in

turn affects the translation process. For example, soft news would not need to be fact-checked or edited as meticulously as hard news like political ones.

Thirdly, the post-translation process differs between the two sectors. Public institutions seem to focus more on translation quality as well as fact-checking compared to the private institutions. This is illustrated by the fact that the translation departments themselves engage in a revision/editing phase before submitting the translations to the news editing departments. In contrast, the private institutions' translators submit directly to the editing desks after the translations are passed to rewriters/proof-readers. Participants from both the MOI and KUNA explicitly stated that their translations are checked by their translation supervisors before they are submitted to the editing desk.

It is imperative to keep two factors in mind here. These are the experience of the translators and their overall number. The mean average of the experience of the public sector translators is less than ten years as the quantitative data analysis showed. The private sector's mean average was more than twenty years. This difference could result in the need to conduct a translation quality assessment by supervisors in the public sector institutions. Second, the number of translators in the private sector institutions is low compared to the public sector. So, having a translation quality control phase could affect the workflow of these institutions since the number of translators is insufficient. Moreover, the private institutions are commercial newspapers, so their financial interests could also be a factor limiting the employment of more translators.

Fourthly, the translation of political news at the two sectors is generally viewed negatively as a sensitive task that needs to be approached carefully. However, there is a difference between some of the provided answers. In the public sector, the

translators generally view the task negatively, as they consider it sensitive and requiring more time and accuracy. In the private sector, translators shared similar concerns of sensitivity, accuracy, and time. However, they still felt it was affected by other factors (Participants 3, 8, 6). Some of the cited factors relate to the publication law in Kuwait due to the 2006 media law mentioned in section 2.3. Other factors are concerns about the security of the state, but these issues were not mentioned by the public institutions' participants. However, public institutions' participants cited regulations and guidelines that are set by their institutions (Participants 17, 18, 26, 29) relating to being reflective of the state's political views. These guidelines and regulations are mainly set to keep the translations of the public institutions in line with Kuwait's general policy.

The analysis showcased how the translator's role and agency in an institution can differ from other settings. As Schäffner et al. argued (2014, p. 2) an institutional translation is a collective product by the agents in this entity. So, the framework in which these translations are being produced need to be ascertained. This data set aimed to examine this framework. By examining this framework, patterns and norms were found. One norm is the necessary representation of state policy in published news/translations by the public institutions. Similarly, the translators from the private institutions must keep the state's security and political interests. These *institutional norms* were observed by Bettiza and Dionigi (2015) who found that religious beliefs need to be upheld in the institutional translations they examined. These norms can be linked to a respective institution's political discourse. Gagnon (2010, p.255) argued that translation choices in an institutional setting are linked to their own institution and its readership.

When applied to political news translations, these institutional norms can represent their source society in a more positive image. This is in line with what Al-Harrasi (2003) argued about translators being transmitters of information and political views. However, the data here showed that such positive representation might not be due to the translator's own influence on the text, but the collective influence of the institution through its guidelines. Similarly, Baker's take on narrative theory and the personal/individual influence a translator has in the translation (2006, p. 3) can be argued as being limited in this context. This limitation is a result of the overarching collective influence on the translation process and product in an institutional setting. Baker argued that a similar higher-level influence could exist (ibid. 114) and might affect the translation process.

Here, this collective influence was found to affect the product and process of translation. A study conducted by Qin and Zhang (2016) on translated news related to the Edward Snowden case by Chinese stated-owned agencies found that the translated news was reframed. This new framing was argued to be the result of the agencies' political position as well as its target readership. Another study by Kuipers (2015) found that institutions are influential in shaping nationally specific translation norms by imposing constrains and specified meanings in their translations. A similar case can be argued here, especially for the public institutions which are influenced by the state's policy and which in turn influences their produced translations.

Institutions and transeditors have the ability to reframe the news and influence its translation. Valdeón (2014, p. 56) argued that selecting what to report/translate is a framing device. The previous analysis showcased the basis of text selection and the involved individuals. Therefore, this data set's analysis should complement the analysis of the upcoming data sets.

To summarise, the analysed open-ended questions data set has provided insights into the four news translation institutions. This is especially the case for how the translations in these institutions are being produced. In addition, the data presented a further understanding of the process the translations undergo before being published. Moreover, due to this data analysis, it was also observed who is usually responsible for the selection of the news items to be translated and on what basis. This dataset's analysis also provided insight into the role of translators in the four institutions and how they sometimes differ. Furthermore, this analysis demonstrated how the translation of political news is viewed by many translators from different institutions and backgrounds. Those translators' views helped in eliciting more information about this type of translation and the many factors that can affect it. On the one hand, these factors included basic issues like time, accuracy, and urgency. On the other hand, other special factors were legal considerations, specific guidelines for sensitive issues, state policy, publication law, and even state security. All these factors illustrate the intricacies of the translation of political news in an institutional setting. This is also compounded by the comparison between the public and private sectors.

While the purpose of this dataset's analysis is to inform the previously analysed quantitative data, it can still be informative on its own. Still, to further develop this research project's knowledge of the four news translation institutions and how their translations are being produced, the project needs to present another dataset for analysis. This third set of data analysis is obtained from the conducted interviews with the same participants who completed the questionnaire. The previous data and its analysis were all elicited from the questionnaire.

6.3 Interviews Data Analysis

This section presents the qualitative data analysis of the conducted interviews. The data were sourced from the same participants who completed the previously analysed questionnaire. Due to considerations of privacy and ethics, the participants' interviews were conducted anonymously (research ethics were discussed in section 4.7). These considerations include sensitive information that might jeopardise a participant's job or professional relationships. Another consideration is that participants were likely to share more details if they were assured anonymity.

The decision to conduct the interviews anonymously was also made since some of the participants stated that they would agree to conduct the interviews only if their identities were kept anonymous. In turn, this meant that it was not possible to analyse each participant's interview alongside his/her questionnaire. Each participant was assigned a random number to ensure that it was impossible to link the interview data to a specific interviewee. As a result, cross-referencing the data between the questionnaire and the interview sourced from a single individual was not possible. This decision was also in line with the ethical considerations of this research's methodology, which ensures the confidentiality and anonymity of the participants (see section 4.7).

The interviews consisted of thirty-three participants from the four news translation institutions. They were interviewed using a semi-structured interview approach. These interviews were recorded and then transcribed by the researcher using the NVivo software (discussed in section 4.3.3). The transcripts were then coded according to themes relevant to this research project. Other codes were also recognised and made as they seemed of interest to understand the translation phenomenon in this context. For example, positive/negative remarks about political

news translation were observed. Another observation was made relating to the political views of the translation institution and how they influence the translation. The interviews analysis framework adopts aspects from two approaches. The first is grounded theory and the second is thematic content analysis.

6.3.1 Grounded Theory

Grounded theory (see Glaser & Strauss, 1968; Pidgeon & Henwood, 2004; Charmaz, 2014) was used in the analysis of the qualitative data collected from the interviews. The theory is a systemic methodology that uses the data collection and analysis to construct hypotheses. Grounded theory is generally used to analyse qualitative data. Through grounded theory, researchers can form theories based on observations made during the data collection phase of the research as well as the analysis of the collected data.

The founders of grounded theory, Barney Glaser and Anselm Strauss (2006), argued that "a grounded theory that is faithful to the everyday realities of a substantive area is one that has been carefully induced from diverse data" (p. 239). In the context of this research, the data used to establish the everyday *realities* (translation environment/process) of the translation of political news in Kuwait consists of two main components. First, the previous questionnaire quantitative and qualitative data. Second, observations made during the data collection (questionnaires, interviews) at the four news translation institutions. The upcoming interviews complement the previous data by developing the understanding of the *everyday realities* of the translators in the four institutions.

Although the development of grounded theory has been debated, especially between its founders (see Babchuk, 1996; Heath & Cowley, 2004), Glaser and Strauss

both went on to derive their own versions of the theory. On the one hand, Glaser opted to develop the data analysis approach based on the data itself. On the other hand, Strauss argued that the data analysis should also be formulated as part of the grounded theory. It can be argued that Glaser's version is more faithful to the original theory, as the approach to the data analysis is considerably more open compared to Strauss' version. Another point of contention was the nature of the theory. Glaser argued that it is an inductive theory, while Strauss argued that the theory is inductive, deductive, and must implement verification.

Since this research deals with various data types as well as adopting a mixed approach, the shortcomings of both approaches to grounded theory were arguably mitigated. Here, the research adopts a Glaserian approach to the data analysis of the interviews. However, since the research also implements different datasets (questionnaire and texts analysis), the results from analysing these data were used for verification of the interviews' analysis findings. In turn, the shortcomings of this approach (verification of data analysis) should be mitigated. Furthermore, the advantages of Glaser's approach, especially its openness and reliance on the collected data, are being adopted into this research project's analysis of the interviews. This adoption was made to find possible patterns related to the institutional translation of political news.

Grounded theory was presented as an approach to use inductive reasoning and observation to establish a theory. This grounded approach to theorising differs from the traditional testing of hypotheses through experimentation, hence *grounded*. Moreover, a grounded theory approach relies on induction, comparison, and observation. These three aspects are used throughout the research project due to the various data being analysed. This means similar analysis strategies are being used

on this research's qualitative data. Specifically, inference and interpretation are used in the interviews' data analysis, as was the case with the previous analysis of the questionnaire's open-ended questions.

These analysis strategies were used to tackle the more abstract concepts (translator's agency, individual/collective influences, effects of social elements) related to this research. For example, the translator's agency does not have a tangible form in a text. Therefore, its form is basically abstract. To analyse it within a text or from the remarks of participants' interviews, it is imperative to rely on the aforementioned analysis strategies. The same can be argued for the effects of social elements and their influence on translators/translations.

As was discussed above, the grounded theory is open to the emergence of new concepts or themes during the data analysis. Its inductive and deductive aspects are applied to find plausible explanations related to this research's interests such as the translator's agency, individual/collective influence on news translation, and the effects of social elements. These two aspects of grounded theory are used across the data analysis of the interviews on both the macro and micro level.

Since the theory provided an open approach to the data analysis, it keeps a research project open to factoring in newly discovered elements. The adaptation of grounded theory in this data analysis helped in recognising patterns among different participants and their answers across the four institutions. For example, the importance of translations being reflective of their respective institution's political views was heavily indicated by the data. As a result, this means that institutional influence seems to be affecting the translations to make them more reflective of the institution. Another example of the open nature of grounded theory could be seen in the participants' answers. For instance, answers to questions related to social elements

and translation indicate the extent of their influence in an institutional translation environment.

The interviews and their analysis using grounded theory presented a new perspective for looking at translators and their institutions. This new perspective is more personal in nature, since it relates to every participant's personal experience and views. This perspective was limited in the previous two analyses, as the data was collected from a prewritten questionnaire. Although a questionnaire can give ample space for the participants to answer freely and personally, it is hard to predetermine follow-up questions for all possible answers. In comparison, a semi-structured interview can be adapted based on the participant's answers. As a result, open-ended questions in a questionnaire are arguably more suited to questions that are on point and are not likely in need of follow-up questions.

The process of the data analysis is similar to the one used in the open-ended questions presented in the questionnaire. Therefore, the use of induction is also central here with the addition of follow-up questions as needed. The coding feature of the NVivo software helped in finding similarities during the data analysis. The qualitative data coding process helped in categorising and summarising each piece of data (Charmaz, 2006, p. 43). Furthermore, such a coding process helps to establish the analytical frame that integrates the collected data into the theoretical framework of a study (p. 45). Charmaz argued that this coding process is done as the data is being scrutinised, which she called "*active coding*" (p. 46). This was the case with this analysis. After the transcription phase, the coding process resulted in finding more codes than were originally predicted. For example, there were remarks by the participants about their respective translation institution's political views. This resulted in establishing new codes for these remarks.

6.3.2 Thematic Content Analysis

While grounded theory can be used on both the macro and micro levels, there is still a need to establish the main themes the participants share regarding their different translation environments. To do so, a thematic content analysis approach was also adopted in the analysis framework. This approach is concerned with the macro level analysis of emergent themes. Braun and Clarke (2012, p. 58) argued that the flexibility of a thematic content analysis approach makes it a valuable tool in qualitative data analysis. This is important because this research is adopting a mixed method approach of both qualitative and quantitative data containing various datasets that are fundamentally different (multiple-choice/open-ended questions from the questionnaire, interviews, and critical discourse analysis of STs and TTs).

The analysis of themes was helpful because the present project can use these themes to categorise the participants' answers in the interviews in accordance with the themes of the questions. In turn, a presentation of the analysis based on the main themes illustrated by the data was arguably achieved. The categorising of the questions and answers, then presenting related answers as themes meant the present project can view the data and analyse it according to the research interests (political news translation, narrative, influence of social elements). Moreover, Joffe (2012) argued that this approach:

> […] facilitates the gleaning of knowledge of the meaning made of the phenomenon under study by the groups studied and provides the necessary groundwork for establishing valid models of human thinking, feeling and behaviour. (p. 210)

This means that this thematic approach could possibly help clarify the mindset and behaviour of the interviewed translators employed in the four news institutions.

The thematic approach adopted in the analysis of the interviews is based on two broad analytical styles: a descriptive style and an interpretive style. This thematic approach was based on the approach discussed by Virginia Braun and Victoria Clarke (2012). Braun and Clarke argued that a thematic analysis is a combination of both analytical styles, as they stated: “It is impossible to be purely inductive as we always bring something to the data when we analyse it […]” (p. 58). Braun and Clarke further added that a descriptive thematic analysis is useful in dealing with basic answers elicited from the participants. In contrast, an interpretive thematic analysis is targeted towards the more abstract concepts and notions the participants’ answers might reference. In the context of this research, examples of abstract concepts include social elements such as a participant’s religion, nationality, or personal political views. Using this analytical framework, which is based on grounded theory and thematic content analysis, meant that the data elicited from the interviews were approached in an open manner that considers emergent themes. This is essential, specifically in relation to abstract concepts like the translator’s agency and social influence on the translations.

Furthermore, since the participants in this dataset are not pertaining to a single definitive sample, the need for an open framework for the analysis was arguably optimal. This is because the interviewed translators come from different backgrounds with different amount of experience, as well as different work environments (the four translation institutions). Therefore, using a strict data analytical framework on these interviews was not favourable and was avoided, as it might have limited the scope of the analysis.

If the present project was to break down the interview's general structure, it would be broken down into four sets of questions. These four sets can also be regarded as the four overarching themes of the interview and the data analysis. The first set of questions in the interview is focused on the role of the participants, their experience, and the nature of their translation tasks. The second set of questions is more targeted to the translation of news, specifically political news and if/how it differs from other translation genres. The third set of questions is focused on more abstract elements like social background, religion, or nationality that could affect the translation. The fourth set of questions is concerned with the translators' opinions or suggestions of how to improve their news translation institution's work environment or improving the general state of translation in Kuwait.

The general presentation format of the interviews' data analysis for the four news translation institutions is as follows:

- Answers providing new/relevant/insightful information regarding the four sets of questions of the semi-structured interviews are presented and followed by their analysis.
- Relevant follow-up questions are presented with their analysis.
- Relevant remarks made by the participants are presented with their analysis.

This is the presentation format of the upcoming data analysis sections related to the four news translation institutions. However, answers from different parts of the interviews were also used in accordance with their relevance. Moreover, not all the answers from all the participants were included in the upcoming data analysis, since some of the data collected from the participants were inconclusive.

It is worth noting that in this interview structure and setting the participants can vary dramatically. This is due to each participant's own experience and attitude during the interview. Therefore, it is possible that not all participants are as forthcoming as one would hope. For instance, Participant 10 from the MOI is an experienced translator who was extremely forthcoming during the interview. The participant also shared personal experience and was engaged with the research topic. As a result, the data elicited from this participant is clearly more relevant for this research. In contrast, some other participants shared short statements that can be considered broad and general. In comparison. This meant that some interviews were considerably more insightful compared to other interviews.

6.3.3 Ministry of Information Interview Analysis

The interview participants (fifteen) from the MOI provided data that was arguably helpful in understanding how exactly translation tasks are addressed in this institution. Other themes discussed and elaborated on from the data include how texts are selected, the effects of Kuwaiti policies on the translation process/product, novice translators compared to experienced translators, and some of the institution's shortcomings in relation to translation. In addition, some of the answers gave new perspectives about the translation process in the MOI that were not considered previously. For example, the role that the Amiri Diwan (discussed next) plays in the translation process at the MOI was not clearly known/defined until the interviews were conducted.

It is imperative to explain what the Amiri Diwan is and how it functions in Kuwait, as it relates to some of the upcoming data analysis. The Amiri Diwan, meaning the Kuwait's Ruler's Office, is the royal institution concerned with the Kuwaiti ruler. It is a

governmental entity akin to the American White House; however, it functions independently from the Kuwaiti government. The Kuwaiti Amir can issue royal decrees or executive orders that are relayed by the Amiri Diwan. The role of the Amiri Diwan also extends to various matters (see Mohammed, 2020). However, what concerns this research is that the Amiri Diwan can issue statements, news, or important announcements (e.g., deaths of a high-ranking officials). These are usually sent to other governmental bodies like MOI and KUNA to be published/translated for the public.

The conducted interviews in the MOI illustrated that this happens relatively frequently, as they receive faxes from the Amiri Diwan for news items that are to be published/translated. This is also the case with the second Diwan in Kuwait, the Crown Prince's Diwan. However, it seems that the role of the Crown Prince's Diwan is smaller compared to the Amiri Diwan, both on the political side as well as matters concerning translation in Kuwait. It is possible to argue that in this case the Amiri Diwan can function as a gatekeeping entity that chooses what news to circulate and translate. It can be seen as one of the first collective entities that affect the translated news.

The data analysed from the participants during the first phase of the interviews were insightful. For example, the data indicated that the Amiri Diwan plays a significant role in the publication of political news in Kuwait. This was noted when Participant 1 was asked about their workload. Participant 1 stated:

> While here, I'm just doing political news. So, what we do is we wait for whether to get a fax from the Amiri Diwan stating that we must translate this text. And so, what I do is wait for the fax and then translate it. And if we didn't get any faxes on this date, we'll just look at the main news sometimes. We do have

> local main news, whether it's from the parliament or from the government, and we translate it.

It can be deduced from this answer that the main source of the political news for the MOI translations is the Amiri Diwan through faxes. This seems to be the case for political news, as the participant stated they only work with political news. As a result, it can be argued that the Amiri Diwan is the entity responsible for setting the general themes for the political news that the MOI translates. In turn, this could mean that almost any political news being translated/circulated by STs and TTs published by the MOI is prepared beforehand in the Amiri Diwan and is influenced by it. For example, if the MOI publishes a news item condemning the actions of a particular party, it is possible that the Amiri Diwan requested that the MOI publish this specific news. On the one hand, the main theme of such a news item is the condemnation of the specified party. On the other hand, the result of such a news item translation is that this specified party is evil (since it was condemned) and that Kuwait does not tolerate the actions of this party.

The role of the translators in the MOI extends to more than the translation and reporting of news. For example, Participant 9's answer confirms that translators are working as news editors as well. The answer also illustrated some of the used news sources:

> […] during my shift, I prepare the local news from different sources. The main source is KUNA news agency, the Amiri Diwan, the Diwan of his highness the crown prince and the other local ministries and bodies to translate them into English then the news readers read them in English.

It is apparent from this answer and the previous answer that all the news sources used by the MOI are governmental. Therefore, it can be argued that any possible influences on the news translations of the MOI originate from the Kuwaiti government.

The participant mentioned the readers, which most likely refers to the news presenters rather than actual news consumers. This is generally how translation is being practiced in the MOI. In fact, when asked about their role, Participant 15 stated, “We have two sides, one side that translates and one side that edits”. This seems to indicate that translators are sometimes assigned to news editing roles in the news translation department of the MOI. It can also indicate that collecting and editing news item is assigned to novices.

This inference was based on Participant 15’s answer to a follow-up question about his/her experience: “I think five or six months (of experience)”. The significance lies in how news is being selected for translation, as this relates directly to the translation process at the MOI. For example, if any translator (no matter their experience) can be tasked with choosing which text to translate, then it would mean that some texts are chosen by translators, while others are sent over by external parties (KUNA, Amiri Diwan, etc).

According to two of the participants[36], sometimes the translators would translate transcripts of radio shows or legal documents. Moreover, when asked about the translation workload, Participant 10 stated:

[36] Participant 3: “When I first started this, mostly contracts and agreements so that we would send them, you know, to the procurement department. It was a lot of legal translation at first […].” Participant 8: “For My role, I am a news editor I do the local and international news for the 99.7 frequency as well. As for my translation experiences, I haven't translated a lot only for one year. And usually, I would take the Arabic transcript and translate it into English using different tools and some of my experience.”

> Usually we deal with everyday programmes, series and movies, documentaries, sometimes interviews. That's the general tasks given to us on a daily basis. But sometimes we deal with particular cases or special cases or emergencies in certain political events and certain social events and so on.

Furthermore, the translators in the MOI occasionally work as live presenters. When asked about political translation, Participant 10 also stated:

> […] a special event, a political event in Kuwait or in the region, we have to collaborate on translating these and what's said what's done sometimes describe what's done on air, either in the studios or in written forums.

Here it can be seen that the role of translators is not limited to simply translating news items. In fact, it seems that the role is dynamic and, depending on the setting, the translator's role can overlap with other jobs. Therefore, it is arguably safe to assume that translators in the MOI are not only tasked with translating, but also other tasks depending on the needs of the MOI.

Another role the translators of the MOI also fill relates to superimposing the translation on the screen/teleprompter. For example, Participant 11 is a translator and "super-imposer". This means that the participant is responsible for placing and syncing the subtitles in the teleprompters for the newscasters to read. After working six years as a translator, the participant can now super-impose. When asked about this combined role, the translator stated that they are the last person to check the translation with the authority to change it. The participant also stated that the original translators trust them and usually do not check for any changes made to the translation. Here, it can be inferred that the super-imposers can be seen as editors for the translators. Also, it seems that at least a few years of translation experience is a

prerequisite for this role, which can be regarded as a form of audiovisual translation (see Pérez-González, 2009).

Finally, Participant 12, who is the head of a department, stated that the department's translators sometimes work as interpreters. This was also corroborated by Participant 10, who stated: "[…] Sometimes we translate on air […]". This shows that the news translation department in the MOI conducts translation both in written and spoken forms.

These previous answers establish that translators in the MOI are not bound to the translation of news only, as they can also be called upon to finish other types of translations as well. This seems to be the case even for the translators working in the news translation department from which the data sample was collected. It can be assumed that the main reason for the dynamic nature of the translator's role is due to the time-sensitive nature of news publishing. This is amplified by the fact that the MOI is the governmental body concerned with media and news publication in Kuwait. Additionally, special circumstances or emergencies are also a factor, as was previously stated by Participant 10.

When it comes to experience, it seems that there are some translators with experience in addition to working at the MOI. For example, Participant 13 stated that they worked as a voluntary translator before working at the MOI. However, the translations were not related to political news. Another example is Participant 4, who stated that they had worked previously as an English teacher for eight years. Also, Participant 3 stated that they worked as a teaching assistant at a university before being employed by the MOI. These participants' answers indicate that not all MOI participants started as news translators, also showing some of the different experience levels and backgrounds present at the MOI.

The nature of translation is apparently varied, according to the participants' answers. This is usually dependent on each participant's specific workload or the division to which a participant belongs. An example of this is Participant 9, who stated:

> […] We translate the news in this department. We have the eleven o'clock news. This is news in brief. We have the one o'clock news, which is detailed, and we have the seven o'clock news and we have the eleven pm news […].

This shows the time-sensitive nature of translation and how it persists throughout the day. The participant later adds that the translations are mainly from Arabic to English. In addition, Participant 6 was asked about their translation workload. The answer was as follows: "I deal with local news, like if His Highness, received someone or he congratulate someone I translate that." This participant's translation workload seems to consist of routine news or official statements such as royal receptions. If Participant 6's translation experience of only two months was taken into consideration, then it can be inferred that novice translators in the MOI are given lighter workloads than their more experienced colleagues.

Moreover, it seems that MOI translators also translate reports from Arabic into English. Participant 5 stated that the types of translations they work with are as follows:

> Sometimes news stories, which we take from websites, and we translate in our best capability. And when I need to write a report, usually I work in the Arabic section, and I have to translate it for the English reader.

When asked about which websites they use, the participant said it depends on the topic of the report. The participant later added:

> I get the topic, for example, for the liberation (Kuwait's liberation day). I did it, but I was looking for information in Arabic and from what I gathered, I just translated into English.

This indicates two things. First, the translators writing reports can collect information from different sources outside the MOI's usual criteria for news publishing sources. As seen above, the translators in the MOI mainly use governmental sources. Second, the reports the translators in this department write can also be used for contexts other than news, as the participant showed. This further demonstrates how the role of the translators in the MOI is dynamic.

Furthermore, Participant 7 was asked about the types of translation they work with. The answer was:

> We usually deal with the shows that air on KT2 most of the time. But on certain occasions, like urgent matters, like emergencies or etcetera like ceremonies we deal with some special texts, some political texts.

Since there is another translation department that deals with translating television programmes and shows, this seems to indicate one of two issues. Either the translators from the news translation department can switch to the other television translation department, or that they are requested to help the other department. This presents the MOI as either a flexible translation environment or a demanding one. It is worth noting that during the data collection phase, which took several days, it was observed that the news translation department was separate from all other departments. In fact, the department had its own office space as well as its own conference room. It is also possible that Participant 7's answer refers to specific shows translated by the news translation department.

Additionally, Participant 9 referred to the translator's role as *"*a one-man show*"*. The participant followed up by stating that a translator is responsible for everything as well as collecting the relevant material. It is worth mentioning that Participant 9 is one of the more experienced translators in the MOI with more than thirty years of

translation practice. This might be the reason why the participant feels all the responsibility rests in their hands, as the participant might be afforded more freedom than less experienced fellow colleagues.

These previous answers demonstrate a set of flexible translation tasks that the MOI translators undertake. Those tasks include translating or writing texts of different natures to include news briefs, radio transcripts, reports, television shows/programmes, and official statements. This is in addition to the different roles the translators fill, as discussed above. In essence, the data shows that the news translation department in the MOI is a dynamic environment. As a result, each translator in this environment can have a unique experience different from those of their fellow colleagues.

As previously indicated, the Amiri Diwan is the main source for the MOI's news translation department. The answers to the second phase of the interview also presented some intriguing data regarding political news translation. When Participant 1 was asked if they handle the translation of political news differently, the answer was:

> No, it's different here. We take it more seriously because we are representing a state, we are presenting the country. So, we have to stick to the country's opinions, which is always neutral. So, we avoid any serious issues, or biased sources. And we are just like, peaceful and neutral.

This shows that the translator believes that their work, as well as the institution in general, should represent the state and its views. The participant was then asked about this responsibility and stated the following:

> […] Because we have certain terms to use. For example, we have Kuwait is now standing in the middle, like they have not decided that the Syrian government as still the government, legitimate government of Syria or not. So

> instead of saying, we cannot say Syrian government we say the Syrian regime, we do not mention the president with the Syrian president. We just say the regime[37]. We cannot. So, if I did mention that I would be fired.

Evidently, it seems the MOI takes Kuwait's political stance seriously, as the participant's elaboration indicates. This answer also indicates the use of translation methods like substitution (regime for the Syrian president). The participant expressed the use of terminology in accordance with the state's political views by using *regime,* which has negative connotations.

This was followed up by asking about the participant's experience with political news translation. The answer was:

> I am in political news. Translating it is tough, but it's nice at the same time, you get to know what the country is standing on, which faces, and get to know the protocols we use. And it is tough, so we take it seriously. That's the only issue that we're facing here.

This further demonstrates that translating political news is both demanding and filled with responsibility. Still, the participant showed a positive attitude, as this experience helped them learn about Kuwait's political standing on various issues. On the one hand, this can be a result of the participant's interest in the genre of political news. On the other hand, this can be due to the nationality of the participant. Since more than eighty-five percent of the translators in the MOI are Kuwaiti nationals, it is likely that this participant is a Kuwaiti national. The participant dealt with political news that informed the participant about the nation's political positions. This arguably might have

[37] The word "regime" can often lead to negative connotations compared to the more neutral *government.*

influenced the participant's view towards political news translation, as it informed them about Kuwaiti policy with a sense of nationalism/patriotism.

The sensitivity of political news was also demonstrated by the answer of Participant 10. When asked about dealing with political news, the participant gave an elaborate answer with examples:

> Political items or political issues are usually sinister by nature and definition. When you talk about politics, you always have to be careful because sometimes if you mistake or make a mistake in a term or a title or the choice of a single word, you might create a crisis without being aware of that […].

The importance of terminology is apparent from the previous two participants. Additionally, the participants also stressed that mistranslations could result in crisis. The participant followed with an example:

> For instance, if you are talking about his highness, the Amir, and you say, His Majesty, the choice of words here is very sensitive. You cannot describe His Highness the Amir as his majesty […] the choice of words is usually very, very sensitive. You don't have the margin to make mistakes […].

Here, it can be inferred from the example that royal titles are of importance. This is due to the participant stating that a mistake could result in a "crisis". In fact, the news translation department in the MOI has a specific printout for specific names and governments: "[…] We have a printout here. So, everyone has to stick to the order of the protocol, to the way it is said, the names, the governments […]" (Participant 1). This means that alongside representing Kuwait's political stance, the translators must also adhere to using the correct titles and names for high-ranking state officials as well as foreign governments.

Connotative meanings are also taken into consideration, as they can lead to presenting the translation in a specific light. Participant 9 provided an interesting example of this when asked about the sensitivity of political news translation:

> […] Last year, I do not want you to take it as an offence against my colleagues. For example, they were translating during the visit of his majesty King Salman the monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They translated موكب[38] into convoy. Convoy is رتل عسكري [39] I was doing translation simultaneously interpreting in the studio and then they just put it on the caption. When I read it, I started signing and they asked me what's wrong and I said remove it. How can you say convoy? Motorcade is different than convoy.

This is an example of presenting the news in a specific light. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) is considered one of the closest allies of Kuwait. This is due to their mostly similar cultural/historical heritage and their geographical proximity. So, a mistake of this kind that paints the KSA king as a military leader (military leaders are often perceived as dictators) could hurt the political ties between the two countries. Although it is hard to determine whether this was done consciously, due to a mistake or lack of experience, it still demonstrates the settings in which translators work. This example also shows the intricacies involved in this practice and the minute details to which a translator must pay attention. The participant followed up by attributing this mistake due to the lack of training courses for translators in the MOI, as well as other translation institutions in Kuwait and their inexperience.

[38] Transliteration: mawkib, literally meaning motorcade in Arabic and is a non-connotative word.

[39] Transliteration: ritl ʿaskarī, literally meaning military convoy in Arabic and is loaded with militaristic connotations.

Moreover, Participant 10 suggested that it is common for translators to neglect paying the necessary attention to their translation workload, even among experienced translators. This seems to be the case specifically when dealing with soft news due to the target audience. However, the participant urges translators to make the effort and to be extra attentive to the use of specific terminology.

The same participant believes that novice translators should be nurtured gradually by giving them simple translation tasks at first to grow their experience. One example the participant gave was tasking novice translators with short regular television programmes to start. The participant stated that more than once, novice translators left the MOI due to being pressured with difficult and huge workloads just as they started their tenure.

Participant 10 also compared political news translation and *regular programmes* to demonstrate their different features:

> […] In regular programs, it is okay, the viewer can accept, you know, a slight mistake. For instance, in a place if you write in New York and you made it Newark […] suppose the translator heard it wrong and said, Newark, it's New York. It is okay, it happens, and it passes because it is not very important. But when you make such a mistake in a political event or in a political interview, it is a mess.

This is an example of the sensitivity of political news translation tasks compared to other translation genres. It can also be clearly deduced that the nature and context of the translation task are important and need to be analysed as well if a translation analysis is to be conducted. Moreover, the participant's example also illustrates the importance of text genre and target readership.

A television drama translator can afford to commit some translation mistakes or to translate figuratively due to the previously mentioned two elements of genre and target readership. First, the source material itself (usually a written scenario) is a piece of literature. As a result, the translation of the said television drama can be seen as a form of literary translation, which is generally considered an unrestricted translation genre. Second, the viewers of this drama might not be as invested in it as those following any form of news. This is mainly due to how these two different products are consumed. A television drama is consumed during an individual's free time, while news is breaking every day and can be life changing. As a result, it is possible to afford a few mistranslations in the former kind of translation.

When Participant 9 was asked who should be tasked with the translation of political news, the answer was *"*experienced translators*".* This indicates the sensitivity of this kind of news. The same participant was asked a follow-up question about using the translations as a representative product of the translator's or the institution's political views. The answer was the following:

> Well, yes, but not the institution's but the government's. For example, in Kuwait, let me be frank with you, in the gulf crisis[40] we are taking what we call an impartial position. So, we are neutral. So, we cannot deviate from this position of his highness the Amir may God bless him and guard him. So even as we are translating from any other source […].

Firstly, it can be seen that rather than representing the individual or institution, the answer illustrates representation on a national level. This representation is most likely determined by the fact that the MOI is a state body. Therefore, it should always

[40] This refers to the Qatari diplomatic crisis that began in 2017 when Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Egypt severed diplomatic and financial relations with Qatar.

take Kuwait's political stance into consideration. Secondly, the participant also mentioned staying neutral in their example, even when using other sources, which probably refers to sources outside of Kuwait. The participant followed up by describing an incident that occurred recently:

> The match between Saudi Arabia and Qatar[41] that was held almost ten days ago. The translation, well it wasn't a translation. One of my colleagues in the shift took the piece of news as it was from the Reuters news agency and put it[42]. He used the term rival. Since we are in Kuwait, we are standing in neutral. So, this term does not suit our position. This is a problematic issue, and this person received calls from the highest positions in the ministry, because people from outside the ministry called others, well you got the idea.

This is arguably a loaded statement that presents a variety of issues. First, the participant demonstrated how even soft news in the right context can be perceived as hard political news. Secondly, a translator's awareness should be heightened in these specific contexts to avoid incidents that could have severe political ramifications. Thirdly, a translator who edits and selects what to translate and report could use this unique role and find convenient, sometimes unethical, methods to do their job. This seems to be one such example. It also demonstrates the lack of oversight for soft news compared to hard news. Fourthly, as a translator in a public state body, the audience could perceive their translations to represent the state's political views. Therefore, a mistranslation could lead to a misrepresentation, which could in turn result in punitive action.

[41] A recent football match at the time of the interview.

[42] Referred news story: https://www.reuters.com/article/soccer-asiancup-sau-qat-idINKCN1PB2M6

Finally, the participant alluded to how outside parties could try and use such translations as a negotiation card to force Kuwait to take a side in this diplomatic crisis. As a result, it can be presumed that the MOI's general protocols and guidelines, as well as the difference between soft and hard news, could be important factors in the translation process and product.

When Participant 10 was asked if there were political news translation guidelines in place, the answer was:

> Yeah, the guidelines are there all the time. Even when you are translating a children's series, for example, or even a movie, you have a guideline to follow. And this guideline gets strict more and more when you are dealing with political issues because you have taboos, you cannot make a mistake. You cannot write a word which may be a little bit out of place or sometimes it's an insult or it is not suitable describe this or that. So, you have to be very careful. And in that case, you have to revise your work again and again. And even better to ask someone who is more experienced or someone who went through this situation before just for advice or something like that.

The participant seems to suggest the guidelines increase in strictness as the translation task involves more political issues. Furthermore, the participant's answer suggests that collaborative work with more experienced translators in this setting is recommended. Apparently, this is one way to avoid making mistakes related to taboos/protocols. It can also be argued that this is one form of collaborative translation that is being practiced in the MOI. In fact, the researcher's observation of the work environment during the data collection phase of this research also indicates this form of collaborative work.

Participant 2 was asked about the work environment during the interview, and the answer also referred to this: “[…] Sometimes the work environment, the workplace, due to the people I work with, can be loud, talkative, distracting. But it is all experience […]”. As seen here, the environment seems to be a very active one. This is also intensified since most of the translators in this department work in an open office space. Even though the participant’s answer seems to view this environment in a negative light, the participant apparently believes that the experience gained from this kind of environment is worth it.

In contrast, Participant 10 was positive about that the work environment by stating the following:

> […] nice atmosphere, a relaxed atmosphere, and in general you do not have pressure to work and most of all, there is this sense of cooperation you find all the time. Particularly, in cases of emergencies, you find everyone there even if she or he is not working on the task. […]

Here, the participant seems to view the work environment in rather pleasantly. Although the participant seems to contradict some of the previous statements about the workload and pressure, it is worth mentioning that the participant has around twenty-five years of experience. Therefore, it is possible this participant has a lighter workload than their fellow colleagues. Moreover, the participant obviously appreciates the way the translators seem to function collaboratively and during emergencies. An example provided by the participant was how it was possible to find at least three interpreters standing by during a live simultaneous interpretation. The participant stated this might not be their shift, but they are there in case of an emergency.

Participant 10 also mentioned some noteworthy taboos. Examining the answers contained in the interviews from the MOI participants showed that these

include personal opinions[43], (mis)use of specified terminology[44], misrepresenting high-ranking officials[45], and not adhering to the state's policy[46].It is worth noting that news reporting itself often contains taboos as well. These taboos also exist in the field of political news and can varied from being virtues to being vices. These taboos are usually dependent on the institution's news reporting practices and related elements. Such elements can range from moral principles (avoiding misleading/fake news reports) to political agendas (biased/fake news reporting).

In contrast to the previous statement about guidelines, some participants showed positive attitudes towards these guidelines. When asked about the MOI's work environment, Participant 2 stated: "[…] does not have a lot of guidelines, they are not very limiting they are just there to be safe and to ensure that you produce the correct text that the body requires […]". This answer shows that the participant believes that the guidelines are a safety measure by the MOI. However, the answer also clearly indicates that the MOI's guidelines can affect the translation process to produce "*correct*" texts that reflect the institution's views. When asked to elaborate on the meaning of "safe", the participant stated: "[…] sometimes if you use one word differently it can actually cause a problem, so these guidelines remind me what kinds

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[43] Participant 1: "[…] we do not give opinions […] if it's in there, they would take it out […]."
Participant 2: "You are not supposed to have an opinion […] so there is no room for your personal political opinion, unlike newspapers and magazines […]."

[44] Participant 1: "[…] we do not mention the president with the Syrian president. We just say the regime. We cannot. […]."

[45] Participant 1: "[…] if it's like a Kuwaiti official, we have to stick to his title, to his full name every time we mention him […]."
Participant 2: "[…] plus the titles you have to make sure that they're correct."

[46] Participant 8: "[…] when we want to translate something politically. You should know your country's stance in the situation you are working on […] your country's stance and work accordingly."
Participant 12: "Since we are a government sector as you know, so we have to follow the government's approach in our translations."

of words I am supposed to use […]". The participant's answer demonstrates the importance of these guidelines and seems to indicate a certain amount of liability to the translator's word choice.

Experience also affects the way the translators approach their tasks, as the participant followed up with the following:

> […] I know other translators who have further experience than me it became natural to them they do not even need the guidelines anymore because they just memorised them, so they do not need to feel safe because they feel safe […]

As seen here, the more experienced translators in the MOI seem to have adhered to the institution's guidelines until it started to become second nature to them as they produce their translations. While it is hard to measure the extent of how these guidelines might have affected the translations of the more experienced translators over their years of experience, it can be safely assumed that these guidelines play an important role in the translation process of the MOI.

One possible effect of the translation guidelines is the pressure they place on the MOI translators. Apparently, new employees prefer news editing/reporting over translation because of the fear of being a translator. This was illustrated in Participant 2's answer when asked if there were any suggestions that could improve the MOI's translation work environment:

> […] So, they ask you, do you want to work as a translator, or do you want to work as an editor? Most of them (new employees) wanted to work as an editor because of the pressure on being a translator. So, what I would like is for more translators because sometimes one of the pressures on me is not because of the work itself. Sometimes it is the workload, but it is because usually they are

> scared, you know, they do not feel safe. And so right now on my shift, there is only me and another co-worker who are working as translators. I guess what I need is for them to bring more translators. And if they have specific guidelines, usually they give it to us verbally, not by text. So, if they if they really want us to make sure that these guidelines are followed by text should be easier.

As seen above, this answer represents many of the issues found in the MOI's translation environment. These are a lack of a definitive role for translators, understaffing, overwork, fear of breaching protocols or making grave mistakes, and verbal/ambiguous guidelines.

Consequently, the lack of written instructions and guidelines can lead to confusion, especially for less experienced translators. Mason (2021) found that even when institutional guidelines were present, translations do not always adhere by them. Mason examined translations from institutional sites (European Parliament and UNESCO) and found some translations are ideologically determined when translating controversial topics. So, it can be argued that when translation guidelines are non-existent in an institutional setting, the translators might have more influence on their translations.

The participant followed-up by stating how unfortunate it is that translation is not a profession in demand in Kuwait:

> […] Kuwait is not a translation or translator-friendly country, it is hard to find a job. For me, if I did not work here as a translator, it is very hard. It is very hard for me to find a job in another place […]

As this answer illustrates, the outlook on translation as a professional job is not as good as one would hope. As a result, employed translators probably tread extremely

carefully when it comes to guidelines with no concern to their form, whether written, verbal, or otherwise.

It is also worth noting that there might be some guidelines that the translators were not allowed to share or talk about. This is evident in Participant 13's answer:

> There are some, yes. I'm not sure how allowable I am if can say or talk about them in this interview. But overall, yes, we do have guidelines. We do have precepts that we can't overstep.

Here, it can be possible specific guidelines exist which this participant or other participants could not share in the interview. While it is hard to ascertain what kind of guidelines those are, if they exist, it can be presumed they are in line with those previously discussed. The participant might have also felt insecure talking about this matter compared to other participants.

Afterwards, a follow-up question regarding personal views and opinions in translation was asked. The participant said that the translators always adhere to the ST's intent and later added:

> […] once I finish translating a text it has to be reviewed by a colleague or my superior. At times, even his superior gets involved. If the text itself has passed my superior and goes on to his, he might decline and say we want it to either be softer or harder or you need to change some of these words simply because it does not match the intent.

This answer raises two issues: first, the extent of the effect of power relations in an institutional setting, and second, how the translation review phase can affect the translation. Both issues present their own considerations in this context.

Firstly, any institution can be seen as a small society. Each society has its own general values, norms, and taboos. Institutions can be seen similarly with their

protocols, guidelines, and restrictions. Both societies and institutions can also have hierarchal structures. In a hierarchy, the higher an individual is, the more power they have over those under them. In this setting, the novice translator appears to be at the first level of this hierarchy. The previous answer shows that the participant's superior, and his superior, can decline or change the translation to make it softer/harder. As a result, the translator can be ordered or pressured to change their translation by a superior. Here, both the translator's and their superior's agencies and their power dynamic can play pivotal roles on how the news is translated/presented. This could be of concern, especially if two factors are taken into consideration. The first is that verbal guidelines are common in this setting, as Participant 2 mentioned previously. This makes it difficult for a translator to question these given guidelines, especially a novice. The second factor is that translation is not in demand as a job in Kuwait, so finding employment is hard, as Participant 2 previously stated. This results in employed translators fearing for their livelihood and probably not questioning any encountered guidelines. On an individual level, these two factors complicate this issue of power relations in this institutional setting. On the translational level, these factors could affect the translation decisions made by the translator. As a result, this means analysing a text produced in an institutional setting that is the product of a single individual's translational decisions should be considered inadequate. Moreover, the extent and effects of power relations in institutional translation is becoming more evident, especially in news translation (see Xia, 2020).

Secondly, a translation's review phase affects both the translation product and process. The translator must keep in mind how the final product reflects on the institution, especially if it is state-funded. In addition, the review phase might also be perceived as a second draft/attempt translation if the translation was not initially

approved. On the one hand, this might result in the translator making translation decisions based on convenience rather than linguistic factors to avoid extra work. An example of this is using a non-connotative word in the translation rather than a more equivalent word containing connotative meanings. This can result in losing attitudinal meaning (see Dickins, 2019) in translation. On the other hand, the task might then be transferred to another translator for editing or might be completed by the translator's superior. Consequently, both the process and the product of translation are affected by this phase.

There are also other factors that arose during the interviews to measure their effects on translation. These factors were a translator's social background, religion, and nationality. For the sake of conciseness, these factors will be called the translator's *social attributes*. It is worth reiterating that more than eighty-five percent of the MOI's translators are Kuwaiti nationals.

The next set of interview questions were related to these factors. Some of the participants believed that since their translations do not include their names, these factors do not affect their translation decisions, as the produced text will not be received as their opinions/views[47]. This could be related to Venuti's theory of the translator's (in)visibility in translations (see section 3.6.4). A translator can opt for one of two general strategies in their translation: *domestication* or *foreignisation* (see Venuti, 2008).

On the one hand, the translator can choose to obscure their existence by avoiding any utterances that could lead the reader to know that the text is a translation. This is widely known as *domestication*. One possible effect of this strategy is that it

[47] Participant 1 "Not really, because my opinion is not going there and my name doesn't show up in what I write, so I think I'm good with anything."

would arguably direct any negative reactions from the translation's audience to the ST's author rather than the translator. This is often due to the reader being unaware of the translator, as they are invisible in the translation. On the other hand, the translator could opt to make their existence known in the translation, which can be done by using translation comments or footnotes. Another way to identify the text as a translation is the use of linguistic units that are foreign in the target language—for example, idioms that are unnatural to the target audience. This translation strategy is known as *foreignisation*. This strategy might result in a TT that clearly displays the translator's role.

It can be argued that the translator's (in)visibility could affect the reception of the TT by the target audience. For instance, a translated news item that contains negative comments about Kuwait would be less likely to be viewed as reflective of its publishing institution, as it might have originated elsewhere. Therefore, the participant's remark about the TT not containing their names arguably shows that the participant prefers being invisible to the text's readership. Van Wyke (2010, p.113) argued that translators need to acknowledge their visibility to realistically reflect upon the relationship between the ST and the TT as well as relevant cultures involved in the translation. So, the participant here affirms that personal reflections are deemed irrelevant since their name is not on the TT.

Other participants answered definitively in the negative with respect to the influence of social attributes. Some participants stated that these social attributes do not affect their translations[48]. However, it seems that the MOI generally tries to steer

[48] Participant 5: "No I don't think so."
Participant 6: "Oh, no, no. Because I translate news. I don't put anything of my own opinion. So, I just translate as is, so my opinion has no effect."

clear of topics that can be controversial/sensitive to religion. According to Participant 1:

> […] there are some certain news that are against our religion Islam, for example, we do not take, against Christianity we do not take. We (the institution) avoid these kinds of news […]

This means there are some news items that are left unreported if they are deemed anti-religious in nature. When asked if the institution itself is avoiding this kind of news, the participant confirmed and added that the MOI also steers away from news of a sensitive nature. It can be deduced that the MOI as a public institution tries to stay as formal as possible without delving into controversial or sensitive news. This is further supported when the previously discussed data related to text selection in the MOI and how it is mainly concerned with official government statements and Amiri receptions are taken into consideration.

On one hand, the institutional level represented by the MOI avoids these topics. On the other hand, the individual level represented by the translators seems to follow the same approach. The same participant was asked if they hypothetically encountered an ST that had a certain opinion about the participant's social background, religion, nationality, or country, if/how would it affect the translation? The answer was:

> Well, when I first started working here, this came to my mind. But now, getting used to the news and the way that my colleagues are taking the news as well, I learned from them. It is not changing my views, and I wouldn't even mention my views here. Work is work, and when I am done, then I can express whatever I want.

Here, it can be argued that it is a human instinct to try and assert/defend one's principles/beliefs when possible. However, due to the nature of the work environment, such behaviour would seem unprofessional. Moreover, the participant's colleagues also seem to have affected how this behaviour is being mitigated.

Another participant was asked about the possibility of presenting personal views in the translation. The answer Participant 11 gave was the following: "No, of course not, there is like a little guideline regarding that." The use of the adjective "little" here can be perceived as sarcastic; therefore, this *little* guideline could be extremely important. Otherwise, this participant's answer at least confirms the existence of a guideline prohibiting personal opinions in translation. In addition, Participant 15's answer seems to corroborate the prohibition of personal opinions. The participant stated the following: "I work with the minister, and we represent the Ministry of Information. We are not a private channel." This statement indicates that stating personal opinions is prohibited in the MOI by stating that translators represent the MOI, which is a public body and not a private sector entity. Therefore, employees are required to follow the institution's protocols. In contrast, the answer indicates that a private sector entity could provide more freedom for its employees to express their own opinions in their publications.

To summarise, according to the previous answers, two factors hindered the effects of a translator's social attributes. The first is exposure to sensitive topics in political news and the second is the work environment. The frequent and constant exposure to sensitive topics when translating political news at the MOI. This is further amplified by translators having huge workloads, as the previous data showed. As a result, translators might feel a sense of futility when faced with such texts that challenge their social attributes. Consequently, the present research arrives at the

point the participant mentioned above: “Work is work and when I am done, then I can express whatever I want” (Participant 1). This factor is concerned with conscious decisions the translator makes for the sake of convenience or professionalism. It can be argued that the translators might make unconscious translation decisions that can be attributed to the translator’s personal social attributes.

A similar case was argued by Baker (2006) for the theory of narrative in TS (see section 3.6.5). Baker viewed the personal narrative of a translator as one of the factors unconsciously influencing the translation. Here, an MOI translator states in an interview that their social attributes have no effects on the translation product. Moreover, the translator’s approach was also affected by fellow colleagues who also take this same approach to sensitive texts. So, it seems that in institutional translations, narratives are less likely to occur compared to individually translated items. It can be argued that Somers and Gibson’s *ontological narrative* (1993), which is focused on the individual, is less likely to occur in an intuitional translation environment as well. In contrast, it seems that Somers and Gibson’s concept of *public narrative*, which is a collective narrative of communities/societies, is more likely to be constructed/circulated in this institutional context.

The second factor hindering the effects of a translator’s social attributes on the translation product is the work environment. If the MOI was taken as a case study, it would seem to indicate that the translation environment does not encourage expressing/presenting social attributes in their translations. This is apparently the case on both the individual and the institutional level. On the individual level, the more experienced translators seem to discourage newer translators from becoming personally involved with the translations. Furthermore, it seems that the MOI as an

institution tends to avoid sensitive texts and news in general, as indicated in the previously discussed data above.

Participant 7 provided a statement regarding an aspect that might help understand the rationale behind inserting or withholding personal opinions in translations. The participant compared audio-visual translation to written translation in this regard. The participant was asked if it was possible to insert their personal opinions into the translations. When asked about the difference between the two, Participant 7 said:

> […] Usually if you want to present your personal opinions, you have the luxury to do that in written texts, but in audio-visual texts you do not have that. You are limited by the time and the space for the subtitles. The human eyes cannot see more than twelve thirteen words per second at most. […] the written translations you can make the text bigger or shorter. But the audio-visual you have to match the time. On the written you have a lot more flexibility to reflect, to interpret the text in the way that you want.

As can be observed here, the participant presents a strong argument based on technical rather than abstract factors. As argued by the participant, the space and time limitations of audio-visual translations leave no room for personal opinions, reflections, or different interpretations of the ST. This is especially the case here, since the target audience or viewers can hear the source text spoken as they read the translations.

The same participant latter added an interesting remark related to differences between STs and TTs: “This is my motto: I translate, I do not debate. I try to be as faithful to the text as I can […].” It is apparent from this remark and previously presented data that the MOI translators follow a similar mentality and rationale when it comes to personal opinions in their texts. It seems most translators in the MOI find

it better to translate the text as is without influencing it. Whether this is done voluntarily or not is hard to confirm. However, it is evident that some form of punitive action can be taken against translators who insert their personal opinions into their translations or influence the text in a specific way[49].

Next, Participant 2 was asked about social attributes' effects on their translation, the following was stated:

> Some people would argue that it is preferable that someone of the same nationality, like I am Kuwaiti, and this is Kuwait, so it would be better for us to do the translation. Because we are more familiar with our government, the way it works, the rulers. But I do not believe that you have to be of Kuwaiti nationality, you just have to at least be in Kuwait. The nationality does not affect anything, and neither does religion or social background.

The answer here raises two issues. The first is the participant's personal belief that such social attributes do not affect this individual's translation work. The second is that it is commonly believed that Kuwaitis, or at least individuals living in Kuwait, are preferred for translating news pertaining to Kuwait. While the obvious rationale is familiarity with Kuwaiti political affairs, a sense of nationalism in the institution could be inferred from this rationale.

Another answer from Participant 3 regarding social attributes focused more on personal preference. The participant said:

> Sometimes you do not agree with certain things the country agrees by, for instance, as a child born in the eighties and lived through the Gulf War, I do not

[49] Participant 1 mentioned the possibility of being "fired" if they used different terminology in a specified context (see 195).

> like writing about Iraqi news, but I have to. I have to pretend that we are friends and that it is all good.

As can be seen here, the participant clearly stated that they do not like dealing with news related to Iraq. The participant's rationale is based on a personal experience of living through the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which took place in 1990. This also indicates the same point discussed above regarding the MOI's translators' lack of personal involvement in their work. Additionally, this shows the translator's clear understanding of the institution's representative role as a state body. The same participant was then asked if they had the chance, would they rather choose news they felt more comfortable translating? The answer was "definitely". This answer is of interest, as the research showed that some translators also choose which texts/news they are to translate as editors.

In this same context, Participant 8 answered the question regarding the effects of social attributes by saying:

> Yes and no, it depends. If I am doing something or translating for the country, yeah, I need to use specific terminology to avoid certain types of political views, religions, and certain words. But if it was something else out of work, yeah, that's a different case.

This is another example of the MOI's translators' detachment from their translations. Furthermore, the clear indication of the importance of terminology in this context is clearly stated, as certain terms can be loaded with connotations. An example of this is the use of *Zionist State/Entity* rather than *Israel* in Kuwaiti media, as it reflects Kuwait's political stance regarding the Palestine-Israel conflict, since it is in favour of boycotting rather than normalising relations with Israel.

The answer above further shows how institutional translation is being practiced. The translator as an individual seems to be influenced by the institutional/social level approach to translation in this setting. Consequently, it would mean that an opposite approach to the institutional one would be clearly recognised and might be reverted back to the review/editing phase of the translation. Participant 8 answered with the following corroboration:

> No, it should not because in this kind of political must be direct and because the receivers of this news are from different backgrounds and origins. So, the only thing you must put in your mind when translating any text is to keep away any background, so it does not touch the text or news itself.

This is another example of how translations are approached without clear influence from the translators' social attributes. Here, the answer focuses on the target audience rather than the institution's (or the state's) policy. This rationale demonstrates the variety within the target audience, which meant the translator should not insert their own attributes to influence the translation or the news.

Another point was mentioned by Participant 9 when asked if social attributes affect the translation practice. The answer was as follows: "No, I don't think so. I think that in Kuwait, thank God, we have full freedom. It has nothing to do with religion beliefs and these issues." Here, the participant stated that due to Kuwait's take on freedom of speech and tolerance, the translations are not affected by such social attributes. While this answer does illustrate the unique political environment of Kuwait in terms of its geographical region, the other previous answers clearly point towards rules and protocols being the deterrent. It is also possible that the participant felt that this was the *correct* answer to such a question. Interestingly, though, this participant has more than thirty years of experience.

In contrast, Participant 10 with twenty-five years of experience presented a different take on how social attributes could affect a translation:

> This is a critical question, well, yes, sometimes you have to be a little bit careful when you talk about a subject about your own country. You are not Kuwaiti[50]. So, I am Egyptian. When you are translating something about Egypt, you have to be very careful not to exaggerate things. You have to put things in context, the context you are dealing with. In religious matters, I am a Muslim. If I am translating something about Christianity or any other religion, you have to be very specific when you translate.

It is apparent from this answer that the participant is aware of possible effects of social attributes on an individual's translation. In turn, the participant states that a translator should not be influenced by these factors and should rather try to minimise their effects on the translation to preserve the intended meaning and context. This is illustrated by the participant's use of his own nationality as an example.

The participant said they are Egyptian. Consequently, the participant acknowledged that when they approach a text about Egypt, they try not to "exaggerate things". Similarly, this should also be the way of dealing with religions other than an individual's own, as the participant suggests. The participant later presented the following as an example of how sensitive texts like sacred scripture could influence the translator's approach:

> For instance, something from the Bible. I do not know the exact text; I know the meaning. So, I have to check for the exact text as it is in Arabic. So, I may refer to one of the friends or people I know […] just like the holy Qur'an, you know the meaning, but you have to write the text as is, you cannot write your own

[50] Here the participant uses "*you*" to refer to themselves.

> words […] in certain cases you have to commit to pre-decided translation already there and known among the people.

Here, the participant gives an example of sacred scripture and how translators are confined to pre-existing translations to avoid mistranslations. Essentially, the participant believes this is one possible effect of social attributes on how translators approach their texts and are influenced by established translations with no regard to their quality if they are known and widespread.

In contrast, if the translator opted to translate of their own accord, the resulting translation might be received unfavourably by the audience. In turn, a negative reception of the translation is possible. Participant 14 gave a related remark when asked about the effects of social attribute by paraphrasing a famous quote by Imam Ali ibn Abi Talib[51]: "It will not affect my translation because we are equals in humanity, if not, we are brothers in religion." This quote has many variations[52] and is widely known among Muslim believers. Moreover, it gained traction worldwide when used by the past UN Security-General Kofi Annan[53]. The participant's use of this quote reflects an understanding of the possible influences of a person's religion on their practice. Therefore, the participant seems to indicate the separation of their social attributes in presenting a faithful translation.

A different participant provided a similar answer. Participant 11 said the following when asked if their social attributes could affect the translation:

> It certainly could, but for me I make sure that it wouldn't. I make sure that I separate myself completely from my beliefs and my background. I just try to be

[51] The fourth caliph of Islam, highly regarded amongst Muslim believers as a righteous man.

[52] Another variation is: "A person is either your brother in faith, or your equal in humanity."
The Arabic original is: "الناس صنفان، إما أخ لك في الدين، وإما نظير لك في الخلق."

[53] Source: https://www.un.org/press/en/1997/19971209.SGSM6419.html

> as honest as possible and precise and meticulous. […] one has to be precise and convey the meaning regardless.

This answer shows that translators could be aware of the effects of social factors on their translations. Moreover, it shows a conscious decision by the translator to separate these factors from the translation practice. This separation, according to the participant, helps maintain precision and convey the intended meaning of the ST.

Another answer was provided by Participant 13. The answer contained several interesting remarks:

> That could be said of practically anything in the world. Yes, it does affect it. But because I am Kuwaiti, and I am well-versed in both English and Arabic translation, it does have an effect. Good or bad, well, that is up to the beholder. In my case, it is necessary […] in terms of religion, yes obviously. Well, I am Muslim. Most people who are working here are Muslim. So, in that regard our views will reflect that. We are not in the United States, we are not in Britain. It is not a question of catering to their whims, more of what our government says in response to events or actions or instances that have transpired. And it is our job to give the government's stance on particular issues.

As can be seen here, the participant believes that social attributes could affect anything. Specifically, the participant mentioned their nationality as one affecting factor. Later, the participant acknowledged that the main religion within the MOI's work environment is Islam. Moreover, the participant believes this factor affects the views and reflections in the translations.

In comparison, the participant presented the US and the UK as contrary examples. Most likely these countries, were used as examples due to their diverse social composition compared to Kuwait. The participant stated that the reception of

these effects should be judged by the “beholder”. In this context, it can be assumed that the “beholder” refers to the translation audience. The participant clearly states that as MOI translators, their job is to present the government’s stance on contemporary events and matters. According to this statement, it can be assumed that the MOI translators can be seen as public employees concerned with the proper representation of the Kuwaiti government.

Furthermore, Participant 7 stated that social attributes can rather be helpful in the correct context. The participant said the following:

> Well, it can help. I would not say affect, but it can help. This is soft translation, and the texts are varied. Each person has different hobbies, aspects of life. For example, some people prefer the sea, so they know more about the sea. Some people prefer the land, so they know more about land. […] So, they can improve the translation.

The participant used people passionate about sea or land as an example. This can be seen as a general representation of Kuwait’s social composition[54] (see Al-Nakib, 2014). The participant’s answer could be alluding to how even in a small state like Kuwait, social attributes of its individuals could affect their work.

On the one hand, Ḥaḍari Kuwaitis are known for their predominantly sea-related heritage. Therefore, they tend to be passionate about the sea. On the other hand, Badū Kuwaitis are known for their desert/land-related heritage. So, it is likely that individuals of such a descent would be passionate about the desert. Consequently, translators with such social backgrounds could have an advantage if the ST they are assigned relates to their heritage. It is worth noting that the participant

[54] Kuwait’s social composition is mainly divided in two. Those of Bedouin descent are called in Arabic بدوBadū, and those of urban descent are called in Arabic حضر Ḥaḍar.

stated this could be the case more often when dealing with soft news rather than hard news. So, it can be presumed that in such contexts social attributes could have positive effects on the translation product.

As the previous answers suggest, it is apparent that the possible effects of social attributes are acknowledged by the MOI translators. Furthermore, it is clearly indicated the MOI translators lean towards separating their personal social traits from their translations. The common rationale among the participants was the indirect influence such attributes could have on the conveyed meaning. Another reasoning was the clear representative role the translators felt the MOI plays as a state body. Therefore, its produced translations should reflect the perception of Kuwait as a neutral and tolerant state. In turn, this resulted in most participants trying to avoid any form of influence their social attributes could have on the translations, unless it is positive and in specific cases (for example, soft news). It can be argued that this is one form of institutional influence (un)consciously affecting the participants. As social agents working in a state-funded body, the translators could be affected by the generally accepted notion of Kuwait's neutrality and tolerance. As a result, the participants (un)consciously play their part in being affected by this institutional influence by putting aside their own individual social attributes.

For example, a Muslim translator in the MOI may be assigned a text that could have implicit negative comments about Islam or any other religion. In such a case, the translator might lessen/omit these underlying meanings. The rationale here would be in accordance with the social/institutional views presenting Kuwait as neutral/tolerant. Therefore, as the MOI is perceived as a representative of the state, its translations could be influenced by its producing institution's political agenda.

Next, the final part of the interviews with the participants includes their suggestions and ideas on how to improve the translation practice and environment in their institution and in Kuwait in general.

First, the suggestion for a translation guidebook was made by Participant 3. The participant stated that although they have some certified resources (websites, printouts), the list is short. Moreover, its implementation is based on trial and error, probably due to its ambiguous nature. Therefore, a clear translation guidebook could help improve the practice of translation in the MOI. This was also implied by Participant 6, who stated their suggestion as the following:

> To be more clear on what exactly to do and what not to do, because everything you learn here is by making a mistake. So, you make a mistake and learn from it. Trial and error, so some guidelines or rules on what to do and what to avoid.

Here it is apparent that MOI translators need an official translation guidebook. Furthermore, the ambiguity and trial-and-error nature of the work environment seems to be affecting the translation negatively.

Second, Participant 12 (the HOD of news translation) suggested the facilitation of communication among different departments in the MOI, specifically the news department and the translation department to preserve the consistency of the reported news. The participant argued that in some cases, it is possible to translate the wrong story due to the lack of necessary materials. These materials should be provided to the translators, and it is the responsibility of the concerned departments to provide them.

Third, some of the participants (2, 4, 8, 9, 14) suggested establishing translation training courses to help translators (both novice and experienced) familiarise themselves with the many aspects and genres of translation praxis. Participant 4 said

this would give the translators, especially new ones, a chance to improve their translation in different fields like the translation of political news/jargon.

The participant also suggested an introduction of internships in other agencies to gain specialised experiences. Participant 8 also recommended translation workshops to establish common standards, as current translators often translate according to their own standards. Participant 8 reiterated the need for a guidebook. Moreover, the participant also requested computer-assisted translation tools (CAT) to standardise the terminology of the institution. The participant also made a remark on improving translation in Kuwait. Generally, more attention should be paid to its importance in schools and universities. In fact, the participant argued that fresh graduates do not seem to have the required skills to practice translation.

Participant 9 illustrated some general shortcomings on the state of translation in Kuwait by stating the lack of standards and discipline for this career. Due to this, the participant argued that anyone in Kuwait can be a translator. This was reiterated by Participant 11, who gave the following answer when asked about the state of translation in Kuwait: “For someone who wants to practice translation he has to study translation. Not just everyone who knows English knows how to translate.” Additionally, Participant 9 also stated the lack of quotes and average costs of translation. The participant suggested a systematic solution to these issues to help improve the practice of translation in Kuwait. The participant gave an example of a translation house[55] that could organise and oversee the practice.

[55] Akin to the Abbasid period House of Wisdom, circa 9th century known in Arabic as بيت الحكمة Bayt al-Ḥikmah. It was an academic institution mainly concerned with the translation of influential works of science and philosophy (see Kaviani et al., 2012).

The employment of more translators was recommended by Participant 13, who argued that this in turn should lead to a better and faster performance of the translation tasks. In addition, this should also lead to handling bigger workloads in the translation department. Finally, some translators seem to rather like the current work environment and prefer it stays as is. This was reflected in Participant 7's statement: "Actually, I like the way things are now. I would not change anything. It is a stress-free environment; it is very organised; it is very enjoyable. So, I would not change anything." As can be observed, the participant's remarks shows that they prefer the current state of the work environment. Evidently, though, some of the previous analysed statements contradict this participant's remarks about the work environment (workload, dynamic translator's role, ambiguous/verbal guidelines). Therefore, it is worth noting them in this context to have a clear outlook on the MOI translation work environment.

To summarise the data from the MOI interviews, the present analysis found eight points worth mentioning. Firstly, the MOI translators carry out a variety of different roles in this institution. These roles range from translation of news and contracts to news editing/reporting to writing reports and to various forms of interpreting.

Secondly, the translation tasks are often pre-selected by the Amiri Diwan. Otherwise, the HOD or the translation team select their tasks in accordance with current news and topics. This showcases the role external parties might have in the translation process at the MOI.

Thirdly, there are various guidelines involved in the translation process, although not all these guidelines are clear or presented in an official/written form. Therefore, there is significant reliance on verbal communication for some of these guidelines, as well as adopting a trial-and-error approach.

Fourthly, submitted translations are often put through a review phase conducted by the translator's superior. In this phase, the superior can change the translation as they see fit before submitting it for publication. The publication in the case of the MOI can take different forms. These include TTs for news presenters to read or formal announcements.

Fifthly, there are clear differences between approaching soft news (regular television programmes) and hard news (current political news) at the MOI. These differences were expressed by the participants and include lax oversight on *soft* tasks compared to strict oversight on *hard* tasks. Moreover, it is indicated that most of the guidelines are more focused on politics, news, and state matters rather than translation praxis.

Sixthly, influencing the translations by inserting or implying personal opinions is strictly prohibited, as the participants indicated. Therefore, it is safe to assume that there are strict protocols in place for the MOI translators to adhere to, whether in written or verbal form.

Seventhly, social attributes like an individual's nationality, social background, and religion, are separated from the translations due to possible unwarranted/unwanted influences they might have on the translation. This was indicated by answers provided by the participants who believed such influences would be unfaithful to the ST except in certain limited cases (for example, personal interests providing more knowledge of the ST's topic).

Finally, many of the participants provided their personal suggestions and recommendations to improve the state of translation in the MOI and Kuwait in general. These suggestions comprised mainly translation training courses to improve the standards of translation quality. Other suggestions included internship opportunities,

or a form of translators loaning amongst the different translation institutions to help provide new experiences for currently practicing translators. As a result, the stagnant state of routinely translating similar tasks would be remedied. Some recommendations were rather macro in their nature and were suggested to fix long-standing underlying issues (lack of standards, low wages) of the translation practice in Kuwait. These included establishing a translation house/society with its own board members that could serve as a translators' union. This entity would provide standards to become a translator and certify them, as well as setting the average wages for translators.

These interviews helped considerably in understanding the translation environment at the MOI. Moreover, they shed light on how translators approach their different tasks and complete them, and the knowledge gained from these interviews can clarify or help us understand some of the translation decisions these translators face, especially in this state-funded work environment. Essentially, though, the interviews present the translators as individuals with personal opinions and social backgrounds, rather than linguistic agents that serve as meaning conveyers.

6.3.4 Kuwait News Agency Interviews Analysis

The interviews with the ten participating translators from KUNA provided insight into this news-oriented state institution. The interviews helped in understanding the translation environment and how translations are processed and produced at KUNA. The insight was into different topics like how agency translators operate and translate, their approaches to political news translation, and translators' suggestions to improve their work environment.

At the start, the text selection phase of the process was discussed with the participants. Some of the provided answers presented interesting facts and

indications. For example, participant 1 (the current head of the translation department) stated one of the criteria for choosing topics/news to translate is if the news (which should relate to Kuwait) was not reported in one of Kuwait's newspapers[56]. Essentially, KUNA sometimes tries to publish news items related to Kuwait that might have previously gone unreported. Moreover, when the participant was asked a follow-up question about the types of translations they tackle, they stated they mainly deal with hard news, which is political in nature. They also occasionally translate a small number of political opinion pieces.

The main sources for KUNA news seem to be foreign newspapers/magazines, as was stated by Participant 2: "My field is politics. I translate from foreign newspapers and magazines. I choose the articles concerned with Kuwait, the Gulf and Arabic states." As the participant stated, they generally choose articles related to Kuwait, the local region, or Arab states. The answer also indicates that the translator sometimes has the option to choose what text to translate. Another participant's answer provided a different take on how texts are selected. Participant 5 stated the following when asked about their role at KUNA:

> […] the nature of our department is we received the crude material in Arabic from our various centres around the globe and we translate, but we don't translate word by word. We edit them and we get the final copy is in English. And I'm a shift leader. And I correct news items for my colleagues, especially the ones that have been translated from Arabic to English. And sometimes we get the news already in English and we look at them and we refine them and edit them as well.

[56] This was corroborated by Participant 2.

As can be observed, the translators receive their tasks from various sources, and they are usually in Arabic. As Participant 5 stated, the KUNA translators avoid literal translation in favour of a more natural/domesticated translation approach. This can help present the text as unbiased, as was discussed in section 3.6.4 regarding Venuti's domestication and foreignisation strategies.

The participant stated that part of their job is to "correct" news items for fellow translators, as they are a shift leader. It is possible this correction can be concerned with *what* to translate rather than *how,* since it concerns *news* items not *linguistic* ones. This can be considered a form of gatekeeping (section 3.6.1) or news editing, as the shift leader assumes the role of selecting the texts.

It seems that sometimes the texts are provided and translated by other parties and then given to KUNA's translation team. The translation team just needs to edit/refine them to finalise the texts' publication. This indicates two possibilities. The first is that such texts can be prepared statements that are provided to KUNA, which is regarded as an official Kuwaiti government news agency. The second possibility is that such texts are already published news stories that are taken and refined/edited to be presented as KUNA publications with the Kuwaiti population as its target audience.

Participant 9 corroborated the shift leaders' role by stating they receive their tasks from the shift leaders. Then, after finishing translating/editing, they submit the final copies to the shift leaders again to be reviewed. In essence, the shift leaders act as the translators' superiors, since KUNA is an agency working a 24/7 operation.

Also, according to Participant 3, there are articles that are circulated amongst the translation team, and they have the choice of what to translate from them. In addition, the participant stated they also receive legal documents and are tasked with translating them. The participant also mentioned the translation of a KUNA annual

book concerned with all the publications KUNA made throughout the year. Furthermore, as Participant 4 stated when asked what kinds of texts they translate: “All kinds, basically. More often it is political news. But we deal with all kinds, sports, economics, politics, education.” Here, it can be safe to assume that KUNA translators mainly deal with hard news such as political texts. However, they also translate texts concerned with soft news. This in turn means the institution tackles various kinds of texts in both English and Arabic.

Since the main method of publication for KUNA is electronic through its website, it is not constrained by matters like getting newspapers to press or their delivery. As a result, the *turnout* period for their translations should be considerably less compared to the other institutions examined in this research project. It is also worth noting that KUNA mainly translates in a short and concise text format. This indicates that the STs should also be short in length. This can be clearly seen in the KUNA website[57], which includes both English and Arabic texts in their news reports.

The participants provided comments related to the translation of political news at KUNA. One example is Participant 1’s comment on how to improve a translator’s approach to this kind of news. Participant 1 stated that a translator dealing with politics should have sufficient knowledge of the task as well as the genre in general. Moreover, the translators should educate themselves by reading relevant newspapers and literature in both English and Arabic to facilitate their translation by acquiring an equivalent jargon between this language pair.

In addition, Participant 3 stated they deal with political news differently. When they were asked to elaborate, they provided the following example: “[…] texts concerning the Amir have a different formula when writing the Amir’s name or title.

[57] KUNA website: www.kuna.net.kw

The same thing applies to ministers." As can be seen here, the translation of high-ranking state officials is taken seriously at KUNA, especially in news of a political nature. This was also the case with the MOI, as was observed previously.

This could be the case since both institutions are state funded, so such bureaucratic matters might be perceived as important. Participant 7 provided corroboration on this matter. The participant was asked how they approach political translation, and their answer was:

> We have to be very careful. When it comes to the Amiri Diwan news items for instance, the way we address his highness the Amir, we have to be careful with that. There is like a frame you know. We have to work within the frame.

This remark alludes to three matters. First is the cautious approach to political news translation. Second is the apparently very sensitive nature of news items related to the Amiri Diwan and the Amir. Third, the *frame* in which the translators work within and should not step out of. The participant elaborated by stating the following:

> There is not much freedom when you work for a government institute. You do not have much freedom. So, you have to abide with the guidelines they provide you with.

Here, it can be argued the participant feels their translation decisions are constrained since KUNA is a government entity. As a government entity, representative of Kuwait, KUNA must abide by certain rules and principles reflective of Kuwait as a state. For example, KUNA cannot publish news that can be harmful to Kuwait such as human rights violations. Nonetheless, it can be safely assumed based on the participants' answers that KUNA translators have rules/guidelines that could affect their translation process/product.

Also, Participant 4 stated the following when asked about how differently they approach political news translation:

> […] it needs more concentration. And we have like forma for political news translation. It is basically different because we have to be very careful with choosing the words for the text.

The participant expressed the need for political news translation to be being extra vigilant and specific when making semantic/lexical translation decisions. This was also corroborated in Participant 5's (a shift leader) comment regarding the same matter. When asked about how the team deals with political news translation, they said:

> […] we put more focus on the political news because as you know, one word wrongly spelled, wrongly translated can make a big difference. Especially when dealing with states. One letter or one word can make a big difference. So, we concentrate especially on political news.

This remark further shows how dealing with political news can be a cause of pressure and stress for translators in an institutional setting. The participant showed a clear understanding of the responsibility the translator carries when dealing with texts related to foreign states. Moreover, simple mistakes in such contexts could lead to severe consequences, as the participant implied. As a result, it is indicated that KUNA translators are more cautious with their translation decisions when dealing with political texts. Later, the same participant was asked if this made them feel pressured. The answer was *"*one hundred percent."

This is certainly not the case for all the participants. For example, Participant 6 stated they deal with political news translation in the same manner as other news types. Also, Participant 8 argued that novice translators who have little experience translating political news (and politics in general), could make *"*horrendous mistakes,

and that is okay". The participant argued that one way to avoid these mistakes would be having a senior editor helping novice translators with their tasks.

Another remark from Participant 2 was regarding how KUNA translators approach their political news tasks. The participant stated:

> In the Kuwait News Agency, we are following our rules in translating. We cannot, we have to stick to the article and translate it as it is without misunderstandings or mentioning our point of view in our translation.

As can be seen here, the participant mentioned two matters that affect their political news translation approach. First is whether the KUNA rules govern their general translation practice. These apparently favour a *sense for sense* translation strategy rather than a *word for word* approach. Second is the principle of translating texts faithfully without any kind of influence, personal or institutional. This remark debatably indicates KUNA to be an unbiased news reporting/translating agency.

When it comes to rules, protocols, and guidelines, KUNA participants provided some important remarks. For example, Participant 1 (HOD) said they (KUNA translators) have special guidelines concerning sensitive topics. The rationale behind these guidelines, as the participant stated, is due to KUNA being a governmental institution. Otherwise, the participant stated there are no specific translation rules at KUNA. However, the STs must first be approved for translation by a section head[58]. Afterwards, the translation is revised as needed and approved for publishing by the section head or the HOD.

Participant 2 pointed out that one important guideline is to translate in a manner helping the recipient understand the concepts in the ST. This shows the importance of the target audience being taken into consideration. Participant 4 stated that KUNA

[58] There are two main news sections at KUNA: the Arabic news section and the English news section.

has a news translation stylebook available for their use. Furthermore, the participant added that as translators, they should follow this stylebook. This was also illustrated by Participant 10's statement:

> Of course, we have a stylebook for our institution. But generally speaking, we have to stick to the text. When we deal with political news, we have to stick to the text, especially when there are some political statements by Kuwaiti officials.

It seems this stylebook is not strictly followed. It can be argued that it is there for general translation guidelines and strategies. In fact, from this statement, the general practical strategy seems to be translating as close to the ST as possible, which is especially the case with official statements. Here, the participant believes it is imperative to translate the text as is without any lost/additional meanings.

In comparison, Participant 8 was asked about translation guidelines:

> Yes, we do. We have our own, but I cannot say it is a stylebook. It is a draft of a stylebook. We still do not have that. But, with time we would develop our own style of writing things amongst us. We would read our items and we would benefit from each other of this work. And that's a good thing by the way. But still, we need to have an actual stylebook.

Here, the participant seems to indicate the developing nature of KUNA's translation team. It is apparent the stylebook referenced is a work in progress for the translation team. Additionally, the remark also reflects a collaborative work environment that seems beneficial to the translators. The participant later added that this collaborative approach is especially effective when dealing with terms and jargon. In addition, Participant 6 stated they have a book containing the guidelines issued to KUNA, so it

can be safe to assume that both general guidelines as well as translation guidelines are available in both written and official forms at KUNA.

Another remark made by Participant 5 regarding KUNA's translation rules and guidelines was:

> Just to focus on translating the political news exactly as the crude materials. You do not add or delete from the crude materials unless you ask your supervisor. Because there are so many sensitive news that we receive and can cause trouble. So, we have to be clear […].

Here, indicators of a generally faithful approach to translation at KUNA can be inferred. Apparently, texts are generally translated without additions or omissions. However, as the participant stated, it is possible to add or omit properties of the ST in the translation if one obtained a supervisor's approval. Arguably, this could relate to sensitive topics or terminology referenced in the ST that could be seen as inappropriate or offensive to the target audience.

This matter of sensitive topics was implied by Participant 9, who was asked about KUNA's guidelines and who gave the following statement: "Yes, for example sensitive subjects we don't do it. We have to take an agreement first. […] this is the case for all of us." The participant's answer indicates a certain level of gatekeeping for sensitive topics. Apparently, the general protocols suggest avoiding such topics altogether. However, if one wanted to translate them, they must first obtain approval. Furthermore, the participant was asked if this was the case for novice translators, and the answer was no. This is the case for all translators at KUNA.

When asked about personal opinions or influencing the translations in a specific way, the KUNA translation team seems to be cautious, as some participants remarked. Participant 5 compared translating for KUNA and translating for a newspaper:

> […] we cannot put our own opinion in the news item. It is totally different from translating for a newspaper because for a newspaper, we call it like they spice the material. But to work for a news agency, which is a mouthpiece for the government, you have to stick to the exact text […].

This remark demonstrates a couple of important aspects of translating in such an environment. First, the participant clearly stated that personal opinions are strictly prohibited. This was also stated by Participant 7[59]. Second, the comparison between working in a public sector versus a private sector institution means the participant realises the existence of differences between translating in those two sectors. One mentioned difference is the skewed reporting by some newspapers that exaggerate some of their news items. So, it can be inferred that linguistic competence in a language pair is not the only criterion required of translators to practice in those two sectors. Third is the participant's acknowledgment that KUNA as a state-funded agency serves as a *mouthpiece* for the government.

This in turn means that translators in such an institution are probably aware of this property and possible effects it might have on their translation process. Evidently, as the participant stated, sticking to the exact provided text is one possible approach. Moreover, this ensures the translators are representing their state/government in a predetermined manner that is expected of them. In addition, when the same participant (5) was asked a follow-up question about whether the final translation reflects the institution's views, the answer was: "Yes, it must. One hundred percent." This was also corroborated by other participants' remarks.

[59] Participant 7's statement regarding personal opinions: "Usually we do not do that. Because we go line by line […], because we are just translators, we go by the text."

For example, Participant 9 stated that this is the case, especially if it is a sensitive subject. Moreover, Participant 3 confirmed that the final translation product should reflect KUNA's views. Participant 4 also stated the following: "Yes, because we are a governmental institution." The participant clearly states that as a governmental institution, the final translations must be reflective of KUNA's views. Another remark by Participant 1, the HOD, indicated that the final translation must at least be neutral.

Additionally, Participant 1 stated that as a governmental institution, they sometimes write sensitive reports about public officials from other countries or about other sensitive matters that could be seen as controversial. These reports are not shared with the public and are meant for certain individuals such as the general manager of KUNA. The rationale Participant 1 gave for not sharing these reports with the public is that as a public institution, KUNA should not publish items that might reflect badly on Kuwait as a state. This specific approach to translating/omitting certain items can be seen as an institutional influence. The public in Kuwait often views KUNA as a neutral entity reflective of Kuwait as a state. So, the institution tries to preserve these views by adhering to them and refraining from publishing items conflicting with this view. At the same time, the institution also avoids misrepresenting Kuwait in international news spaces.

Participant 8 stated the following regarding KUNA's publications being reflective of Kuwait as a state:

> It should be (reflective) because if we do not put out something that matches KUNA's directives and guidelines, we would be in trouble. We are talking about shift leaders and desk editors.

Here, the participant clearly states that KUNA employees could face some issues if they did not abide by the directives and guidelines of the institution, especially those

in supervisory roles. The participant followed up with an incident that happened some time ago:

> I remember an incident where the Pope of the Vatican said something about Kuwait, but I was in a hurry doing the item, so I forgot this specific statement. And I was summoned and asked why I left out that specific statement.

As seen here, KUNA seems to concentrate on news/reports concerning Kuwait. This incident indicates that clearly. The participant was then asked why they omitted the statement. The answer was the immense workload the participant had at the time led to omitting some statements to meet the translator's deadlines. The same participant (8) gave an example of how a translator can work as a journalist under the right conditions. The participant was tasked to write about recycling in Kuwait, but due to the lack of the necessary data, as well as the unwillingness to share it, the participant had to change the whole approach to this task.

The participant stated that they had to write about their own experiences and sights regarding recycling and wastes in Kuwait. Therefore, the written piece turned out as an observation/opinion article rather than a regular report. However, the participant later stated the following to reflect the limits of such tasks: "It is not about having this political opinion and forwarding that to the public. It is about doing journalism basically and knowing what you are trying to say." In essence, the participant's statement asserts that it is not possible to use KUNA as a platform for personal political opinions.

Participant 10 presented a compelling comparison between statements/reports and political analysis items:

> If I do a political story, a political statement by a certain official, then we have to stick to the text. But if I do a news report or a political analysis, I think I can mention my views.

It seems that depending on the text type, the translators might have some leeway to mention their opinions. However, it can be inferred that this is limited to specific individuals whose opinions and views are considered important/relevant to KUNA or the target readership.

Next, the participants provided their insights into how/if an individual's social attributes such as religion, nationality, or social background could affect their translations. Some of the participants responded by stating that such attributes must not affect the translation. Participant 1 was one of those participants, and they elaborated on the answer:

> Because the translation must be neutral, everything in his (translator's) personality or things must not appear in the translation. He must be as a witness. He describes what is going to happen or happened in this topic or opinion column, with no interference in this opinion.

Here, the participant argues that the translator should be invisible and a "witness". Also, the translator should carry out the task in a purely descriptive manner. This in turn should preserve the ST's meaning and keep the TT neutral. This was also reiterated in Participant 4's statement that such attributes should not affect the translations and that translators should be "professional" when dealing with their tasks. This implies that texts affected by such attributes can be seen as unprofessional in an institutional translation setting. Moreover, Participant 6 stated that such factors do not affect the participant's translations, even when the ST might have negative views of

one of the participant's social attributes. A similar statement was also given by Participant 7 and Participant 9.

Participant 2 said that although his/her social attributes would not affect their translation of a sensitive topic, it could still affect them on an emotional or personal level. In addition, participant 3 stated that such attributes do not affect the translation whether in an institutional setting or otherwise.

Participant 8 perceived the question about social attributes as *"*an awkward question*"* and answered by stating that such attributes do not affect translation. The participant latter added that as a translator/editor, they "have to be honest about translating.*"* This shows the participant's view of translation as a conveyance of meaning as the ST presents it.

In addition, Participant 10 provided remarks about social attributes and translation. The participant stated: "No, it wouldn't, but I think this is because I'm working in an Arab country, but if I may work in a foreign country, I think it may differ." The participant was asked to elaborate what is special about Arab countries in this context, and the answer was *"*religion and political views*".* Here, the participant elaborated by saying that since most Arabs are Muslims, they share many social attributes (language, ethnicity, religion) with the participant. Furthermore, the participant gave the following example:

> When I work at an Arab news agency, then I can reflect my own country's views. I can defend my country. But when I work at an international news agency, whether in the Arab world or outside the Arab world, I think I can do this. Because in this case, I have to stick to the position, the political position, of this country (country of residence/work).

Here, the participant's example shows that if there are shared attributes amongst the social agents involved in the translation process, then it is possible to be affected by these shared attributes.

This example of ethnicity illustrates the participant's belief that if they work in an Arab agency, then they have some leeway to express certain views based on personal social attributes, or as the participant stated, *"*defend my country*".* The participant indicated that this would not be the case in an international news agency, probably due to international agencies consisting of a melting pot of ethnicities, religions, nationalities, and social backgrounds. Moreover, the participant's statement about adhering to the country of the residence/employment's political position implies that translators should stay within the social/political framework that their work environment has established. This illustrates that social factors can indeed affect the process and production of translation and its environment. The participant also showed how an institutional environment can influence translation.

In contrast, Participant 5's statement confirms that these social factors do affect the translations of KUNA. The participant stated the following:

> Of course, because sometimes we get crude material that does not correlate to our morals and values, so we have to edit it and omit the bad words or the words that do not correlate with our religion.

It is clear here that the participant is speaking from experience and of texts that were in fact changed due to consideration of social factors. The participant was asked if "our morals*"* related to their own personal morals, and the answer was *"*No, the state's", which clearly confirms that KUNA sometimes edit/omit parts of their news items to make them fit within a specific *frame.* This frame can be based on religious beliefs or social/cultural norms/principles/values. For example, news related to homosexual

movements is almost always never reported by KUNA (or any other news agency in Kuwait). This is mainly due to social and religious considerations.

Kuwait is generally regarded as a conservative Muslim[60] state. Therefore, it can be argued that most of the target audience are against this specific topic. It can also be argued that such behaviour can be considered a form of gatekeeping, as KUNA selectively chooses which news items to report and which to ignore. Moreover, the same can be argued regarding topics related to alcohol, since both its consumption and sale are banned in Kuwait. This manner of news translation results in creating a frame governed by social factors within which KUNA as a news institution must work. While this mostly affects KUNA in operational practice rather than translational practice, it is still relevant to understand the social/work environment of its translators.

As the previous statements demonstrated, KUNA's participants had some differing opinions regarding social attributes and translation. On the one hand, most of the participants believed these social factors should/do not affect their translation practice. Their rationale was mainly based on professionalism and the lack of effects pertaining to these social attributes. On the other hand, a smaller number of participants insisted these attributes could affect the translations themselves, the approaches to the translations, or the lack of translations.

Next, the participants were asked to provide recommendations or suggestions to improve the state of translation practice in KUNA or Kuwait in general. This resulted in some takeaways regarding the current state of translation in Kuwait. A suggestion by Participant 1 relayed the increasing importance of English as the dominant language in the world; thus, the Kuwaiti government should pay attention to it. Also, the participant suggested sending (and exchanging) translators abroad for training

[60] Homosexuality is prohibited in Islam.

courses to gain more experience related to international institutions as well as politics. The participant expressed their rationale by stating that conversing/working with translators whose mother tongue is English would be more beneficial for translators training abroad. This is due to the participant's statement that most local English translation training courses are presented by Arab lecturers.

Participant 2 said that the English articles (not news) written by KUNA translators are not published. So, the participant suggested that they be opened to the public to improve exposure of the translation practice being done by KUNA employees. Participant 4 added that to improve the state of translation, the institution should be updated with new developments and terminologies. In addition, Participant 6 suggested that translators need to avoid literal translations, as they could lead to losing the essence of the ST.

Participant 5 suggested and urged their translation department to provide more translation tools. The request was:

> […] to supply us with the most relevant and the most sophisticated dictionaries, especially online. And we need like a database, instead of just using a hand manual, you know, and look up directly from a database installed in our computers that would make it very simple and easy.

The participant likely understands the needs of the department due to their long twenty-four years of experience. As can be seen here, there seems to be a need for updated translation tools, especially electronic ones. Moreover, a need for a local intranet database of terms is specifically requested to help in the translation process.

Participant 7 suggested that translators should translate more to avoid becoming *"rusty".* A similar suggestion was made by Participant 9. Moreover, Participant 7 also suggested offering training courses to translators, whether here in

Kuwait or abroad. The participant followed up with a special suggestion for their colleagues in KUNA:

> […] here, there's plenty of time and not like the private sector. Here, the government sector is different. So, there is plenty of time. If you want to learn, you can learn. It's not like they wouldn't accept errors, you know they should not commit any errors. But here, even if you make a mistake, it's okay. […]

Here, the participant compared the private and public sector and how they deal with translation errors as well as the time allotted to the translators. The participant argues that the governmental sector is more lenient with errors and translation deadlines; therefore, the suggestion to learn during this extra time was made.

Participant 8 recommended a more collaborative approach to the translation practice in KUNA and stated the following:

> We should really collaborate and not look at each other as if it is some sort of competition. It is not a competition. We are really interested in developing the translation in Kuwait in general. […] working together, would be great for translators in Kuwait.

It is apparent the participant believes that a more collaborative approach to translation would result in improved news translation in Kuwait. The participant's suggestion also seems to imply that KUNA's translation environment has competitive aspects, which in turn, according to the participant's implication, are negatively affecting translation practice.

Finally, Participant 10 made a rather interesting suggestion compared to the previous ones, stating the following:

> I think we need more freedom to express our own views. You know that there is a big difference between newspapers and news agencies. In newspapers,

> you can do a lot of things. You can express your views with writing some news items or reports or political analysis, but at news agencies you cannot do this thing. In KUNA, we do not usually do political analysis because when you do an analysis, you have to express your political views, but it does not happen here.

As can be observed here, the participant (twelve years of experience and shift leader) provided what could be considered a loaded statement. Initially, the suggestion was for more freedom to express one's own opinions/views. However, the accompanying comparison between newspapers and news agencies provided an interesting look at the differences between the two. Specifically, the difference lies in how news agencies mainly focus on news items, while newspapers deal with more varied items. It can be argued that such a difference results in changing the role of the translator. For instance, it can be argued that a translator in a news agency can become a *transeditor*, but in a newspaper, the translator can become a *transeditor* as well as news reporter and even possibly an analyst. So, it can be assumed that the role of the translator can be amplified/reduced depending on the employing institution's nature.

To summarise, the participants' contributions provided insights into the KUNA translation work environment. Also, these remarks and comments elaborated on some of KUNA's translation approaches as well as their translators' views concerning the practice of translation in Kuwait, including comments on the role of translators in KUNA. Also, some comments pertained to how they receive their tasks and on what basis, as well as their views on translating political news compared to other kinds of news. Moreover, some of the participants gave interesting remarks about possible effects of social attributes, as well as their recommendations to improve the state of translation in Kuwait. These interviews, along with the MOI interviews, should be

sufficient to present how the public sector translators in Kuwait operate. Also, their views and comments on their specific institutions can help us understand their translation process/environment.

6.3.5 The *Arab Times* Interviews Analysis

The conducted interviews with the *Arab Times* newspaper consisted of five participants. Those were almost all the translators employed at the *Arab Times* newspaper (six in total). These interviews, alongside the upcoming *Kuwait Times* newspaper interviews, present the state of news translation in Kuwait's private sector. In turn, it can be inferred that possible differences between a state-funded institution and a private one can be observed from comparing these different institutions.

At the start, the *Arab Times* participants were asked about the types of translations they practice. Participant 1, the senior translator in the department, stated that the *Arab Times* translators deal with a varied set of topics. These topics include politics, economics, and local news. Additionally, Participant 2 stated that the *Arab Times* newspaper mainly source their ST texts (in Arabic) from other local Kuwait-based newspapers. Moreover, Participant 3 added that they also deal with opinion pieces as well as medical texts.

Participant 4 stated that at the *Arab Times* newspaper, they deal with all types of texts as well as help coordinate the workload and distribute it among the translators. Participant 5 corroborated the types of texts the *Arab Times* translators deal with. Moreover, Participant 1 stated in the interview that all texts to be published must go through a rewriter and proof-reader without exception. In addition, the participant stressed that such practice is standard across all Kuwaiti newspapers.

Participant 1 (senior translator) was asked who selects the texts/topics to be translated, and they said: “I am always selecting the topics to be translated.” This means that as the most experienced member of the translation team, the participant can choose which news items to translate and which to leave. In essence, this makes the translator a gatekeeper in addition to being a news reporter. Consequently, this shows the dynamic role a translator plays in the Kuwaiti news industry.

Later, the participants were asked to elaborate on their experiences translating political news. They gave some interesting remarks related to this topic. Participant 1 stated the following: “[…] I need to take into account the sensitivity of the politics and the interests of the country.” The participant stated that the interests of the country (Kuwait in this case) should be considered as the translator translates. On the one hand, this could suggest that translators in the *Arab Times* try to avoid/omit possibly offending or damaging news items in their publications. This is of special importance, as the same participant (senior translator at the *Arab Times*) later adds that they are the one providing the text to the fellow translators. On the other hand, this could relate to the Kuwaiti media law prohibiting the publication of items damaging to Kuwait’s international/foreign relations (see section 2.3).

Another remark in this context was given by Participant 3, who stated that they deal with political texts differently than other texts. The remark was as follows:

> Yeah, because in politics, especially in a country like Kuwait, their terminologies you cannot adjust their usage just like that. For example, you can have an incident where a politician can let us say use a tough language, mostly it is in a Kuwaiti dialect. So, for you to translate it, you need to be very careful and aware of it too.

This remark raises two issues. First, there is the specified usage of terms that cannot be adjusted or revised in their translations. Second, there is the use of dialectal language in statements, especially spoken ones.

As noted previously in section 3.3, diglossia could play a significant role when translating between Arabic and English. Therefore, the participant stressed that translating a text/speech of a language dialect needs to be approached carefully. This is especially the case when the tone is skewed in one direction.

The same participant (3) was asked a follow-up question if such translation cases would make them feel pressured. The following statement was given: “No, actually Kuwait is a somewhat free country. And I am sure this ceiling of freedom of expression and speech is very high.” The participant expressed their opinion about the relatively high freedom of speech in Kuwait, rather than stressing any translational aspects. Here, it can be inferred that the participant implies such freedom means that translators/reporters do not feel pressured when they deal with sensitive news items that could be deemed oppositional to Kuwait’s policy or its government. As a result, it can be assumed the pressure of dealing with political news can originate from possible punitive measures rather than translational/linguistic challenges.

Participant 5 presented their own take on how political texts should be approached. The participant stated:

> Of course, they are different, I have to be more precise. I have to give the meaning as close to the writer or Arabic copy as possible. Because I know politics, maybe one letter or any syntax of the sentence may change the meaning, and this will bring about big problems.

The participant seems to be aware that even small syntactical changes can change the intended meaning of a political ST or its writer. This arguably shows the

participant's high level of awareness concerning this topic. Moreover, the participant seems to imply that punitive measures could be taken if such sensitive texts are mistranslated. The same participant (5) was asked if this makes them feel pressured when dealing with this kind of translation. The answer was: "No, but in the beginning, yes. I was always worried about such things. But, with the years of experience I know how to do it." Clearly, this answer demonstrates the importance of experience in the field of translation and how it can affect a translator's approach and mentality. It is worth noting that this participant has around fifteen years of experience. This experience is reflected in the confidence shown approaching such sensitive texts.

In addition, Participant 4 stated that as a translator, they always approach political texts differently. The following is the participant's statement:

> Yes. You know, there are technicalities that a translator should keep in mind, especially the political news affecting, in most cases, third parties. Like, segments of the society, individual politicians, the big players in the economy, and countries. Countries and international organizations and agencies. So, in each translation, we have to mind the kind of language we use so as not to cause friction between the parties concerned.

As can be seen, this statement presents the number of parties involved in a political text and its translation. The participant believes that at least some of these parties could be mentioned in any given political text. So, translators should mind them and use *appropriate* language that does not insult these concerned parties or instigate any *"*friction*"* as the participant said. Additionally, these parties could be local in scope (local society), or international (foreign countries). As a result, the target audience plays a role in this context. Later, the same participant was asked if this resulted in pressuring them during the translation phase, and the answer was: "Not quite, if you

are used to the job. To me, I do not see challenges in this job." Apparently, this does not affect the participant. It can be argued that due to the participant's awareness, such sensitivities can be addressed accordingly. Otherwise, this can be a result of the translator's experience of around thirteen years, which made them fit to handle such matters without feeling pressured.

In contrast, Participant 2 stated that there is not much difference in the translation approach when dealing with a political text. Another participant (4) expressed a similar statement. Participant 2 was later asked if there are specific guidelines/rules they follow when translating, and the participant gave the following statement:

> Like the Arabic newspapers, we have to include the text with the five answers to the questions the who, the when, how[61], this is regular in any newspaper. we have to also be neutral and abide by the words, and the meaning of the words, which should not affect the meaning of the sentences.

As can be seen, the participant elaborated on the *Arab Times's* general translation approach. Generally, they should abide by the ST's intended meanings without changing them. Moreover, the translations should be neutral without any form of biased reporting. They also generally include the answers to the relevant WH questions in the translations, which the participant argues is the standard for any newspaper. Also, a follow-up question about the existence of rules specific to political news translation was asked, and the participant stated that no such rules exist.

This segment was followed by asking the participants about rules and guidelines that are in place at the *Arab Times* newspaper. First, Participant 1 stated

[61] The participant most likely refers to the WH questions that are used frequently in texts of an investigative nature (who, what, when, where).

that there are no specific translation guidelines and that it is as the participant said: *"*up to me*".* Still, the participant stressed that they still consider the interests of Kuwait.

Participant 3 gave a different take on the rules and guidelines. The following is the participant's statement: "Yeah, one thing is if you don't understand anything, just ask about it, it is okay. Second thing, you need to be aware of the background of the issue at hand." Here, the participant's answer implies that most rules and guidelines seem to be provided verbally, or they are generally accepted translation approaches/norms. Furthermore, the participant seems to hint at a collaborative translation environment, especially when it concerns institutional policy rather than translation advice.

Also, it can be inferred that some translation tasks are given to individuals with relevant background knowledge. This could mean that some translators at the *Arab Times* specialise in certain fields, even though they are tasked with many kinds of translations. For example, participant 4 stated that when faced with sensitive political news/texts, they must consult with the Head of the Local Desk[62] and inform them of the content of these news items. The participant said that this way they can "avoid problems, especially legal issues*."*

Moreover, the participant remarked that in certain situations they had to drop the news items altogether due to such issues. However, the participant said they sometimes commit to translating such sensitive news items, but they omit/avoid overly strong language that could "escalate the situation". This shows that translation within an institution differs compared to individual translation tasks. Here, the translator must keep in mind the different players in the source material, the target audience, the institution's rules, protocols, and even the country's laws and interests. Therefore,

[62] The person responsible for the local news reporting and translation teams.

translators in such settings seem to mainly rely on their experience to navigate these troubled waters.

The importance of experience was expressed by Participant 5, who was asked if there were rules and guidelines for translation at the *Arab Times* newspaper. The participant said the following:

> You know this is acquired experience. When you finish your work, in the beginning, I show my work to my senior colleagues, and they sometimes direct me. In the beginning, they did so. They directed me to many things, and I took them in consideration. And also reading, you know, as a translator you have to read, especially in the language that you are translating to because I am not a British man or a native English speaker. So, I need to read more in English in order to be able to write as well as possible.

According to the participant, it is apparent that experience, and gaining more of it, seems to be one of the most important factors translators strive to obtain. As the participant stated, experience seems also to help in acquiring the necessary knowledge about rules and guidelines. The participant indicated that not only translation, but also reading can be considered experience. This is especially the case in the target language (in this case English), as the participant argued. In addition, the need to consult with senior translators and colleagues seems to be encouraged as it can help novice translators understand the basics of institutional translation and its relevant elements (protocols, guidelines, translation process, translator's role). Therefore, a collaborative translation environment can result in a better understanding of the rules and guidelines, especially unwritten ones.

The participants were later asked if they had the ability to insert or express their opinions in their translations. Participant 1 stated that they do not express their

opinions. In fact, the participant said that such matters relate more to the news editing desk rather than the news translating teams. As a result, it can be deduced that the *Arab Times* newspaper's opinions and views are representative of its news editing desk members rather than its translation team. Moreover, Participant 2 clearly stated that they cannot express their opinion when translating. Participant 3 provided a remark with an example regarding this matter. The participant stated the following:

> It depends. Like, for example, if it is about a piece, for example, from the editor-in-chief, you cannot add anything. Okay, but some people will call you. They tell you that if you feel something is not all right, just change it in the way you feel that it is right, and then call me back and see.

The participant's example seems to indicate that inserting opinions seems to depend on the importance/writer of the ST or the news event. Also, a sense of the power dynamic at play between the translator and the newspaper's editor-in-chief seems to have some importance in this statement.

However, it seems that in some cases, the translator is asked to express their opinion instead of that in the ST if it seems "right" or appropriate. Later, the participant was asked to elaborate on the meaning of "right" in this context. The participant said:

> Right is an opinion. Like for example, even today we had an opinion talking about this Poland and Czech and Slovakia. They had a meeting on Monday. That meeting was cancelled. According to the opinion of someone else, he said the meeting might be cancelled because of this and that. So, I had to change it to "fully cancelled" and why and the reasons and everything.

Here, it can be seen that the translator worked as a fact-checker akin to a news reporter while conducting the translation. The participant expressed this need to fact-

check the opinion pieces and providing the correct information to the newspaper's readers.

The participant was then asked if this means that translators sometimes have to work as news reporters, the participant said *"*Yes, you have to, sometimes*."* Thus, it can be assumed that at least sometimes, *Arab Times* translators also operate as transeditors. It can also be argued these instances can at times relate to matters concerning language rather than information/facts. For example, when dealing with extremely tonal or inappropriate language, the translator's linguistic expertise could help level the tone. Whatever the translator changes in these instances, it must be reviewed and approved before publication. In essence, this means that even if the translator opted for a specific change, unless this change is in line with the newspaper or its editors' views, it would not be published.

Participant 5 also gave a statement regarding including one's opinion in a translation:

> No. Sometimes I need to separate my personal opinion from myself as a translator. Sometimes I translate things that might be not identical to my views, maybe contradictory with my opinion. But this does not affect me because I am carrying a message. As a translator, I carry a message and I deliver it.

As can be seen here, the participant believes that their principal role as a translator is to deliver the message/meaning of the ST without affecting or influencing it in any way. The translator here operates as a conveyer of meaning rather than a text/news item influencer. The statement also shows that sometimes translators are faced with texts containing views, beliefs, or opinions contradictory to their own. Here, it is argued by the participant that the separation of personal views is of paramount importance in staying professional.

In this context, the participants were asked if/how their personal social attributes could affect their translations. On one hand, Participant 1 answered that such social attributes do not affect the translation process/product. A similar answer was given by Participant 2, who answered concisely with "of course not, no distinction." On the other hand, Participant 3 provided the following answer:

> Yeah. Like, for example, when you translate something from English to Arabic. Let us say a foreign writer, for example. He might use phrases where he will let's say mention a dog, for example, donkey[63]. Such things when you translated into Arabic, you only need to translate the meaning. Because the culture itself is like, it is not common words or phrases unless it is to let us say, offend or insult someone.

As can be observed from this answer, the participant provided an example of how social norms differ between different cultures or societies. The used example illustrates how certain words with strong negative connotations, can be used in Arabic. However, if those words were translated literally, they would not only lose their intended meaning, but also could be understood in a different manner. The used example of "dog" is a clear one. In Arabic, it is received negatively and used in a derogatory manner. In contrast, a dog in the Anglophone culture often connotes loyalty. So, it can be assumed the participant's remark essentially means that cultural and social backgrounds could affect the translations if the translator was not aware of their linguistic intricacies. The participant later added that in these situations, it is better to try and find the social equivalent and use it in the translation.

[63] In the Arabic language and the Arab culture, likening someone to a dog or a donkey is widely regarded as derogatory and insulting.

Furthermore, Participant 4 stated that translations should not be affected by such social attributes:

> It would be foolhardy putting that into my translation. I translate based on what I see in front of me. Even if I am not happy with what I am reading, I have to do it because that is what is my work. I should not modify it.

Here, it seems the participant has a negative view on any effects of one's social attributes on one's translation. It can be argued that this view is a professional one. Also, being aware of possible effects of one's social attributes could result in avoiding them in one's translations. The participant was asked if this means that they view the translator's role as that of a messenger. The participant replied "Yes*"* and added that this is their job. Moreover, it is safe to say that translators can be tasked with translating texts they do not agree with or happy to work on. Since translators are facing difficulties finding employment in Kuwait (see section 2.4), they have to do it anyway as it is their job.

In addition to this participant's remark, Participant 5 gave a similar statement: "I separate between myself, my opinion, my thoughts, my religion, even my feelings. If I'm happy or upset, it doesn't interfere." Participant 5 disregards any possible effects that their social or even mental state could have on their work. As a result, it can be argued that the translations of this participant would not be influenced/affected by any of their personal social attributes. The same participant stated previously that collaborative translations and asking fellow colleagues helped nurture their translation experience. So, it can be argued that this participant's take on social factors was also drawn from senior colleagues.

As the previous statements showed, most of the *Arab Times* translators disregard the possible effects of social attributes on their translations. In fact, they

consciously try to separate their personal social attributes from their translation tasks. In contrast, only one translator acknowledged social attributes as a factor in the translation. This participant's take was to understand social intricacies to avoid mistranslations rather than advocating for translation affected by social attributes.

Finally, the participants were asked to provide any recommendations to improve their translation environment in their institution or in Kuwait. Some participants gave positive remarks. For example, Participant 1 stated that the work environment and its atmosphere were well received. Also, the participant stated that in their long years of translating (34 years), there were never any *"*interventions*"* in the translation by any kind of political party. Participant 3 stated that they do not see the need for any changes in the practical aspects of translation. However, the participant believes that the cultural perception of translation studies needs a change. The participant argues that translators and those involved in the process should be:

> […] more open to new techniques of translating something […] now, sometimes if you translate something for the newspaper they might tell you no, this is not how we do it. There should be room for creativity in translation.

As the participant argues, the shortcomings seem to lie in the way translation is viewed, especially in an institutional setting.

There seems to be a state of stagnation in how translation approaches could be improved. Apparently, the participant alludes to many individuals in the *Arab Times* newspaper who fall under the "if it's not broken, don't fix it" mentality. As a result, the state of their translation seems to have become stagnant in such a setting. The participant later added that in some cases, people who understand translation and require translators are willing to pay an obscene amount of money to employ good translators. Essentially, the participant believes increasing awareness of the

translation practice would improve its general state, both in terms of its process and its financial benefits.

Furthermore, Participant 4 also stated that they are optimistic about the future state of translation in Kuwait. The participant said that now a master's programme is being taught in Kuwait University with many applicants. Consequently, many Kuwaiti nationals have applied, so when these students graduate and start working, they will *"*agitate*"* and stir up the work environment. The participant further argued that this would be the case especially in the public sector, as their translators are specifically non-Kuwaitis. The participant stated those individuals do not have the ability to "[…] fight for their cause, and if you do not fight for your cause, no one will appreciate you*."* It can be assumed this relates to the huge workloads and complicated roles the public sector translators are tasked with, as seen in previous sections about the MOI and KUNA translation teams. It can be inferred that Kuwaiti nationals have more influence as employees when it comes to the public sector. In a sense, their voice could be heard compared to non-Kuwaitis. Unfortunately, this could imply uneven work conditions between Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis.

Participant 2 suggested that there is a need for more translation *"*centres*"* as well as offering a *"*specialisation*"* in translation in the local universities. As a result, more graduates would be specifically trained/taught translation rather than TESOL[64] or English literature graduates, who then start working as translators without any prior experience in either theory or praxis.

Participant 5 presented some comments and suggestions about the state of translation in the *Arab Times* as well as in Kuwait in general. The participant stated:

[64] Abbreviation for Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages.

> Well, the environment is not encouraging enough because we struggle. We struggle a lot because we don't have a society[65] or hmm, to defend us or to help us in hard times. We work in the private sector like any other expatriates. We faced the problems that others face; you know. And that's what I can say. I can't say any more, but I like translation.

This remark raises two issues. Firstly, the translation work environment, especially in the private sector, can be seen as discouraging. The participant argued that they struggle due to the translation workloads or the long work hours the private sector generally adopts in Kuwait. The participant accordingly expressed disappointment in how they cannot defend them when they need to be defended. Secondly, the participant as an expatriate said they face problems other expatriates face. Due to the sensitive nature of this comment as well as the participant's refusal to comment on this specific matter, it can only be assumed that this relates to the nationalities of the employees. Therefore, it can be argued that expatriate translators face issues that they cannot tackle themselves.

These issues could be related to a possible power dynamic between an expatriate translator and his/her superior national/Kuwaiti employee. As Participant 4 stated previously, Kuwaiti translators seem to have a stronger influence in the workplace compared to expatriates, whether in the public or private sector. So, it can be argued that such power relations do exist in such translation environments. Furthermore, this power relation issue could be affecting the translation process/product. One possible example is Participant 3's previous statement, in which their superior could refuse the translation and comment with "No, this is not how we

[65] Although a society was being established during the time, it can be assumed the participant meant an official union for translators.

do it.*"* Realistically, it can be difficult to measure the effects of this power dynamic in such a setting due to the nature of this translation environment. Also, it can be argued that any expatriate in general might fear deportation, and Kuwait does deport expatriates in the event of their committing crimes, so this could be another of the participant's fears. Still, it is hard to confirm definitively what the participant has refused to share.

The problems the participant refers to might possibly be related to financial benefits and wages. In fact, when the participant was asked if they believe that translation is underappreciated in Kuwait, the participant said: "Underappreciated? Yes, yes. Especially financially. Maybe it is okay in moral things we got a good position. But the wages should be more." As was discussed previously (section 2.4), Kuwaitis in general are paid more than their non-Kuwaiti peers due to the extra financial benefits the Kuwaiti government provides to them. This is the case for both the public and private sectors; therefore, what the participant shared is understandable.

Next, the same participant (5) suggested the establishment of "specialised institutes for translation training. […]" This suggestion is similar to many of the other participants' suggestions, showing a perceived need for such institutions in Kuwait. The participant later argued that they were not taught translation in the academic sense. In fact, the participant was an English literature graduate and was therefore not prepared to become a translator. However, the participant stated that they "at the end" learned what such institutions would teach, but that "it took longer". The participant attributed the choice of being a translator to what the "market" demands. As a result, it can be argued the need of translation institutions is dictated by market demands. Finally, the participant gave a short remark about the benefits of establishing

translation training institutions: “If you are studying academically, you take that conclusion of generations, the experience of many, many persons in a short time.”

As the previous statements and comments showed, the *Arab Times* newspaper approaches translation a bit differently compared to the MOI and KUNA. This can be mainly due to its nature as a newspaper and a private sector institution compared to the previous two institutions. Also, the participants presented some of the issues they face, which included problems related to their nationalities as well as financial issues. Moreover, the general view of the *Arab Times* translators is that being a professional translator means that an individual must separate their own social attributes from influencing individual practice. Finally, the participants’ suggestions seem to indicate some of the *Arab Times’* as well as Kuwait’s translation environment shortcomings. These include a lack of translation training centres, a university-level translation specialisation, and cultural awareness of translation practice.

6.3.6 *Kuwait Times* Interviews Analysis

The interviewed participants of the *Kuwait Times* newspaper comprised the whole translation team. There were three participants from this newspaper and were the only employed translators in this institution at the time of data collection. The participants provided interesting remarks about translation practice in the *Kuwait Times* newspaper, as well as some insight into their personal views.

The participants were asked about their general roles in the *Kuwait Times*. On the one hand, Participant 1, who is the senior translator, stated that their role evolved while working as a translator at the *Kuwait Times*. In fact, the participant’s role expanded to the point of conducting interviews with *“*ambassadors, presidents, visiting dignitaries” in addition to doing “special assignments*”* that the newspaper dictated.

Moreover, the participant sometimes also works as an interpreter when the newspaper interviews someone who does not speak Arabic. This is in addition to the participant's role as a translator at the newspaper.

In comparison, Participant 2 said that his role is a translator working in the editorial desk, which is focused mainly on local content. This content as the participant describes it varies in nature, ranging from politics and economics to social content. However, the participant stated that political content is the focus of the translation team. Specifically, the participant said the political items were mainly related to local politics like parliamentary news. Additionally, participant 2 stated that they work as *"*a translator and an editor too*,"* which clearly makes this participant, who represents third of the translation team, a *transeditor*.

Participant 3 (part-time employee with thirty-three years of experience) said that their role is the translation of news. This news is mainly local and consists of different kinds of news ranging from politics to economics. Additionally, Participant 3 also translates advertisements and press releases issued by the newspaper's own advertisements department. These tasks are usually requested by third-party companies or firms, as the participant stated. So, it can be argued that such tasks are usually carried out by freelancers or translation offices, rather than a newspaper's translation team. It can be assumed that the *Kuwait Times'* translation team has a good enough reputation to draw interest from outside companies. It is also possible this is due to the generally lacking state of translation practice and the low-quality standards in Kuwait as discussed previously (Chapter 1).

Participant 1 also said that they deal with texts related to *"*security*"* matters. These are issues related to local *"*crimes*"* and "issues to do with the society*"*. So, the team at the *Kuwait Times* deal with all kinds of texts and news items. Also, the team's

combined years of experience illustrates their ability to deal with these different kinds of texts. The translation team was asked about their views and experiences dealing with political news, in addition to how they approach such news items. Participant 1 was asked if they deal with political items differently:

> Not really differently, but one has to be careful what to say and when. Not because of *censorship* or anything like that, but because you do not need to get into things that would compromise the country's security or reputation. Sometimes you may say something. It will be misunderstood by others, especially embassies or foreign governments, and you are going to cause problems out of just one line or sentence or whatever.

Here, the participant's remark presents three points to discuss.

First, the participant clearly understands the concept of censorship in this publishing industry. Still, the participant said that one should be careful *what* to say and *when*. The participant's rationale is that a translator should be aware and avoid writing utterances that could *compromise* the country's "security" or "reputation". It can be argued that the translators in such a setting practice a form of self-censorship (see section 3.6.1). The participant describes this self-censorship as a way of preserving the country's (Kuwait's) interests.

Second, as the participant indicates, the target readership of a translated political news item could sometimes include official parties that analyse the texts in an official capacity. So, using ambiguous language could result in wrongful interpretations of the texts, which in turn would reflect badly on the country and could affect its political interests. As a result, the participant's remark implies that in political translations, clearly defined language is of paramount importance.

Third, the participant argues that a translator could be the source of such possible political turmoil and should exercise caution to avoid that possibility. This can also be seen as the participant's own rationale for the self-censorship they might practice in their translations. Essentially, the participant's argument is for a translator to censor words or sentences that could affect Kuwait's interests. This is also mandated by the media publication law of 2006, which was discussed in section 2.3. It is uncertain whether the participant does this out of a sense of loyalty, or due to the publication law. One could argue that it could be due to a sense of patriotism. However, all the *Kuwait Times* newspaper's employees are non-Kuwaiti, as the previous quantitative data showed.

Afterwards, the same participant was asked if this puts them under pressure. The participant answered:

> In fact, we are now used to it now. It's not really that much pressure. Sometimes we find something that is worthy of publishing. But like I said, you know, when it has to do with the country's policy or the country's, you know, foreign relations, you really have to be very careful, and you need to bear that in mind. You have to be tactful, is what I wanted to say.

As the participant illustrated, sometimes the translation team and the newspaper in general have to navigate the legalities and sensitivity of the news items they deal with. Also, it has to be done in a way that was best described by the participant as being "tactful". This is especially the case when the news item is worth publishing is of a sensitive nature. Moreover, as the participant stated, the translation team at the *Kuwait Times* seems to have gotten used to news items of this nature. This can be attributed mainly to the team members' long years of experience.

In addition, when Participant 2 was asked if/how the translation of political news differs from other news, the participant said:

> It is mostly the same, but when it comes to political issues you have to be careful not to sort of cross lines, like the publications law in Kuwait, because Kuwait has a strict publication law that everything has to adhere to. And when we translate, we try to make sure that we also have to make sure that we do not break any rules or translate anything that would be depicted as breaking the law.

This participant's statement can be seen as complementary to the previous participant's statement. As seen here, the participant argues that as translators of political items, they should be careful not to "cross lines" as well as to adhere to Kuwait's "strict" publication law. The participant's answer clearly confirms that under certain conditions, translations can be depicted as "breaking the law". So, as the previous participant implied, translators of political texts have to be careful in how they approach these texts. Furthermore, Participant 2's statement also sheds some light on the publication law when it comes to translations. The participant's description of this law indicates that it is strict, even for non-Arabic texts[66]. The participant was later asked if these factors make them feel pressured when dealing with political texts. The answer was: "Yes I would say so." This answer illustrates the mental state of some translators tackling political texts, even those with a fair amount of translation experience. Participant 2 has more than ten years of experience.

In comparison, Participant 3 stated that they handle political news in a generally similar manner. The participant said:

[66] Arabic is the official language of Kuwait, so all official statements and documents must be in Arabic and are thoroughly scrutinised.

> No, it is the same thing. It depends on if you are referring to taboos or limits in political news that is already decided by the editing manager or the local news manager. There is a policy for the newspaper that is set by the Ministry of Information and the Press law, Kuwaiti Press publication law, and they are respected.

The participant illustrated more of the translation environment in *Kuwait Times* by stating that taboos or limitations are already predetermined by either the editing manager or the local news manager. So, it can be argued that while the translators themselves sometimes practice a form of self-censorship, their news editing team practices a form of gatekeeping. It is thus debatable that the *Kuwait Times* newspaper's translations are already done in a specified frame with translators experienced in manoeuvring within this frame. Also, the participant's awareness of the publication law and their statement that it is respected demonstrates the participant's experience.

Later, the same participant was asked if such factors affect them personally and result in feeling pressured. The participant answered with the following:

> You know, we do not have many taboos here in Kuwait. And, you know, it is only his highness the Amir, the crown prince, and things like that. For instance, the titles, when we use titles for anybody, in Arabic you know, they always use Sayed[67] (سيد) Mr. Fulan (فلان)[68] and so on. So, we do not use that except for basically these three: His Highness the Amir, the Crown Prince, his Highness

[67] Transliteration: saiyyd

[68] Transliteration: fulān, this word is used to refer to anonymous or imaginary people. Its usage is akin to the use of the name *John Doe* in English.

the Prime Minister. We have to use the title “His Highness”, in addition to his Highness Sheik Salem Al-Ali[69].

As the participant showed, the important matter they have to adhere to as translators is the correct usage of official titles for high-ranking state officials. Otherwise, as the participant states, there are not many taboos in Kuwait that translators face. If the fact that the editing desk already filters political news items is taken into consideration, then it can be assumed that the translators have less to deal with in terms of restricted words or taboos.

Also, the participant presented a comparison between the Arabic and English languages. As the participant argued, in English, “mister” is often used liberally as someone’s title, no matter their political position. In comparison, Arabic is considerably stricter in its use of titles, so usually a person of high political position would be referred to in accordance with his/her official title. In essence, this matter can be considered as one of the translation protocols that translators of the *Kuwait Times* newspaper follow.

Next, the participants were asked about the established guidelines, rules, and protocols at the newspapers that they were required to follow as translators. Participant 1 described three general umbrellas under which the rules fall. The participant stated there are what they called “self-guidelines” or “the newspaper’s policy”, in addition to “certain rules” translators have to follow.

First, the self-guidelines can be considered general translation conventions. These include translating in an appropriate manner and correctly and so on. However, this form of self-imposed guideline can also be similar to self-censorship. For example, this can be the case when a translator thinks it is inappropriate to translate a sensitive word uttered by a politician as it is and instead opts to omit it altogether. Here, the

[69] The head of Kuwait’s royal family Al-Sabah.

translator's self-imposed guideline or rule to omit sensitive words from translations resulted in the censorship of a politician's statement. In such a case this can result in certain ramifications that could affect all the concerned parties in this context. So, it is safe to assume that self-imposed rules go hand-in-hand with self-censorship, whether the translator realises it or not.

Second, the newspaper's policy is usually a clear set of rules. These generally include fact-checking, unbiased news reporting, and so on. When it comes to translators, it can be assumed they fall in a similar context. This is especially the case if the translators are also practicing news reporting/editing.

Third, the participant was asked to elaborate on the *"certain rules"* they mentioned. The participant gave an example of these rules:

> For example, you know, when you speak to His Highness the Amir, there are certain rules you have to follow. And of course, the Amiri Diwan instructs us with anything new. Because you understand, he is the Amir and he's his own entity and he is the country's symbol, and he has to have a certain status.

The participant's example shows the importance of using the correct terminology when addressing the Kuwaiti Amir in any text or translation. This is also illustrated by the fact that the Amiri Diwan keeps the newspapers and news agencies up to date with such matters. Moreover, this was also mentioned previously by Participant 3. This further indicates the great importance of titles when addressing high-ranking officials in Kuwait.

Participant 2 stated that they sometimes use the Internet to help them to generally understand the issues they might face. Furthermore, Participant 2 also stated something close to the previous participant's statement:

> […] we have to stick to the terms of the names of the Amir. We have a guideline to follow in terms of the names of the senior state officials, the names of the ministers, the state departments, like ministries and stuff like that. Otherwise, we are free to use our style of writing in the translations as long as we adhere to the rules.

With this statement, all three members of the *Kuwait Times* mentioned the importance of using the correct and official title of the Amir. Moreover, this participant stated that the team has a guideline to follow for the names of other high-ranking Kuwaiti state officials. In addition to state "departments", the use of the plural *s* means that even foreign dignitaries and possibly ambassadors have their own titles and *official* ways to use them. When it comes to translation-related matters, the participant stated they have an ample amount of freedom to approach their texts as they see fit. Obviously, that should be the case as long as they "adhere to the rules."

Next, the participants were asked if their final translations, after being proofread and edited, reflected their institution's views. Participant 1 said that: "In general, of course yes. Sometimes it is either this or neutral or nothing against of course the paper's policy for example." Additionally, Participant 3 also answered by saying "Yeah, sure," relating to the final translation being reflective of the institution's views. Participant 2 further elaborated and said the following:

> It depends on the source material of the translation. For example, we have sources that bring us news in Arabic, and we translate it. In this case, it would reflect the institution's views. But sometimes we have material reported by other newspapers or other sources of information. And we would translate this news and then we would follow up to make that more reflect the institute of Kuwait

Times news. But it should retain the point of view of the source material. But we try to balance it as much as we can too.

As can be seen above, all the participants' statements seem to indicate that the *Kuwait Times'* published translations are reflective of its views. Furthermore, Participant 2's elaboration indicates that even in cases where the ST's views are not in accordance with the *Kuwait Times'* views, the team would write a follow-up to make it fit the *Kuwait Times'* frame while the ST still retains its original viewpoint. The participant argues that as translators, they try and balance such matters as much as possible. Basically, in this case the source of the news item dictates the translator's approach. This further illustrates their role's intricacies when dealing with sensitive texts. Moreover, Participant 1's statement clearly states that the TT should be either reflective of the *Kuwait Times's* views or at least neutral. So, it can be argued that the *Kuwait Times* newspaper would not opt to publish news items contradicting or opposed to its political views. This in turn can paint the institution in a rather biased light.

Later, Participant 3 was asked if they as translators can state their opinions in the translations or influence them in accordance with personal views. The participant stated the following interesting excerpts:

No, I do not do that. We usually do not. And I have some opinions. I can write an article and I have done that, several times. And I have written some articles. X[70] also writes.

[70] X is a member of the interviewed translation team at *Kuwait Times* and a colleague of this participant. X was used instead of the mentioned name in the interview to adhere to ethical considerations and the participants' privacy.

Here, it should be safe to state that the translators at the *Kuwait Times* newspaper are also news articles' writers. In fact, at least two team members (out of the total three) do that.

However, the previous remark shows that when the translators are translating, they do not state opinions or influence the TTs. As the participant argued, if there were opinions they would like to share, then they would simply write it as part of an article. This was done on multiple occasions. When the participant was asked if the articles were political and what was their nature, the following incident was shared:

> I did, but not concerning Kuwait, but my home country of Egypt. Before, during Mubarak's reign. […] yeah, I was generally expressing a certain issue, especially that, you know, that our managing editor[71] here is an American and at that time under Mubarak's reign and I was so appalled by U.S. interference in Egyptian policies. So, I wrote about that, and because I started when I asked her what gives you the right to interfere in our business? What gives you the right to tell us what to do and what not to do? She said because of the aid we give you. So, I wrote about that, urging the Egyptian government to stop taking aid for me to say, we can do that.

As this statement shows, there are some tensions that come with being a *transeditor*. The participant's statement about this incident indicates four points worth discussing. First, the participant's remark alludes to the ability of writing political articles, especially those not concerned with Kuwait's politics. So, it seems the translators might opt to write political texts unrelated to Kuwait more often than the other way around.

Second, the participant had the ability to write this considerably sensitive text despite the apparent tension between them and the American managing editor. This

[71] The managing editor at the time of the data collection was Jamie Etheridge.

demonstrates a unique situation wherein a transeditor seemingly wrote an article that the newspaper's managing editor did not approve of, or at least was not fond of. This shows the interesting power dynamic between the two individuals within their institution. It is possible that due to the participant's long years of experience (33 years) and time at the *Kuwait Times* (since 2003), this specific participant has some leeway at the newspaper.

Third, the participant's choice to write this article with the rationale behind it shows a sense of nationalism. This is evident as the participant loathed the American government's interventions into their country's (Egypt) domestic affairs. This sense of nationalism led the translator to write an article about this matter. It is arguable that such an article is meant to push or influence the target audience. Here, the influence seems to be presenting the US as playing fast and loose with other countries' domestic affairs. Even though this is ultimately not a translated text, the same individual still translates political items. So, the individual behind any TT must be viewed as an individual with personal political views that might influence the translation. Additionally, in many instances, an individual in such a translation setting could have the agency and the ability to influence the texts as they translate. Still, the participant seemed to be aware of their own views and opted to express them separately from the translation tasks. in fact, as their previous statement showed, if there were personal opinions/views the participant wants to share/state, they would simply write an article.

Fourth, the participant's statement reflects the possible political roles a transeditor can play. Within the institution, the participant argued his point of view with the managing editor intensely. Outside of the institution, the participant's writing was urging a state government to change its policies, so under conditions such as these,

a translator's role can include translation tasks, editing/reporting news, and even writing opinion pieces (concerning politics).

Next, participant 1 was asked to describe the work environment at the *Kuwait Times.* The answer seems to reflect the environment indicated by the previous statement indicated. The statement was:

> In Kuwait Times, you know, the translators are free. I mean, you are not restricted. You are not told anything. You have the peace as you translate. And I do not like the word translators sometimes. And I like interpretation. Sometimes you don't need to write everything word for word you need to convey. Because we are here in Arabia, and we try to convey the message to non-Arabs. So, you need to do it or to write it in a way so that they will understand it.

The participant clearly stated that the translators at the *Kuwait Times* enjoy a lot of freedom. The participant also said they are also not interrupted or asked to do other specific tasks, so they have the peace to translate. This leads to the assumption that the translation team enjoys a certain amount of autonomy within the *Kuwait Times*. This can also be substantiated by Participant 3's incident with the managing editor. In addition, the participant argued against the term "translator", as they believe they are a team of meaning interpreters/conveyers. So, it seems that the participant, who has been a translator since 1986, does seem to doubt the use of the term translator in this setting. It can be inferred that this argument is a result of the translator's role being atypical in this context. Essentially, the participants do not simply translate in the common sense of the word. Overall, the participant's argument relates to their job as meaning conveyers rather than linguistic translators.

The participant seems to be aware of how the target audience could affect a translator's approach to translation of the ST. This is based on what the participant later said: "[…] even when you are talking about Kuwait, you need to have it in a certain way so that you have them (outsiders) understand."

Next, the participants were asked about possible effects of personal social attributes such as religion, social background, or nationality. The three participants presented their personal views on the matter. These views fall on two sides, either affirmative or negative.

On the one hand, Participant 1 said that such attributes do not affect the participant's work. However, the participant also said the following: "Of course, there are certain words or certain sentences that they don't agree with. For example, as a Muslim, with Islam. It would be quoted […]." The participant elaborated on the rationale behind the use of quotes. Their use would present these words or sentences as points of view not related to the translator or newspaper, as the quoted individual would be named. The participant further added to this point by stating:

> Otherwise, you know you will be surprised I'm a Jordanian, originally Jordanian. Living in Kuwait since forever. And currently I am an American citizen. And in between, I lived for like three, four years in Britain also.

Here, the participant argues that even with their mixed social background and lifelong experience, the translations were not particularly affected by these social factors. This in addition to the previous method of using quotes seems to indicate the possibility of omitting the effects of personal social attributes from one's translations. Moreover, Participant 3 also believes that they have not "noticed" any effects on the translations related to social attributes.

On the other hand, Participant 2 answered the question verbatim: *"*Yes, unfortunately.*"* When the participant was asked to elaborate, the following was stated:

> Obviously, specifically, when it comes to political news, or translating political material. Non-nationals face more challenges than nationals. Like we can say that nationals have more freedom when it comes to translate political opinions or political news in general.

This was followed up by asking if the participant felt restricted due to this:

> Just a little bit. I would not say that it is too much restrictions, but you feel that there is some sort of it. Which is natural, considering the nature of the political spectrum here in Kuwait.

As can be seen here, the participant argues that as a non-national, they face some restrictions when dealing with political items. It seems that Kuwaitis working in this field of translation and politics enjoy more freedom on how they tackle their translations. Also, this seems to be a bit common, as a similar statement was provided by an *Arab Times* participant, albeit more related to the power dynamic within the institution. Here, the participant seems to understand this situation and to attribute it to the political situation in Kuwait. However, it can be argued this situation is more related to institutional guidelines rather than politics. Still, it seems these restrictions are minimal, as the participant stated. Yet, when the participant was asked if this made him extra cautious when dealing with political items, the answer was "Yes*."*

Finally, the *Kuwait Times* newspaper's translation team members were asked to provide suggestions or recommendations that could improve the state of translation in their institution or Kuwait in general. Participant 1 provided a comprehensive take on this question by stating:

> […] I would love to see people here, especially the professionals you're talking about translators, I would love for them to read. Read more to understand more to have culture more. Sometimes you would read some translation and would be laughing at it because a slanged translator translated into something else […] First of all, you are not going to understand what you're reading because it's totally out of context. And the other thing is it will show that the one who wrote it, you know, actually has no knowledge. And unfortunately, I see it everywhere. Even for example, on TV, some of the newscasters, you know, they just are readers. They are not educated enough. And this is not something that you teach in universities, in the classroom […].

Clearly, Participant 1 believes that to improve the state of translation, it is imperative to improve the translators' skills by having them read more. The participant's argument rests mostly on urging professionals to read more, as there are currently some "slanged translators", as the participant named them. The participant viewed these translators' translations as comical and "totally out of context." Understandably, translations of political items should retain rather formal language and not slang, unless the context requires such language. Furthermore, the participant argued that even newscasters are just readers. This remark is corroborated by the MOI interviews. As was analysed in the MOI interviews section (6.3.3) the translators provide their translations to be presented on a teleprompter for news presenters to read. This at least shows the participant's intuitiveness in matters concerning news translation and reporting.

In addition, Participant 2 stated that it is necessary to raise the awareness regarding the importance of translation as a job. The participant said:

> I would say more training courses to highlight the importance of the translation job. In terms of preparing translators or improving their writing skills and how to. Because translation, in essence, is basically writing from, um they're taking the idea from one language to transfer to another. So, there's more focus on improving the translators' writing skills.

First, the participant argues that more translators need to appreciate the importance of their jobs. Second, the need to improve the writing skills of the translators should be the focus of such training courses. The participant was asked to share their experience with training courses and stated:

> Personally, I have not taken any training courses, so I ca not really judge the quality of the training. But I think that their availability is one thing. And the training courses there needs to be more focus on improving writing skills. I think this is the main challenge facing the translators here in Kuwait.

The participant believes that the writing skills of the translators are most lacking in Kuwait. Therefore, there needs to be training courses to improve them. Moreover, even though the participant did not undertake any training courses, their availability seems to be an issue. For that, more training courses need to be made available.

Finally, Participant 3 suggested that they should employ more translators at *Kuwait Times,* as they are understaffed. Moreover, the participant stated that they need more reporters, which is interesting. The participant stated:

> […] We need more reporters, sometimes we get the burden of, we have the photo, but we do not have a story because we have literally maybe three or two reporters. Sometimes we get a photo without a story, and we have to create the story as translators. Sometimes they give us an invitation card for where they want something, and say that we have the photos, and we have this

> invitation, and we want you to write about this. So, I have to create the story myself. So, understaffing is a problem here at Kuwait Times.

As the participant argued, the need for more translators is of extreme urgency, as the translators are working in other roles besides their translation tasks. Although this provides them with more varied tasks, it still can be considered extra work. The participant was asked if this happens frequently, and they said: “No, it almost happens all the time because the reporters are only three actually, only three reporters.” So, it can be assumed that the translators at the *Kuwait Times* newspaper, like the previous institutions, function in many different roles and on varied tasks. The tasks, as was illustrated previously, are not exclusive to translation only. They can write stories, then translate them to be published, as the participant stated.

As seen from the previous statements, the *Kuwait Times* newspaper deals with political news translation in a similar manner as the *Arab Times* newspaper. However, they differ in some respects, like their translators’ roles being more varied and enjoying more independence and freedom with their tasks. Also, the *Kuwait Times* translators can write their own political articles and opinion pieces if they so wish, even if the managing editor’s opinion is opposed to their own. Furthermore, their comments shed light on how translating political items occurs at the newspaper and their sources for the news.

The restrictions and guidelines also seem to be similar to the previous three institutions, specifically in terms of the usage and translation of titles for high-ranking Kuwaiti officials. In addition, comments about self-imposed guidelines indicate a form of self-censorship that the translation team at the *Kuwait Times* practices. However, whether this is done consciously or unconsciously and to what extent is hard to establish from the translators’ comments alone.

Finally, the power dynamic between the translators and their superiors seems to be affected by the nationality of the translator. It can be inferred that a Kuwaiti would have more freedom to argue a point of view compared to a non-Kuwaiti, which could be detrimental to the translation.

6.3.7 Results of the Interview Analysis

The previous analysis of the interviews with the translators from four Kuwaiti political news translation institutions presented several findings. These findings shed light on various aspects of the translation process. Moreover, the interviews provided insight into the translators' mentalities, approaches, and views on the translation process. The data from the interviews also provided additional information on how the institutions process and produce translations. These findings can be broken down into three main types: text selection, translation process, and special institutional features.

Firstly, the interviews provided insight into how texts are being chosen at the four institutions. The translators' remarks illustrated the importance of supervisory individuals who are, in some cases, responsible for choosing the news items to be translated. This is especially the case for the private sector institutions (*Arab Times*, *Kuwait Times*), as the data showcased. Similarly, translators at the governmental Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) also receive their translation tasks from their supervisors (also known as *shift leaders*). Otherwise, the KUNA translators get their tasks through a distributed list containing news items to be translated. This list is mostly based on the already published Arabic news on KUNA's website. The Ministry of Information (MOI) differs in its text selection. The MOI gets some of their news items from the previously discussed Amiri Diwan (section 6.3.3) as well as other government bodies. In addition, the MOI also selects texts based on urgency such as official emergency

announcements. Still, translators from all four institutions sometimes choose their own STs when they translate, although this does not seem to be the norm.

The task of selecting a text to be translated can be regarded as one of the first steps in the circulation of political views, individual or institutional. An example that might illustrate this was seen from a KUNA interviewee. The interviewee (Participant 2) stated: “My field is politics. I translate from foreign newspapers and magazines. I choose the articles concerned with Kuwait, the Gulf and Arabic states”. This means that selecting a news item or an already published ST to be translated references the boundaries of individual/collective influence on the translation. The text selection also defines the context of the translated news. Therefore, understanding this stage of the translation process is essential, specifically in two respects. The first is for the critical discourse analysis of the translations, as it incorporates the context in which the texts were produced in the analysis model. The second matter is to develop an understanding of the relevant news institution’s translation process. In turn, this should also illustrate the extent of the translators’ role in these institutions. Furthermore, there are cases where the translator chooses which STs or news items to translate. In essence, this gives the translator the ability to choose an ST or news event that contains views in line with those of the translator or the institution. One example of this is choosing to translate news concerning the Yemeni conflict from Saudi news outlets rather than Yemeni ones, which might be controlled by the Houthi militia. In this example, Kuwait is part of the Arab coalition participating in the Yemeni conflict against the Houthi forces, so it is more than likely that Kuwait-based news institutions would choose news sources in line with Kuwait’s political views.

Secondly, the translation process of the four news institutions was further examined through the interviews. This further examination resulted in understanding

how translation tasks are processed in Kuwaiti news translation institutions. This also provided a deeper understanding of each institution's role. For example, the news item's importance/urgency is dictated by the translators' superiors in all institutions except for the *Arab Times'* newspaper. In this case, the translation team's senior translator sometimes specifies the news item's importance/urgency for its translation. The translation process and each institution's role can both be considered external factors that influence a news item's translation and framing. Therefore, the previous interviews can be seen as one of the CDA model's backbones, especially the remarks regarding the translation process.

Thirdly, the analysis of the interviews resulted in observing special features of the four studied news translation institutions. These features varied from one institution to the other. For example, it was observed that the MOI uses its translations in daily newscasts. In addition, the MOI seems to be more influenced by the government's policy and the Amiri Diwan compared to the other three institutions. Another example is KUNA's international level of operation compared to the rest, which are mainly focused on local/regional affairs. One more example can be seen in the *Kuwait Times* newspaper, which provides its translators with the ability to write and express their opinions in articles published by the newspaper.

These special features and characteristics illustrate how translation institutions tackling the same type of translation can have different external factors at play. Moreover, these differences, while variable in extent and effect, seem to influence the translation process and product. One example of how news translation can be influenced by an institution's special features is if an ST of international interest might be approached more seriously by KUNA compared to the other three institutions. This is due to KUNA being the most internationally prominent of the four institutions.

Therefore, their readership would likely be interested in such international affairs. In comparison, the other three locally oriented institutions would briefly translate a news item of international context.

The collected data from the interviews also showcased how most of the interviewed translators argued that social attributes do not affect their translation practice. This was seemingly due to three factors: institutional guidelines, irrelevancy, and professionalism. The factors are either personal or institutional. However, this could also be due to the wording of the interview's question.

First, translators argued that due to the institution's translation guidelines, they did not have the authority to influence their translations based on personal social attributes. For example, in the *Kuwait Times,* translators were forbidden to express their opinions, but were still given the option to write their own articles to do so. This factor originates at the institutional level.

Second, some of the interviewed translators argued that such personal social attributes should not influence their translations as they are irrelevant. Participants citing irrelevancy view personal social attributes as having no effects whatsoever on their work as they are irrelevant to the translation process and product. This irrelevancy factor can be seen as one originating from the individual level.

Third, it seems that some of the interviewed translators believed that it would be unprofessional to influence the translation based on personal social attributes. This means that the professionalism factor also originates at the individual level. However, these arguments should not be taken at face value, as the interviewed translators might have simply given what they believed to be the *correct* answer to the questions. This is one of the limitations of using interviews as a research method, as was discussed in section (4.6.2).

As these above results and findings indicated, the interview phase of this project is essential to establishing the necessary context for analysing the translated items from the four studied institutions. In addition, these interviews illustrated elements and factors that are incorporated next in the critical discourse analysis model used to analyse translations produced by these four institutions.

This concludes the analysis of the interviews with the translators from the four news institutions studied for this research project. However, to add to the overall understanding of how translation is practiced in these institutions, the next dataset analyses the translation products of these four institutions.

6.4 Textual Data Analysis

This section presents the analysis of texts obtained from the four news institutions. The used analysis model is that of Fairclough's CDA relations model (see section 3.8 and section 4.3.2.2). The analysed texts differ in their general nature based on each institution's different method of translating political items.

Five translated texts from each institution are presented here in the analysis. Even though a larger number of analysed texts would have been favourable, the choice to limit the number to five per institution was made. This rationale behind this is due to the length of the analysis and space constraints of this research project. The data analysis includes a CDA of ten source texts that were possible to obtain (five for KUNA and five for the *Arab Times* newspaper). This analysis was made in addition to the analysis of their respected translated texts.

First, the MOI texts are translations that are used in teleprompters and read by news presenters. The translations originated from the political news translation department at the MOI. Due to how the department operates, the translations did not

have STs to compare them to. This is important since the translation department writes/translates their news items based on many sources as well as verbal orders.

Second, KUNA's translations are of a different yet typical nature. The KUNA texts are short news briefs and often only one paragraph long, originating from the KUNA English translation desk. Since KUNA publishes their news online in both English and Arabic, STs of the translations were available for comparison.

Third, the texts from the *Arab Times* newspaper are of political articles. The translations' length differs due to each ST's length. Also, they were translated by the *Arab Times'* translation team. The STs were also obtained from their original open-source publications to compare them to the TTs for the text analysis. Although there were also news texts available for analysis, such as the news headlines on the newspaper, they were not used here, as their STs (if they exist) were not available for comparison.

Fourth, like the *Arab Times*, the *Kuwait Times* newspaper's texts were also political articles. Therefore, their length was also inconsistent due to their differing STs. The texts were translated by the translation team at the *Kuwait Times*. The STs were also obtained from their open-source original publications for comparison and textual analysis.

The structure of the analysis is presented in two parts. First, the ST (if available) is presented with a concise analysis of its themes, linguistic features, discursive features, and outside factors. This analysis approach is meant to represent the three levels of the relational model (internal, intermediate, external). Second, the translation is presented with a text analysis based on Fairclough's relational model.

Lexical, syntactical, and textual elements are analysed first, as well as any linguistic features as part of the internal level. This is then followed by the intermediate

analysis, which pertains to how the political discourse in the text might relate to different discourses or the ST. Here, the ST and TT comparison can also be integrated at this level. Next, the external level analyses outside factors, including the aforementioned social attributes such as an individual's social background, nationality, and religion. Also, the theme of the text and the work environment are included in this external level. Furthermore, additional remarks and notes are presented throughout the analysis structure as needed.

Using data from previous analyses of the interviews and the distributed questionnaires, it was possible to elicit some outside factors pertaining to the external level analysis. As Saldanha and O'Brien (2014, p.66) argued, collecting as much data as possible during research could prove insightful later on in the research as more data could contextualise the analysis. this is especially the case with CDA as it considers external factors in the data analysis So, knowledge from the previous data sets analyses was used in this section to further inform it. This knowledge mainly relates to the work environment and the translators' roles, tasks, and general political news translation approaches. Therefore, certain parts of the upcoming analyses rely on previous analyses.

6.4.1 Ministry of Information Text Analysis

The texts obtained from the Ministry of Information's news translation department consisted of two types of news. First was the 1pm and 7pm news broadcast segments on Kuwait Television's Channel 2 (the exclusively English language channel, commonly abbreviated as KTV2). These were detailed texts starting with the date, names of the news presenters, and a brief greeting. This is then

followed by the news headlines, sections for each news item, and even the pauses between the news items[72].

This structure is used as the texts are inserted into a teleprompter to be read by the news presenters. In fact, each news item section starts with the name of the presenter tasked with reading the section. Based on the previous analysis in section 6.3.3 it is safe to assume the individual who inserts the texts into the teleprompter is also a translator/super-imposer[73]. Second, there were also texts for the 11am and 11pm news broadcasts. These two segments are markedly shorter than the previous two. This is mainly due to KTV2's programmes schedule. Also, the viewer count is generally lower around 11am and 11pm, so a brief news broadcast seems to be preferred.

Therefore, the choice was made to opt to analyse the first type of texts, as they are more detailed and provided a better structure for the analysis. Since the texts from the MOI do not have STs to compare them to, the texts were analysed individually without the comparison element.

The first text is an excerpt from a 1pm news broadcast about the release of a Saudi prisoner of war:

Presented by: Cindus on 30/01/2019
News item Headline Yemen's Houthi militia releases Saudi prisoner Mousa Awaji on humanitarian grounds.
Saudi prisoner Mousa Awaji was released by Yemen's Houthi militia on humanitarian grounds flying back on a Red Cross plane from Sanaa to King Salman Airbase in Riyadh as part of a prisoner swap between the country's warring parties. Spokesperson of the Joint Command of the Coalition to Restore Legitimacy in Yemen Colonel Turki Al-Malki said the coalition managed, in

[72] The complete news broadcast texts can be found in Appendix V.

[73] For example, Participant 11 is one such individual.

collaboration with the Special Envoy of the U.N. Secretary General for Yemen, to retrieve a Saudi Prisoner of War from the Houthi militia.

The United Nations special envoy to Yemen, Martin Griffiths, welcomed the release saying he hoped to see more similar humanitarian gestures from the parties and looked forward to the implementation of the prisoner exchange agreement.

Text 1. Translated text 1 collected from the Ministry of Information

First, the text's linguistic features, representing the internal relations level, provide a few interesting points. The use of *Houthi* as a descriptor for the *Yemeni militia* in this context illustrates the specific party in question. Also, the use of the official title "Spokesperson of the Joint Command of the Coalition to Restore Legitimacy in Yemen" indicates the political stance of Kuwait in this affair as an ally of Saudi Arabia. It can be presumed that this translation decision is influenced by the fact that the MOI is a governmental body that is representative of Kuwait. For instance, if the text simply named the Saudi colonel *Turki Al-Malki* as a Saudi spokesperson, then Kuwait's political stance on the matter would be ambiguous. However, as the previous analyses demonstrated, MOI translators generally reflect Kuwait's political views in their texts.

Furthermore, stating the name of the Saudi prisoner and citing "humanitarian grounds" as the basis for the release can be argued to be reflective of the Kuwaiti stance in this political context. This is also alluded to by stating that a Red Cross plane carried out the transfer procedure. Here, using connotations can be seen as a method of text framing that results in producing a translation reflective of the state's views in this context. For example, citing the UN's special envoy to Yemen is one possible case. Since the UN is generally viewed by the international community as an independent peace-seeking organization, the reader/viewer could draw certain political implications. In addition, relations between words in the texts could allude to more insinuations—for example, the use of *"*warring*"* to describe the Yemeni opposing factions by the translator. In comparison, the UN envoy simply stated: "the parties".

So, the translator added an extra adjective. The use of the adjective “warring” might have been intended to inform unaware viewers of the context of the Yemeni affairs, or it might have been used to show the chaotic nature of the internal conflict in Yemen. This then implies that the Saudi-led coalition aims to *restore legitimacy* in Yemen.

Second, the intermediate level reveals some general elements of the text. The text is of a political news genre that contains some paraphrasing of official statements, as was seen above. So, the discourse of the text is political and involves three concerned parties: the Saudi-led coalition represented by colonel Al-Malki, the Yemen’s Houthi militia forces, and the UN represented by their Yemen special envoy. As can be seen, only the Houthi party was not represented by a person of interest in this text, which dehumanises the Houthi party. Other parties are also presented in the text, including the Saudi prisoner Awaji and the Red Cross organization. The text is presumably based on the current news at the time, so it is possible that its translator was tasked with reporting this news in this form. Based on the previous analysis of the MOI’s translation process, it can be assumed the translator received the task either verbally from a superior or through daily task handouts.

Third, the external level presented the possible external factors affecting the text. This is arguably the most complicated level, as it is hard to discern accurately which factors truly affected the text’s production. However, the previous analyses were used as a basis to argue for some of these external factors. For example, the percentage of Kuwaitis at the MOI is high (86%), so it is likely that the translator of this text is Kuwaiti. Some of the interviewed translators alluded to a sense of nationalism/patriotism during the analysis of their questionnaire answers (for example, Participants 20 and 23) and their interviews (for example, Participant 2). Therefore, it

is possible the translator is Kuwaiti and is trying to present Kuwait's political views in the translation.

Data from the interviews pointed out that the MOI's translations are representative of its political views (for example, Participant 2). Also, as was stated before, as a government body the MOI's practice must correctly reflect Kuwait's political views. In this specific conflict, Kuwait is part of the Saudi-led intervention in Yemen. So, if this were a case of presenting opposing sides, then Kuwait and the coalition would be opposite of the Houthi militia. In essence, this would make the news broadcast imply a *good versus evil* translation, in which the coalition saved a prisoner of war on "humanitarian grounds*"* with the UN's blessing. This translation would therefore be affected by collective influence from the state's political agenda and, by extension, the state institution producing it.

To summarise, the text seems to be reflective of Kuwait's political stance in the Yemen conflict both on the internal and intermediate levels. Furthermore, the external level also seems to indicate that news translations are affected by collective influence more than individual influence.

Next, the text is from a 1pm news broadcast regarding a drone strike by Houthi forces on soldiers of the Yemeni National Army. In addition, ceasefire talks are also reported in this news broadcast.

Presented by: Abdul on 10/01/2019
News item Headline UN hails advancement towards peace in Yemen, as the ceasefire in the port city of Hodeidah is improving.
In the latest development in Yemen, Houthi militias launched an attack targeting a military parade by the Yemeni National Army, killing five soldiers. The Houthis used a drone to attack the parade taking place in Al-Anad military base in Lahaj province.

In another development, UN senior officials said security is improving in Yemen after the Hodeidah ceasefire, despite the persistence of the humanitarian crisis.

Officials said Yemen is advancing towards peace, as ceasefire in the Red Sea port city of Hodeidah and other key ports holds.

Additionally, the rapid deployment of a United Nations advance monitoring team in Hodeidah is a clear signal of the international community's desire to turn the Stockholm Agreement[74] into facts on the ground.

The UN officials also welcomed steps taken towards establishing a joint committee for Taiz that hopefully will meet soon to agree on a peaceful way forward.

Text 2. Translated text 2 collected from the Ministry of Information

The internal relations level analysis showed similar results as that of the previous text. As both texts relate to the Yemeni situation, their general linguistic features are similar. First, the use of "Houthi militias" and "Houthis" in juxtaposition to the more official designation "Yemeni National Army" frames the conflict as one between a legitimate versus an illegitimate entity. The use of these designations implies that Houthis are insurgents, while the Yemeni National Army is the legitimate party in this conflict. Moreover, the use of "parade" implies a peaceful demonstration. This use of the correct terminology is imperative, especially in a context involving military jargon. The interviewed MOI translator (Participant 9) corroborated this when they compared "convoy*"* to "motorcade*"*.

The incident cited by the participant at the time was regarding the visit of Saudi King Salman to Kuwait and the *mistranslation* in using *convoy*. As a longstanding ally of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia's King Salman was to be presented in the text accordingly and with the correct terminology, so the participant urged the translation team at the time

[74] The Stockholm Agreement is an accord between the warring parties in Yemen to reach a ceasefire. It also included a prisoner-exchange mechanism between the parties. Source: Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen at: https://osesgy.unmissions.org/stockholm-agreement

to use “motorcade” instead. As a result, it can be safely assumed that texts published by the MOI are careful in their usage of specific terms and their connotations. In the context of this news broadcast, the word “parade” arguably has positive connotations like being festive and public. In turn, it implies that the party conducting this action is legitimate and representative of the state. This is also indicated by the location of the parade on a known military base in Yemen. Furthermore, the reporting of the “drone attack” and how it killed “five soldiers” also continues the framing of the news translation. For instance, the use of an unmanned “drone” as representative of the Houthi party in sharp contrast to the five killed “soldiers” as representative of the Yemeni Army.

The intermediate relations level analysis presents some of this excerpt’s textual elements. For example, the parties involved are first represented in words by “Houthis” and “militias”. Second is the Yemeni government represented by “National Army”. Third is the United Nations represented by unnamed senior officials. The text’s political nature means these parties are likely deliberately represented in this specific manner. A statement from an MOI participant alluded to this (Participant 1) stating that as MOI translators, they should use specific terms when dealing with unstable governments or warring parties. The example Participant 1 used at the time was Syria and how they cannot write the Syrian “government” but have to write the Syrian “regime”. In contrast, the text here contains the use of “National Army” as representative of the Yemeni government. So, it is safe to assume this decision was made to reflect the political views of Kuwait.

The external relations level analysis seems to support these previous assumptions because Kuwait is part of the coalition participating in the Yemeni conflict against the *Houthi* party. Therefore, it is understandable that news published on the

state Kuwait Television Channel 2 would undermine the Houthi party with terms such as “Houthis” and “militias”. This formulation of news text as written by the translator frames news of the Yemen conflict in a manner supportive of Kuwait’s stance.

The presented news would arguably be seen as the following: *Houthi* forces are insurgents launching drone strikes on festive parades conducted by the legitimate military force in Yemen. Therefore, the operation conducted by the coalition to oust this criminal party is righteous. So, it is apparent that the translation and publication of this political event is being framed in a manner supportive of the Kuwaiti policy relating to the Yemeni situation.

As the three levels of analysis indicated, this text presents Kuwait’s political views within a frame similar to that of the previous texts so it can be assumed that texts dealing with Yemen and the *Houthi* forces are translated in the same manner at the MOI. Moreover, the relations between text elements from the three analysis levels are in line and indicate the same findings.

Next, the third text excerpt is from a 1pm news broadcast about Israelis opening fire during a Palestinian demonstration.

Presented by: Dina on 26/01/2019
News item Headline Israeli forces kill two Palestinians and injure others in the weekly demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip
Israeli forces opened fire on two Palestinian teens northeast of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, killing one on the spot and injuring the other. Earlier in Gaza, the Palestinian Health Ministry stated that a Palestinian died of his wounds sustained from Israeli gunfire on the eastern borders of the Gaza Strip, where he was participating in the Friday's March of Return demonstration. The clashes between the demonstrators and the occupation forces injured more than 25 people, including 14 children. Israeli occupation forces attacked ambulances with tear gas bombs, causing injuries to six paramedics and a journalist.

Text 3. Translated text 3 collected from the Ministry of Information

First, the linguistic features of the text indicate some important contextual information. For example, on the lexical/semantic level, the use of the adjective "occupied" clearly shows that this text is opposed to Israel. This is in line with Kuwait's political position in the Palestine-Israel conflict. This is then further corroborated by the usage of "occupation forces" as the designation for the Israeli forces. In contrast, the use of the official designation for the "Palestinian Health Ministry" also implies the political stance. On the syntactical level, the use of complex sentences to provide additional information is also apparent. For example, "[…] killing one on the spot […]" and "[…] including 14 children.*"* Although such a style of writing is arguably common in news reporting, its use here presents information in line with Kuwait's position as an ally of the Palestinian cause. This can indicate the use of this type of news broadcasts as news translations for events that demonstrate the state's political stance.

Second, the discursive features of the text at the intermediate level present the type of text as political. The general features of a political discourse, as Kenzhekanova (2015) argued, include *intentionality* and *estimation*. These can be seen as the writer/translator's goal and the manner used to achieve this goal.

On the one hand, *intentionality* is concerned with the writer's intent as indicated by the text. In this case, it can be argued that the translator is trying to show support for the Palestinian cause based on the source material or translation task. Whether this intention is personal or based on the MOI's political agenda, it still falls into Karasik's two main types of political discourse (2016). The first is the personal-oriented discourse, in which the individual writing the text has the most agency or ability to influence the text. The second type is the institutional-oriented political discourse, in which the writer is an individual representative of an institution. Here, the translator

abides by the institution's protocols and its political views rather than presenting personal opinions.

On the other hand, *estimation* is the manner of describing a phenomenon or political event to influence the recipient's views. The text above presents the event in an opposing manner to the Israelis' forces. The text also demonstrates the clearly negative actions by these forces. Therefore, it seems that the findings of the intermediate level analysis are in line with those of the internal analysis.

Third, the external factors affecting the text are close to the previous text's factors. For example, Kuwait as a state is still boycotting the Israeli state and is opposed to the normalization of political relations with Israel, so the MOI's news broadcasts would most likely reflect that. Moreover, the framing of this news is arguably in line with Kuwaiti society's views and those of Muslim states in general, which are opposed to Israel's occupation of Palestine[75]. So, the translator in this case would be free to influence the translation in an opposite manner to Israel. This is due to the likelihood that both collectives of the institution and the Kuwaiti society would be opposing Israel. Furthermore, historically Kuwait has taken part in the 1973 Arab-Israel conflict and even emphasizes that fact in the news to show its condemnation of the Israeli occupation[76]. Therefore, it is safe to assume that such external factors have affected this text's formation.

In essence, the text reflects Kuwait's political stance in the context of the Palestine-Israel conflict. Therefore, the collective Influence manifested in the condemnation of Israeli actions can be observed here. This is based on the analysis of the three relations levels.

[75] This is in addition to Pan-Arab solidarity with Palestine.

[76] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2749849&Language=en

The next text excerpt is from a 1pm news broadcast. Like the previous text, this one also concerns Israelis opening fire on demonstrating Palestinians.

Presented by: Hamad on 19/01/2019
News item Headline Israeli Occupation forces open fire on demonstrations at the eastern borders of the Gaza Strip, injuring 30 Palestinians.
Thirty Palestinians were injured when Israeli occupation forces opened fire on demonstrations at the eastern borders of the Gaza Strip yesterday. Palestinian Health Ministry Spokesperson Dr. Ashraf Al-Qudra stated that 30 Palestinians, including three paramedics and two journalists, were hit by live bullets and were rushed to hospitals for treatment. Thousands of Palestinians took part in the March of Return, the 43rd to be held at the eastern borders of Gaza Strip, amidst Israeli gunfire. The higher authority for the March of Return stated that the demonstrations would continue until they achieve their objectives, lifting the Israeli siege on the Gaza Strip and returning to the lands occupied by the Israelis in 1948. Israeli occupation forces attacked ambulances with tear gas bombs, injuring six paramedics and a journalist.

Text 4. Translated text 4 collected from the Ministry of Information

The internal level of the text contains linguistic elements indicating the views of the MOI. This text also uses "occupation" as a designating adjective of the Israeli force, just as in the previous text. Moreover, the use of the official name of the Palestinian demonstration "March of Return*"* also uses supportive language for the Palestinian demonstrations. Additionally, using the official statement of the Palestinian Health Ministry spokesperson in the news broadcast is another sign of support. This is especially the case since no Israeli statement was used in the broadcast. This in turn presents the news as Israeli aggression against Palestinian demonstrators. Moreover, this news of aggression is further implied when even "journalists" and "paramedics" are "hit by live bullets." In addition, the use of the phrases "the Israeli siege" and "the lands occupied by the Israelis in 1948" implies that Palestine is a state unrightfully occupied by *aggressive* Israeli forces.

Also, the conclusion of the broadcast supports this argument by adding that *"*the Israeli occupation forces attacked ambulances." Baker argued that translation is essential in the circulation of narratives (2006, p. 2). This text as well as the previous one can be seen as examples of the circulation of a *public* narrative of Israeli aggression against Palestinian civilians. This conclusion also affirms the collective political view of the Kuwaiti society/state as one in opposition of Israel. This can be argued based on the previous data analysis of the MOI translation environment. It indicated that the translators should represent Kuwait's political views and that their translations are often reflective of these views. The translators help in circulating this narrative, as it is in line with Kuwait's political stance.

The intermediate level showcased the discursive features of the text. Based on these features, the text is clearly a piece of political discourse. The news headline demonstrated the main features contained in this discourse, as it showed Israel as an occupying force and Palestinian demonstrators being injured. The theme presented within the news text itself also supports the headline. The political nature and representation of Palestine and Israel as part of the text's theme imply the previous narrative as one of opposites. This implication serves to connect linguistic features and upcoming external factors. In addition, the biased nature of this political discourse against the Israelis in the translation indicates the oppositional nature of the external factors affecting its production.

The external level elements of the text include socio-political aspects related to the text. For example, the translation environment in which the text was produced is representative of Kuwaiti foreign policy, so the use of designations like "Israeli occupation forces*"* is in line with Kuwait's policy. Additionally, as was the case with the

previous text, this text also presents the news as a condemnation of Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands.

As was previously confirmed, the MOI translators generally receive their translation tasks either from within the institution (Head of Department, MOI Arabic News), or the Amiri Diwan. Both sources are official governmental bodies. Therefore, it is likely they would choose to translate/report news supportive of Kuwait's policy. Consequently, the rationale behind political text selection and translation tasks indicate what news can be seen as supportive of the state's policy. Realistically, this is not always the case, since not all political news stories contain or allude to the state's political agenda.

Finally, it seems that the text shares many of the discursive features, relations, and linguistic elements with the previous text. Both texts are similar in their context and concerned parties, so it is apparent these features were not coincidentally shared. Therefore, it is likely that other news broadcasts related to the Palestine-Israel conflict would contain similar findings.

The final text is from a 1pm news broadcast. The text is about a suicide bomber in Kashmir and rising tensions between India and Pakistan. The Indo-Pakistani conflict over Kashmir is still ongoing, as border disputes are still unsettled.

Presented by: Dina on 15/02/2019
News item Headline Security tightens in Kashmir a day after a suicide bomber rammed a car into a bus, killing 44 and raising tensions with arch foe Pakistan.
Security is tight in Kashmir today, a day after a suicide bomber rammed a car into a bus carrying Indian paramilitary police, killing 44 of them and raising tensions with arch foe Pakistan. The Pakistan-based extremist militant group "JeM"[77] claimed responsibility for the attack.

[77] Abbreviation of Jaish-e-Muhammad, which means Army of Muhammad. Source: United States' National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) at: https://www.dni.gov/nctc/groups/jem.html

The Indian government accused Pakistan of letting militant groups operate from its soil and called on it to take action. Islamabad said it rejected the suggestion it was linked to the attack.

Text 5. Translated text 5 collected from the Ministry of Information

First, the text contains some lexical items that indicate specific framing within the text. For example, describing the JeM group as an “extremist militant group” indicates Kuwait’s stance against terrorism. Furthermore, stating that the group is “Pakistani-based” can be perceived as a subtextual allegation against the Pakistani government. In addition, the news headline contains the use of “arch foe*”,* which frames this event as one between opposites. Therefore, the event would probably be perceived by viewers as part of the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

At the intermediate level, the text presents a political discourse of tension and conflict. The representation of India by using “government” while Pakistan is represented by the metonymic “Islamabad” can indicate a skewed positioning of the two governments. However, this style of writing is common in political texts, so it is hard to confirm whether this is intentional or just a translator’s style of writing. Also, the text primarily focuses on the Indian side of the event and its accusation of the Pakistani government. On the one hand, the Pakistani government is only mentioned regarding its rejection statement. On the other hand, the JeM is mentioned only in relation to their statement claiming responsibility for the bombing.

The external level provides more insight into the context of the text and how it relates to the policy of Kuwait with respect to India and Pakistan. The current political relations between Kuwait, as well as the Gulf countries in general, and the two countries of India and Pakistan are based on shared economic interests (Ahmed & Bhatnagar, 2010). So, intervening in the Kashmir conflict by siding with one country or

the other could be detrimental to Kuwaiti interests. As a result, the text does not clearly show Kuwait favouring one of the two countries in this text. However, the text does acknowledge this conflict and shows an implicit Indian bias. The MOI, which is a governmental institution reflective of Kuwait, is standing by Kuwait's foreign policy and thus avoiding condemning one side or the other in reporting this event. In comparison, the previous texts' analysis showed clear condemnation of Israeli as well as Houthi actions. Obviously, this condemnation is in line with the Kuwaiti stance against both Israeli and Houthi forces.

The analysis of this text showed how the relations levels analysis helped in understanding the rationale behind some of the text's different elements. Moreover, the analysis presented external factors affecting the presentation of this event in the news. The five previous texts showed how critical discourse analysis provides an insight into translated news and the factors affecting it on different levels. Furthermore, consideration of external factors seems important, as they provide the necessary social/political context of the discourse.

The knowledge gained from previous datasets (interviews and questionnaires) analyses helped in formulating an understanding of the translation environment in which these texts were produced, which in turn helped analyse these texts. This concludes the discourse analysis on translations produced and published by the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information.

6.4.2 Kuwait News Agency Texts Analysis

The texts collected from KUNA consist of five English translations and their Arabic source texts. These texts are news briefs published online on KUNA's website. It is worth noting that the KUNA website is available in both English and Arabic, so the

institution likely targets not only a local readership, but also an international one in addition to non-Arabs in Kuwait and the region. As a result, it can be said that the readership of the TTs differs from that of the STs.

The text's nature as news briefs means their general length is relatively short. Also, they are published alongside their Arabic STs, so they are accessible for textual comparison. Each text is titled and includes its publication date as well as the news genre of the text (politics, economics, sports, etc.). As was stated previously, the analysis structure presents the ST first with a concise analysis of its textual elements. Then, the TT is analysed using the CDA relations model. The two texts are compared across the three levels of relations analysis.

The first text from KUNA is a news report on the death of 267 Palestinians at the hands of Israeli forces. The following is the Arabic news report:

Arabic News item Headline: مركز حقوقي: استشهاد 267 فلسطينيا منذ بدء مسيرة العودة وكسر الحصار 23/02/2019
كشف مركز (الميزان) لحقوق الانسان في غزة اليوم الجمعة عن أن عدد الشهداء الفلسطينيين منذ بدء مسيرة العودة وكسر الحصار في 30 مارس من العام الماضي بلغ 267 شهيدا فيما وصل عدد المصابين الى 14673 مصابا. وقال المركز في بيان صحفي عقب المسيرات التي شهدتها الحدود الشرقية لقطاع غزة في يوم الجمعة الثامن والأربعين إن قوات الاحتلال قتلت 267 فلسطينيا منذ بدء المسيرة من بينهم 11 شهيدا تواصل سلطات الاحتلال احتجاز جثامينهم فيما أصيب 14673 شخصا بينهم أطفال ونساء ومسعفون وصحفيون وفئات عمرية مختلفة. وأضاف ان من بين الشهداء تم تسجيل استشهاد 43 طفلا وسيدتين إضافة الى ثمانية أشخاص من ذوي الإعاقة وثلاثة مسعفين وصحفيين اثنين. وحول الإصابات أوضح أنه منذ بدء المسيرات تم توثيق إصابة 14673 من بينهم 3128 طفلا و653 سيدة الى جانب 171 مسعفا و148 صحفيا. وأعرب عن استنكاره الشديد لسلوك قوات الاحتلال واستهدافها المشاركين في مسيرات العودة السلمية ولا سيما الأطفال والنساء وتكرار استهداف العاملين في الطواقم الطبية والصحفيين "رغم وضوح شاراتهم المميزة" وتعمدها إيقاع الأذى بالمدنيين دون اكتراث بقواعد القانون الدولي الإنساني ومبادئ القانون الدولي لحقوق الإنسان. وأكد أن استمرار صمت المجتمع الدولي وتحلله من التزاماته القانونية الناشئة عن اتفاقية (جنيف) الرابعة وتجاهل انتهاكات قواعد القانون الدولي الإنساني والقانون الدولي لحقوق الإنسان والتي ترتكبها قوات الاحتلال بحق السكان في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة شكل عامل تشجيع على مواصلة أعمال القتل دون أي خشية من الملاحقة. ودعا المركز المجتمع الدولي الى التحرك العاجل لوقف الانتهاكات الجسيمة والمنظمة التي ترتكبها قوات الاحتلال الإسرائيلي والعمل الفوري على إنهاء الحصانة التي تتمتع بها قواتها وقادتها وملاحقة كل من يشتبه في ضلوعه بأي من الانتهاكات الجسيمة كسبيل وحيد لضمان احترام قواعد القانون الدولي وتحقيق العدالة في هذه المنطقة من العالم. وشدد على الضرورة الملحة لإنهاء الحصار المفروض على قطاع غزة كونه يشكل انتهاكا جسيما لقواعد القانون الدولي معتبرا أنه يدفع إلى استمرار تدهور الأوضاع الإنسانية وحالة حقوق الإنسان. من جهتها أكدت اللجنة القانونية والتواصل الدولية للهيئة الوطنية العليا لمسيرات العودة وكسر الحصار في بيان صحفي أن مسيرات العودة وما يتخللها من فعاليات شعبية كانت ولا تزال تحافظ على نهجها السلمي في المقابل واجهتها قوات الاحتلال الإسرائيلي باستخدام القوة القاتلة في حالة استعلاء واستخفاف إسرائيلي بمنظومة القانون الدولي. وشددت اللجنة على عزمها المضي في العمل مع وإلى جوار المنظمات الدولية كافة من أجل ضمان محاسبة مجرمي الحرب الإسرائيليين على جرائمهم المرتكبة بحق المتظاهرين الفلسطينيين بما في ذلك استمرار متابعتها للبلاغ المقدم الى مكتب المدعية العامة لدى المحكمة الجنائية الدولية بالوقائع حول جرائم الاحتلال بحق المتظاهرين وكذلك استمرار متابعة عمل اللجنة الدولية لتقصي الحقائق التي عرقل ورفض الاحتلال وصولها إلى قطاع غزة. ودعت اللجنة القيادة الفلسطينية لإحالة جرائم الاحتلال بحق المتظاهرين سلميا في مسيرات العودة وكافة الملفات إلى المحكمة الجنائية الدولية الدائمة وذلك بموجب المادة 14 من ميثاق (روما) وعدم الاكتفاء بإحالة ملف الاستيطان فقط لضمان عدم افلات المجرمين الإسرائيليين من العقاب. وطالبت المجتمع الدولي والمنظمات الدولية وحركات التضامن مع الشعب الفلسطيني والفلسطينيين في كافة التجمعات للتحرك على كل الأصعدة القانونية والسياسية والدبلوماسية والحقوقية والشعبية من أجل مساءلة ومحاسبة ومقاطعة وعزل دولة الاحتلال الإسرائيلي وتوفير الحماية الدولية للفلسطينيين ووقف التصعيد الإسرائيلي والحصار والعدوان على قطاع غزة وحماية المتظاهرين سلميا في مسيرات العودة وكسر الحصار. (النهاية) و ا ب / ر ج

Text 6. Source text 1 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [78]

[78] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2779089

English News item Headline:
Israeli forces kill 267 Palestinians since protests began March 18 - group 23/02/2019
GAZA, Feb 22 (KUNA) -- Israeli forces have killed 267 Palestinians and injured some 14,673 others since the March of Return that the Palestinians launched last March, a human rights group said Friday. Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights in a press release following another march at Gaza's eastern borders today, said occupation forces killed 267 Palestinians, with 11 bodies still held by the Israeli authorities. Among the dead were 43 children, two women, eight disabled persons, three paramedics and two journalists, it added. The center strongly criticized the Israeli forces' attacks on the peaceful demonstrators, namely children and women, indeed turning a blind eye to international law and international human rights law. The international community's lack of action, it added, encouraged the Israeli forces to continue their attacks. The center called on the importance of lifting the Israeli siege on the Gaza Strip because it was a violation of international law. Meanwhile, the authority supervising the weekly March of Return said the peaceful demonstrators would continue in the face of Israeli lethal use of force. It urged the international community and global organizations to provide protection for the Palestinian people. (end) wab.bs

Text 7. Translated text 1 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [79]

The ST Arabic news report contains lexical choices that clearly present the text in a pro-Palestinian light. An example of this is the use of "استشهاد" ʾstshādu in the headline, which when literally translated into English is *martyrdom*. In addition, the use of "قوات الاحتلال الإسرائيلي" qwātu al-ʾiḥtlāli al-ʾisrāʾīlī, which literally means *Israeli occupation forces,* also illustrates a pro-Palestinian news reporting practice.

In general, the text demonstrates Israeli actions against Palestinian civilians and urges the international community to take a stand and boycott "دولة الاحتلال الإسرائيلي" dawlatu al-ʾiḥtlāli al-ʾisrāʾīlī, which literally translates to *Israeli occupying state*. The framing of this news report can be seen from two views: macro and micro.

[79] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2779092

On the one hand, the macro view of the news is the unjust occupation of Palestine and the continuous state of conflict. The report is clearly presented in favour of the Palestinian side in this conflict. This macro view also shows support of Palestine over a long period of time. On the other hand, the micro view being circulated here is the atrocities the Israeli forces are committing against Palestinian demonstrators. The micro view concentrates on this specific event rather than ongoing events. Understanding these aspects of the ST is essential as the present research next tackles the TT.

The TT's internal relations analysis of the text shows intriguing differences between the ST and the TT. The headline of the TT is presented differently, as the TT did not convey the meaning of *martyrdom* in the ST and instead opted for the use of "kill". The TT's headline also presented the "*Israeli forces"* as the agent of the verb kill, while the ST did not indicate the agent of the verb in its headline. Moreover, the TT opted to use "Israeli authorities*"* as a translation for "سلطات الاحتلال" sulṭātu al-ʾiḥtlāli, which literally translates to *the occupation's authorities*. These choices indicate a less obvious bias in the TT compared to the ST. The reason behind this might be due to the different target readerships of the two texts. On the one hand, the Arabic ST targets Kuwaitis, and Arabs in general. Therefore, the political stance inferred from the ST is clearly pro-Palestine, since Kuwaitis, Arabs, and Muslims in general favour the Palestinian side, so an ST that frames the news in favour of Palestine is likely. On the other hand, the TT targets non-Arabic speakers and foreigners following the news published by KUNA. So, the circulated views in the news report are in line with the Kuwaiti political stance, albeit in a less obvious manner. This is apparent in the omission of the last paragraph of the ST from the TT.

The ST's last paragraph urges solidarity of all pro-Palestine parties and the condemnation of the occupying Israeli state as well as protecting the Palestinian people. In comparison, the TT opted to convey this paragraph by simply urging the international community and global organisations to provide protection to the Palestinian people, which decision was likely influenced by the target readership of the TT. This shows the role of institutional news translation in presenting collective political views and how they might differ between an ST and its TT. Both the ST and the TT follow the general policy of Kuwait in this political context as an opponent of the Israeli occupation of Palestine. However, their presentations of these views seem to be affected by their readership.

The intermediate level analysis shows factors supportive of the internal level analysis. Textually and subtextually, the text is presented as a discourse supportive of the Palestinian cause. At the textual level, the theme of the text is violent Israeli aggression against "peaceful Palestinian demonstrators". This is also represented in the use of juxtapositions like the military "Israeli forces" and the civilian "Palestinian people". At the subtextual level, connotative meanings are presented throughout the text. Some examples of this are "use of lethal force" and "Israeli siege", both of which convey aggression and unjust occupation. In addition, mentioning the death of women, children, disabled people, paramedics, and journalists connotes violent war crimes often condemned by the international community and human rights organisations. Both textual and subtextual elements indicate that an institutional translation sourced from an ST produced by the same institution leads to similar political views in the two texts.

Finally, the external relations level analysis provided the necessary social and political context for the analysis of the text. For the ST, the social factors that might

have affected its formation mainly revolve around politics. The TT was written by KUNA translators, whom the previous quantitative analysis showed to be mostly Kuwaiti nationals (90%). Around 70% of Kuwaitis are Muslims (as shown in section 2.2). Therefore, it can be assumed that a Kuwaiti Muslim translator made this translation. In turn, the social and religious background of the translator, as well as the institution's political views, go hand-in-hand in framing the news as supportive of Arabs and Palestine. Here, external factors generally lean towards supporting Palestine. As a result, both the news and its framing in the text present Palestine as *peaceful*, while on the other hand Israel is *aggressive*.

Schäffner (2012, p. 881) argued that taking the whole framework governing a translation into account is imperative to understanding media translation. Therefore, the analysis here took social, political, linguistic, and even work environment elements into consideration to understand the TT and how its framing functions. This is in addition to comparing the text to its ST to corroborate and complement the analysis's findings.

The second text is similar in context to the previous one. The text is a news report about a speech given by Kuwait's Amir Sabah Al-Ahmed regarding the Palestinian Issue. This speech was given during the First Arab-European Summit in Egypt on the 24th of February 2019. The following is the ST:

Arabic News item Headline: سمو أمير البلاد: تجاهل القضية الفلسطينية تسبب في توتر واحتقان المنطقة 24/02/2019
الكويت - 24 - 2 (كونا) -- أكد سمو أمير البلاد الشيخ صباح الأحمد الجابر الصباح أن ما نراه اليوم من بؤر توتر واحتقان في منطقتنا إنما هو بسبب تجاهل القضية الفلسطينية وعدم الوصول إلى الحل العادل والشامل الذي يتطلع إليه أبناء الشعب الفلسطيني بل وأبناء الأمة العربية بأسرها. وقال سموه في كلمة الكويت أمام القمة العربية - الأوروبية الأولى التي تستضيفها مدينة شرم الشيخ المصرية اليوم الأحد إنه "برغم الدور المتميز والمتقدم للمجموعة الأوروبية حيال القضية الفلسطينية إلا أننا نتطلع إلى أن نرى تفاعلا ومبادرات أكبر وأكثر مع هذه القضية المركزية وسعيا إلى جعلها في صدارة اهتمامات المجتمع الدولي". (النهاية) م ص ع

Text 8. Source text 2 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [81]

English News item Headline: Neglecting Palestinian issue creates regional tension - His Highness Amir 24/02/2019
KUWAIT, Feb 24 (KUNA) -- His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah warned on Sunday against neglecting the Palestinian cause, which will cause only more tension in the Middle East if left unresolved. In his speech to the First Arab-European Summit, His Highness the Amir stated "What we see today as hotbeds of tension in our region is due to this issue (the Palestinian cause) being overlooked and not achieving a just and comprehensive solution that the brotherly Palestinian people and the entire Arab people look forward to." His Highness the Amir took the chance to laud the "progressive role" played by the European Community in regard to the Palestinian cause, but affirmed that the Arab world was looking forward to "seeing greater engagement and initiatives with this central issue and to make it a top priority for the international community." (end) msa.gta

Text 9. Translated text 2 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency[82]

The ST above can be summarised by stating that the Palestinian cause is at the core of the region's political instability. The text presents the role of the European Union in solving this case as a positive one, but more effort needs to be made. Analysing the discourse of this text using the relations model on the three levels provided more insight.

[81] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2779308

[82] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2779334

First, the internal level contains lexical choices that show support for the Palestinian cause. For example, the use of "أبناء الشعب الفلسطيني" ʾabnāʾu al-shʿbi al-filṣṭīnī, which literally translates to the *sons of the Palestinian people*, shows a sense of belonging and intimacy. This is especially the case because the phrase was followed by using the phrase "أبناء الأمة العربية" ʾabnāʾu al-ʾumati al-ʿarabyah, which literally translates to *sons of the Arab Ummah*[83]. The use of these two phrases suggests that the text was written with a sense of camaraderie and advocacy of the Palestinian cause.

Second, the intermediate level analysis shows how the discourse is presented textually. The representation of the Palestine-Israel conflict is made by only presenting the Palestinian side in the text. The Israeli side was not presented using any lexical items and was completely omitted from this text. In comparison, the European Union is represented here by using "المجموعة الأوروبية" al-majmuwʿatu al-ʾūrūwbyah*,* which can be literally translated into "the European group". This representation of the European Union here was probably made due to its stance in this conflict being positive towards Palestine.

Third, the external factors analysis provided political context related to this text. For example, the Kuwaiti Amir's speech is in line with Kuwait's political stance against the *normalisation* of political relations with Israel. Moreover, Kuwait is supportive of the Palestinian cause, so it is understandable that the Amir's speech at this summit would demonstrate this. In addition, mentioning the role of the European Union is also understandable, as the European Union is one of the financial assistance providers to

[83] Hassan (2006) argued that *Ummah* is often used by Arabs and Muslims in general to refer to the general community to which they belong. Its usage is commonly connotative of camaraderie and brotherhood.

Palestine[84]. Therefore, this Arabic news report seems to present a news event that is supportive of the Palestinian cause. This report presents Kuwait, the Arab world, and the European Union as advocates of the Palestinian cause. KUNA's choice to report this news item in this manner is in line with its news reporting practice as a governmental body reflective of Kuwait's political views.

Next the TT is analysed on the three levels. First, the analysis of the text's internal relations level provides examples of some linguistic choices the translator made. On the one hand, the translator opted to stress the use of the phrase *"*Palestinian cause*"* within the text. An example of this is using brackets to indicate that "issue" is referring to the *"*Palestinian cause" in the speech's quote. It is worth mentioning that the *Palestinian cause* was mentioned in the ST, so it is possible that the translator did not wish to omit it or make the text ambiguous. On the other hand, the translator opted to use "brotherly Palestinian people*"*, which seems to indicate similar findings in the ST. This indicates that both the ST and the TT translate news events showing that the Palestinian people share close ties with Kuwait, as this news report on the Amir's speech seems to indicate.

Compared to the ST, the TT uses *"the entire Arab people*" instead of transliterating *Ummah* into English. This choice was most likely made to keep the TT approachable and easier to understand by the target readership, which mostly comprises non-Arabic speakers. This is one form of the domestication translation strategy. Ummah connotes Islamic unity, and its usage might thus frame a text in a religious manner, as was argued by Hassan (2006). The TT's translator made another choice different from the ST. In the quote from the Amir's speech, the translator used the "Arab world" as the agent of the phrasal verb "looking forward to". The ST had "أننا"

[84] Source: https://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/palestine/index_en.htm

ʾananā, which literally translates to “we are”. Therefore, the TT frames the speech and the text in general as a discourse in which the whole Arab world supports the Palestinian cause. As a result, political ideologies such as Arabism and Arab nationalism can be detected in this translation.

Second, the intermediate level analysis of the text shows similar findings to the ST’s analysis. The representation of the European Union was made by using “the European Community”. Both words were capitalised, so this can be seen as a proper noun indicating the official state and nature of the entity. Still, it is possible to misunderstand this phrase as one referring to the general European community, which would be more inclusive of civilians and even European countries not part of the political entity *European Union*. Subtextually, this can be understood as the entirety of Europe being supportive of Palestine in this conflict, which is likely not the case. One possible result of using “Community” in this context is framing the Palestine-Israel conflict in a biased and false manner to imply that all Arab and European nations are supportive of Palestine.

Third, the external factors analysis seems to indicate findings close to the ST’s analysis. This is due to the two texts being produced by KUNA, which means that the external factors are the same in both texts. So, political factors such as Kuwait’s views and the institution’s intent to reflect them were likely influential in the translation.

The next text is a news report about a *Houthi* attack on residential areas in Al-*Hodeidah* province. The following is the ST of this news:

Arabic News item Headline: مقتل ثلاثة اشخاص واصابة ستة اخرين في قصف شنته ميليشيات الحوثي 04/03/2019
عدن - 4 - 3 (كونا) -- قتل ثلاثة اشخاص واصيب ستة اخرون من اسرة واحدة في قصف شنته مليشيات الحوثي اليوم الاثنين على مديرية (التحيتا) جنوب محافظة (الحديدة) الساحلية على البحر الاحمر. وقال موقع (سبتمبر نت) الناطق باسم الجيش اليمني إن من بين المصابين خمسة اصيبوا بجروح خطيرة جراء "قصف عشوائي بقذائف هاون شنته ميليشيات الحوثي الانقلابية على منازل المواطنين في منطقة ((الجبلية) التابعة لمديرية (التحيتا) جنوب (الحديدة)". ويأتي هذا القصف كأحدث انتهاك لوقف اطلاق النار في (الحديدة) بين القوات الحكومة والحوثيين والذي دخل حيز التنفيذ في ال18 من ديسمبر الماضي وفقا لاتفاق (ستوكهولم). وكانت منظمة الامم المتحدة للطفولة (يونيسيف) قد اعلنت يوم السبت الماضي عن مقتل خمسة اطفال بقذائف عسكرية على حي سكني في ذات المديرية الخاضعة للقوات الحكومية.(النهاية) س م ص / ع ح

Text 10. Source text 3 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [86]

English News item Headline: Houthi attack kills three people W. Yemen - army 04/03/2019
ADEN, March 4 (KUNA) -- The Houthi militias have carried out violent and random shelling on a number of residential areas in Al-Hodeidah province in western Yemen, killing three people and wounding six others, the Yemeni army announced Monday. "Houthi insurgents shelled residential houses in Al-Mesna village of Hawk district, resulting in the full destruction of several houses and others partially," an Army spokesperson said, according to September Net website. "A number of residents of the village were displaced to other villages after their homes were damaged," said the Army. The militias shelled the Red Sea Mills in the city on Sunday, it said, adding that the shelling targeted the fuel tanks of the Mills' Company, causing severe damage to the company and its tanks. The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) announced on Saturday the death of five children by a shelling attack carried out by Houthi militias on a residential district in Al-Hodeidah. (end) sms.ma

Text 11. Translated text 3 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [87]

This news report states that three people were killed and six were injured in an attack carried out by *Houthi* militia. Later, a spokesperson for the Yemeni army gave

[86] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2780644

[87] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2780658

a statement regarding the attack on the homes of civilians. The report later added that this attack was the most recent violation of the ceasefire in Hodeida. Lastly, the news report concluded with a statement made by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) about the death of five children in the same region. The discourse analysis of the text showed some of the factors across the three levels of relations.

Firstly, the internal level analysis shows that the ST used the phrase " مليشيات الحوثي" milīshyātu al-ḥūthī, which literally translates to *Houthi militias*, to describe the Houthi forces. In contrast, the report used the official designation "الجيش اليمني" al-jayiyyshu al-yamanī, which literally translates to *the Yemeni army* for the government's forces. This implies that the Yemeni army is part of the legitimate governing body of Yemen. This is in line with politics of the officially designated *Arab coalition to restore legitimacy in Yemen* of which Kuwait is a part. The text also includes the adjective "الانقلابية" al-ʾinqilābiyatu, which literally translates to *insurgents* when referring to the Houthi forces. These lexical decisions frame the news event as showing war crimes committed by the Houthi forces in Yemen.

Secondly, the intermediate analysis shows the text as a political and humanitarian crisis discourse. Both the quotes of UNICEF's statement about the death of children and the Yemeni army spokesperson's statement regarding the attacks on civilian homes imply this discourse. Therefore, the framing of the discourse would be supportive of the previous level finding, which presents Houthi forces as insurgents and war criminals. As a result, a political agenda that stipulates fighting these Houthi forces as the way to restore peace and legitimacy in Yemen is indicated.

Thirdly, the external level analysis of the ST provides the necessary political context to understand this text. KUNA as a governmental body reports news in line

with Kuwait's political views, so a political event which puts political pressure on the *Houthi* forces, which Kuwait is taking part in fighting, is an event worth reporting. In addition, Kuwait is recognised in the international community[88] as a humanitarian state, so reporting humanitarian crises and trying to resolve them is common for Kuwaiti governmental bodies. Also, this would present Kuwait as a state that is focused on carrying out humanitarian actions for legitimate causes. This discourse analysis showed some of the intriguing aspects of the ST. Now, the TT of this ST is presented to show how translation is used as a device for political views circulation. Next the English TT published on KUNA's website is analysed.

The internal level analysis showed that the TT is overall in line with the ST's lexical choices. However, there were some additions made to the text. For example, the TT added the adjective "violent" when describing the Houthi attacks. Another addition is the following clause "full destruction of several houses and others partially". In comparison, the ST just reported the attack on the residential area without mentioning the "full" and "partial" destruction of homes. Another quote by the Yemeni army spokesperson was added in the TT that was not reported in the ST. The quote is "A number of residents of the village were displaced to other villages after their homes were damaged". The second-to-last paragraph was also added in the TT. The ST did not contain this paragraph or the information to which it refers. The paragraph described the targeted attacks on a company's fuel tanks, which caused severe destruction. These additions to the TT allude to two matters that go hand-in-hand. The first is that KUNA translators have the freedom to add relevant information to their translations. This shows how a *transeditor* can translate an ST published by the same news institution. The second matter is that all the additions made in the TT are in line

[88] Source: https://www.un.org/press/en/2014/sgsm16132.doc.htm

with the institution's political views, which is reflective of Kuwait's views. Therefore, it is safe to assume that a translator editing an ST and translating it can add to the TT if it is still within the same framing. This is in line with what one of the interviewed KUNA translators said: "[…] There is, like, a frame, you know. We have to work within the frame" (Participant 7).

The intermediate analysis shows similar findings to the ST's analysis. However, the length of the text is longer than the ST due to the previously mentioned additions. Moreover, stating the name of the damaged company (Red Sea Mills) presents the company as an extra party in the TT compared to its omission in the ST. The importance of this milling company in this context lies in how it relates to a humanitarian discourse, which is illustrated in the next level of analysis.

The external level analysis adds another layer to the analysis by mentioning the important external factors related to this discourse. Generally, the external factors are similar to those discussed in the ST's analysis. However, due to the addition of the "*Red Sea Mills*" company in the TT, extra factors need to be analysed. The Red Sea Mills is an important source of food for millions of Yemenis, especially in Hodeida province[90]. Therefore, the translator's choice to include it and mention the damages the company sustained can be seen as presenting the news in a humanitarian frame. The text presents the destruction of a key food-processing facility responsible for feeding millions of Yemenis at the hands of the Houthi militias. As a result, the underlying political views of the text turns into the following: Houthi militias are responsible for the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, in addition to the deaths of Yemeni children as UNICEF reported.

[90] Source: https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/fire-red-sea-mills-hodeidah-blow-millions-hungry-people-enar

As seen in both the ST and the TT, the discourse analysis illustrated how political texts can be framed to be in line with the collective political agenda of the state. Translation in this context (institutional, political) can be used to circulate or amplify the presence of the political agenda of the institution/state. This was indicated in the previous TT when compared to its ST. Arguably this phenomenon is limited in its scope, as it needs the alignment of three factors.

First, the translator needs to be able to add to the news event presented in the ST. This is likely possible if the translator practices a transeditor role and also reports the news in addition to translating it. As the previous analysis of the interviews showed, KUNA translators edit their texts and refine them by adding or deleting some of the elements in the STs[91].

Second, the framing of the translation must be in accordance with the ST's frame. In essence, views circulated in the TT should be similar to those in the ST or the initial reporting of the political event. KUNA translators operate in such a manner, as was stated by Participant 7 in the interview. Therefore, the thematic features of the ST were mediated accordingly in the TT.

Third, the amplification of the political agenda's presence in the translation compared to the ST should be in line with the political views of the news institution or society in general. In this case, KUNA translations are generally reflective of Kuwait's political views[92]. If these three factors are aligned, an amplification of the presence of a specific political agenda in a translation is possible. Otherwise, it seems likely that a circulated political agenda in a TT would be similar in scope to one circulated in its ST. The next news item is from the same political context as the previous one.

[91] Source: KUNA interview Participant 5.

[92] Source: KUNA interview Participant 1 (Head of the Translation Department at KUNA).

The news is about an attack carried out by Arab coalition forces against Houthi targets. The following is the ST:

Arabic News item Headline:
تحالف دعم الشرعية باليمن يدمر هدفين عسكريين لتخزين طائرات بدون طيار 24/03/2019
جدة - 23 - 3 (كونا) -- اعلنت قيادة قوات تحالف دعم الشرعية في اليمن ان القوات المشتركة للتحالف نفذت مساء اليوم السبت عملية عسكرية لتدمير هدفين عسكريين مشروعين عبارة عن كهفين تستخدمها ميليشيا الحوثي الانقلابية لتخزين الطائرات بدون طيار واستخدامها في العمليات الإرهابية. وقال المتحدث باسم قوات التحالف العقيد ركن تركي المالكي ان عملية الاستهداف امتداد لعمليات عسكرية سابقة وقد تم تنفيذها من قبل قوات التحالف لاستهداف وتدمير شبكة متكاملة لقدرات ومرافق لوجستية للطائرات بدون طيار وأماكن تواجد الخبراء الأجانب. واكد المالكي التزام قيادة القوات المشتركة للتحالف بمنع وصول واستخدام الميليشيا الحوثية الإرهابية وكذلك التنظيمات الإرهابية الأخرى لمثل هذه القدرات النوعية واتخاذ كافة الإجراءات الكفيلة بحماية المدنيين والمناطق الحيوية من تهديد وخطر العمليات الإرهابية للطائرات بدون طيار وبما يتوافق مع القانون الدولي الإنساني وقواعده العرفية. وجدد التأكيد على ان قيادة القوات المشتركة للتحالف اتخذت كافة الإجراءات الوقائية والتدابير اللازمة لحماية المدنيين وتجنيبهم للأضرار الجانبية.(النهاية) ن س ع / م ج

Text 12. Source text 4 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [93]

English News item Headline:
Coalition forces supporting legitimacy in Yemen destroy Houthi targets 24/03/2019
JEDDAH, March 23 (KUNA) -- The command of the coalition forces to support legitimacy in Yemen announced on Saturday the demolition of two military targets used by Houthi militia for storing drones for terrorist operations. The move is part of previous military operations carried out by coalition forces to destroy a network of logistic facilities and utilities of drones and places of foreign experts, the command's spokesman Colonel Turki Al-Maleki said. He stressed the commitment of the coalition forces to preventing the arrival and use of such qualitative capabilities by Houthi militia and other terrorist groups. Al-Maleki also affirmed the coalition's commitment to taking all necessary measures to protect civilians and vital areas from terrorist operations carried out with drones in accordance with international humanitarian law, he added. He reiterated that the command of the coalition forces has taken all preventive measures in order to protect civilians. (end) nso.hm

Text 13. Translated text 4 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [94]

[93] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2783889

[94] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2783890

The above news report starts by presenting a statement made by the coalition about the military destruction of two caves used by Houthi militias to store unmanned drones. The statement continues with how the coalition forces are making all possible arrangements to protect the civilians and limit Houthi forces' access to this type of military arsenal. Finally, the text concludes with the coalition's statement that the coalition forces are taking all the necessary precautions to protect civilians and avoid collateral damage. The discourse analysis on this text shows similar findings to the previous text. This is mainly due to the similar context of the two texts. Furthermore, the framing of the news is similar to the previous text which was humanitarian and pro-Yemeni government.

Firstly, the internal level analysis showed that the ST used specific terms that resulted in a positive stance towards the coalition forces. For example, the use of "تحالف دعم الشرعية باليمن" taḥālufu daʿmi al-sharʿiyati bi-al-yaman, which translates literally to the *coalition to restore legitimacy in Yemen* when referring to the coalition forces, shows the supportive mentality of the news reporter towards the coalition. In contrast, the text designates the Houthi forces by using "ميليشيا الحوثي الانقلابية" mīlīshyā al-ḥūthī al-ʾinqilābiyati, which literally translates to *Houthi insurgent militias*. Moreover, the adjective "مشروعين" mashrūʿīni, which literally translates to *legitimate,* was used to describe the targets of the coalition's military operation. As a result, the connotation of destroying *legitimate targets* is that the operation was justifiable. In addition, the adjective "الإرهابية" al-ʾirhābiyati, which literally translates to *terrorist,* is used to describe the *Houthi* drone attacks. Also, the same adjective is used in the text to describe the Houthi forces as terrorists. Therefore, the text frames the news event by presenting the operation as a justifiable one aiming to destroy legitimate military targets used in Houthi terrorist attacks. This framing of the news in the ST would likely have an effect

in its translation as it already shows a narrative of opposites. Therefore, the translation would either adhere to the ST's clear framing of the news or would try to minimise the explicit political views being mediated using this ST.

Secondly, the intermediate level analysis showed that there are some general comparisons and juxtapositions between the two main parties in the text: the coalition and the Houthi. Textually, the coalition forces are presented as a military force careful in its operation to avoid collateral damage and keep civilian lives safe. This was done by mentioning how the coalition's targets were *legitimate*. Moreover, the text contained the statement made by the coalition's spokesperson indicating how the coalition operates while taking all the necessary precautions to protect civilian lives. In contrast, the Houthi forces are described as terrorists and militias that use drones to carry out strikes that do not differentiate between their targets, which can be civilians or *legitimate* military targets. Furthermore, the discourse of the text is later presented as one concerned with humanitarian and civilian matters. This was done through the coalition's spokesperson's statement, which concluded with mentioning the importance of keeping civilians safe in accordance with international laws and humanitarian conventions.

Thirdly, the external level analysis presented the external context that could have affected the translation. As with the previous text, this one was affected by being produced by a governmental body that must reflect Kuwait's political stance in the Yemeni conflict. Moreover, the reporting of this news event here also shows Kuwait's policy on humanitarian issues. This news reporting helps to present Kuwait's foreign policy in trying to resolve humanitarian issues by exposing them to the public through news reporting/translating. In essence, the discourse analysis of the text showed how the ST used adjectives, comparisons, and connotative meanings to frame and

influence the news. Both the influence and the framing seem to be in accordance with the state's political views.

Through this ST, a comparison of the two main parties in the Yemeni conflict was presented. This comparison presented the coalition forces as military professionals following international laws and conventions in their operations to avoid endangering civilian lives and collateral damage. In contrast, the Houthi forces were presented as insurgent militias that carry out terrorist attacks with no concern for the lives of civilians or humanitarian conventions.

For the TT, the internal level of the text used the same designations for both the coalition and the Houthi. Moreover, the TT also used the adjective "terrorist" when referring to the Houthi forces' drone attacks as well as to the Houthi as a party. However, the TT omitted the use of "legitimate" when referring to the coalition's operation's target. Instead, the TT opted to use the adjective "military" as a description for the targets. Although this adjective does not have the same connotation as in the ST, it still denotes that the targets were at least not civilian in nature. As a result, the comparison of military operations carried out by the two conflicting parties is preserved in the TT. The TT shows that military operations conducted by the coalition adhere to international laws and humanitarian conventions by protecting civilian lives and avoiding collateral damage. In contrast, the Houthi forces are presented in the text as a terrorist group killing civilians.

The findings of intermediate level analysis of the TT are also in line with their ST's counterparts. The TT's discourse compared the humane military operations of the coalition to the inhumane military operations of the Houthi. Moreover, the TT also preserved the implications related to the coalition's statement. As a result, the TT still depicted the discourse of this news event as one concerned with the humanitarian

violations in the Yemeni conflict due to Houthi terrorist military operations. Finally, the intermediate analysis shows that both the ST and the TT share similar themes of humanitarian crisis and a comparison of military operation approaches.

The external level analysis of the TT demonstrated the same factors that affected the ST. These factors include KUNA's approach to political news events, which is influenced by Kuwait's general political views. Therefore, it is safe to assume that translations are often affected by external factors, in this case political ones, that might have also affected the translation's ST.

Additionally, news institutions that publish in more than one language seem to be influenced by external factors. In this case, the state-funded KUNA must abide by the state's views. Generally, it can be assumed that news translation institutions, especially those with a political focus, are affected by their sponsor's political views. This means that translation both as a product and as a process is shaped to a certain extent by the context in which it is being practiced. In this context, Kuwait's politics is affecting KUNA's translations. Some of these effects are process-oriented (for example, which text to translate), while others are product-oriented (for example, news translation's framing).

The two discourse analyses of the ST and its TT showed how two texts of the same political event can be referenced in two different languages. Although the two texts' elements are similar at the three analysis levels, there were still different elements. The most important difference between the two texts is the different target audiences.

In the ST, the target audience mainly consists of Kuwaitis and Arab expatriates living in Kuwait. These demographics are generally supportive of Kuwait's position in the Yemeni conflict and its participation with the coalition forces to restore legitimacy

in Yemen due to being Kuwaiti nationals or Arabs working in Kuwait. In the TT, the target audience generally consists of non-Arabs. Those readers can be either unaware of the situation in Yemen or well informed. The TT's framing of the conflict might be influenced by these factors, so the TT could frame the conflict in a manner supportive of Kuwait's position. In addition, since the target audience could include individuals criticising Kuwait's political position in the Yemeni conflict, the TT might tone down its framing compared to the ST. This way, the text would seem less biased in the eyes of its readers.

The translator sits at the intersection of these factors. The translation decisions made in this situation to tone down or appropriate the TT based on the target audience can be either conscious or unconscious. In this context, KUNA is a government body consisting mainly of Kuwaiti translators, so it is possible that the translators are affected by a sense of nationalism when they translate STs related to conflicts in which Kuwait is participating, like the Yemeni conflict. As a result, the framing of the conflict might be affected in a manner that displays support for Kuwait's political stance in this conflict. In the general scope of translation, similar translation contexts and circumstances are likely faced by translators across the globe. It can be inferred that this is the case here.

The next text is the final one obtained from KUNA's website. The text is the ST of a reported news event regarding the United States' designation of terrorist groups. The report stated that the United States added some groups to its list of terrorist organisations. The report also states that these groups are known to be associated with ISIS[96].

[96] Abbreviation for Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

Arabic News item Headline:
"واشنطن تضيف مؤسسات تابعة ل(داعش) الى قائمتها الخاصة بالمنظمات المصنفة "ارهابية 21/03/2019
واشنطن - 21 - 3 (كونا) -- أعلنت الولايات المتحدة الامريكية اليوم الخميس عن اضافة مؤسسات وجماعات تابعة لما يسمى بتنظيم الدولة الاسلامية (داعش) في العراق وسوريا الى قائمتها الخاصة بالمنظمات المصنفة "ارهابية". وذكرت وزارة الخارجية الامريكية في بيان لها ان من ابرز هذه المؤسسات المضافة وكالة (اعماق) للأنباء ومركز الحياة الاعلامي. واوضحت انه تم اتخاذ القرار بخصوص وكالة (اعماق) للأنباء ومركز الحياة الاعلامي "باعتبارهما اجنحة تنظيم (داعش) الاعلامية". وذكر "ان الاجراءات التي اتخذت اليوم تعلم الشعب الامريكي والمجتمع الدولي ان وكالة (اعماق) مرتبطة مع مركز الحياة بتنظيم (داعش)".(النهاية) ش ص / س ع م

Text 14. Source text 5 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [97]

English News item Headline:
US amends terrorist designations of IS 21/03/2019
WASHINGTON, March 21 (KUNA) -- The US Department of State has amended the terrorist designations of the so-called Islamic State (IS) in Iraq and Syria to include Amaq News Agency, Al-Hayat Media Center, and other aliases. Amaq and Al-Hayat are two "media wings" of IS, the Department said in a statement on Thursday, noting that these aliases have been designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). The Department has also "reviewed and maintained" the FTO designation of IS, according to the statement. It noted that Amaq "is part of the terrorist organization's propaganda apparatus and is used for claiming responsibility for (IS) or (IS)-inspired attacks, spreading terrorist messages online and recruitment," while Al-Hayat is IS's "multilingual media outlet used for recruitment purposes." "Today's actions notify the US public and the international community that Amaq News Agency and Al Hayat Media Center are aliases of (IS)," the statement affirmed. It stressed that terrorism designations "expose and isolate organizations and individuals and deny them access to the US financial system." Moreover, designations can "assist the law enforcement activities of the United States and other governments." (end) si.gb

Text 15. Translated text 5 obtained from the Kuwait News Agency [98]

[97] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2783598

[98] Source: https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2783589&language=en

First, the internal level analysis showed how vocabulary is used to provide specified connotative meanings. For example, the ST contains the word "جماعات" jamāʿāti, which literally translates to *groups* or *bands* in English. However, "جماعات" in Arabic is often used in a political or religious context. In these contexts, the word generally has negative connotations, often referring to rebel groups or terrorist organisations[99]. In addition, the ST also contains the word "تنظيم" tanẓīmi, which literally translates to *organisation*. However, the word "تنظيم" is a morphological derivation of the commonly used and connotatively neutral Arabic word "منظمة" munaẓama, which also translates to *organisation*. The derivation used in the text is often correlated with negatively perceived entities such as terrorist groups. Therefore, the text contained two instances in which specific vocabulary was used. The ST uses "داعش" dāʿish, which is the Arabic equivalent abbreviation[100] of ISIS. The used abbreviation in the ST was preceded by the phrase "ما يسمى" mā yusamā, which literally translates to *the so-called.* This implies KUNA's negative perception of this terrorist group. The ST could have omitted this phrase without any consequence to the news report. The use of these internal elements shows that text's framing as vilifying the terrorist group ISIS.

Second, the intermediate level analysis of the ST demonstrated the discursive elements of the text. For example, since the text is political, its language is formal and unambiguous. Moreover, the discourse of the text is presented clearly as being related to the United States' designation of terrorist organisations. Thematically, the text shows two conflicting parties. The first is the United States, and the second is the

[99] Some examples:

- Extremist groups جماعات متشددة jamāʿāt mutashadida.
- Terrorist groups جماعات إرهابية jamāʿāt ʾirhābya.
- Radical groups جماعات متطرفة jamāʿāt mutaṭarifa.

[100] The Arabic abbreviation is used sometimes in English media. The used transliteration is "Daesh".

terrorist organisation ISIS. The text can be viewed in relation to the United States' War on Terror (see Jarvis, 2009). As a result, the United States is presented in the text as a country seeking to combat terrorist organisations. In contrast, ISIS is presented in the text as a radical group using vile media organisations to spread terror in the region. So, the political views being circulated in the text from these textual representations are arguably in line with those observed in the internal level analysis.

Third, the analysed external factors affecting the ST's discourse provided contextual information related to this political event. One example of these external factors is Kuwait's denouncement of ISIS and its agreement with the United States' actions against this terrorist organisation. Therefore, KUNA's choice to report this news and its use of specific vocabulary in this text is understandable. This is due to KUNA's news reports being reflective of Kuwait's political views. Another external factor is that Kuwait and the United States are allies and have a symbiotic political relationship. On the one hand, the United States offers both military protection and sells military arms to Kuwait. On the other hand, Kuwait provides logistical support to the United States' forces in the region. One example of this logistical support is establishing a military base in Kuwait.

As a result, the media reports originating from the two countries would arguably be similar in their representations of these political news items. So, the news reporting and framing presumably allude to similar political views of the two countries. Essentially, the ST's discourse analysis shows how the text presents and circulates shared political views between two different countries in relation to a single terrorist entity. Furthermore, the analysis demonstrated how both connotative meanings and derivational morphology can be used in Arabic STs to provide implicit negative

meanings related to vilified terrorist entities. The result of using these methods is the circulation of (translated) news supportive of institutional/state political views.

The discourse analysis of the above English TT showed similarities and differences compared to its Arabic ST. On the one hand, the TT follows the thematic and textual elements of the ST by presenting the United States' war on the terrorist organisation ISIS. The representation of the two parties also follows the ST's approach by using adjectives and phrases when mentioning ISIS. For example, the same phrase "the so-called" is used here, as its equivalent was used in the Arabic ST. In addition, the TT also contains adjectives describing ISIS as "terrorist". On the other hand, the TT differs from its ST in its use of additions that were unavailable in the ST. These additions are mainly concerned with extra information in the news report. The additional information includes the FTO (Foreign Terrorist Organization) and SGDT (Specially Designated Global Terrorist) designations.

Additional information included in the second half of the report relates to how the two ISIS-associated groups are being used for recruitment purposes. The purpose behind including these additions in the translation is not clear. However, it can be argued that new information came to light during the translation phase of the ST. Therefore, the translator had the ability to provide the readership with this additional information and did so. This is possible because the interviews with KUNA translators showed that they sometimes work as transeditors[102], as they can refine the STs by adding or deleting information. Furthermore, the discourse analysis was conducted on the text's three levels of relations. The findings were also supportive of the general findings of the ST's analysis.

[102] Source: KUNA interview Participant 5.

First, the internal level analysis demonstrated how linguistic elements are used to frame the text. For example, the TT' contained the use of the word "propaganda", which has negative connotations related to the dissemination of false/influenced information. This lexical item was used in relation to ISIS, so its usage frames ISIS in a negative light, which follows the political views contained in the ST. This word, propaganda, is an addition in the TT and did not exist in the ST. The text also contained the use of official designations such as FTO and SGDT to refer to these terrorist entities. The use of lexical terms of an official nature can be considered as news-framing devices. In this context, entities designated by such official nomenclature would be seen by readers as foreign entities of an unknown nature. When this factor is coupled with intermediate-level elements such as the theme and representative nature of the conflicting parties, the readers would likely lean towards the known official party in the text rather than the other less known party.

Second, the intermediate-level analysis showed how the TT represented its conflicting parties. This level's analysis also followed the ST's general thematic nature in presenting the discourse. On the one hand, the United States is represented using positive connotations. For example, the use of "the US public" and "the international community" demonstrate civil and inclusive representation. On the other hand, the use of "terrorist organisations" demonstrates a representation that is both vile and harmful. As a result, the TT frames the news as one of *good versus evil.* This is illustrated in these representations as well as the theme of the text.

Thirdly, the external factors analysed in this TT show similar findings to its ST. However, one difference is in how the TT's target readership might have affected the text. Since the TT mainly targets English-speaking individuals in the region, it is safe to assume that some of them are American nationals. Therefore, the readers might be

familiar with the United States' State Department's designations like FTO and SGDT. So, the translator might have felt this additional information in the TT was merited. Nevertheless, the additional information might have been a result of extra time allotted for the translator to report and translate the ST. Still, this shows the special traits of translators working on political news translation in an institutional setting. This is in addition to the previous outside factors analysed in the ST, which included the need for governmental institutions to reflect the state's political views.

This concludes the discourse analysis on translations produced and published by KUNA's along with their Arabic STs. Therefore, the analysis of translations produced by governmental news translations institutions in Kuwait is completed. The following two sections analyse translations published by the private sector institutions.

6.4.3 *Arab Times* Texts Analysis

The *Arab Times* newspaper reports and translates breaking news on its website[103]. This news is collected from several sources and are translated and edited into a single English news item. In addition, the newspaper also publishes other types of translated texts such as opinion pieces. These opinion texts are published in a separate section on the website[104].

The texts in this section are mostly translations of already-published Arabic texts. The original writers publish their opinions in Arabic, and then the *Arab Times* translation team translates them into English. The texts are then published on the *Arab Times* website. The texts collected from the *Arab Times* consist of five opinion articles related to political news. The rationale behind choosing these articles rather than

[103] *Arab Times* website: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/

[104] *Arab Times* opinions section: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/category/opinion/

regular political news is because these articles are translated from Arabic STs. In comparison, regular news is often translated/reported in English based on relevance without any specific STs. Therefore, it was only possible to compare news articles for which both the ST and TT are accessible.

The *Arab Times* website's published news archive is unreliable, as it deletes old news periodically. This makes its use counterproductive, as it would be impossible to access the texts later due to their deletion from the website. In contrast, the opinions section's archive is well maintained and contains all the previously published translated opinions without any deletions.

To reiterate, the *Arab Times* newspaper is a subsidiary of the Kuwaiti *Al-Seyassah* newspaper, which publishes in Arabic. This is necessary to mention because some of these opinion pieces were first published in Arabic by *Al-Seyassah*, and then the Arabic texts were translated and published in English by the *Arab Times*. *Al-Seyassah* newspaper's political views are similar to other Kuwaiti newspapers as it is moderate and not explicitly progressive nor conservative (see Al-Mughni & Tétreault 2004). Analysing translated texts that are originally opinion pieces can help establish the limits of the newspaper's platform when it comes to freedom of speech. Furthermore, the analysis of texts containing opinions would also show any differences between the ST's/writer's news framing of a political topic and the TT's/translator's framing of the same topic.

It is worth noting that these opinion articles can be lengthy (up to a thousand words) compared to regular news reports. Therefore, the decision was made to analyse excerpts from these articles rather than their full texts to focus the analysis. This decision was made to keep the analysis concise.

The first text is an excerpt from an ST opinion piece by Kuwaiti political analyst Ahmed Al-Jarallah. The text criticises the Iranian government's foreign policy and was published by *Al-Seyassah*, originally in Arabic and then translated into English by the *Arab Times*. Al-Jarallah is the editor-in-chief of *Al-Seyassah* newspaper. Therefore, it is understandable that the *Arab Times* would translate and publish Arabic articles that originate in *Al-Seyassah* and that Al-Jarallah is likely influential in this regard.

Arabic Headline: حقد الملالي على العالم لم يمت مع الخميني On Sep 23, 2019
على هذه القاعدة يجب أن تكون النظرة الأوروبية إلى موقف إيران، وإلا فإن دول القارة العجوز ستجد نفسها في يوم من الأيام ضحية السلوك الإرهابي الإيراني، طالما بقيت مترددة في الذهاب إلى الحسم وعرقلة الجهود الأميركية في تخليص العالم من هذا النظام الذي لم ينفك، منذ أربعين عاماً، يثير القلاقل والفتن، مستفيداً من اللعب على التناقضات بين الدول

Text 16. Source text 1 obtained from Al-Seyassah Newspaper [105]

English Headline: Mullah hatred for world didn't die with Khomeini. 01/07/2019
This should be the perspective of the European Union towards Iran; or else, the old continent will one day find itself the victim of Iran's terrorist demeanour, especially if it continues to hesitate and hamper American efforts in cleansing the world from the regime which, for four decades, has never stopped causing chaos and sedition by taking advantage of contradictions that countries play between themselves.

Text 17. Translated text 1 obtained from the Arab Times Newspaper [106]

First, the internal level analysis of the text showed the use of words with specific connotations. For example, the headline contained the Arabic word "الملالي"[107] al-malālī, which is often transliterated in Western media as *Mullah(s).* The use of this word as the designation for the Iranian government paints it as a government grounded in religious beliefs and teachings. In addition, the adjective "الإرهابي" al-ʾirhābī, which

[105] Source: http://www.seyassah.com/حقد-الملالي-على-العالم-لم-يمت-مع-الخمين/

[106] Source: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/mullah-hatred-for-world-didnt-die-with-khomeini/

[107] The word denotes a religious Muslim man, similar to the English word "priest".

literally means terrorist, was used to describe Iranian behaviour. Both previous instances frame the news as critical of the Iranian government. The *religious* individuals heading this government are illustrated as the source of the problem by using *Mullahs* as the Iranian government's designation. This illustration is made by mentioning the actions of this entity. This is observed in the latter half of the text such as in the use of "القلاقل" al-qalāqila, which literally translates to *disruptions* caused by this entity.

Second, the intermediate level shows the theme of the ST as a political piece criticising terrorist activity. The text presents three parties in its discourse: the Iranian government, the European countries, and the United States. The United States was represented positively by using "الجهود الأميركية" al-juhūdi al-ʾamrīkyat, which literally translates to *the American efforts*. The European countries were represented by using "دول القارة العجوز" duwalu al-qārat al-ʿajūz, which literally translates to *the old continent's countries*. It can be argued that such representation is negative since according to the text, the European countries showed leniency towards the Iranian government's practices. Moreover, the use of the phrase *old continent* can be perceived as negative due to how the region was colonised/conquered in the past by European countries. This negative perception would juxtapose with the positive representation of the United States which fought for its independence from colonisation in the 18th century. In comparison, the Iranian government was represented using *Mullahs,* as was discussed above, framing Iran as a terrorist state, European countries as states standing idly by, and the United States as an anti-terrorist state.

Third, the external-level analysis illustrated the factors that could have affected the text. The political state of the Middle East region shows Kuwait as considerably neutral when it comes to its relations with Iran. This is due to Kuwait being

geographically between Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Iran. However, Kuwait leans more towards Saudi Arabia in its foreign policy, so it can be argued that Al-Jarallah here is leaning towards the Saudi side. Also, the *Arab Times*, unlike governmental news institutions, could exhibit support of one side against the other due to the private sector's nature.

Based on the analysis, it can be seen that analysing linguistic and thematic features of the text can show how news reporting is being influenced. External political factors might have been the source of this influence in the text, so it is possible that translations of such articles are likely to circulate similar views, as argued in the upcoming TT analysis.

The TT was produced and published by the *Arab Times* newspaper. On the internal level, the TT contains linguistic features like those in the ST, like the use of words with specific connotations. For example, the TT's headline is literally translated with *Mullah* being conveyed using transliteration. Therefore, the connotations of the word, which were discussed in the ST's analysis, are conveyed in the TT as well. Furthermore, the TT also employed adjectives to imply the text's political views. This was done by using following phrasing "the Iranian terroristic demeanour". Illustrating the demeanour as "terroristic" clearly frames the context in an anti-Iranian manner. In addition, this phrasing, like the ST, also refrained from using the word "government" as a designation for the Iranian party. So, it is being described as an entity rather than a legitimate government, which further indicates the political views of the text.

These internal factors point towards a political view in which the Iranian regime is considered an extremist terrorist group. This is supported by the translator's decision to use the word "cleansing" instead of the more literal and neutral *ridding* when translating "تخليص" takhlīṣi from the ST. The use of "cleansing" implies to the readership

of the TT a context of religious connotations, in addition to the original political one. The different connotations of the word range from viewing Iran itself as a disease that needs to be *cleansed* or viewing its main religious sector (*Shia*) as the disease due to the use of religious terminology in the ST and the TT like *Mullah*.

Semantically, the word “cleansing*”* implies a seemingly stronger meaning than the ST’s literal *ridding.* Therefore, the TT arguably presents Iran more negatively compared to the ST. Moreover, another example can be seen in the use of the word “chaos” used in the TT to convey the ST’s “القلاقل” al-qalāqila, which literally translates to *disruption*s. Here, “chaos” implies an atmosphere of revolt and chaotic activity created by Iran. In comparison, the ST’s equivalent “القلاقل” al-qalāqila does convey negative meaning and connotations, but not at the same level, since *disruptions* could be seen as a step towards *chaos*, not “chaos*”* itself. This manner of translation and the way some of the ST’s internal factors are amplified implies that the translation is consciously or subconsciously more negative towards Iran than the already negative ST. Therefore, it can be argued based on the internal analysis that the ST’s underlying views which have been amplified in translation.

On the intermediate level, the translation can be regarded as one implementing a foreignisation approach, since it kept *Mullah* as it is. The translator can be considered a visible agent in meaning conveyance, as foreignisation is employed to illustrate the visibility of the translator. Thematically, the translation contains the same discourse theme of the ST, but it has been amplified using the aforementioned internal factors. As a result, the translation circulates the anti-Iran political view of its ST. This is evident in the translation’s use of designations to present the text’s concerned parties. In the translation, both the United States and Iran’s designations are retained as they are. However, the ST’s phrase *the old continent’s countries* was substituted

with “the European Union” in the TT. This choice can be seen as considerably more neutral compared to the ST’s arguably negative one. The reason for this choice is difficult to pinpoint, but it can be argued that this phrasing would be more acceptable to the TT’s target readership, which is discussed in the upcoming external-level analysis. The conveyance of the ST’s thematic elements in the TT was amplified.

On the external level, it can be argued that some outside factors affected the text’s production. These factors generally fall in two categories. The first is the target readership of the *Arab Times*, and the second is Kuwaiti foreign policy. The readership mainly comprised an English-speaking demographic, so the translation should convey political news in an informative manner for those unfamiliar with the political context involving Iran. However, as the analysis demonstrated, the translation seems to be more antagonistic towards Iran than its ST counterpart. Therefore, it is possible that the target readership, which might not be as informed as the ST’s readership, is being politically influenced through this translation. For example, an American expat working in Kuwait might be following the regional news by reading the *Arab Times.* This American expat would be conditioned by the translation to view Iran in a negative light. The same result would likely be found with a reader of the ST. However, the degree of influence would be different. Obviously, this difference in influence would also be affected by prior knowledge of political affairs. Essentially, it is possible that the translation was skewed to be more negative than the ST, since the readership is likely less informed than the ST’s readership.

When it comes to Kuwaiti policy, the newspaper and the ST’s writer likely know that Kuwait as a state lean more towards Saudi Arabia and the United States as its closest allies. In addition, Iranian intelligence and terrorist cells were confirmed to have

been active in Kuwait in recent years[109]. Therefore, the public's opinion is also negative towards Iran. It is possible that the writer of the ST wrote this negative political article because of such operations. As the editor-in-chief of the *Al-Seyassah* newspaper (which owns *Arab Times*), Al-Jarallah could be using the two newspapers as a platform showcasing what he views as an extremist Iranian government. Furthermore, since Kuwait does not generally view Iran as an ally, media publication law would not be an issue for the translator here.

The second text is also an excerpt from an article by Al-Jarallah and discusses the aftermath of the attack on the Saudi oil fields. The piece focuses specifically on Iranian president Hassan Rouhani's statement about the matter.

[109] Sources: 1- https://www.france24.com/en/20100501-intelligence-kuwait-iran-spy-cell-al-qabas-us-targets
2- https://www.france24.com/en/20170720-kuwait-expels-iranian-diplomats-over-terror-cell-official

Arabic Headline: ثبات في السعودية … لطم في إيران وعويل في اليمن On Sep 23, 2019
على هذا الأساس تنظر الدول الأعضاء في الأمم المتحدة بريبة إلى تقديم حسن روحاني ما أسماه» خطة للتعاون الإقليمي لضمان أمن الخليج»، معتبرا «وجود قوات أجنبية في الخليج يؤدي إلى تفاقم غياب الأمن»، إذ كيف لهذه الدول أن تثق بهكذا موقف وهي ترى أن الذي يتسبب في عرقلة امدادات الطاقة ويزعزع أمن منطقة حيوية، هو من سيضمن أمنها، فيما هو يزعم أنه ضحية ويقول: «نحن مستعدون لمسامحة جيراننا على ما ارتكبوه بحقنا»، وهو أسلوب الفاجر المتبجح بعدوانيته، الساعي في الوقت نفسه إلى التنصل من جرائمه، واعتبارها رد فعل على فعل لم يحدث أصلا، بينما قائد الحرس الثوري حسين سلامي قال مهددا ومتوعدا: «إن قواتنا مستعدة للقتال ضمن أي سيناريو مع القوى العالمية، وأن المنطقة ستشتعل إذا تعرضت إيران لأي اعتداء؟

Text 18. Source text 2 obtained from Al-Seyassah newspaper.[110]

English Headline: Saudi Steadfastness … Smack in Iran, Wail in Yemen. 24/09/2019
Based on this, the United Nations (UN) member states are cautiously looking into Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's proposal, which he calls "regional cooperation plan for peace." In his proposal, he attributes "insecurity" in the Gulf to the presence of foreign forces. This move makes the world wonder how it can trust Iran if it sees the one hampering oil supplies and destabilizing security of vital regions is the same person claiming, as per his words, that his "country is ready to extend a hand of friendship to all neighbors and forgive their past mistakes." This is the attitude of the wicked who is vaunting his hostility while being vindicated. This is considered retaliation for an action that did not occur in the first place. Iran's "amicable" attitude comes at a time when the head of the Revolutionary Guard Hussein Sulami threatened to wage an all-out war if Iran is attacked, and that its forces are ready to fight under any given scenario.

Text 19. Translated text 2 obtained from Arab Times newspaper [111]

Firstly, the internal-level analysis demonstrated specific lexical items denoting the political views of the writer who represents *Al-Seyassah* newspaper as its editor-in-chief. For example, the use of the phrase "الفاجر المتبجح بعدوانيته" al-fājiri al-mutabajiḥi bi-ʿidwāniyatih, which literally translates to *a depraved one who boosts his hostility*, to describe Rouhani's demeanour. This shows an antagonistic attitude towards the

[110] Source: http://www.seyassah.com/ثبات-في-السعودية-لطم-في-إيران-وعويل-في/

[111] Source: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/saudi-steadfastness-smack-in-iran-wail-in-yemen/

Iranian president. In turn, this political article demonstrates the Iranian government's violent practices, as the writer indicates. The ST quoted Rouhani using the phrase "أمن الخليج" ʾamni al-khalīj, which literally translates to *the gulf's*[112] *security*. This quote was most likely a translation from Persian to Arabic. This quoted phrase argues that the Gulf's security can be attained when the Gulf countries and Iran agree, which in turn indicates the political rivalry between Iran and the Gulf countries. This would not have been the case if the phrase was translated as *the region's security*, which was the case in this text's TT. It was not clear if Rouhani's original quote, which was likely in Persian, used "*the Gulf's*" or "*the region's*". However, it seems that the ST and its TT counterpart are different in this regard.

Another internal factor is the juxtaposing of using the official title of Hossein Salami "قائد الحرس الثوري" qāʾidu al-ḥarasi al-thawrī, which translates to *Commander of the Revolutionary Guard*, with the omission using the official title of Rouhani (President). Here, the text stresses the military position of an Iranian official while omitting the governance position of a president. This implies the nature of the country as one run by a military faction rather than a republican government. This is further indicated in using *Revolutionary Guard* rather than the official designation of *Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps*. By omitting *Islamic,* the writer disassociates the *Revolutionary Guard* from being seen as representative of Islam. This decision might have been affected by external factors, as discussed in the upcoming external-level analysis.

[112] "The Gulf" or "Gulf countries" are two phrases often used to denote the Gulf Cooperation Council (abbreviated as GCC) comprising the six following countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Secondly, the intermediate-level analysis showed some of the thematic elements of the text. These elements include an antagonistic view towards the Iranian government. Textually, the writer also used quotes from the Iranian president and debunked them by stating the negative nature of Iran. Also, the text described UN member countries as suspicious of Iran's violent demeanour by using "بريبة" bi-rība, which translates to *suspiciously*, to describe the UN's reception of Rouhani's plan to attain peace in the region. So, the implied meaning here is that Iranian political affairs are received negatively by the UN. The price of this is insecurity in the Middle East region. Also, as the UN comprises of the majority of the international community, this also indicates that the international community views Iran *suspiciously*.

Thirdly, the external-level analysis indicates some of the possible external factors that might have affected the text. These include some of the previous text's factors such as Kuwaiti political views and the newspaper's views. Also, one possible factor is *Sunni-Shia* Islamic differences. The Iranian government and Iran in general are predominantly *Shia*. In contrast, Kuwait and the Gulf in general is mostly *Sunni* (see section 2.2). Therefore, it is possible that the *Sunni* side views the *Shia* side as unrepresentative of Islam. This was illustrated in the omission of *Islamic* from the designation of the "Revolutionary Guard" as was discussed in the aforementioned internal-level analysis. As a result, the political article could be seen as one of political opposites like GCC vs. Iran or *Sunni* vs *Shia*. So, the text implies and circulates these political views while being supportive of the Gulf side.

The CDA of the text illustrated some of the elements related to the framing of the news to circulate the political views of the writer/institution. The analysis also indicated some factors essential to the TT's analysis, as these elements are used to

compare the TT to its ST counterpart. Next, the TT was translated and published by the *Arab Times* newspaper.

First, the internal-level analysis showed that the TT contains specific lexical items used to denote political views. These lexical items include words like “cautiously” and “wicked”, both which relate to Iran. In addition, the word “amicable’” was used in quotation marks in the text, most likely to indicate a sarcastic impression. These lexical items and the way in which they are presented frame the text’s political event in a negative light towards the Iranian government’s behaviour. As a result, the readers of this political analysis article would be influenced by the subtextual level of this anti-Iran news item.

The TT used a different lexical item compared to the ST. The ST used *these countries* when referring to the UN member states. in contrast, the TT used “the world”. This implies that the danger of Iran extends to and affects the whole world rather than just the concerned UN member states. Like the ST, the TT also omitted the word *Islamic* when referring to the “Revolutionary Guard” of Iran. The rationale for this omission is likely identical to the same omission in the ST. It is possible that the translator made this decision to distance Islam from the actions of this military group. However, it is more likely the translator opted to stay faithful to the ST by keeping the used name format of the ST.

Second, the analysis also presented similar findings to the ST’s analysis. The internal level analysis showed intriguing aspects that were more explicit in the TT compared to the ST. One of these aspects is the way President Rouhani is referred to in the TT. The text mainly used the pronoun “he” to refer to Rouhani. Furthermore, determiners were also used to refer to the Iranian president in phrases such as “his words”, “his proposal”, “his country”, and “his hostility”. Phrases such as “the one”, “the

same person", and "the wicked who is vaunting" were also used to refer to Rouhani. This representation of avoiding using the official title of the individual as well as his name indicate a writing style used to undermine this specific individual by refusing to name him. Although the same approach is used in the ST, it arguably still sounded natural in Arabic and not as explicit as the TT's rendition.

One possible interpretation some readers might reach due to this text formulation is that these negative actions were committed by individuals whose names are so atrocious that they are being avoided. It is debatable that this formulation was made due to one of two reasons. The first is that the translator opted to stay as close to the ST as possible, which is the simpler of the two reasons. The second is that the translator knew that such formulation would be less natural in the translation and could present explicit indications, but still opted for it anyway. The result of this intermediate factor analysis is the representation of Iran through its president in the same negative light as the ST. But in the TT this representation is more explicit.

Third, the external-level analysis showed possible effects of outside factors on the translation. For instance, the translation was carried out by the *Arab Times*, which is a subsidiary of the *Al-Seyassah* newspaper. This was the case for previous text as well. Al-Jarallah, the ST's writer, is *Al-Seyassah* newspaper's news editor-in-chief. So, it is likely that the translations of texts written by Al-Jarallah are rendered in the TT in a way that is accepted by both the *Arab Times* and *Al-Seyassah* newspapers. The translations would also have to abide by the views of the *Arab Times'* parent company. Moreover, the external factors are likely similar in nature to the ST's own outside factors such as the political context of the text. Otherwise, the translation might differ in how it is affected by the translator's input. However, the translation seems to be representative of the ST.

The analysis showed that the translation mediated the ST's intended meaning while extrapolating its political views by using "*the world*" at the internal level. The TT also refrained from using the given name and title of the Iranian president Rouhani, which is like the ST but less natural in English.

The third analysed text is an excerpt from a political article written by Kuwaiti analyst Yusuf Awadh Al-Azmi. The article describes the escalating tension between Iran and Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates after an attack on an oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman. It also mentions attacks carried out by presumably Iranian forces on Saudi Arabian oil facilities. The text was published on the writer's Twitter account[114] in Arabic.

[114] Yusuf Awadh Al-Azmi's Twitter account: @alzmi69

Arabic Headline:
هل هناك شيئاً ما تحت الطاولة؟
19/06/2019
توتر اللفظي والتراشق الإعلامي لم يغيب حتى يحضر من جديد في العلاقات الأمريكية الإيرانية، لكن ما استجد هو دخول هذه التوترات إلى درجة أخرى أعلى وهي الاتهام بالتعدي الفعلي على مصالح لحلفاء الولايات المتحدة، حيث بدأت أصابع الاتهام تتوجه نحو إيران وحلفاؤها من الولايات المتحدة وحلفاءها كذلك! البداية (هي ليست البداية الحقيقية، لكنها البداية في هذه الفترة بالذات) كانت في الاعتداء على ميناء الفجيرة بالإمارات، وبعدها الاعتداء على منشآت نفطية وسط السعودية (منطقة قريبة من الدوادمي) ثم انتقلت الامر للبحر والاعتداء على ناقلات نفط، وبعد ذلك الاعتداء على مطار ابها بالسعودية، بعد اعتداءات على مطار نجران، وبالطبع كل ما سبق لا تأثير له عسكريا"، ولكنه يترتب وفقا" للمنظور السياسي أكثر من العسكري. في هذه الاحداث المتتالية وفي فترة زمنية قصيرة، ومن فاعل رئيسي واحد (بحسب الاتهامات المضادة) ووجود الولايات المتحدة وحلفاءها كمستقبل للفعل، يعطي معطيات غير مفهومة عن عدم الاكتراث والاستمرار باللعب السياسي، مع استئناف للهجوم على عدة مصالح متنوعة للحوثيين في صنعاء من خلال ضرب المطار وغيره من الاهداف الثابتة والمتحركة.

Text 20. Source text 3 obtained from Al-Azmi's Twitter account [115]

English Headline:
Is there Something … under the Table? 20/06/2019
When it comes to Iran-US relations, verbal tensions and media crossfire have not ceased for quite a while, but a new aspect of the current tension is the soaring momentum coupled with accusation of actual assault on the interests of US allies, with fingers starting to point to Iran. The soaring momentum of this tension started with the sabotage of a commercial ship off the coast of Fujairah Port in the UAE, followed by an assault on the oil facilities in the middle of Saudi Arabia. The matter then escalated to an attack on an oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman, followed by an attack on Saudi's Abha Airport, which occurred after attacks on Najran Airport. Undoubtedly, all these attacks have no military effect, but from a political perspective, the effects of these attacks are beyond military aspects. These consecutive events are occurring within a short span of time and with a single subject (actor) in terms of where the fingers are pointing, while the US and its allies are on the receiving end. All these give a skewed impression of indifference and continuance of the political game, followed by assaults on several Houthi interests in Sanaa through bombardment of its airport and shooting down other mobile and stationary targets.

Text 21. Translated text 3 obtained from Arab Times newspaper [116]

[115] Source: https://twishort.com/St6nc

[116] Source: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/is-there-something-under-the-table/

First, the internal-level analysis was applied to illustrate these factors and put them into perspective. Lexical items of connotative meaning in the text include the extensive use of the word "الاعتداء" ʾalʾiʿtdāʾi, which literally translates to *assault*, as well as its morphological variants "اعتداءات" ʾiʿtidāʾāti and "بالتعدي" bi-al-taʿadī. This word connotes negative meanings that can be understood as offensive/aggressive violations and transgressions. The word and its variants are used throughout the text to refer to Iranian military operations. Therefore, it can be argued that such usage frames the text as anti-Iranian. This is illustrated when the targets of these military operations mentioned in the text are taken into consideration.

These targets are the Fujairah Port in the United Arab Emirates, oil facilities in the middle of Saudi Arabia, oil tankers in the sea, Abha airport in Saudi Arabia, and Najran airport, also in Saudi Arabia. These targets span across the Arabian Peninsula. Therefore, it is implied that such *assaults* are against Arab countries and not one specific enemy of Iran. As a result, the implied meaning is that Iran is not only an aggressive military state, but also one that is anti-Arab and should be considered as an enemy of the region. Furthermore, the text also contained the use of "للحوثيين" lil-ḥūthīyīna (literally *the Houthis*). This indicates that the writer here correlates Iranian forces with Houthi forces in a way that presents the two entities as allies with reference to these assaults. So, the text presents the two as accomplices against the security of the Gulf countries.

Second, the intermediate level presents the thematic and discursive elements of the text. Thematically, the text can be perceived as one about Iranian aggression towards the Gulf countries. The text also indicates that the United States seems to be indifferent towards this aggression against its allies as the text described them (Gulf countries). This implies that the United States, which is a major political player in the

region, seems to play the two sides of the conflict for its own interests. Therefore, the text categorises the parties involved into three groups. Two are clear opposites (Iran and the Gulf countries), while the third consists of the United States and implicitly other foreign states involved in the conflict. A possible result of such categorisation is the indication that the conflict is essentially an Arab-Iranian one. Outside parties (like the United States) look for their interests in this ongoing conflict.

Third, the external-level analysis showcased similar factors to the previous texts. These include the political context and Kuwait's stance leaning more towards Saudi Arabia rather than Iran. In addition, the external analysis indicates the strong political rivalry between Iran and the Gulf countries as a long one that has become the norm. This in turn was demonstrated by the writer's antagonistic views of Iran and the Houthi.

The text shows that political analysts, including the next analyst, translated in the *Arab Times* generally share the same negative mentality towards Iran. So, this indicates that not only influential individuals like *Al-Seyassah*'s editor-in-chief Al-Jarallah, but also other individuals translated by the newspaper share similar views. This could indicate that a collective political view is influencing the text selection at the *Arab Times* newspaper. This shared political view is likely demonstrative of the newspaper's own views.

Next, the published TT is analysed. First, the internal-level analysis demonstrated some changes on the lexical level. These changes include an intensification of the situation using "escalated" rather than the ST's "*assault*". This indicates that the situation is more intense than what the ST illustrated. Furthermore, the use of the word "attack*/s*" instead of "assault" also indicates the same.

The TT provided additional information compared to the ST. For example, the ST only stated that there was an assault on the Fujairah Port, while the TT stated that the event was “sabotage of the commercial ship off the coast of Fujairah Port”. This addition indicates the translator wanted to provide more contextual information for the reader. It also implies by using the adjective “commercial” that the attacks targeted civilians, as they would be the ones on board of a civilian ship. This is indicated in the ST as well, but the TT stated the targets of the attacks had included civilian airports and oil facilities, as none of those targets are of a military nature. As a result, it is possible that the readers would perceive this attack on civilians as an act of terrorism committed by the Iranian party. This would then present the TT as a device for circulating a negative political view of Iran. Similar views were seen previously in the analysis presenting Iranian forces as terrorists endangering the lives of the Gulf countries’ civilians.

Second, the intermediate-level analysis provided similar results to the ST’s analysis. The TT shares the same thematic implications of an anti-Iranian nature. Moreover, the TT described the start of tension using the phrase “soaring monument” while the ST simply used “البداية” al-bidāyau, which literally translates to “the beginning”. Alongside the following sequence of events, this textually indicates how the events took place abruptly and violently. This intensifies the discussed events compared to the ST, which presented the events as regular events the Gulf countries are used to. Therefore, it is implied in the TT that such events are drastic and should be resolved swiftly. Contextually, the TT explicitly states the United States’ indifference towards its allies’ struggle with these Iranian violent attacks. Also, the text blames the United States’ lack of action towards Iranian aggression.

Third, the external-level analysis provided similar findings to the ST's analysis. In addition to the previous outside factors possibly affecting the translation, the TT's translator likely intensified the ST's intended meanings. This meaning intensification in the TT resulted in a text in line with both the newspaper's views as well as Kuwait's political views, which are supportive of the GCC countries. This text's analysis showed comparatively similar results to its ST. However, the difference in the use of connotative meanings demonstrated more explicitly the anti-Iranian political views of the news translation institution.

The fourth analysed text excerpt was from a political opinion piece written by Emirati political analyst Khalaf Ahmed Al-Habtoor. The opinion piece is on the United Kingdom as a political asylum for radicals, a march of *Shia* women in London, and comparing that to Iran. The text was published on the writer's personal website[118].

[118] Al-Habtoor's personal website: https://www.khalafalhabtoor.net/en/

Arabic Headline: بريطانيا العظمى، ملجأ المتطرفين. 04/10/2017
حسناً، قد يقول قائل إن هؤلاء النساء لم يتسبّبن بأي أذى. في الواقع، تكمن المشكلة في ما يجسّدنه – أيديولوجيا تشجّع جلد الذات وإراقة الدماء من خلال جرح رؤوس الأطفال بالسيوف كفّارةً عن استشهاد الإمام الحسين. نعم، ما قرأتموه صحيح. جرح رؤوس الأطفال.

Text 22. Source text 4 obtained from Al-Habtoor's personal website [119]

English Headline: Great Britain, the Extremists' Utopia. 05/10/2017
Well, those women did not do any harm, you might be tempted to think. The problem rests with what they represent — an ideology that encourages self-flagellation and the cutting of babies' heads with swords as a penance for the martyrdom of Imam Hussain, grandson of Prophet Muhammed (PBUH), and son of the 4th Caliph Ali bin Abi Taleb. Yes, you read correctly. The cutting of babies' heads.

Text 23. Translated text 4 obtained from Arab Times newspaper [120]

The internal level analysis showcased some of the linguistic features of the text. The writer used specific words that imply political views differing from the surface structure. For example, the use of the word "يجسّدنه" yujasiyydnahu, literally translates to *embodies* or *symbolises*. Here, the reader is being explicitly guided towards a larger scope than the discussed political event. The use of "إراقة الدماء" ʾirāqatu al-dimāʾi, which literally translates to *blood-spilling*, points the reader towards *Shia* religious rituals that can be considered irrational. The use of "إراقة الدماء" ʾirāqatu al-dimāʾi in Arabic is ambiguous, as it can denote the act of inflicting injury or the act of killing. This is also the case with its English literal translation *blood-spilling.* As a result, the extent of these religious practices will arguably be regarded as extreme by the text's readers. The ritual Al-Habtoor is referring to is practiced by some *Shia* sectors, while others consider

[119] Source: https://www.khalafalhabtoor.net/ar/article/682/بريطانيا-العظمى،-ملجأ-المتطرفين

[120] Source: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/great-britain-extremists-utopia/

it prohibited. So, this manner of generalisation that Al-Habtoor is practicing here indicates discrimination against different *Shia* parties, as it groups them into a single entity.

The writer used repetition as a stylistic tool to indicate shock and bewilderment at these *Shia* religious practices. This was made towards the end of the excerpt by repeating "جرح رؤوس الأطفال" jarḥu ruʾuwwsi al-ʾaṭfāli, which literally translates to *injuring the heads of children*. These factors are important to note, as the way they are rendered in the TT would show how political views can be amplified/influenced in translations.

The intermediate level indicated the thematic nature of the text. The analysis showed a theme encompassing not only the political event (the women's march), but also a wider theme of the dangerous beliefs of *Shia* Muslims in general. This was indicated by mentioning *Shia* self-flagellation practices involving children as well as blood-spilling practices. The text also points towards the reason for these practices. This was done by briefly stating the practices as penance for Imam Hussain's martyrdom. The ST's target readership is likely familiar with this historical event, so the writer kept it short. It is worth noting that the translation opted for a different approach.

The external-level analysis indicated that this text is similar to the previous ST that are chosen to be translated by the *Arab Times* newspapers. The difference here is that the Emirati writer Al-Habtoor did not publish his political article in *Al-Seyassah* newspaper first, but rather used his own website to publish his writings. The previous writer Al-Azmi did something similar, as he first published his Arabic article on Twitter. However, Al-Azmi is a local Kuwaiti political analyst, so it can be understood why the *Arab Times* would choose to translate his articles. Al-Habtoor is not a Kuwaiti analyst,

which could indicate a possible outside factor in choosing the texts to be translated. The indication is that the translated texts must at least be in line with the newspaper's political views. These views, as the previous texts indicated, are anti-Iranian to a certain extent and are supportive of the GCC countries. Furthermore, the political views circulated in these texts should also be similar when they concern *Shia* matters as well.

This text's discourse analysis showcased the use of linguistic features as well as thematic elements to present negative political views towards Iran and its general demographic of *Shia* Muslims. Therefore, the analysis of its TT needed to take these factors into consideration to see how they are rendered from the ST to its translation.

The TT was produced and published by the Arab Times newspaper. The internal-level analysis of the TT indicated differences in some of the translator's words choices. The important word choice is the use of the phrase "cutting of babies' heads" as a translation for the ST's literal *injuring the heads of children*. This word choice would likely be received differently by the TT's readers compared to the ST's readers. Here, the perceived meaning of "*cutting heads*" would probably be the literal *beheading* of children. This meaning is also intensified by using "babies" rather than the literal "children". "Babies" is less formal and is perceived as younger in age. The word is often used to refer to infants and new-borns as well, so the use of the phrase "cutting of babies' heads" paints a horrific picture of *Shia* religious practices and Iran by association for the readership. The translators at the *Arab Times* can generally be considered experienced translators. In fact, the mean average experience of the translation team is close to twenty years, according to the conducted quantitative research. Therefore, it is hard to argue this that the meaning of this rendition is a mistranslation. The result of such word usage is painting *Shia* and Iran in a negative

light by negatively framing their practices in the translation. So, it can be argued that the underlying views of the ST have been amplified in the TT.

The translation also added extra information not in the ST. The extra information relates to informing the readership about the identity of Islamic figure Imam Hussein “grandson of Prophet Muhammed (PBUH), and son of the 4th Caliph Ali bin Abi Taleb”. It is safe to assume that such additional information was added since the target readership is likely non-Arabs/Muslims. This meant that adding this information would present the readers with the necessary contextual knowledge.

Second, the intermediate level showed similar thematic results to the ST. However, one difference is that the ST used the third-person point of view as a way of describing doubt with the phrase “قد يقول قائل” qad yaqūlu qāʾilu, which literally translates to *one might say*. The ST also used the second-person point of view in plural form towards the end to confirm for the readers what they just read. In comparison, the TT used the direct second-person view throughout. Interestingly, the used pronoun is the singular “you”. This stylistic choice of translation directly communicates with the readers on a more personal level compared to the ST. The result of using this style in a translation could be argued as urging the readers to be involved in the text. By communicating directly, the theme of the translation morphs into denouncing violence towards children. Implicitly, the translator circulated anti-Iranian views and amplified them through these thematic and textual factors.

Third, the external-level analysis showed nearly identical results to the ST. However, the only possible factor that affected the TT more was the previously discussed readership of the TT. Since the readership is likely less informed about Imam Hussein, the translator had to compensate by adding extra information to contextualise the translation in an informative manner for the readers. The discourse

analysis of the ST and its TT alongside each other demonstrated the way translation can be used to amplify underlying political views. The analysis also showed how a translation can skew an ST's theme.

The fifth analysed text was also written by Al-Habtoor. The text discusses how Turkey, Russia, and Iran are forming a political alliance and how this affects the region. The article also illustrates the writer's concern regarding the outcomes of the said alliance.

Arabic Headline:
المحور التركي-الروسي-الإيراني يشكل تهديداً خطيراً.
23/08/2016
يقشعرّ بدني إزاء المسار الذي سلكته الأمور. يصافح #أوباما الأئمة المتآمرين الضالعين في حمام الدم السوري، ويصف السعودية وسواها من الدول السنّية بالاستغلاليين، وقد اختار سحب المستشارين العسكريين الأمريكيين الذين يعملون مع قوات التحالف الذي تقوده السعودية في #اليمن فيما ينظر المشترعون الأمريكيون في التصويت لحظر مبيعات الأسلحة إلى المملكة العربية السعودية. أضف إلى ذلك المحور التركي-الروسي-الإيراني-السوري فيصبح واضحاً تماماً أن غيوماً تتكدّس في الأفق وتنذر بعاصفة قوية. متى سنتعلّم دروس الحياة والموت! إما تُقضَم الدول العربية السنّية جغرافياً أو يُلقى بها في أتون الصراعات المذهبية أو يجري إضعافها اقتصادياً. هل هذا كله جزء من مخطط أكبر لتدمير السعودية، ودول الخليج ومصر والأردن؟ إياكم والاعتقاد أنهم لن يحاولوا ذلك، لا سيما الآن بعدما ابتعدت #تركيا عن الكتلة العربية السنّية غير الرسمية! لا يهتم الغرب سوى بتحقيق مصالحه الخاصة، وبفضل #أوباما، حصل الملالي على جرعة كبيرة من الزخم والتعويم.

Text 24. Source text 5 obtained from Al-Habtoor's personal website [122]

English Headline:
Iran-Turkey-Russia Nexus Threat. 25/08/2016
The way this is panning out gives me chills. Obama shakes hands with the ayatollah conspirators in Syria's bloodshed, he refers to Saudi Arabia and other Sunni states as freeloaders, and has now chosen to cut US military advisers working with the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen while US lawmakers consider a vote to bar weapons sales to the Kingdom. Add to that the Turkish-Russian-Iranian-Syrian axis, and anyone with half a brain can envision gathering storm clouds. When will we learn our life and death lesson? Sunni Arab states are being either physically eroded, thrust into sectarian conflicts, or undercut economically. Is this all part of a greater blueprint to destroy Saudi Arabia, the Gulf States, Egypt, and Jordan? Do not think they would not try it, particularly now that Turkey has distanced itself from the unofficial Sunni Arab bloc! The West is only interested in going where its bread is buttered, and thanks to Mr Obama, the mullahs have plenty of butter to spare.

Text 25. Translated text 5 obtained from Arab Times newspaper [123]

The internal-level analysis showcased the writer's use of specific words. One of these words is "الأئمة" al-ʾaʾimati, which literally translates to *Imams*, to refer to the Iranian officials. Moreover, the text contained the use of "الملالي" al-malālī, which also

[122] Source: https://www.khalafalhabtoor.net/ar/article/617/المحور-التركي-الروسي-الإيراني-يشكل-تهديداً-خطيراً

[123] Source: http://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/iran-turkey-russia-nexus-threat/

means *Imams* or *Mullahs*. However, this morphological derivation of the word can be seen as negative in Arabic as it is not the standard word derivation.

It is worth noting that "الأئمة" al-ʾaʾimati is a neutral word in Arabic that does not denote a specific sector of Islam. The writer used negative adverbs alongside *Imams*. These include words like "المتآمرين" al-mutaʾāmirīna, which literally translate to *conspirators*. Also, the writer used the adverb "الضالعين" al-ḍāliʿīna, which literally translate to *deep in*, in conjunction with "حمام الدم السوري" ḥamāmu al-dami al-sūrī, which literally translates to *the Syrian bloodbath.* The use of such adverbs demonstrates the writer's anti-Iranian views in the text. These views are then implied to be sectarian in nature (*Sunni* vs *Shia*) rather than political. This was implied by the writer's use of phrases like "الدول العربية السنّية" al-duwalu al-ʿarabyati al-suniyyya, which literally means *Arab Sunni countries*, and "الكتلة العربية السنّية" al-kutlatu al-ʿarabyatu al-suniyyya, which translates to *bloc of Arab Sunni countries*. These phrases show the political event's theme is not simply one about GCC countries against Iran, but a more inherent opposition outlook of *Sunni* countries against the predominantly *Shia* Iran.

In addition, the text here uses hashtags with some of its lexical items like "اوباما" (Obama), "اليمن" (Yemen), and "تركيا" (Turkey). The use of hashtags was likely made to further propagate the text on social media platforms like Twitter. In contrast, the TT disregarded these hashtags and presented the translation without them.

The intermediate-level analysis illustrated the text's thematic elements and use of specific designations to represent the relevant parties in the text. The designations used were *Mullahs* for Iran, *Kingdom of Saudi Arabia* for Saudi Arabia, and *Obama* for the United States. The use of the official name *Kingdom of Saudi Arabia* contrasts with the use of *Obama* and *Mullahs* for the other two parties. Therefore, it is safe to assume which side the writer support in this context, which is likely Saudi Arabia. Thematically,

the text can be seen as one related to the Gulf-Iran conflict. The text also shows a clear view supportive of the Gulf countries in this conflict, as it negatively described Obama's role in strengthening the positions of the *Mullahs* negatively. This is in addition to the use of the word "يصافح" yuṣāfiḥu, which means *shaking hands*, to describe Obama's relationship with the Iranian government. Furthermore, the text's theme shows how such actions were part of a plan to destroy Saudi Arabia.

The external-level analysis indicated similar findings to the previous texts. These include a political view supportive of the Gulf countries and antagonistic towards the Iranian government. The text might have been affected by Al-Habtoor's nationality or *Sunni* background, as it implied opposition towards *Shia* Muslims. This is also in line with Al-Habtoor's previous article, which was related to *Shia* religious rituals.

Al-Habtoor is an Emirati citizen, and the United Arab Emirates are politically in conflict with Iran. This conflict is a long-standing one since the UAE claims that Iran is occupying three of its islands[124]. These three islands are Abu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb. So, it can be assumed that Al-Habtoor's anti-Iran political views are influenced by a sense of nationalism, which resulted in the writing of articles like this and the previous one.

As the above text's analysis showed, political articles need to be contextualised within the political sphere to understand how they circulate and support political views and agendas. Such contextualisation combined with an analysis of linguistic and thematic elements helps identify the influences affecting the translations.

Next, the *Arab Times* newspaper's translation of the article, which the newspaper also published online, is analysed. The internal level analysis showed

[124] Source: https://www.mei.edu/publications/uae-official-calls-international-action-end-iranian-occupation-disputed-islands

some choices by the translator that frame the TT's more explicitly than the ST. For example, the translator opted to use *ayatollah* to translate the Arabic "الأئمة" al-ʾaʾimati, which is often transliterated in English as *Imams* or *Mullahs*. As was noted in the ST's analysis, "الأئمة" al-ʾaʾimati in Arabic denotes a specific Islamic sector. However, *ayatollah*, which is a *Shia*-specific term that clearly denotes the *Shia* sector, as *Sunni* Muslims do not use this term in Arabic to refer to religious officials[126]. Therefore, the translator clearly opted to use a specific term to indicate *Shia* religious officials. This way, the translator ensures that the reader, likely not an Arab or a Muslim, would not perceive a negative impression of all Muslim religious officials (*Imams*). Another result is the framing of the text's negative views towards a *Shia*-dominated context.

The intermediate level analysis found that the TT contains the same thematic elements as the ST. However, there was one textual difference between the two texts. This difference is in the final sentence's structure and meaning. On the one hand, the ST illustrates how Obama's stance helped provide the Iranian *Mullahs* with more political capital as well as media exposure. On the other hand, the TT clearly states that the West (rather than the ST's Obama) is taking the *Mullahs'* side because they "butter their bread". A possible result of this difference could be in how the text is received by the readers. The text frames the political situation as being influenced by the West in general rather than through the United States President Obama. As a result, the translation indicates this political state of affairs is beneficial to both Iran and the West in general, while the Gulf countries are paying the price in this situation.

The external-level analysis resulted in similar findings to the ST's analysis. In addition, it can be argued that since the *Arab Times* newspaper is situated in Kuwait, it would reflect the country's political views. Therefore, the news editing desk at the

[126] *Sunni* Muslims generally use *Sheikh* or *Imam* to denote a man of religion.

newspaper would choose Arabic texts that are in line with the country's foreign policies. This was observed in the previous five analysed texts. Furthermore, Al-Habtoor is an Emirati citizen, and Kuwait in general politically leans more to the UAE rather than Iran. This is due to many factors. Both Kuwait and the UAE are Arab countries and are predominantly *Sunni* Muslim countries. In contrast, Iran is a Persian country with a *Shia* majority, so its shared linguistic and religious heritage arguably makes Kuwait politically favour the UAE compared to Iran. It is also worth reiterating that Iran conducted intelligence operations in Kuwait, which damaged the political relationship between the two countries, the result of which is that Kuwait could be open to critical analyses of Iranian practices made by news institutions based in Kuwait.

If the news institutions published items of severe negative content about a country that Kuwait views as its ally, then it is plausible the state would apply the media publication law to censor such news items. However, as was observed here, the *Arab Times* published multiple news items critical of Iran, but there were no issues with the law. So, it can be safe to assume that Kuwait does not view Iran as an ally.

In essence, the previous analysis showcased how intricate translation practice can be in relation to the political context. Moreover, the analysis also demonstrated how outside factors and political relationships among the involved entitles are important to note when analysing a text of this nature. In addition, the analysis showed how a translation can circulate its ST's underlying political views, but still be able to skew them by framing the translation differently (for instance, using *ayatollah*).

6.4.4 *Kuwait Times* Texts Analysis

The *Kuwait Times* newspaper deals with news of many different kinds. The newspaper also deals with the translation and reporting of political news items, both

local and international. The *Kuwait Times* news reports are all published on its website[127] and are all in English only. This is mainly due to the newspaper's target readership, which is local and international non-Arabic speakers. Also, these English reports do not have a published ST for comparison. This is generally due to the newspaper's approach of collecting news from multiple sources and editing items into one TT.

Unlike the *Arab Times* newspaper, the *Kuwait Times* website has a well-maintained archive for their published news items, so the choice to analyse TTs from this section was made. Also, these reports generally contain more than one news item, so the analysed texts from this section are excerpts or news reports with their own headlines. Compared to other TTs from the Kuwaiti MOI and KUNA, *Kuwait Times*' news reports are often more detailed, so the texts are comparatively longer.

Like the *Arab Times* newspaper though, the *Kuwait Times* website contains a separate opinion section on its website[128]. This section provides space for writers to present their opinions on many different topics. This section also includes opinions and articles containing texts related to recent news. The texts can either be written by the original writer in English (this is often the case when the writer is non-Arab) or can be a translation of an already published Arabic ST. However, unlike the *Arab Times* newspaper, this section mainly consists of news related to Kuwait's internal affairs and articles of a cultural or historical nature, so in general the genre of these texts does not fit the context of this research and were not used in the analysis.

The five texts used for the analysis were collected from the news section of the *Kuwait Times* website. As a result, it was not possible to compare the TTs to their STs,

[127] *Kuwait Times* website: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/

[128] *Kuwait Times* opinions section: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/category/opinion/

as the texts do not have a single ST. This is due to the English news being written and published based on multiple sources.

The first text is a news report regarding air strikes carried out by the Arab coalition against Houthi targets. This is a news report of a political nature related to the Yemeni conflict between the Arab countries' coalition and the Yemeni Houthi militias.

English News item Headline: Saudi-led coalition's planes pound Yemen's capital 20/01/2019
ADEN/SANAA: Saudi-led forces launched overnight air strikes on Yemen's capital, described by one resident on Sunday as the worst in a year, as the United Nations struggles to implement a peace deal. A spokesman for the Saudi-led coalition said its warplanes attacked seven military facilities used for drone operations in Sanaa, which is held by rival Houthi forces. Yemen's nearly four-year-old civil war, which pits the Iran-aligned Houthi movement against the Saudi-backed government of Abd-Rabu Mansour Hadi, has killed tens of thousands and left millions on the brink of starvation. Saudi-owned Al Arabiya television said the overnight targets included Al-Dulaimi Air Base, a drone storage site, and military training sites. Medical workers and residents told Reuters at least two civilians were killed and others injured, and that the raids also damaged homes. Houthi-run al-Masirah TV said on Sunday that the coalition had conducted 24 air strikes on Sanaa since Saturday evening, including four on the air base. It said a plastics factory was also hit, causing a large fire. Reuters footage showed a large crater next to the factory and damaged homes nearby. "The raids were very violent, the likes of which we have not seen for a year," Sanaa resident Arwa Abdul Karim told Reuters. "The house shook so much we thought it would fall on our heads."

Text 26. Translated text 1 obtained from the Kuwait Times newspaper [129]

The internal-level analysis demonstrated the use of specific lexical items. An example of these is the use of "Saudi-led" when describing the Arab coalition forces,

[129] Source: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/saudi-led-coalitions-planes-pound-yemens-capital/

which is apparent in the news headline. This compound adjective illustrates to the reader that the prominent force within the coalition is Saudi Arabia. In contrast, the Houthi forces are described with the compound adjective “Iran-aligned”. Therefore, the conflict is framed as a proxy conflict between Saudi Arabia and Iran on Yemeni territory.

Another example in the text is “Saudi-backed” when describing the Yemeni government, which is also a compound adjective. There are other examples of compound adjectives in the text like “Houthi-run Al Masirah TV” and “Saudi-owned Al Arabiya television”. All these instances can be considered as additions to the TT and omitting them would have been possible. However, the translator here opted to add them in the TT. The rationale behind these additions could be that to the uninformed reader, these additions would help in understanding the conflict in Yemen. Otherwise, an avid follower of the Yemeni conflict would not need such additions to understand the conflict. Still, these compound adjectives clearly present a frame for the ongoing conflict. They also present the main parties and their alignment within the conflict. The Reuters news agency, as an outside party in the conflict, was not described using adjectives of any kind. This implies that the news framing is only concerned with relevant parties in the Yemeni conflict.

Another aspect of the internal analysis is the use of “pound” in the news headline. Here, the use of “pound” presents a negative implication against the coalition, as the word denotes continuous airstrikes. In comparison, if another phrase was used like “launches strikes”, then the headline would have turned out differently by being more neutral. The current headline frames the news in a way that is negative towards the coalition forces. This is done by juxtaposing the Saudi-led coalition strikes with the Yemeni capital.

The intermediate discourse analysis resulted in thematic insights into the text. For example, the two main parties of the conflict are representatives of other parties. The coalition forces and the Houthi forces are proxies for Saudi Arabia and Iran, respectively. Therefore, the theme of the text extends further than the Yemeni conflict to Saudi Arabia and Iran. Moreover, the nature of the discourse and its framing indicates that the real victim in this conflict is Yemen and the Yemeni people. This is demonstrated towards the end of the text by quoting a Yemeni civilian.

The external-level analysis showed how some outside factors might have influenced the translation. An example of this is the private nature of the *Kuwait Times* newspaper. Unlike state-funded news institutions, *Kuwait Times* as a private institution can criticise some news events. In this context, the coalition of which Kuwait is a part was implicitly criticised in the headline. This was not seen in previously analysed texts from the state-funded MOI or KUNA. Furthermore, *Kuwait Times* as a news translation institution consists only of non-Kuwaiti translators, as the quantitative data analysis in section 5.2 showed, so it is safe to assume that the translator here was not affected by social factors like nationalism in their translation of the Yemeni conflict in which Kuwait is taking part.

Another external aspect to consider is what news sources the *Kuwait Times* uses. In this case they used Reuters, Saudi-owned *Al-Arabiya*, *Houthi*-run *Al-Masirah,* and coalition spokesmen. So, it seems that *Kuwait Times* considers all involved parties as well as international views when they translate and publish their news. As a result, the framing of their news translations might not be as clear as the other analysed news institutions.

Next, the second TT is an excerpt from a news report published on the *Kuwait Times* website regarding the closure of the *Al-Aqsa* Mosque in Jerusalem by an Israeli

court ruling. The translation indicated the reactions of several involved parties including the Muslim foundation, which is responsible for running the mosque.

English News item Headline:
Defy Israeli Court 06/03/2019
In another development, the Muslim foundation that runs the Al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem, the Waqf, said yesterday it will defy an Israeli court order barring access to part of the flashpoint holy site. There have recently been scuffles between worshippers and police there over the use of a side building called the Golden Gate, closed by Israel since 2003. Arguing there was no longer any reason for it to remain shut, Palestinian officials reopened the building last month, and crowds of worshippers prayed inside despite the Israeli closure. A Jerusalem court this week gave the Waqf until March 10 to explain why the closure order should be lifted, Israeli watchdog group Ir Amim said in a statement. “As the Waqf does not formally recognize the Israeli court system, it is unlikely to issue a formal response, in which case the court is expected to approve closure of the building,” the NGO said. “It is anticipated that a forced closure by the police will trigger significant numbers of Palestinians rallying or breaking the closure.” That, it said, was liable to lead to “a harsh police reaction” at the compound, known as the Haram al-Sharif or Holy Sanctuary, which includes the Al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock. Asked to confirm the latest ruling, a justice ministry official told AFP that details of the case were “confidential”. **‘Our right’** “The decisions of the courts do not apply to the mosque of Al-Aqsa,” Sheikh Abdel Azim Salhab, the leader of the Waqf council, said in a video clip published on Tuesday. “It is our right, religious and contractual, to access the Golden Gate and keep this door open for Muslims to pray,” he said. Salhab and his assistant were briefly detained last week for what police said was violation of an order preventing entry into a prohibited area of the holy site. They were released later the same day, but the arrest drew condemnation from Jordan, the custodian of the Haram al-Sharif, in Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem. Waqf spokesman Firas Al-Dibs said that since the latest dispute erupted, Israel had arrested nearly 130 Palestinians in Jerusalem, including senior Muslim officials. It has temporarily barred more than 60 people from the compound, he said. Access to Golden Gate was closed by an Israeli court order in 2003 during the second Palestinian intifada over alleged militant activity there, police say. Waqf officials argue that the organization that prompted the ban no longer exists. The compound is the

third-holiest site in Islam and a focus of Palestinian aspirations for statehood.
It is also the location of Judaism's most sacred spot, revered as the site of the two biblical-era Jewish temples. Jews are allowed to visit but cannot pray there, and it is a frequent scene of conflict between the two sides. Palestinians fear Israel will seek to assert further control over it, while Israel accuses Palestinians of using such claims as a rallying cry to incite violence. It is in the walled Old City in east Jerusalem, occupied by Israel in the 1967 Six-Day War and later annexed in a move never recognized by the international community. - Agencies

Text 27. Translated text 2 obtained from the Kuwait Times newspaper [130]

The internal-level analysis focused on the linguistic features of the translation. The use of specific lexical items in a specific way seems to indicate an anti-Israeli view in the text. Two examples of this can be observed in the headline and the heading, which was a quote written in bold font. The first example is the headline "Defy Israeli Court*",* which frames the entire text as a resistance of the Israeli occupation. The second example is using the quote "Our right" as a heading and in a bold font, which implies the translation's underlying political views and its goal as an act of resistance against the Israeli occupation of Palestine. The rationale behind framing the news in this manner is twofold.

On the one hand, the translators at the *Kuwait Times* act as news editors and can choose the specifics and sources for their news translation. Therefore, the decision to opt for sources and news events supportive of the Palestinian cause is understandable, as the translators were all Arabs. This means that a sense of Arabism could have affected at least the news editing phase of the translation's production. On the other hand, the representation of Israeli violations and transgressions against Palestinians is often used in Kuwaiti media to justify Kuwait's support of the Palestinian cause. As a result of this long-standing tradition, it can be argued that the circulation of similar illustrative news events became the norm for Kuwaiti news institutions. This

[130] Source: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/israeli-planes-hit-hamas-military-targets-over-incendiary-balloons/

might have resulted in forming a shared collective view on this conflict, so it is possible that the same fundamentals apply to translating news as well. This is especially the case when the translator also acts as a news editor, as they would be exposed to the norms of news editing in their respective institutions.

Furthermore, the translation used compound adjectives as a framing device in the text. An example of this is the use of “Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem”. This description falls in line with the collective view of Israel as an occupying entity. This shared collective view was also circulated in some previous texts from the other Kuwaiti news translation institutions.

The intermediate-level analysis of the text showed findings corroborated the internal level’s findings. Thematically, the text presents the news event as an Israeli transgression on Muslim holy grounds. This is showcased by using statements and quotes predominantly from Muslim sources. In contrast, the quoted statements from the Israeli side are minor in comparison, consisting only of one statement consisting of one word. The quote was regarding the court ruling’s details, which were “confidential.” The addition towards the end of the text about the international community’s refusal to recognise the 1967 annexation also supports the discussed collective view of the text as well as its theme.

The external-level analysis’s findings were also in line with the other two levels. Outside factors that might have affected the translation range from social ones to political ones. On the one hand, *Al-Aqsa* Mosque is a highly regarded holy mosque in Islam. Therefore, the translator’s choice to present this event in this manner might have been affected by this factor. Possible effects could include the rationale behind the used quotes, as they are relevant to this news and might even be representative of the translator’s own beliefs. Here, the translator as a news editor affected the

thematic presentation of the news event by selecting these specific statements. As a result, the political views of the translation were presented and then circulated through the publication of this translated news item. On the other hand, political factors such as Kuwait's refusal to recognise the Israeli state and the normalisation of diplomatic relations could have been adopted by the translator in this context. By presenting and framing the event in a pro-Palestinian manner, the translator followed the general foreign policy of the state. In addition, all the *Kuwait Times* translators are Arabs, and the general Arab public are pro-Palestine in this conflict. Therefore, it is possible that the translator's own political view is pro-Palestine, so the framing and thematic features of this translated news can be a result of these factors. In essence, the discourse analysis of the text showed how the views of the text were indicated by being implicitly and explicitly supportive of Palestine.

Next, the third TT from *Kuwait Times* was analysed. It is a report about a fleeing Saudi woman who was stopped at Bangkok Airport to be repatriated back to Saudi Arabia. The report continues by discussing the criticisms Saudi Arabia faces in the context of human rights.

English News item Headline: Fleeing woman stopped by Saudi, Kuwaiti officials at Bangkok airport 06/01/2019
BANGKOK: A Saudi woman held at a Bangkok airport said she would be killed if she was repatriated by Thai immigration officials, who confirmed the 18-year-old was denied entry to the country yesterday. Rahaf Mohammed M Alqunun told AFP she was stopped by Saudi and Kuwaiti officials when she arrived in Suvarnabhumi Airport and her travel document was forcibly taken from her, a claim backed by Human Rights Watch. "They took my passport," she told AFP, adding that her male guardian had reported her for traveling "without his permission". Rahaf said she was trying to flee her family, who had subjected her to physical and psychological abuse. "My family is strict and locked me in a room for six months just for cutting my hair," she said, adding that she is certain she will be imprisoned if she is sent back. "I'm sure 100 percent they

will kill me as soon as I get out of the Saudi jail," she said, adding that she was "scared" and "losing hope".

Rahaf was stopped from entering Thailand when she flew in from Kuwait yesterday, Thailand's immigration chief Surachate Hakparn told AFP. "She had no further documents such as return ticket or money," he said, adding that Rahaf was currently in an airport hotel. "She ran away from her family to avoid marriage and she is concerned she may be in trouble returning to Saudi Arabia. We sent officials to take care of her now," he said. He added that Thai authorities had contacted the "Saudi Arabia embassy to coordinate".

But Rahaf disputed his account, saying that she was only in transit to seek asylum in Australia and was accosted by Saudi and Kuwaiti embassy representatives when she deplaned at Suvarnabhumi Airport. She took to Twitter to plead her case, creating a profile with an Arabic bio that reads "I just want to survive".

During a video livestream showing her walking around a carpeted hallway, Rahaf spoke in Arabic about how her father had told Saudi embassy officials she was a "psychiatric patient" who had to be returned, even though she had "an Australian visa". "I can't escape the airport," she said in the live video. "I tried, but there's a security (official) watching me." […]

Saudi Arabia has come under fierce criticism following the murder of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi inside the kingdom's Istanbul consulate on Oct 2 last year – a case that stunned the world. The ultraconservative kingdom has long been attacked for imposing some of the world's toughest restrictions on women. That includes a guardianship system that allows men to exercise arbitrary authority to make decisions on behalf of their female relatives.

Text 28. Translated text 3 obtained from the Kuwait Times newspaper [131]

As seen in the TT above, the discourse consists of an event used to exemplify Saudi Arabia's violations of human rights, especially those of women. Saudi Arabia is widely considered Kuwait's closest ally due to the two countries sharing a similar historical, linguistic, religious, and even tribal heritage. So, *Kuwait Times'* choice to

[131] Source: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/fleeing-woman-stopped-by-saudi-kuwaiti-officials-at-bangkok-airport/

report this news event, which is criticising Saudi Arabia, seems to be a challenging one. This is due to the media publication law in Kuwait that prohibits the publication of news affecting Kuwait's alliances with foreign states. The analysis of the TT provided some insight into how the text is being used to drive a specific political view. This was done primarily on the thematic level of the text. In addition, external factors arguably played a role in shaping the TT in this manner.

Firstly, analysing the internal-level, specific lexical items were found in the text. The translation decisions behind using these lexical items show implicit disagreement with how this event took place. For example, in the second half of the text the translator opted to use the verb "accosted" to describe the way the Saudi woman Rahaf was approached. This verb has negative connotations of aggressiveness and boldness. In comparison, if the translator had used a neutral verb like "approached", the connotations would have been toned down. The use of "accosted" means that both Saudi and Kuwaiti officials were aggressive in their approach. As a result, an implicit criticism of Kuwaiti embassy officials can be observed in this TT. Furthermore, the use of the adverb "forcibly" is also in line with the aggressive nature of the Saudi and Kuwaiti officials' approach. The translator in this case had the choice to tone down the negative aspects of the event. However, the translator made the decision to amplify them by using the specified previous lexical items. Also, the choice to add an entire paragraph consisting of additional information about Saudi Arabia's violations of human rights can be viewed as unnecessary in the reporting of this event, if thematically relevant.

Secondly, the intermediate-level analysis of the text showed how the thematic nature of a TT can be used to imply political views. The general theme of this TT is the violations of Saudi women's rights that resulted in them fleeing their homes. The

reported event is used as a representative case of this theme. Moreover, the use of quotes and statements from both the subject of the news Rahaf and Human Rights Watch imply the same theme. In this case, the readership could infer from the TT a negative view of Saudi Arabia, and by association of Kuwait as well. This negative view is one of human rights violations by Saudi Arabia with Kuwaiti assistance. In this context, it can be argued that the translator is the individual most responsible for shaping the thematic nature of the TT, as they make the linguistic and textual decisions.

Thirdly, the external-level analysis provided some of the outside factors that might have affected the TT to some extent. For example, the Kuwaiti media publication law prohibits the publication of news that can be harmful to Kuwait or its allies. Still, this translated news is loaded with negative implications towards Kuwaiti and Saudi officials but was still published. It can be argued that the content of this translated news did not "cross lines*",* as the *Kuwait Times* interview Participant 2 said when taking about the translation of political news. Participant 1 also stated that "Kuwait has a strict publication law that everything has to adhere to". Therefore, it can be argued that the translator in this case tried to keep the TT within the limits of the law, and even though it seems to be a strict law, it is still possible to work within its limitations.

The analysis showed that implications or subtextual elements like a text's theme can be used as devices to circulate a specific political view, so political views in translations can arguably be implicit or explicit. On the one hand, political views in translated news can be observed as a form of bias or support for one party against another. On the other hand, political views can be implied to in the translated news on the subtextual level by observing a text's theme or the external factors that might have

affected the translation of the news. The previous analysis showcased how translation strategies/approaches could be used as tools for the circulation of political views.

The fourth analysed text is a news report regarding the Palestine-Israel conflict.

English News item Headline: Calm returns to Gaza after rockets trigger retaliatory exchange of fire 27/03/2019
Netanyahu set for military action as election nears. JERUSALEM: Palestinian militants fired three rockets at Israel overnight, prompting retaliatory fire from Israel with exchanges threatening the Hamas-declared truce. Calm returned later yesterday, though there were concerns the first anniversary of mass protests along the Gaza-Israel border on Saturday would lead to further tensions. A big turnout is expected for the anniversary of the marches, which have been calling for Palestinian refugees to be allowed to return to their former homes now inside Israel. Israel says such calls amount to a campaign for its destruction and accuses Hamas of orchestrating violence along the border. The protests have drawn a deadly response from the Israeli army, which says its actions are necessary to defend the border. More than 200 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire, and one Israeli soldier has been killed by a Palestinian sniper. Palestinians and human rights groups say protesters have been shot while posing little threat. The exchange of fire overnight came after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he was prepared for further military action in Gaza, at a highly sensitive time ahead of an April 9 Israeli general election. The latest severe flare-up began early Monday when a rare long-distance rocket fired from the Gaza Strip hit a house north of Tel Aviv, wounding seven Israelis. The Israeli military hit back with air strikes across the enclave, and Palestinian militants launched a further barrage of rockets. No casualties have been reported. “Do what is necessary” Calm prevailed throughout yesterday, with Hamas claiming Egypt had brokered a ceasefire, but as night fell Israel said a rocket was fired from Gaza. In response, a military statement said: “Fighter jets struck several terror targets in the southern Gaza Strip, including a Hamas military compound and a weapons manufacturing warehouse in Khan Yunis.” A Palestinian security source said an air strike hit a Hamas military base in Khan Yunis in southern Gaza. Shortly before midnight, the army reported a second rocket attack, this time on an industrial zone on the edge of the Israeli coastal city of Ashkelon. Hamas, its main Gaza ally Islamic Jihad, and smaller groups took pains to disassociate

themselves from the incident. “The rocket that hit near Ashkelon was the work of an individual and the factions are committed to calm” as long as Israel is, they said in a joint statement. Early yesterday, Israel struck back.

“Fighter jets and aircraft struck several terror targets in the southern Gaza Strip in a Hamas military compound in Rafah,” an army statement said. Before dawn, another rocket was fired at Ashkelon but was brought down by Israeli air defences, the army said. Netanyahu, who cut short a high-profile visit to the United States to take charge of Israel’s response, said Tuesday: “We are prepared to do a lot more. We will do what is necessary to defend our people and to defend our state,” he told the annual conference of the US pro-Israel lobby group AIPAC by satellite link.

The army said that after a meeting with Netanyahu — who is also defence minister – chief of staff Lieutenant General Aviv Kohavi ordered more forces sent to the southern border region. Yesterday, a Hamas spokesman said: “The Gaza Strip has lived under Israeli aggression for two days. The Hamas movement has exercised its right to defend its Palestinian people.” “The situation has calmed down after the intervention of the brothers in Egypt and the entry into force of the ceasefire,” said Hazem Qassem. […]

Text 29. Translated text 4 obtained from the Kuwait Times newspaper [132]

The discourse analysis of the text above showed that news events can be translated in a way that omits the circulation of explicit political views. This approach to translating the news leads the reader to formulate their own opinion and views from the translation. This is a result of the translation being written in a way that is not meant to influence its recipient’s views.

The internal-level analysis of the text showed that neutral lexical items with minimal connotations were used throughout the text. For example, the use of “rocket attack” was used to illustrate the strike instead of “pound”, which was used in the first analysed text translated by the *Kuwait Times*. When compared, the two lexical items denote a similar meaning but with different connotations. Another example is the use

[132] Source: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/calm-returns-to-gaza-after-rockets-trigger-retaliatory-exchange-of-fire/

of “Israeli army” instead of using “occupation forces”, which was used in analysed texts published by the governmental sector (MOI text 4, KUNA text 1). The designation “Israeli army” can be generally considered neutral, while “occupation forces” is a denotation of the Israeli state as an occupying one. On the one hand, the first phrase does not frame the text in any specific manner. On the other hand, the second phrase clearly frames the text in a pro-Palestinian manner.

The rationale behind using “Israeli army” can be argued here. As the *Kuwait Times* publishes only in English, its main readership is generally neither Arabs nor Kuwaitis. Both those demographics are generally antagonistic towards Israel due to the ongoing conflict, so they might criticise or boycott a news institution that recognises Israel as a state. So, the *Kuwait Times* might have more leeway in this context compared to the governmental sector translation institutions, which are pressured both by Kuwait’s foreign policy as well as a critical readership.

The Intermediate-level analysis also showed similar findings, as it presented both sides of the conflict in a neutral manner. The translator abstained from using adjective compounds or explicit designations that could frame the translation as supportive of one side or the other. The translation included official statements from both sides as well as human rights groups. Still, thematically the news was presented with civilian casualties being a focus, as it cited the death of 200 Palestinians at the hands of the Israeli army. In contrast, only one Israeli soldier was killed by a Palestinian sniper. It can be argued that the translation is framing conflict by demonstrating the huge difference between the number of casualties on both sides. Therefore, the translation could implicitly be sympathetic to the Palestinian side.

In the external-level analysis, outside factors like the *Kuwait Times’* nature as an independent news translation institution could have affected how this news event

was presented in the translation. For example, the newspaper does not have to abide by the country's foreign policy, but it still must respect it due to the media publication law. So, it can present the news event in a manner that is unbiased and neutral, which is in clear contrast to how the governmental sector institutions present news in the same Israeli-Palestinian context.

The *Kuwait Times'* translations tasks are dictated by their news editing desk. This means that there are individuals who choose what type of news the newspaper publishes. So, it can be argued that the editing desk tries to publish news that governmental news institutions neglect in order to attract more readers. These news items might be controversial or sensitive. So, the translators try to be careful as they translate these news items without framing them in a way that would jeopardise themselves or the newspaper. Generally, the best way to do that is by being neutral and using quotes of official statements, as seen in the above text.

To summarise, translating political news and presenting them as neutral in addition to using official statements are possible methods translators can adopt to avoid circulating biased political views. The private-sector institutions arguably try to mitigate any criticisms from their readership, as they are generally their source of income. In contrast, governmental sector translation institutions focus more on circulating and representing the state's policy and political views. So, in the case of Kuwait, it can be argued that political views are circulated more often in state-funded institutions compared to the private sector, so the collective influence of these state institutions is more likely stronger than their private institution counterparts.

The fifth analysed text is a news report about the transgressions made by the terrorist group ISIS towards the subjugated civilians under their rule.

English News item Headline:
Harsh rules, violent punishments under IS rule

25/03/2019

Girls enslaved, music banned; homosexuality punishable by death

BAGHDAD: For the millions forced to endure the Islamic State group's brutal rule, life in the "caliphate" was a living hell where girls were enslaved, music was banned, and homosexuality was punishable by death. The jihadists applied an ultra-conservative interpretation of Islamic law across the swaths of Syria and Iraq that they captured in 2014, torturing or executing anyone who disobeyed.

The fall of the last sliver of IS territory in eastern Syria marks the end of their proto-state, once the size of the United Kingdom and home to more than seven million people. The fate of prisoners used by the jihadists as human shields remains unknown, but more than 3,000 Yazidis are still missing. The jihadists singled out the minority, followers of an ancient religion, for particularly harsh treatment that the UN has said may amount to genocide. They slaughtered thousands of Yazidi men and boys, abducting women and girls and selling them at slave markets.

Many suffered years of sexual abuse. "We did everything they demanded," said Bessa Hamad, an Iraqi Yazidi sold six times by jihadists before escaping their last redoubt in Syria. "We couldn't say no." Yazidi boys who were not killed were forced to fight and indoctrinated to hate their community, leaving families struggling to reconnect with those who were rescued. Children who went to IS-run schools learnt to count with maths books featuring guns and grenades, but pictures of people were banned.

As well as frontline fighters, IS ran its own police force, whose officers could impose fines or lashes on men whose breath smelt of cigarettes or alcohol. Books were burned, while dancing and music were banned. Instead the jihadists broadcast propaganda via their own radio station. The jihadists used sledgehammers to destroy priceless ancient artefacts they deemed idolatrous. A strict dress code forced even young girls to wear a full black Islamic veil. Beards and traditional robes were compulsory for men.

Thrown from rooftops

The extremists ran their own courts, sentencing people to death by beheading and hanging. Men and women accused of adultery were stoned to death. Men were shot or thrown from rooftops for the "crime" of being gay. The jihadists even introduced their own currency, minting coins that veterans of the battle against IS now keep as trophies. […]

Jail terms were imposed on those unable to pay IS taxes. Iraq's major northern city of Mosul and Raqa in Syria were transformed into the twin de facto capitals of the "caliphate". Raqa become a byword for atrocities carried out by the jihadists, and it was from there that IS organized devastating overseas attacks. Human heads were displayed on spikes in the city along with crucified bodies to sow terror.

Text 30. Translated text 5 obtained from the Kuwait Times newspaper [133]

The TT above provided a detailed account of the how the Islamic State treated civilians and clearly showed an antagonistic view of this group. The discourse analysis demonstrated how the translation also presents the atrocities, crimes, and human rights violations committed by this group.

First, the internal-level analysis showed that lexical items were used to point out violent transgressions. For example, adjectives were used to frame the news such as "harsh", "violent", and "brutal" when referring to the terrorist group's actions. In addition, specific words and connotative meanings were also used as framing devices. For example, the use of "extremists" as a designation for the group members shows denouncement of the group. Another example is the use of "Jihadists" as a designation. This term is more connotative of terrorists due to its circulation in the world media in recent years. In comparison, *Mujahedeen* also denotes the same Arabic meaning but with a different morphological derivation, as both are derived from the same Arabic root "*Jihad*"[134]. However, the latter is more associated in world media with the Afghani resistance against the Soviet Union during the 1970s. Therefore, it can be argued that the first word was used because it is more relevant to the TT and its theme.

[133] Source: https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/harsh-rules-violent-punishments-under-is-rule/

[134] In Arabic "جهاد", transliterated as jihād, and literally means "struggle".

Furthermore, the use of quotation marks for the word *caliphate*[135] indicates that in the case of the Islamic state, their implementation of the caliphate concept is questionable. The same method of using quotation marks was used for the alleged "crimes" of homosexuality. Both cases present the Islamic state as an illegitimate group that is (mis)using Islamic teachings as a vehicle to drive their extremist ideology.

Second, the intermediate analysis of the TT regards to ISIS' transgressions and crimes. This theme of the text is also one of human rights violations. Examples in the translations include reporting the group's enslavement of women, sexual abuse, prisoners being used as human shields, Yazidi genocide, abductions, and even banning music. This clearly presents the news event as one of explicit violations by a terrorist group. As a result, the aim of the text seems to be convicting and denouncing this terrorist organisation. This is indicated by how the group is designated as the text's internal level. Moreover, describing *Raqa*, which is a Syrian province, as a "byword for atrocities carried out by the jihadists" indicates that this news event is one of many violations by this entity. Third, on the external-level analysis it can be argued that factors such as the newspaper's policy and Kuwait's stance against terrorism affected the translation.

On the one hand, the policy of the *Kuwait Times* in translating relevant news, especially those about regional conflicts, resulting in the choice to report this news. On the other hand, the Kuwaiti stance against terrorism and extremism is in line with the TT's content. Therefore, it can be argued that the translator was able to edit the news and translate it in this manner within the frame of the Kuwaiti policy. The result of these factors' effects is the text being in accordance with Kuwaiti political views.

[135] A ruling system that fundamentally follows Islamic teachings and *Shura* (Shúrá).

The relational analysis showed how the use of connotative meanings and thematic elements in translations can be used as devices to circulate specified political views. Finally, the reporting and translation of such political news events falls in line with the policy of the country, as it is driving an anti-terrorism political stance. Therefore, it can be assumed that in this case the translator's views, the newspaper's policy, and the country's policy were aligned. This resulted in a translation that is reflective of all parties involved in its production.

6.4.5 Results of the Texts' Analysis

The analysis of the previous dataset comprising twenty translations demonstrated the application of Fairclough's relations model on translations. The model was also used on STs whenever they were available (ten). The use of this CDA model showed how it adopted to the nature of translated texts as it analysed the three levels of these texts. The model's adaptability was especially beneficial in its analysis of external factors that could affect the translations. Moreover, its intermediate-level analysis indicated how TTs can thematically and textually differ from their STs. In addition, the internal level analysis showcased possible linguistic differences between TTs and STs and what these differences might imply.

The combination of the three levels of analysis proved to be essential in understanding how news translation is produced and framed. Moreover, due to the previous analyses of the four institutions and how their translations are processed and produced, inferences and deductions using this model were easier to make and substantiate. This is a result of understanding the nature of the translation's environment in these institutions, as well as how the translators approach their translation tasks.

The analysed translations showcased how a political event translated, can be supportive of collective political views. Also, the discourse analysis showed that most translations retain the ST's general framing of the news event. Moreover, the analysis illustrated that translations might be used to amplify the presence of an ST's political views or in some cases tone it down. This seems to be governed by two main factors.

The first factor is the target readership of the TT. In this case, the translator might need to tone down or amplify the news framing to adhere to the collective views of the target readership. For example, STs related to homosexuality might be framed differently in their translation, as the target readership could generally be in favour of homosexuality. In contrast, the general target readership of the Arabic ST is likely against homosexuality, as it is illegal in Kuwait as well as prohibited in Islam. As a result, the event's framing can be constrained or amplified based on the target readership. This makes institutional news translation a recipient-oriented translation.

The second factor is the news translation institution's own protocols and political views. In this case, the translators of the institution might be asked to add/delete certain parts of the ST to make the TT more in line with the institution's political views. An example of this is how KUNA's TT sometimes differs in its content when compared to the ST. These changes are generally made after the translator gets the approval of their superior or when the superior edits the translation[136]. The changes are made by either the supervisor or the news editors before the translations are published So, it is possible in such cases that TTs and their framing are made based on how they reflect the news translation institution's political views. Additionally,

[136] This was observed in the answers to the questionnaire's open-ended questions provided by KUNA translators in section 6.2.2.

STs and TTs produced by the same institution seem to be affected by similar external factors in most cases.

Similarly, news institutions that only translate and do not produce their own STs seem to choose texts and translate them according to their own criteria. These criteria seem to be based on or at least include political views. This was indicated in the *Arab Times* newspaper's TTs. In this case, STs not produced by the *Arab Times,* or its parent company *Al-Seyassah* were seen to contain similar political views. Furthermore, the previous dataset analyses (translators' interviews and questionnaire's open-ended questions) found that the texts are chosen by the *Arab Times'* editing desk as well as the translation team's senior translator. Moreover, the text analysis found that the framing of these STs was amplified in their TTs. It seems that in the context of political news translation, political views are what matters the most in an ST. If the political views presented by the ST align with the news translation institution, then the framing of the ST will likely be similar to the TT. Therefore, understanding the news context and the political sphere surrounding the reported event is imperative to understanding the translation phenomenon.

For example, a recent study by Hitman and Zwilling (2021) on social media discourse related to Israel in the Gulf states (Kuwait included) found that the attitude of the users is antagonistic towards Israel. An older study on the effects of mass media and religion on the attitudes of Kuwaitis towards Israel by Al-Menayes (1997, p. 245) found that attitudes towards Israel are hard to define as being solely affected by one variable or a single indicator. Other studies also delved into how the relationship with Israel is constantly changing (for instance, see Rosman-Stollman, 2004, and Guzansky, 2011). It can be argued that this long relationship and the sequence of events related to Israel have helped construct the current antagonistic political view

towards Israel in Kuwait. This shows the temporal aspect of political news translation. It is possible for political views to be developed and circulated for long periods of time and across multiple events related to an ongoing situation/conflict.

6.5 Summary

This chapter analysed three different datasets: the questionnaire's open-ended questions, the interviews with translators from the four news translation institutions, and the discourse analysis of texts produced by the four news translation institutions. The analysis of these datasets was aided by the previous quantitative data analysis, which established the general features of the four news translation institutions. This establishment of general features served as contextual knowledge regarding how each institution processes its translation tasks. This helped inform the critical discourse analysis of possible external factors and agents in the translation at these institutions. One possible aspect that had to be inspected was if any of the institutions had personnel directly involved in the production of the translations besides the translators, editors, and proof-readers. None of the four institutions had such personnel. The importance of checking for this aspect lies in confirming the agency of the translation teams at the four institutions. Furthermore, eliminating the possibility that other social agents exist in the translation process also helps in understanding and analysing the extent of the translator's agency in the context of their respective institutions.

The first section of the chapter revolved around the questionnaire's open-ended question dataset analysis. The results illustrated how the source texts are chosen and who assigns them. The analysis also provided information about how the translators process and produce their translations in the four institutions. Moreover, the analysis

demonstrated how political news translation is viewed by the research sample. The findings of this analysis reflected how each institution practice their translation and its various phases. The findings also relate to the post-translation phase and how it differs between the public sector and the private sector. Finally, findings from this analysis revealed how the participants view political news translation.

The second section of this chapter presented the interviews dataset analysis. This analysis showed how the translators as individuals carry out their translation tasks. The analysis also resulted in inferring the nature of the translation environment at the four institutions. Furthermore, the institutions' general policies and protocols were deduced from the analysed interviews. This dataset's analysis resulted in understanding how social factors and attributes might affect the translation process/product at the four institutions. Essentially, the analysis made in this section provided hands-on experience with the state of translation at the four studied news translation institutions. The findings of the interviews analysis relate to understanding three central aspects of the translation activity in the four institutions. These aspects are text selection, translation process, and the special features of the four institutions.

The third and final section of the chapter was concerned with the third dataset. This section focused on the discourse analysis of published translations at the four institutions. The applied discourse analysis model was Fairclough's relations model of analysis. This analysis provided insight into individual/translator and collective/institutional influences on translations published by the four Kuwaiti news entities. The analysis also showed how and why differences might exist between a TT and its ST in this context. The findings of the textual analysis are that two main factors govern the translation and their tonality. These two factors are the target readership and the translation institution's own protocols and political views.

The culmination of this chapter is the presentation of translation products that are analysed critically with an understanding of each product's translation environment. This environment comprises the translators as individuals who were interviewed. In addition, the translation environment includes the institutions that were analysed generally using the questionnaire. These factors were all discussed in this chapter.

Conclusion

7.1 Research Findings

The analysed collected datasets of this research resulted in several findings worth discussing. The research may have contributed to filling some gaps in knowledge related to the field of translation studies. The findings of this research are broken down into two types: empirical and theoretical findings resulting from the used theoretical framework. The empirical findings of this research are based on analytical as well as statistical models. These empirical findings may help provide a general understanding of the state of institutional political news translation in Kuwait. The research studied four different news translation institutions in Kuwait, two from the public sector and two from the private sector. Therefore, it can be argued that an understanding of how the two sectors' institutional translation is being practiced in Kuwait was examined.

The translation processes/protocols/guidelines at the different institutions studied in this research illustrated how each news translation institution can be different in its approach to translation. These different approaches seem to be affected by factors that result in a *collective* influence on the translation, which can be called *institutional influence*. Institutional news translation in Kuwait is evidently affected by this collective influence. The factors that make up this influence can be broken down into two categories: process-oriented and product-oriented.

Process-oriented factors are related to the institution's translation process and how it influences the translations. This is demonstrated in the text selection phase of the research. By choosing source texts that are in line with collective political views, the translation can be affected by the ST's underlying/subtextual/connotative elements. The previous text analysis of the translations showed how in some cases,

STs can be biased or framed in a specific manner that in turn affect its translation. This news items selection seems to be carried out by one of the individuals from the institution or an external third party.

First, the institution usually, but not always, chooses the texts through its news editing team or other employed individuals. This is the most common practice and is likely the one affecting most published translations. The institution's selection seems to be affected by several factors, one of which is the institution's political views and its reflection through its published translated news. As the data from the interviews suggested, many of the participants stated that their translations must be reflective of the institution's political views. The institution would choose STs or news sources that are reflective of its views. In turn, this choice influences the translation by basing it on reflective STs or news sources. This is more prominent in the government sector institutions than the private sector. This is due to these institutions being representative of the state's political views and are thus required to circulate them. Translators can also select what sources to use for the news translation or even what to translate in some situations. This was observed in the MOI and *Arab Times* newspaper. Here, the translator can function as a *transeditor,* which makes them the starting point of the process of news translation. Therefore, the translator can be a social agent who influences the news translation by selecting its sources.

Second, external third parties in some cases select the news items to be translated. This was evidently the case with the MOI (and KUNA to a lesser extent), which receives some of its translation tasks and news items from the Amiri Diwan. Here, it can be argued that the Amiri Diwan is at the top of the state's political composition and is responsible for establishing its policies. These polices govern what

news to report and in turn affects its framing. The result is influencing the news and their translation due to the process of how the news is obtained.

Product-oriented factors in institutional influence are related to the translation itself. Here, the influence is concerned with translation decisions. The translation of official names of political entities is evidently affected by this institutional influence. For example, MOI translators have to use the specific designation of *Syrian regime* instead of using *Syrian government* or the Syrian president's name in news about Syria. This instance showcases Kuwait's political views about the Syrian government, which are negative as shown by the use of the word *regime*. The influence of these factors on the product level can be observed in the use of connotative meanings in the translation (for instance, Houthi *militias* instead of Houthi *forces*) and additions (for instance, *Saudi-backed*). Textual and thematic changes that frame the news towards specific political views can also be results of this influence. These changes were more prominent in the public sector compared to the private sector.

This research showed how government-funded entities may differ compared to private/commercial ones. On the one hand, translators from governmental institutions always seem to view their translation products as representative of state policy. On the other hand, private institutions differ in this regard, as they mostly focus on keeping their translation products within the publication law's limits. This indicates that policy plays a bigger role in governmental institutions compared to the private ones, as they view their products as a reflection of the state's policy and stance. However, the private sector institutions are still bound by the media and publication law and have to abide by it. Therefore, it seems clear that policy affects the public sector while the private sector is more affected by the publication law.

From a theoretical perspective, the research tried to examine some concepts of TS, including the translator's agency in institutional news translation, effects of social elements on translation, collective and individual influences, and political news translation, as well as censorship and gatekeeping.

The interview data analysis (section 6.3.7) showed that most of the interviewed translators believed that external social elements/attributes (background, religion, nationality, and political views) did not affect their translation practice. The extent of the effects of social attributes seems to be at least mitigated in an institutional setting. This is likely the case due to how institutions operate as well as their translation guidelines and protocols. Moreover, the data indicated that translators working in institutional environments seem to be less inclined to influence their workload based on personal social attributes. This is apparently due to the previously observed institutional guidelines, the translation process, and the environment in an institutional setting.

The role and agency of translators in the four studied institutions were arguably established based on the collected datasets that examined these two aspects (questionnaire and interviews). The translator's role in an institutional setting can vary based on the institution's practice and needs. In the case of the four news institutions, translators can also work as news editors to choose which political items to translate. It can be argued based on this research that the translator's role in an institutional setting is affected by the nature and needs of the institution. Therefore, when examining the role of the translator in an institutional context, it is arguably imperative to examine the institution's operation itself as well. A similar argument can be made about the agency of the translator. It also seems that the extent of the translator's agency is influenced by the translation process of the employing institution as well as

its manner of operation. As Kuznik and Verd (2010) argued, institutional translation is a collective effort, so individual agency is less prominent in such a setting.

Still, the translator's agency in the context of this research can manifest in editing the news if the said translator is a transeditor. This arguably shows that in an institutional news translation setting, the translator's agency is less evident in the translation product compared to the translation process.

Social agents and their roles in the translation at these institutions were identified through the interviews to measure the translator's agency. The interviews data also helped identify some of the protocols, verbal and non-verbal, that the translators should follow. This helps identify the limits of the translator's agency in this context. For example, one non-verbal example can be inferred from a statement by a Kuwait News Agency translator. The participant stated "There is like a frame you know. We have to work within the frame" (Participant 7) when asked about how they approach the translation of political news. This also showcases one example integrating the interviews' data analysis complements the overall methodology.

The concept of *gatekeeping* seems to be more prominent in the governmental sector compared to the private sector. The interviews demonstrated how KUNA translators (see KUNA Participant 5) might make changes to a news item such as omissions to keep it within the guidelines of the institution or the values of the society. Similar findings were made with regard to censorship. Governmental news translation institutions primarily translate/report news reflective of the state's policies. Therefore, it was found that news not reflective of such policies is censored to some extent. Another aspect of censorship that was observed is self-censorship. Here, translators opt to translate the news in accordance with what they see as safe to publish. This is

more relevant in the private sector (for instance, Participant 1 from *Kuwait Times*), as the translators have to abide by the Kuwaiti publication law.

Identifying and contextualising the translation process from the text selection phase to the publication phase, as well as the involved individuals and their roles, helped in the final phase of the data analysis. The final step of the methodology was the critical discourse analysis (CDA) of the published translations. By using the text analysis as the final step in the methodology, the previous datasets can be considered when analysing the translations. Aspects such as the aforementioned institutional influence, the involved social agents, and the translation process of each institution were considered in the analysis.

The used methodology started by establishing the general features of each institution and its translators by using the distributed questionnaire. Some examples of these features were if the institutions carry out their translations individually or collaboratively, usage of CAT tools or glossaries, and translation protocols. By establishing these features first, the CDA analysis would be formulated accordingly on that basis.

The findings of the questionnaire had to be elaborated on due to the limited scope of questionnaires. This was achieved by conducting interviews in which the translators were asked to elaborate on the translation process. This should also help in increasing the reliability of the two datasets, as they complement each other in some of aspects such as the translation process. In addition, the interviews were used to further understand the translators' mentalities and approaches to translating political news. This was made by applying grounded theory, which tries to identify these aspects based on the collected data.

The methodology concluded with the CDA of the published translations and their source texts whenever they were available. During the CDA phase, all the previously collected and analysed datasets (questionnaire and interviews) were used to inform and complement the CDA of the translations. An example of this complementary nature of the methodology is that one of the external factors that could have affected the translations would arguably be editors. The editors might change the final translation before it is published. However, based on the quantitative data of the questionnaire, this is mostly not the case, since 81.8% of the translators stated that published translations were at least mostly similar to their translations across the four institutions. This is based on the answers to question 7 from the questionnaire[137]. Therefore, it seems more likely that published translations are the products of the translators themselves rather than other individuals within the institution.

Other factors would be collaborative translation as well as the usage/availability of CAT tools and glossaries. These had minimal presence at the four institutions, so it was safe to assume that each analysed text was translated by a single individual with minimal influence from CAT tools and glossaries when it came to using specific terminology. This is based on the answers to questions 1, 2, and 3 from the questionnaire[138].

This methodology can arguably be applicable to not only institutional political news translation, but also other types of institutional news translations as well. This is due to it being inclusive of translation factors related to the *product* and *process* of

[137] The question was: When you finish a translation task and it is later published, how similar is the final product to your translation?

[138] Question 1: How do you translate your workload?

Question 2: Does your department provide Computer-Assisted Tools of translation (CAT) like SDL Trados?

Question 3: Are you provided a glossary before the translation task?

translation. The methodology also considers the translator as an individual or social agent by incorporating a translator interview phase in its formation. This phase can be adopted to illustrate the translator's views and values, as well as their personal approach to specific types of translation.

These considered factors alongside the CDA phase of the methodology could help future research projects by incorporating them to contribute to the discussion of said factors. Therefore, it is possible for future institutional news translation research projects to use this methodology as a template or at least a starting point to formulate their research methodology in institutional translation. This research examined institutional political news translation and showed how elements of news reporting interact with elements of politics in the context of translation.

7.2 Answers to the Research Questions

The research aimed to answer four main questions. These questions relate to the dynamic of individual and collective influences on translations, the effects of these influences, the role of the translator's agency in this dynamic, and the extent personal social attributes affect the translation of political news. The findings of the research formulated an understanding that helped in answering these questions.

- What is the dynamic of individual and collective influences in Kuwait's political news translation institutions?

Political news translation has been studied on three levels: the individual level, the institutional level, and the product level. This should help identify how and who influences the translations produced by these institutions. In turn, examining the dynamic of individual and collective influences on the translation product/process was possible.

First, the individual level showed that in most cases, translators stated that they are aware of the specific nature of political news translation. They also claimed in the interviews to have a clear understanding of their agency in the translation process and that it should be reflective of the institution. This was showcased in the many remarks regarding influencing the text, directly or indirectly. Many of the interviewed translators believed their personal social background and political views should not affect their professional translations. Some of the interviewed translators indicated how they deal with political news by following protocols of their respective institutions and reflecting the institution's views in their translations. Translators also mentioned that they keep the country's political views in mind when translating, which provides insight into their translation process and mentality. Based on the previously discussed interviews, it can be argued that translating political news in Kuwait is practiced by individuals who state that they understand the nature of political matters and their sensitivity.

Still, it is important to note that the translators' statements were made during official research interviews. This might have affected some of the participants and led to comments that are not reflective of the participants' reality. For example, a political news item could be generally considered sensitive or can be offensive to some parties, so some participants might claim to deal with all political news items in a sensitive and precise manner. However, this might not be the case for all the participants, and some might have shared remarks that can be considered a form of *lip service*. Such a situation can be considered one of the limitations of using interviews, as was discussed previously (section 4.6.2).

The influence of translators as individuals in an institutional setting seems to be limited due to many of the protocols and guidelines they have to follow. Therefore, it can be assumed that a translator's influence is affected by the nature of the translation

environment. For example, private sector translators might have some leeway compared to the public sector translators. This is based on findings that showed how important it is to keep personal opinions away from translations in the public-sector institutions.

Second, on the institutional level, political news translation in Kuwait seems to be affected by the previously discussed *institutional influence*. In addition, there seems to be two factors affecting institutional translation of political news in Kuwait. These two factors are the country's policy and its media publication law. Political news translation institutions must adhere to the overall foreign policy of the country and avoid any form of controversy in their published translations. This is especially the case in public-sector institutions, as they are reflective of the country in the political scene. In comparison, the private sector institutions have more leeway in publishing translations of sensitive political news items or opinions. Therefore, on the institutional level, political news translation is evidently practiced with caution in Kuwait.

Third, the product level analysis was indicative of two general translation features. First, translations should be made for STs that are not extremely controversial or damaging to Kuwait. Consequently, the TTs would not be controversial or damaging to Kuwait since their STs are not. Second, the published political news translations should be a satisfactory rendition of its ST. This was the case for all the institutions studied in this project, which were the four biggest political news translation institutions in Kuwait. Furthermore, translations in Kuwait usually go through phases of rewriting and proofreading. They are also supervised by senior translators or employees. In some cases, the translations are fact-checked in their respective institutions. Most translations are accessible due to the nature of their

institutions (KUNA, *Arab Times*, *Kuwait Times*). The only outlier here is the Ministry of Information, as its translations are mostly read on its television channel.

Therefore, it can be said that due to the process that a translation product goes through in these institutions, it is hard for an individual to influence it. However, if the influence is collective/institutional, then it is likely easier accomplish. One example is a political news event about the war in Yemen. The event can be collectively influenced to reflect an institution's views. This collective influence would involve social agents ranging from the translator to the editor to the supervising individual. As the previous discussion illustrated, political news translation in Kuwait is more influenced on the collective level compared to the individual level. This form of translation is also affected by external factors that are not clearly visible. For instance, gatekeeping is being practiced internally in the news translation institutions, especially the public ones, to avoid controversial political news items. Gatekeeping decisions are made by news editors (in KUNA, MOI, and *Arab Times*), supervisors (in KUNA and MOI), senior translators (in *Arab Times*), by transeditors (in KUNA and *Kuwait Times*), and external parties like the Amiri Diwan (in MOI and KUNA).

The Amiri Diwan's role was not clearly visible before this research. The role it plays in the text selection phase at the governmental news translation institutions is specifically important. This can be considered a form of institutional influence from an external entity. This influence on the translation process through text selection is in line with Nader's finding that censorship is a part of the translation policy in the Arab World (2018, p. 371). In addition, Woods' argument that censorship can be driven by ideology (2012) seems to be correct as the Amiri Diwan's text selection is dictated by the state's political views. These functions of the Amiri Diwan in the context of political

news translation helps construct the news consumers' world views, which was conceptually argued Shoemaker & Vos (2009, p. 3).

The effects of the 2006 media and publication law seems to be more apparent on the private-sector newspapers, as some of the interview participants stated. This law mandated that every published news item should be fact-checked and must not affect Kuwait's foreign relationships or its political allies. It can be argued that such factors not clearly visible to the news recipients may have affected the translation product and process in Kuwait. However, the publication law's binding nature (protecting the state's political interests) shows Merkle's sound argument that censorship is driven by the desire to "create a cultural or political system" (2010, p.19).

These discussed aspects point towards an institutional/collective-level influence rather than an individual/translator-level influence. This institutional level of influence seems to start at the text selection and can arguably be seen as a form of gatekeeping, as the institutions choose what political news items need to be translated. This influence continues to be present in the translation itself, as the translators are instructed to use specific terminology for certain political entities (for example, *Syrian regime*, *Houthi rebels*, *occupation forces*).

Next, institutional influence stipulates the need for translations be reflective of the institution's political views. This was especially the case for the governmental institutions. Therefore, it seems that collective/institutional influence is more likely to occur in this setting compared to the individual level due to the restraints and protocols the translators have to follow or abide by in their translation practice. For instance, translations from governmental institutions have to present the state's political view/stance in the reported news event. They also have to use specific designations/terminology reflective of the state's policy as the data showcased.

- How do these individual or collective influences affect the translation of political news in Kuwait?

The effects of the two types of influences vary based on the political news items themselves. For example, texts about the war in Yemen (STs and TTs) were found to be explicitly supportive of the Saudi-led Arab coalition in the public sector. The private sector translations were either supportive or neutral in this context, but never against the state's views. This was illustrated in the CDA of the texts and how some of them framed the news to be pro-coalition and anti-Houthi (texts 1, 2, 11, 13, 19). Similarly, the same was found in the analysis of texts related to the Israel-Palestine conflict (texts 3, 4, 7, 9, 27, 29). News framing in both contexts was consistent across many news items with different publication dates, which demonstrates the temporal aspect of the influences. It seems that the extent of an institutional influence on political news is to present them in line with the state/institution's political views.

Still, not all news items translations are influenced. An example of this was observed in news items that did not follow a temporal sequence of events (TT 5 published by KUNA). So, it can be argued that influencing translations can be more explicit when the news event is in relation to an ongoing situation (war in Yemen, Palestine-Israel conflict). In comparison, an independent event can be less relevant to the institution's political views as it does not pertain to an ongoing situation/conflict.

The effects of the individual influence of the translator are arguably less explicit compared to the institutional level's effects. These individual effects can be observed in translation decisions like meaning amplification or exegetical additions (in text 23). The translator as a social agent, could be familiar with the text's underlying political views, so they can influence it in varying degrees and forms. In text 23, the translator opted to use additions to provide the target readership with information they might not

be aware of like the identity of Imam Hussein. This addition helps the TR but present the text into a religious frame. The CDA results showed that news translations can be influenced to present their ST's underlying political views more clearly (explicitation) or omit/lessen them. These translation choices that were likely made by the translator such as using neutral language would in turn influence the news/translation and its perception.

The effects of the collective/institutional level influence on translation are more explicit compared to the individual/translator level influence. This can be argued for almost all the analysed texts, specifically the public sector translations. For example, the public translations were all reflective of the Kuwaiti government's political views. This level of influence affects the translation of political news from its selection phase to its publication phase as was observed throughout this research. Institutional level influence dictates which news to report/translate, how this news is reported/translated, and how it is framed. The overall translation approach is affected as a result of this institutional influence. One clear example of this is how published translations, especially in the governmental institutions, should be reflective of their respective institution's political views.

- What affects the translator's agency in a political news translation institution in Kuwait?

The factors affecting a translator's agency in this setting can be categorised into three types: institutional factors, social factors, and personal factors. Firstly, the institutional factors are mainly concerned with translation protocols or bylaws that could force the translator to pursuit a specific strategy when dealing with political items. A clear example from this project's findings is that governmental political news translation institutions must always be positively reflective of Kuwait in the public

sector. In comparison, the private sector is prohibited, by the publication law, from casting Kuwait in a negative light. Therefore, texts containing underlying views that are negative towards Kuwait's political image would be translated (if they are translated) while mitigating/omitting these underlying views. A translator's continued exposure to such an approach arguably results in affecting their agency to be in line with the institution's own approach to political translation. In addition, an institution's target audience could be seen as another institutional factor in this context. For example, the readers of a news translation institution consist mainly of foreigners living in their respective country. Therefore, such institutional factors play a role in a translator's approach to political news translation. This approach would adopt different strategies (for instance, foreignisation or domestication) to present the news in accordance with the target readership. The translation can present unknown facts more explicitly in the TT compared to the ST (for example, exegetical additions in text 23).

Secondly, social factors could affect a translator's approach to political news translation under specific circumstances. As was observed in the interviews, many translators believed that their social background and attributes should not and do not affect their translation practice because it would be unprofessional. The context and genre of translation would have to be appropriately suitable for social factors to be effective. This project showed that in the context of institutional political news translation, social factors have less effect compared to institutional ones when dealing with political news translations. Still, there were cases where the two types were aligned and resulted in amplifying the influence on their translation (translating news about the Palestine-Israel conflict). In this case, Kuwait, and the Kuwaiti society (collective) are aligned with the Palestinian side. Also, the translators (individuals) are

all Arabs and likely supportive of Palestine as well. This results in a context in which the collective and the individual are aligned in terms of views. The translations related to Palestine showcased how this alignment can influence the translations. So, it can be said that the effect of social factors on a translator's approach to political news translation is a dynamic one albeit limited due to the translation environment's nature.

Thirdly, personal factors seem to affect a translator's approach to political news translation. On the one hand, a translator could be conscious of the ST's underlying political views and choose to mediate them in a manner that suits their views or omits them altogether. Omitting these views can be hard to achieve, since it involves the whole translation process like the decision to translate the text in the first place. However, a translator could stick only to the text's factual information to present these views. This was observed in text 15 where the TT contained similar linguistic features as the ST (use of similar designations for the involved parties). On the other hand, the translator might not even be conscious of the underlying political views of the ST being translated. This might be due to linguistic proficiency or background/contextual knowledge of the translation item's topic. In the context of political news, a translator might deal with texts about foreign countries with which the translator is not familiar. For example, text 17 transferred the word *Mullah* from the ST (text 16) by using transliteration. While it is difficult to ascertain the rationale behind this translation decision, it is possible the translator opted to keep the TT as close to the ST as possible. As a result, the ST's underlying political views are mediated in in the TT.

In this case, identifying how involved political views are with the translation process and product from an institutional and a social perspective could showcase how the translator is mediating them. The research data analysis showed that political views in an institutional translation environment could exist within the texts as well as

outside them. This was observed in how the political news item's content/context can be one of the factors affecting the choice of whether to translate it as well as how to translate certain words/terms/names. One example is how political news translations about the Houthi forces in Yemen often describe them as "rebels" based on what one of the interviewed participants stated[139]. This shows that on the institutional level (translation environment), political views can be framed to adhere to the political interests of the state[140] or society in which the news is being translated. In addition, the research's data pointed to other elements that seem to affect the text selection. These elements seem to be generally driven by the text's importance and goal, as well as its compliance with the publishing/translation institution's views/protocols.

Furthermore, the research data suggest from a social perspective that political views can be circulated/translated due to social values that are considered fundamental to the society in which the translation is being produced. For example, supporting Palestine and being in opposition to normalisation of diplomatic relations with Israel has always been one of the core beliefs of Kuwaiti foreign policy. This was explicitly clear in analysed STs and TTs, as some have used "occupation forces" as a designation for Israel (Ministry of information TTs 3 and 4, Kuwait News Agency ST 1 and TT 1). This has resulted in circulating a political view that is antagonistic towards Israel.

Social agents (translators) might be more engaged with political news items that deal with similar contexts, as they have been exposed to them frequently or over

[139] Participant 3: *"*In certain news about the Yemen war, most of the websites say the Saudi-led coalition, we cannot say the Saudi-led, we say the Arab-led coalition. If we are going to say Houthi, we have to say the Houthi militant rebels*."*

[140] It is worth reiterating that Kuwait is part of the Saudi-led Arab coalition participating in the war in Yemen against the Houthi forces.

a long period of time. The Palestine-Israel conflict is arguably an example of how a political view can take a long time to be constructed and developed until it permeates across a whole society and is seen as part of its values. Leeuwen assumes that it is possible that sometimes "[…] meaning belongs to culture rather than to language and cannot be tied to any specific semiotic" (2003, p. 33). For example, the translation of a political text can be affected by the politics of the involved individuals or institutions. It can be argued that even society through its acceptance or rejection of an ST's or a TT's politics can affect the translation.

A text's underlying political views can be influenced on some level due to how socially accepted these views are. This can occur in an overt or covert manner. An observation of this is made in an analysed text produced by the Kuwait News Agency in which the ST used the Arabic phrase "قوات الاحتلال" qwātu al-ʾiḥtlāl, which literally translates to *occupation forces*. Its TT opted to use the phrase "Israeli forces" instead. This might be due to the Arabic text's target audience/society (likely Kuwaiti readers). The English TT is likely focused on a readership of foreigners by using an arguably neutral phrase since the target audience may not be supportive of Kuwaiti policies/views or adhere to its social values.

To summarise, a translator's agency could be limited due to three types of factors. These are institutional factors, social factors, and personal factors. Each type can have a different degree in limiting the translator's agency depending on the translation task's type, context, and the individual undertaking it. It can be argued that there is a negative corelation between limiting a translator's agency and their influence on the translation. In contrast, the more limitations there are on the individual, the more influence the institution would have on the translation. This shows the role the

translator's agency has in the translation of political news in an institutional setting and how it interacts with the dynamic of individual and collective influences on translations.

- To what extend does a translator's social background, religion, or political views affect the institutional translation of political news?

Based on the research data, it seems the social/personal attributes of a translator have a limited effect on the translation of political news in an institutional setting. This limited effect is mainly due to the nature of institutional translation. This finding is based on two datasets: the translators' interviews and the CDA analysis of the collected texts in this research.

First, the translators' interviews showcased that many of the participants believed that their personal social attributes did not affect their translation practice. The general argument was that such attributes did not play a role in the translation. This argument was also supported by the fact that translations from these news institutions have to be reflective of their institutions. Furthermore, due to the nature of the STs (political news), effects of personal social attributes were not major, as the translations are concerned with developing news. Translators who believed social attributes had an effect argued for collective social values/views rather than personal values. For example, MOI Participant 13 argued that as a Muslim working in a predominantly Muslim-filled environment, the translations could be affected, but that would be up to the reader to decide. It can be argued that the participant believes that if the text is dealing with a political item concerning a collective value/view of Kuwaiti society, then it is acceptable to influence the translation to be in line with the collective's views. This is considered acceptable since the society/state agrees with this influence or change in the translation. KUNA Participant 7 alluded to non-verbal guidelines that KUNA employees abide by. This can be argued as one factor in this

context. Participant 10 from the MOI, who is an Egyptian, argued that personal attributes can affect a translation when it directly concerns the translator. This effect can be in the form of exaggeration, as the participant stated. However, according to the majority of the interviews this is not usually the case as the four institutions generally prohibit personal views in the translations. The exception is the above case of governmental institutions in texts concerned with Kuwait since the institutions as collectives are the driving force behind the changes rather than the translators.

Second, the CDA showed that most of the changes made to the texts were due to institutional influence rather than personal influence stemming from social attributes. Moreover, due to how the translations are being supervised in the four institutions, it seemed difficult for the translators to make translation decisions based on personal social attributes. This is made even harder when translators believe that stating personal opinions is strictly prohibited. The only outlier here is the *Kuwait Times* newspaper, which provides its translators with the opportunity to write their own political articles. However, this is not a translation, which makes it irrelevant in the context of this research.

In essence, based on these findings, it is safe to assume that a translator's personal social attributes such as nationality, religion, or political views are hard to implement in an institutional translation setting. This is due to the translation environment's nature and its protocols and guidelines.

7.3 Summary of Findings

This research reached the following findings:

- The influence of the collective explicitly surpasses that of the individual in an institutional environment. This collective influence affects the both the translation process and product.
- The dynamic of the individual and the collective is directly affected by the translation environment. This environment extends further than the translation institution and includes the state, society, and the target readership. All these aspects factor in this dynamic of the individual and the collective.
- Personal social attributes (social background, religion, and political views) have limited effect in institutional translation due to the collective nature of the translation institution and its translation process.
- The translator's agency is limited in institutional translation due to the institutional protocols and guidelines. The agency is also less evident in the translation product compared to the translation process if the translator is functioning as a transeditor.
- Both public and private institutions in Kuwait must adhere to the state's policy. The public institutions have to abide by the state's political views and be reflective of them as they are bodies of government. The private institutions have to consider Kuwait's political views and abide by the 2006 media and news publication law.
- Gatekeeping is practiced routinely in the public sector compared to the private sector.
- The role of the concept of the translator's (in)visibility was difficult to ascertain in an institutional translation environment due to the activity's collective nature.

- The role of external third parties, specifically the Amiri Diwan, was found to be greater than anticipated in the activity of political news translation in Kuwait. This government body plays a central role in the text selection phase of the public sector.

7.4 Research Limitations

This research project was limited by in its methodological design and the data accessibility. The present research tried to mitigate the effects of these limitations; however, they should be acknowledged. First, the limitations of the methodology of this research are mainly concerned with time. This research analysed texts, translators' interviews, and questionnaires. Therefore, the time required to analyse these datasets was long. In addition, the allocated word limit was also a factor. These two factors of time and word limit might have constrained the scope of the data analysis and limited the research in general. An example of this is the limited number of analysed texts, which could have been higher if time and word limit were not constrained. In addition, due to these time constraints, the qualitative analysis programme NVivo was not used in the discourse analysis of the texts. NVivo was used in a limited capacity (interviews and open-ended questions only). It could have been integrated further to code relevant textual elements in the analysed texts in hopes of finding more patterns across the dataset. Also, due to the nature of the texts' analysis, some text elements like paratextual ones were not taken into consideration. Examples of said elements include pictures and HTML links in websites. These paratextual elements could develop the context of the translation and might even affect its reception. However, since the use of paratextual elements was not very significant in the analysed news items, they were generally disregarded in the texts' analysis.

Second, accessibility to the data was a limitation of this research. This limitation was mainly manifested in the willingness of the translators to participate in the interviews and the questionnaire. Some of the refusing translators cited time as the reason for their refusal to participate. Other translators refused outright to participate in this research. Another limitation is the abstract nature of some of the analysed concepts in this research makes their analysis mostly based on inference and deduction. This is especially the case for concepts like translator agency, social factors like religion, and individual/collective influence in translated news. Such abstract concepts are difficult to ascertain and can be tackled by trying to find as many patterns and indications related to them as possible.

7.5 Directions for Further Research

This research project tackled the state of political translation in Kuwait. The research focused on two areas of translation: institutional translation and political translation. The effects of social factors and the extent of their involvement in a translation context were both observed using the various methods of this research. However, translation is practiced in countless areas using many different language pairs, so there is still a need to further analyse these areas of translation.

One possible research idea is a comparative analysis of translations from *Al-Jazeera* news network and *Al-Arabiya* news network. The two news networks are the biggest and arguably the most influential in the Middle East. *Al-Jazeera* is funded by Qatar, while *Al-Arabiya* is funded by Saudi Arabia. The two nations have had a turbulent political relationship (the recent Gulf diplomatic crisis) and often used their news institutions to reflect their different political standings. An analysis of translations

of similar contexts from the two networks could contribute to the discussion of collective influence (state/society level) on the translation of political news.

Comparing published political news translations from different international institution using social media platforms (for example, Twitter) could provide a comparative perspective to illustrate how different international institutions might influence their news translations. Moreover, this would illustrate possible collective factors from these institutions' respective countries/societies.

Future research projects could also focus on the translation of political items from an interpreting perspective. For instance, these can focus on interpreting live political news events. Audiovisual translation of political items from institutions could also be researched to compare them to their source materials. For example, many news institutions translate political documentaries and publish them online. Also, further research needs to take into consideration differences between the language pair tackled. Finally, social factors that might affect the translation practice should also be taken into consideration.

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Appendices

Appendix I: Copy of the Distributed Questionnaire.

Research Questionnaire

Employer:

Age:

Nationality:

Translation Experience (years):

This questionnaire consists of ten questions across two parts. Part one contains multiple-choice questions with some sub-questions while part two contains open-ended questions.

Part 1

Please circle one response for each question.

1. How do you translate your workload?

A) Individually as a single translator for a given text.

B) Collaboratively with my colleagues.

C) A mix of both.

2. Does your department provide Computer-Assisted Tools of translation (CAT) like SDL Trados?

A) Yes.

B) No.

2.1. If the answer is yes, then how often do you use them?

A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.

3. Are you provided a glossary before the translation task?

A) Yes.

B) Sometimes.

C) No.

3.1. If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often do you use it?

A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.

4. Do you discuss your work with your colleagues?

A) Yes.

B) No.

4.1. If the answer is yes, then how often?

A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.

5. Does your employer provide a guideline of how the translation task should be completed and then processed?

A) Yes.

B) Sometimes.

C) No.

5.1. If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often are you *personally* provided with the said guideline?

A) Always. B) Very often. C) Sometimes. D) Rarely. E) Never.

6. Does your employer have protocols that you are required to abide by as a translator?

A) Yes.

B) No.

6.1. If the answer is yes, then how important would you describe them to be?

A) Very important. B) Important. C) Fairly important. D) Slightly important. E) Not important

7. When you finish a translation task and it is later published, how similar is the final product to your translation?

A) Exactly the same. B) Very similar. C) Similar. D) Slightly similar. E) Not similar at all

Part 2

Please answer the questions to the extent of your knowledge and provide your own insight whenever possible.

8. Who chooses the translation tasks that you carry out and on what basis is this done?

_____

_____

_____

_____

9. What is the regular procedure that takes place when you finish translating a text before it is finally published?

_____

_____

_____

_____

10. How would you describe translating sensitive tasks like political news as a translator in Kuwait?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Thank you for participating.

Appendix II: Answers Summary to Personal Questions in the Distributed Questionnaire.

Answers Summary for Personal Information Questions

		Employer	Age	Nationality	Experience
Participant	1	The Arab Times	40	Non-Kuwaiti	7
	2	The Arab Times	45	Non-Kuwaiti	13
	3	The Arab Times	65	Non-Kuwaiti	40
	4	The Arab Times	50	Non-Kuwaiti	15
	5	The Arab Times	35	Non-Kuwaiti	11
	6	Kuwait Times	33	Non-Kuwaiti	12
	7	Kuwait Times	57	Non-Kuwaiti	33
	8	Kuwait Times	63	Non-Kuwaiti	25
	9	Ministry of Information	58	Non-Kuwaiti	25
	10	Ministry of Information	25	Kuwaiti	5
	11	Ministry of Information	33	Kuwaiti	5
	12	Ministry of Information	42	Kuwaiti	10
	13	Ministry of Information	23	Kuwaiti	.6
	14	Ministry of Information	54	Non-Kuwaiti	30.5
	15	Ministry of Information	33	Kuwaiti	1
	16	Ministry of Information	25	Kuwaiti	.2
	17	Ministry of Information	33	Kuwaiti	8
	18	Ministry of Information	25	Kuwaiti	1.1
	19	Ministry of Information	31	Kuwaiti	2
	20	Ministry of Information	28	Kuwaiti	1
	21	Ministry of Information	27	Kuwaiti	2
	22	Ministry of Information	29	Kuwaiti	6
	23	Ministry of Information	40	Kuwaiti	16
	24	Kuwait News Agency	32	Kuwaiti	8
	25	Kuwait News Agency	36	Kuwaiti	14
	26	Kuwait News Agency	36	Kuwaiti	12
	27	Kuwait News Agency	27	Kuwaiti	1
	28	Kuwait News Agency	46	Non-Kuwaiti	20

	29	Kuwait News Agency	41	Kuwaiti	5
	30	Kuwait News Agency	32	Kuwaiti	7
	31	Kuwait News Agency	44	Kuwaiti	21
	32	Kuwait News Agency	41	Kuwaiti	24
	33	Kuwait News Agency	41	Kuwaiti	18

Appendix III: Answers Summaries to Multiple-Choice Questions in the Distributed Questionnaire.

Question 1. How do you translate your workload?

Participant	1	A Individually
	2	C Mix of both
	3	B Collaborative
	4	A Individually
	5	A Individually
	6	A Individually
	7	A Individually
	8	A Individually
	9	A Individually
	10	A Individually
	11	C Mix of both
	12	A Individually
	13	C Mix of both
	14	A Individually
	15	A Individually
	16	C Mix of both
	17	C Mix of both
	18	A Individually
	19	C Mix of both
	20	C Mix of both
	21	C Mix of both
	22	C Mix of both
	23	A Individually
	24	C Mix of both
	25	A Individually
	26	C Mix of both
	27	A Individually
	28	A Individually
	29	B Collaborative
	30	A Individually

	31	C Mix of both
	32	A Individually
	33	A Individually

		Question 2. Does your department provide Computer-Assisted Tools of translation (CAT) like SDL Trados?	Question 2.1. If the answer is yes, then how often do you use them?
Participant	1	No	.
	2	Yes	Sometimes
	3	Yes	Always
	4	Yes	Sometimes
	5	Yes	Always
	6	No	Never
	7	No	.
	8	No	.
	9	No	.
	10	No	.
	11	No	.
	12	Yes	Always
	13	No	.
	14	No	.
	15	No	.
	16	No	.
	17	No	.
	18	No	.
	19	No	.
	20	Yes	Sometimes
	21	No	.
	22	No	.
	23	Yes	Very often
	24	No	.
	25	No	.
	26	No	.
	27	No	.
	28	No	.
	29	Yes	Always
	30	Yes	Sometimes
	31	No	.
	32	No	.
	33	No	.

		Question 3. Are you provided a glossary before the translation task?	Question 3.1. If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often do you use it?
Participant	1	Sometimes	Sometimes
	2	No	Never
	3	Sometimes	Sometimes
	4	Yes	Sometimes
	5	Sometimes	Sometimes
	6	Sometimes	Rarely
	7	Sometimes	Very often
	8	No	.
	9	No	.
	10	No	.
	11	No	.
	12	No	.
	13	Yes	Always
	14	No	.
	15	No	.
	16	No	.
	17	No	.
	18	No	.
	19	No	.
	20	Sometimes	Always
	21	Sometimes	Sometimes
	22	No	.
	23	Sometimes	Sometimes
	24	No	.
	25	No	.
	26	No	.
	27	Sometimes	Sometimes
	28	Yes	Sometimes
	29	Yes	Very often
	30	No	.
	31	No	.
	32	No	.
	33	Sometimes	Sometimes

		Question 4. Do you discuss your work with your colleagues?	Question 4.1. If the answer is yes, then how often?
Participant	1	Yes	Sometimes
	2	Yes	Sometimes
	3	Yes	Sometimes
	4	Yes	Sometimes
	5	Yes	Sometimes
	6	Yes	Sometimes
	7	Yes	Sometimes
	8	Yes	Sometimes
	9	No	.
	10	Yes	Sometimes
	11	Yes	Very often
	12	Yes	Sometimes
	13	Yes	Always
	14	No	.
	15	Yes	Very often
	16	Yes	Very often
	17	Yes	Always
	18	Yes	Sometimes
	19	Yes	Sometimes
	20	Yes	Always
	21	Yes	Very often
	22	Yes	Sometimes
	23	Yes	Very often
	24	No	.
	25	Yes	Very often
	26	Yes	Very often
	27	No	.
	28	Yes	Sometimes
	29	Yes	Very often
	30	Yes	Rarely
	31	Yes	Very often
	32	Yes	Sometimes
	33	Yes	Rarely

		Question 5. Does your employer provide a guideline of how the translation task should be completed and then processed?	Question 5.1. If the answer is yes/sometimes, then how often are you personally provided with the said guideline?
Participant	1	Sometimes	Sometimes
	2	No	.
	3	No	Never
	4	No	.
	5	No	.
	6	Sometimes	Rarely
	7	No	.
	8	Yes	Sometimes
	9	Yes	Very often
	10	Sometimes	Sometimes
	11	Sometimes	Very often
	12	Sometimes	Very often
	13	Yes	Very often
	14	No	.
	15	No	.
	16	Yes	Very often
	17	Sometimes	Rarely
	18	Sometimes	Always
	19	Sometimes	Sometimes
	20	Yes	Always
	21	Sometimes	Sometimes
	22	No	.
	23	No	.
	24	Sometimes	Sometimes
	25	Yes	Rarely
	26	Yes	Always
	27	Yes	Very often
	28	Yes	Always
	29	Yes	Very often

	30	No	.
	31	Sometimes	Sometimes
	32	Sometimes	Sometimes
	33	Yes	Very often

		Question 6. Does your employer have protocols that you are required to abide by as a translator?	Question 6.1. If the answer is yes, then how important would you describe them to be?
Participant	1	Yes	Very important
	2	Yes	Very important
	3	No	.
	4	No	.
	5	Yes	Important
	6	Yes	Very important
	7	Yes	Important
	8	Yes	Important
	9	Yes	Very important
	10	Yes	Very important
	11	Yes	Very important
	12	Yes	Important
	13	Yes	Very important
	14	No	.
	15	Yes	Very important
	16	Yes	Very important
	17	Yes	Very important
	18	Yes	Important
	19	Yes	Fairly important
	20	Yes	Very important
	21	Yes	Very important
	22	Yes	Important
	23	No	.
	24	Yes	Very important
	25	Yes	Fairly important
	26	Yes	Very important
	27	Yes	Important
	28	Yes	Very important
	29	Yes	Important
	30	Yes	Fairly important
	31	Yes	Fairly important
	32	Yes	Very important
	33	Yes	Important

Question 7. When you finish a translation task and it is later published, how similar is the final product to your translation?

Participant	1	Slightly similar
	2	Exactly the same
	3	Very similar
	4	Very similar
	5	Very similar
	6	Very similar
	7	Very similar
	8	Very similar
	9	Exactly the same
	10	Exactly the same
	11	Similar
	12	Exactly the same
	13	Very similar
	14	Very similar
	15	Very similar
	16	Very similar
	17	Very similar
	18	Similar
	19	Very similar
	20	Exactly the same
	21	Very similar
	22	Very similar
	23	Very similar
	24	Exactly the same
	25	Similar
	26	Very similar
	27	Very similar
	28	Very similar
	29	Slightly similar
	30	Very similar
	31	Similar
	32	Very similar
	33	Very similar

Appendix IV: Answers to Open Questions in the Distributed Questionnaire.

Participant 1

Question 1: One of my colleagues and without specific basis.

Question 2: It goes through a re-writer and then proof-reader and finally to the editorial desk.

Question 3: A translator needs to be keen, very keen in such cases, and also be aware of the political topic in hand in order to avoid mistranslation.

Participant 2

Question 1: A senior colleague performs the task. He considers importance of the stories based on the target audience and the company.

Question 2: I have to save it for a re-writer to work on before sending to an editor for further corrections if necessary.

Question 3: We are abided by the content of the original text while the managing editor decides it's worth less for readership. In some cases we notify the management if a circular had been received in that regard previously.

Participant 3

Question 1: I tend to choose the *one*.

Question 2: I tend to give the translated text to the re-writer and who in turn shall give the text to editing secretory.

Question 3: I tend to deal with it on sensitive task taking into account the interest of the country and its relations with the others.

Participant 4

Question 1: A senior colleague does the task and he puts top priority to stories that are important to expatriates in addition to local stories in different fields including politics economy and social affairs.

Question 2: By finishing translating or a story I forwarded to the re-writers to be revised and refined.

Question 3: I find it as sensitive as a precise surgery.

Participant 5

Question 1: Head of the department chooses the translation according to the importance of the stories and events experienced by the country.

Question 2: The stories should be revised by the re-writers then proofreading.

Question 3: In general the translation lacks to the concern. Regarding the political news, the translator attempts to be accurate in finding the correct words and keep on the balance of the text without any changing in the meaning.

Participant 6

Question 1: The translation tasks are chosen by the editorial staff and they have to be approved by the editor-in-chief.

Question 2: The translated text is first copy-edited and then edited before going to publish.

Question 3: Very challenging. In addition to maintaining accuracy the translator has to be very careful not to cross lines that could have him and the publication held liable under the state's press and publication law.

Participant 7

Question 1: My editing manager and local news manager according to ongoing news and the press releases provided by the advertising department.

Question 2: I always type and pass them to the concerned page editor to be edited then passed on to page makers pending referral for printing.

Question 3: I usually take whatever task professionally and translate stories selected by my boss who fully respects Kuwait press laws.

Participant 8

Question 1: Personally, some are chosen by the local desk editor, and certain topics by the managing editor.

Question 2: It is submitted for the post editor, who refers it to rewriters and proof-readers.

Question 3: Kuwait is relatively easy on certain issues. Guidelines are given to bear in mind the status of his Highness the Amir and the country is so security in general.

Participant 9

Question 1: For the regular everyday task, the secretaries do the job and assign the tasks to the translators, while in special cases and events the head of the department chooses the translator suitable for the task.

Question 2: The first step is for an Arabic proof-reader to check the Arabic text for any mistakes or outlandish vocabulary items. The typist comes next to make a soft copy of the translation on the system. Then comes the final proof-reader to match the translation to the typed material to make sure nothing is missing or wrong. Finally, the material is super-imposed.

Question 3: It's sensitive by nature and definition so one should be extra careful in the choice of words, terms, and titles. But in general, there is a margin of freedom in the process.

Participant 10

Question 1: I choose my own tasks, I do this on a semi-daily basis.

Question 2: I translate some local news then hand it to the reader then it's published.

Question 3: It is a very sensitive subject so I would say carefully.

Participant 11

Question 1: the work is usually divided amongst all translators but, sometimes can be given to certain individuals based on urgency, experience, and efficiency.

Question 2: the translation goes through five stages

1- translation

2- initial proofreading

3- typing on MS Office

4- final proof-reading

5- super-imposing (matching translation with screen).

Question 3: it can be sensitive for beginners since you need a wealth of vocabulary and terms, quick recall since these texts are mostly urgent and you don't have the luxury of time.

Participant 12

Question 1: the chief editor usually chooses what to be translated. It's done according to the level of the translator and his experience.

Question 2: After translating the text they go through it and revise it then publish it.

Question 3: it is very sensitive task and need attention and accuracy because of the special nature of this kind of news and the translator should be aware and updated with the political news every time to have knowledge about his work.

Participant 13

Question 1: It depends, if it is my shift at work then it is my responsibility to do the task. Usually, we are informed that a fax has been sent from the Amiri Diwan otherwise we choose our tasks based on the main news.

Question 2: I would ask one of my colleagues to proof-read my translation.

Question 3: Since we are politically neutral in our news, we try to avoid any sensitive news.

Participant 14

Question 1: the department I work for and the basis of importance. They are either mo****[141], news excerpts.

Question 2: there is a revised, edited, then it is published.

Question 3: it is very sensitive and a person should be conscious because a slight mistake might lead to grave ramifications.

Participant 15

Question 1: Editor.

Question 2: Show to editor/manager.

Question 3: Easy.

Participant 16

Question 1: We distribute the tasks amongst each other.

Question 2: It is revised before it gets published.

Question 3: It is to be taken seriously.

Participant 17

Question 1: No one in particular.

Question 2: Checked by chief editor.

Question 3: Too much regulations.

[141] Unclear handwriting.

Participant 18

Question 1: the chief editor for the day gives me the local news due to the fact that they are usually in Arabic and thus I need to provide a translated piece to English to be used for the bulletin.

Question 2: the chief editor usually revises all texts translated and edited one more time before providing the anchors the documents to apply their own personal changes and tweaks to.

Question 3: the specific guidelines regarding these topics can be very helpful insuring I deliver the message correctly however sometimes it can be limiting and *repetitive*.

Participant 19

Question 1: Either my superior or his superior.

Question 2: a colleague or two critique my work if any issues arise, I must offer justification. If sound it remains if not it changes.

Question 3: unnecessary evil, the finer meanings are lost, the government needs to state its business in as many channels as possible.

Participant 20

Question 1: The chief editors chooses what to translate depending on the importance of the script.

Question 2: After a translation we go on a brief reading to check the mistakes and the protocols.

Question 3: We translate depending on Kuwait's political matters.

Participant 21

Question 1: according to the Arabic news.

Question 2: We do a double check with the group.

Question 3: It is very good.

Participant 22

Question 1: The translation tasks are provided by the head of the department based on translation quality of the individual.

Question 2: proofreading, typing, final proofreading and super-imposing.

Question 3: Translation of political news can be tricky and takes more effort.

Participant 23

Question 1: There are two cases, 1st, the directors or employees needing a translation send the tasks. 2nd, that HOD chooses the tasks on the basis of the society.

Question 2: Proof-reader to typist to printing to final proof-reader to super-imposers to final cut. Final cut to be viewed and published.

Question 3: It needs to be punctual and follows the states policy. It is very sensitive and have to be very careful.

Participant 24

Question 1: We receive different kinds of news articles from our correspondence all around the world then we decide which one to use according to its importance.

Question 2: When I finish my translation, I send it to the grammarian to check it then he sends it to the shift-leader to publish it.

Question 3: When we receive sensitive tasks we work with it in a way that doesn't contradict the Kuwaiti's policy.

Participant 25

Question 1: When shift-leading, I would usually choose the items/news that I edit. The opposite occurs when I work as a desk editor.

Question 2: Most of the time, the process involves facts-checking and proofreading before issuing the news.

Question 3: A bit hectic. However, with time it becomes less of a problem.

Participant 26

Question 1: The head of the department.

Question 2: I submit the final revised copy to my supervisor who also revises the text before being published.

Question 3: It's easy as long as the translator abides to given known protocols.

Participant 27

Question 1: Shift leaders.

Question 2: News actually come from shift-leaders, we edit them and send them back to them.

Question 3: We deal with translating as we deal with news.

Participant 28

Question 1: The shift-leader chooses the tasks according to work-related considerations.

Question 2: -[142]

Question 3: I have to stick to the text and often use quotations.

Participant 29

Question 1: My supervisor usually distributes the items.

Question 2: I usually translate a text and send it to my supervisor, she goes over it, correct it if there is anything to be done, I go over it again.

Question 3: I have to abide with the guidelines of KUNA. For example, regarding sensitive issues.

Participant 30

Question 1: The shift leader chooses the tasks.

Question 2: As editors it goes to the shift leader first before being published.

Question 3: It's challenging work.

Participant 31

Question 1: Sometimes I choose as translation section head, and sometimes my boss chooses for the employees what to translate.

Question 2: Revised by my boss (head of department).

Question 3: Translation is that important task which needs accurate work in addition to honesty.

Participant 32

Question 1: The nature of my works necessitates is that I do the translation for the news items that must be broadcast on the news bulletin.

Question 2: Editing first then carry on with the translation that must not be word for word.

Question 3: Very sensitive is to deal with political news as one word can make a big difference.

[142] The participant did not answer the question.

Participant 33

Question 1: my boss chooses the translation tasks, in my field (politics) it should concern Kuwait, GCC, and Arab issues or articles.

Question 2: After I revise my translation, my boss does the second and final revision.

Question 3: It is sensitive because not every article is chosen is suitable for translation and suitable for publishing.

Appendix V: Collected Texts from the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information Translation Department.

News Broadcast 1 from the Ministry of Information

30-01-2019.

===== Cindus Al Sarraf & Abdul Rahim.

THE HEADLINES.

Good afternoon and welcome to the 1-O clock news.

I am Abdul Rahim ….. I am Cindus Al Sarraf and here are today's headlines.

= National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim announces the vacancy of two MP seats following the constitutional court's ruling.

= Yemen's Houthi militia releases Saudi prisoner Mousa Awaji on humanitarian grounds.

= Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas accepts the resignation of the government.

= And, Sudan's intelligence chief orders the release of all detainees held during the anti-government protests.

===0. ABDUL

Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim announced that the National Assembly approved at its ordinary session today, that MPs Walid Al-Tabtabai and Jamaan Al-Harbash's seats are vacant following the implementation of the constitutional court's ruling.

Al-Ghanim said during the session that the decision has been made according to Article (50) of the Electoral Law and Article (18) of the Assembly's bylaw.

The Speaker said that the Constitutional Court issued a ruling on December 19, 2018 that article (16) of the Internal Regulations of the National Assembly is unconstitutional with all implications.

Furthermore, The National Assembly approved in its ordinary session today, a draft law on mental health.

The result of the vote, in the second debate, showed 43 members were in favor of the draft law, and two abstained out of the 45 members.

The Assembly has moved to discussing the Committee of Health, Social and Parliamentary work affairs report, regarding the newly-issued draft bill on mental health and its amendments.

===1 Cindus

Jordan is set to host a meeting of six Arab foreign ministers tomorrow, mainly to reflect on how to address the current regional developments.

The Jordanian Foreign Minister's Spokesperson said in a press statement, that the foreign ministers of Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, UAE and Bahrain will come together in Amman for consultations and talks to discuss the crises' the region is facing and to ponder over ways of serving Arab interests.

===2. ABDUL

An international corruption watchdog reported that the state of Kuwait has improved its anti-corruption efforts rank in 2018 to 41 points, compared to 39 points in 2017.

According to Transparency International's annual report Kuwait, among few other countries, was able to achieve progress in anti-corruption efforts, particularly in political, administrative, and economic sectors.

The report noted that top countries are Denmark and New Zealand with scores of 88 and 87, respectively. The bottom countries are Somalia, Syria and South Sudan with scores of 10, 13 and 13, respectively.

===3. Cindus

The Ministry of Electricity and water hosted the second conference for the efficiency of natural resources and power usage. Many government organizations and ministries are participating in the conference.

Their main target and focus of the discussion is to implement modern strategies, devices and to use green energy.

Here is more with Saleh Al Obaidy

===4. ABDUL

In its 12th edition, the Sheikh Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah Award for Journalistic Excellence concludes its contest.

===Cindus.

The annual event aims at encouraging the Kuwaiti journalists and promoting their talents and creativity for the interest of the local media.

Our reporter Heba Abdulrahman has more

XXREPORTXX

===5. Cindus.

Saudi prisoner Mousa Awaji was released by Yemen's Houthi militia on humanitarian grounds flying back on a Red Cross plane from Sanaa to King Salman Airbase in Riyadh as part of a prisoner swap between the country's warring parties.

Spokesperson of the Joint Command of the Coalition to Restore Legitimacy in Yemen, Colonel Turki Al-Malki said the coalition managed, in collaboration with the Special Envoy of the U.N. Secretary General for Yemen to retrieve a Saudi Prisoner of War from the Houthi militia.
The United Nations special envoy to Yemen, Martin Griffiths, welcomed the release saying he hoped to see more similar humanitarian gestures from the parties and looked forward to the implementation of the prisoner exchange agreement.

===6. ABDUL
U.N. special envoy to Yemen, Martin Griffiths arrived in Hodeidah to discuss the ceasefire agreement.
Griffiths met with the retired Dutch general Patrick Cammaert, who heads the team of U.N. monitors in Hodeidah as well as Yemeni officials to discuss how to move forward with a ceasefire agreed last month.
Griffiths stated that momentum is still there, even if the timelines for implementation extended, both in Hodeidah and with regard to the prisoner exchange agreement.

===7. CINDUS
U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton and Turkish Presidential Spokesperson Ibrahim Kalın discussed recent developments in Syria, including Washington’s withdrawal from the war-torn country and the implementation of a buffer zone in north Syria.
The two officials agreed to continued coordination in process of the U.S. withdrawal from Syria. They also agreed on the importance of implementing the Manbij roadmap in addition to discussing U.S. President Donald Trump's planned visit to Ankara.

===8. ABDUL
The Palestinian government submitted its resignation yesterday in a move seen as a bid by President Mahmoud Abbas to strengthen his position as a decade-old political split deepens. Replacing Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah after five years as part of Abbas' efforts to further isolate his political rival Hamas, who runs the Gaza Strip.
The Prime Minister Hamdallah's government will remain in place while a new administration is formed.

===9 Cindus.
Prime minister-designate Saad al-Hariri said This week will be decisive in efforts to form a new Lebanese government, adding he was cautiously optimistic.

Rival parties have been negotiating to form a coalition government since a national election in May, fueling concerns that a crisis is looming for the country's heavily indebted, stagnant economy.
Lebanon is one of the world's most indebted countries and it is already in an economic crisis that has started to turn into a financial one.

===10. ABDUL
Sudan's intelligence chief has ordered the release of all detainees held during the weeklong protests that rocked the North African country.
The announcement came amid increasing international criticism of Khartoum's handling of the ongoing demonstrations.
The protests which began after the government decided to triple the price of bread have since turned into a nationwide movement calling for President Omar al-Bashir to step down.

===11. Cindus
Philippine Security officials said a grenade thrown into a mosque in the southern Philippines killed two people and wounded four, in Zamboanga.
An emergency response team arrived at the mosque shortly after the explosion.
The attack came a few hours after Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said on television the twin explosions on Jolo island may have been a suicide attack.
Accordingly, Regional Task Force Commander Colonel Leonel Nicolas stressed the incident was not a retaliatory act.

===12. ABDUL
British Prime Minister Theresa May was closer than ever to finally reaching a Brexit deal.
MPs in the House of Commons gave their backing to May's deal which they rejected earlier this month, providing changes are made to the so-called Irish backstop border issue.
The majority vote for her deal gives PM May a mandate to return to Brussels to call for a re-opening of negotiations and indicates that the Brexit deal is likely to win the critical final vote in British parliament if changes are made to the Irish border issue.

===13. CINDUS
Spokesman for EU leader Donald Tusk warned Brexit withdrawal deal is not open for renegotiation, after British lawmakers voted to demand changes.
Tusk, whose European Council represents EU leaders, contacted European capitals after Prime Minister Theresa May said she would ask Brussels to remove the Irish backstop from the accord.

The spokesman said they will continue to urge the UK government to clarify its intentions with respect to the next steps as soon as possible.
Nevertheless, the spokesman repeated the longstanding EU position that the other members could find a way of tweaking a political declaration that was issued with the withdrawal deal.

===14. ABDUL
Venezuela's chief prosecutor has asked the Supreme Court to open a preliminary investigation into self-proclaimed Interim President Juan Guaido, as well to freeze the opposition leader's accounts and impose a travel ban on him.
Attorney General Tarek Saab said he had asked the court to open a preliminary investigation into Juan Guaido as a result of diverse violent occurrences provoked in the country since Jan. 22th, the day before Guaido named himself president.
He also accused Guaido of helping foreign countries to interfere in internal matters.
As a lawmaker, who also heads the National Assembly, Guaido has immunity from criminal investigation that can be removed only by a high court.

===15. CINDUS
Oil prices rise on Venezuelan supply concerns following US sanctions and gloomy economic outlook.

===ABDUL
Earlier, Washington announced export sanctions against state-owned oil firm PDVSA, to limit the transactions between the U.S. companies that do business with the Venezuelan oil firm.
More in the following report with Sheikha Al Enzi
XXREPORTXX

===16 ABDUL
Qatar defeated UAE 4-0 to qualify to the 17th Asian Cup final and will face the Japan.

===CINDUS
Meanwhile, Manchester United faced Burnley in Premier League ending with a close tie of 2-2.
More Sport News by Omar Al-Husainan
XXREPORTXX

===17. CINDUS
Next is the weather forecast in Kuwait City with ……

======END.

=== Cindus

Before we end, here is a quick reminder of today’s headlines.

B.

THE HEADLINES.

= National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim announces the vacancy of two MP seats following the constitutional court’s ruling.

= Yemen's Houthi militia releases Saudi prisoner Mousa Awaji on humanitarian grounds.

= Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas accepts the resignation of the government.

= And, Sudan's intelligence chief orders the release of all detainees held during the anti-government protests.

That brings us to the end of this bulletin, join us again at 7:00 for the next bulletin. Thanks for watching, have a good afternoon.

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THE END

News Broadcast 2 from the Ministry of Information

26-1-2019.

=====HAMAD & DINA.

THE HEADLINES.

Good afternoon from the State of Kuwait, welcome to the 1-O clock news.

I am HAMAD Ibrahim…. I am Dina Khalil with the headlines for today.

=State of Kuwait affirms that the world share common and variable obligations to address climate change

=Israeli forces kill two Palestinians and injure others in the weekly demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

=Venezuela embarks deeper into political crisis as leader of the opposition declared himself interim president

=And, US President agrees to sign a bill ending the longest government shutdown in history

==1 HAMAD

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable to His Excellency, Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India congratulating him on his country's Republic Day celebrations, wishing the friendly people of India utmost prosperity.

XXPAUSEXX

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawwaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable to His Excellency, Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India congratulating him on his country's Republic Day celebrations, wishing the friendly people of India utmost prosperity.

XXPAUSEXX

His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the Prime Minister sent a similar cable to the Indian President.

===2. DINA.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to Australia's Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove on his country’s National Day.

XXPAUSEXX

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawwaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to Australia's Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove on his country’s National Day.

XXPAUSEXX

His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the Prime Minister sent a similar cable marking the occasion.

===3. HAMAD

The State of Kuwait said that the world share common but variable obligations to address climate change, which required a political will and an international solidarity to tackle impacts of this change.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah called for protecting earth from further deterioration of climate change in a UN Security Council's session on Addressing impacts of climate-related disasters on international peace and security.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said floods, hurricanes, desertification, rising temperature, and rising levels of seas and oceans were threatening Island Countries in the Pacific.

The Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, who voiced concern over World Meteorological Organization's reports that years 2015-17 witnessed unprecedented high temperatures, expressed hope world climate summit, due next September, would follow up outcome of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) meeting held in Poland late last year.

===4. DINA

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah met Yemeni Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Yamani on the sidelines of the UN Security Council meetings in New York.

During the meeting, the two ministers discussed the latest developments in Yemen as well as the international efforts to find a political solution to the crisis there and alleviating the suffering of Yemeni people.

XXPAUSEXX

Later on, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres praised Kuwait's leading role at the international level, including its regional and global efforts to promote security and peace around the world during a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah in New York, on sidelines of the UN Security Council's meetings.

Secretary General Guterres commended the close relationship and cooperation between Kuwait and the UN agencies, which represented a model of constructive and effective collaboration in different domains.

The two senior officials discussed cooperation between Kuwait and UN agencies as Kuwait was entering its second year as a non-permanent member in the UNSC.

XXPAUSEXX

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also met Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Peter Szijjarto on the sidelines of the UN Security Council meetings in New York.
During their meeting, the two ministers mulled upgrading bilateral relations at all levels and tackled latest regional and international developments of common concern.
XXPAUSEXX
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah then met Belgian counterpart Didier Reynders on the sidelines of the UN Security Council meetings in New York.
During their meeting, the two ministers deliberated strengthening bilateral relations and latest regional and international developments of common concern and mulled coordinating stances and efforts at the UN Security Council during their nonpermanent membership at the UN body in 2019.

===5. HAMAD.
Under the Patronage and attendance of Eng. Ali Hussain Al Yoha, Secretary General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, an exhibition for the Inventor Thomas Edison, collected by Dr. Hasan Jassim Ashkanani recently took place at the National Museum of Kuwait.

===DINA
The event was part of the 25th Al-Qurain Cultural Festival, where the exhibition included rare and original pieces by the American Inventor Thomas Edison collected by Ashkanani.
Reporter Ghenwah Jabouri brings us more…
XXREPORTXX===6. DINA
Israeli forces opened fire on two Palestinian teens northeast of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, killing one on spot and injuring the other.
Earlier in Gaza, the Palestinian Health Ministry said that a Palestinian died of his wounds sustained from an Israeli gunfire on the eastern borders of Gaza Strip, where he was participating in the Friday's March of Return demonstration.
The clashes between the demonstrators and the occupation forces injured more than 25 people, including 14 children.
Israeli occupation forces attacked ambulances with tear gas bombs causing injuries to six paramedics and a journalist.

===7. HAMAD

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that Turkey expects a safe zone to be set up in Syria along the Turkish border within a few months, otherwise it will establish the buffer alone.
President Erdogan previously said that he and US President Donald Trump had discussed setting up a 32km security zone in Syria along the border, after Trump's decision to withdraw all US troops from Syria.
Turkey is seeking the zone to contain the US-allied fighters of the Kurdish People's Protection Units, which the US has armed and trained to fight against IS.

===8. DINA
Venezuela plunged deeper into political crisis this week when Juan Guaido, the leader of the opposition-run congress, declared himself interim president.

===HAMAD
This move comes as the boldest challenge to socialist leader and the current President Nicolas Maduro's rule in years.
More in the following report with Shaikha Al-Tamimi.
XXREPORTXX

===9 HAMAD.
NATO and Russia failed to resolve a dispute over a new Russian missile that Western allies say is a threat to Europe, bringing closer Washington's withdrawal from a landmark arms control treaty.
At a meeting of the NATO-Russia Council in Brussels, envoys from NATO's 29 members renewed their call on Moscow's top diplomat to the alliance to destroy a nuclear-capable cruise missile system before a Feb. 2 deadline.
Without a breakthrough, the US is set to start the six-month process of pulling out of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty, having notified it would do so in early December and accusing Moscow of breaching it while Russia denies violating the terms of the treaty.

===10. DINA
Greece's parliament ratified a landmark accord that changes the name of neighboring Macedonia, ending a decades-old dispute and opening the way for the ex-Yugoslav republic to join the European Union and NATO.
With 153 votes, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras secured the parliamentary majority needed to get the accord approved, with support from independent and opposition lawmakers.

The settlement seeks to end a 28-year old row between Athens and Skopje over the use of the term "Macedonia" by renaming the tiny Balkan state "Republic of North Macedonia" to differentiate it from Greece's northern province of Macedonia.

===11. HAMAD.

United States President Donald Trump agreed to sign a bill ending the longest government shutdown in history, which will re-open the government for three weeks until February 15th.

The Congress and the President agreed to a three-week spending plan that sets up tough talks with lawmakers about how to address security along the US-Mexican border.

After the president announcement of the agreement, the Senate unanimously passed a bill to end the partial government shutdown for three weeks in order to give lawmakers time to negotiate on border security.

The legislation will now be voted on in the House of Representatives where it is expected to pass. and after both chambers of Congress sign off on the bill, it will reach the White House for final ratification.

===12. DINA

In Brazil, rescue teams are searching for about 200 people still missing after a tailings dam burst at an iron mine owned by Brazilian miner Vale SA in southwestern of Brazil.

Scores of people were trapped in areas by the river of sludge released by the dam's failure.

Authorities said that the mud hit parts of the local community Vila Forteco, where families were told to evacuate their homes in low-lying areas.

Brazil's environmental protection agency Ibama said that the dam burst held 1 million cubic meters of tailings.

===13. HAMAD.

Within the of events of the Al-Qurain cultural festival , a celebration was held to honor the late media figure Rida Al-Feely at the National Library of Kuwait.

===DINA

The late Rida Al-Feely was a lover for his nation and fully aware of the national identity and heritage, where his last position was an assistant undersecretary in the Ministry of Information.

Reporter Hanadi Al-Bloushi was there to tell us more.

XXREPORTXX

===14. DINA

ECO INTRO:

Oil prices boosted on fears of U.S. sanctions on Venezuelan oil trade and tighter global supply.

===HAMAD

Meanwhile in wall street Dow gains for fifth straight week after deal reached to temporarily reopen government.

More in the following report with Shaikha Al-Enezi..

XXREPORTXX

===15. HAMAD.

SPORTS INTRO:

Marcello Lippi's resign, and Chinese football team is searching for a new national coach after exiting Asian Cup.

===DINA

While, French Monaco have suspended coach Thierry Henry until a final decision is made on his future.

More Sports in the following report..

XXREPORTXX

===16 DINA.

Next is the weather forecast in Kuwait City with Meteorologist …….

======END.

Before we end, here is a quick reminder of today's headlines.

B.

THE HEADLINES.

=State of Kuwait affirms that the world share common and variable obligations to address climate change

=Israeli forces kill two Palestinians and injure others in the weekly demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

=Venezuela embarks deeper into political crisis as leader of the opposition declared himself interim president

=And, US President agrees to sign a bill ending the longest government shutdown in history

That brings us to the end of this bulletin, join us again at 7:00 for the next bulletin. Thanks for watching, have a good afternoon.

News Broadcast 3 from the Ministry of Information

19-01-2019.

=====DINA & HAMAD.

THE HEADLINES.

Good afternoon from the State of Kuwait, welcome to the 1-O clock news.

I am Dina Khalil….. I am Hamad with the headlines for today.

=Kuwait renews its support to the efforts of U.N. envoy to Libya to facilitate a comprehensive political process in accordance with the United Nations plan.

=U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres says there is no resolution to the Syrian problem without a political solution accepted by all Syrian people.

=Israeli Occupation forces open fire on demonstrations at the eastern borders of Gaza Strip, injuring 30 Palestinians.

=Sudanese authorities confirm police dispersed protesters by using tear gas and did not use bullets.

===0. DINA

Kuwait renews its support for the efforts of UN envoy to Libya Ghassan Salama, to facilitate a comprehensive Libyan political process in accordance with the United Nations plan.

This came in a speech delivered by Kuwait's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi.

Al-Otaibi urged all Libyan parties to engage constructively in the technical, legislative, political and security conditions necessary for holding transparent, comprehensive and peaceful elections for a unified and stable Libya.

The Ambassador called on the international community and the Security Council to exert all efforts towards finding a lasting solution to the issue of the proliferation of armed groups by providing support to the National Accord Government into implementing the Joint security plan.

===1. HAMAD

Kuwait's Consulate General in Irbil has delivered some eight tons of food to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ashti camp in Sulaymaniyah governorate of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Kuwait's Consul General in Irbil Dr. Omar Al-Kandari stated that the food is provided by Kuwait Society for Relief as part of "Kuwait by Your Side" campaign.

Al-Kandari said that Kuwait will continue to support Iraqi IDPs in all around the country, particularly during winter season.

The Consul General also pointed out that his meeting with Sulaymaniyah Governor Dr. Hafal Abu Baker, earlier, addressed ways to secure the delivery of Kuwaiti aid to IDPs in the province.

===2. DINA

The Iraqi Interior Ministry announced the arrest of four members of the IS militant group in Mosul.

A spokesman for the ministry said that the police command, based on judicial warrants arrested four members of the terrorist organization and impounded two vehicles.

The spokesman added that they had fled to the liberated areas among the displaced families after the liberation of Anbar from IS militants. Despite the group's crushing defeat at its main havens across Iraq, IS militants continue to launch sporadic attacks against troops with security reports warning that the militant group still poses a threat against stability in the country.

===3. HAMAD

Yemen's warring sides started talks in Amman on how to implement a prisoner exchange that will allow thousands of families to be reunited as part of UN-led peace efforts.

Delegates from the Houthi militia and the Yemeni government met in the Jordanian capital to discuss the swap, which was agreed in UN-led talks in Sweden in December.

As part of that effort, the two sides exchanged lists of some 15,000 prisoners for a swap that delegates said would be conducted via the Houthi-held Sanaa airport in north Yemen and the government-held Sayun airport in the south.

The measures also included a plan to withdraw from the contested port city of Hodeidah, a lifeline for millions facing famine, and place it under the control of an interim entity.

===4. DINA

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres talked about the Syrian issue at his first press conference of 2019 held at the U.N. headquarters in New York.

Guterres said there is no timeframe to launch the constitutional committee in Syria, but the work needs to be done as quickly as possible.

He said additional consultations will be needed since the U.N.'s list for the constitutional committee was rejected by the Syrian government last year. Geir Pedersen, the new U.N. envoy for Syria, will visit Moscow next week to discuss the work of the Syrian constitutional committee with the Russian government.

Guterres concluded that there is no resolution to the Syrian problem without a political solution accepted by all Syrian people

===5. HAMAD

Lebanese caretaker Foreign Minister Gebran Bassil called for restoring Syria's membership in the Arab League during a session of the Arab Ministerial Committee for the preparation of the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit. Bassil said it is a pity for Syria's absence at the Summit and the biggest gap among AL member countries is about Syria's return to the Arab League.

Syria was suspended from the Arab League in 2011and slapped with sanctions and condemnations following its brutal repression of anti-government protests.

Speaking at a press conference following the committee session, Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul-Gheit said the Arab league member countries have not reached a consensus about Syria's return yet.

===6. DINA

The Palestinian National Unity Government warned of Israeli forces' continued aggression in Jerusalem's Old City and violations against Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The government's spokesman Yousef Al-Mahmoud said The Israeli occupation is responsible for several attempts, driven by feverish delusions, to tamper with the real, historic, and legitimate place of Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Israelis installed construction and renovation materials such as wooden boards and metal poles at the Mosque's western wall courtyard, and continued their excavations underneath its foundations.

Mahmoud reiterated his government's demand for an urgent international intervention and an effective Arab and Muslim stand to activate international laws and legislations to stop the Israeli violations.

===7. HAMAD

Thirty Palestinians were injured when Israeli occupation forces opened fire at demonstrations at the eastern borders of Gaza Strip yesterday.

Palestinian Health Ministry Spokesperson Dr. Ashraf Al-Qudra stated that 30 Palestinians, including three paramedics and two journalists, were hit by live bullets and were rushed to hospitals for treatment.

Thousands of Palestinians took part in the March of Return, the 43rd to be held at the eastern borders of Gaza Strip, amidst Israeli gun fire.

The higher authority for the March of Return said in a statement the demonstrations would continue until they achieve their objectives, lifting the Israeli siege on Gaza Strip and returning to the lands occupied by the Israelis in 1948.

===8. DINA

In Sudan, Police spokesperson Major-General Hashem Abdulraheem said in a statement that many States were calm but illegal protests were held in some areas in Khartoum. Confirming that police dispersed the protesters by using tear gas, and did not use bullets.

Meanwhile, Sudanese unions said at least two people were shot dead and dozens of others injured in violent clashes between the Sudanese security forces and protesters in yesterday.

The official death toll in five weeks of protests stands at 24, including two security forces personnel. Rights groups say the figure may be nearly twice as high.

The wave of protests in Sudan began on December 19 over price rises, but quickly turned into demonstrations against Bashir. He has blamed the unrest on foreign "agents" and challenged his opponents to seek power instead through the ballot box.

===9. HAMAD

The Constitutional Court in the Democratic Republic of Congo was deliberating on an election fraud complaint by opposition candidate Martin Fayulu.

The final tally will be released once the Constitutional Court has ruled on challenges to the provisional results. It is expected to decide on appeals, including that of opposition leader and second-placed Fayulu.

Meanwhile, the African Union (AU) called for the results to be postponed because of serious doubts over the conduct of the election. The vote was supposed to mark Congo's first democratic handover of power in 59 years of independence.

The AU's statement said it would send a delegation to Congo to seek a way out of the post-electoral crisis.

===10. DINA

The U.N. human rights office called on Zimbabwe's government to stop the crackdown against protesters and excessive use of force by security forces including firing live ammunition.

U.N. human rights spokesperson, Ravina Shamdasani, said, doctors' associations that are putting numbers out there, said that about more than 60 people were treated in hospitals for gunshot wounds.

Meanwhile, protests against fuel price hikes in Zimbabwe started posing a major challenge for President Emmerson Mnangagwa who promised to repair the creaking economy.

===11. HAMAD

The White House announced that a second summit will take place between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in February.

The announcement came after President Trump met with Kim Yong Chol, North Korea's lead negotiator on nuclear talks and discussed denuclearization and a second summit, which will take place near the end of February.
President Trump welcomed Kim Yong Chol into the Oval Office shortly after the North Korean envoy met with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at a Washington hotel.

===12. DINA
In Hidalgo, Mexico, state and federal authorities says at least 21 people were killed and 71 were injured when a pipeline ruptured by suspected fuel thieves exploded in central Mexico as dozens of people were trying to fill up containers.
The ruptured pipeline was near the Tula refinery of state oil firm Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex), which in a statement blamed the incident on an illegal tap.
Hidalgo's governor Omar Fayad said that emergency services had registered the bodies of 21 people, and that at least 71 others had been injured. However, the blaze had yet to be extinguished.

===13. HAMAD
Colombia's President Ivan Duque says the National Liberation Army (ELN) rebel group was responsible for the car bomb attack against the General Santander Police Academy that killed at least 21 and injured dozens making it almost impossible peace talks with the insurgent group can soon restart.
President Duque called on Cuba to capture ten ELN commanders who are currently in Havana for the stalled peace talks.
In response to the bombing, Colombian President Ivan Duque canceled a security council meeting he was scheduled to attend in Quibdo, Choco, in order to return to Bogota.

===14. DINA
ECO INTRO:
The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries issued a list of oil production cuts by its members and other major producers for six months starting to boost confidence in its oil supply reduction pact.

===HAMAD
Meanwhile U.S. stocks rose for a fourth consecutive week on hopes of easing U.S.-China trade tensions and Dow jones jumps more than 300 points
More on the following report with Shaikha Al-Tamimi
XXREPORTXX

===15. HAMAD

SPORTS INTRO:

Novak Djokovic ensured he will remain the world number one following the Australian Open with a four-set win over Canadian teenager Denis Shapovalov.

=== DINA

Meanwhile, Juventus forward Cristiano Ronaldo and former Real Madrid team-mate Xabi Alonso are set to appear in court in Madrid on Tuesday on separate tax-evasion charges.

More in the following report with Abdullah Al Refai..

XXREPORTXX

===16. DINA

Next is the weather forecast in Kuwait City with Meteorologist …….

======END.

Before we end, here is a quick reminder of today's headlines.

====== B.

THE HEADLINES.

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That brings us to the end of this bulletin, join us again at 7:00 for the main bulletin. Thanks for watching, have a good afternoon.

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.2019-01-10

====Cindus & Abdul

THE HEADLINES.

===Cindus

Good afternoon from the State of Kuwait, welcome to the 1-O clock news, I am CINDUS AL SARRAF ….. I am ABDUL RAHIM AL AWADI withthe headlines for today.

=Under the auspices of His Highness the Amir,Kuwait is to host the International Conference with on Integrity for Development at Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center

=UN hails advancement towards peace in Yemen as the ceasefire in port city of Hodeidah is improving

=US Secretary of State assures U.S continued support to Iraqis against IS militants

=And , Sudan's President says elections are the only determining factor to end the ongoing opposition protests

===1. CINDUS.

INTRO:

The State of Kuwait will host The International Conference under the slogan (Integrity for Development) under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah on 15th and 16th of January at Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center.

==== ABDUL.

The upcoming conference highlights Kuwait efforts in enhancing transparency and fighting corruption with International participants.

XXXXX

(Phone call) : Anwar Alqadeeri

Member of the technical committee for Kuwait International Conference on "Integrity... for Development"

Good Afternoon Anwar

Questions :

• Can you please talk to us about the expectations of the conference and its main topics on its agenda?

• The conference is expected to contribute along with theUN Sustainable goals and Kuwait development plans to boost transparency. Can you please elaborate....

Anwar Alqadeeri

Member of the technical committee for Kuwait International Conference on "Integrity... for Development"===2. ABDUL.

Assistant Undersecretary of Dental Affairs at the Ministry of Health, Dr. Yousef Al-Duwairi said that the Sixth edition of Kuwait Dental Administration Conference and Exhibition (KDAC) scheduled during the weekend will witness the participation of more than 2000 dentists in this field.

Al-Duwairi said senior figures, dentists and doctors from Arab, American and European countries were invited to participate in the conference.

The conference is being held under the patronage of the Minister of Health Shiekh Dr. Basil Al-Sabah, at the Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center.

The 3-day event is designed to target the business and educational needs of dental professionals.

KDAC includes specialized workshops and lectures, as well as an accompanying medical exhibition, in which specialized companies offer the latest dental tools and devices.

===3. CINDUS.

INTRO:

The General Directorate of the Civil Aviation, hosted a signing ceremony with the International Air Transport Association. The agreement signed will improve safety standards.

XXX ABDUL XXXX

The agreement will also allow the General Directorate of Civil Aviation to be more efficient with the flow of passengers and flights in the Kuwait International Airport. Here is more with this report with Saleh AlObaidi

More deitals with Saleh Al- ebady,,,,,===4. ABDUL.

In the latest development in Yemen, Houthi militias launched an attack targeting a military parade by the Yemeni National Army killing five soldiers .

The Houthis used a drone to attack the parade taking place in al-Anad military base in Lahaj province.

In another development ,UN senior officials said Security improving in Yemen after Hodeidah ceasefire , despite the persistence of the humanitarian crisis.

Officials said Yemen is advancing towards peace as ceasefire in the Red Sea port city of Hodeidah and other key ports holds.

In addition to ,the rapid deployment of a United Nations advance monitoring team in Hodeidah is a clear signal of the international community's desire to turn the Stockholm Agreement into facts on the ground.

The UN officials also welcomed steps taken towards establishing a joint committee for Taiz that hopefully will meet soon to agree on a peaceful way forward.

===5. CINDUS.

During talks with Iraqi Kurdistan officials, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo underlined that his country would continue supporting the fight against IS.

Pompeo ‘s remarks came during a meeting with the adviser of Kurdistan region Security Council Mansour Barzani as the two sides discussed a range of topics and bilateral issues, including developments in Iraq, Syria and the region.

The discussions also touched the next phase of the Kurdistan-US relationship, including a proposal by Barzani for a new deal focusing on economic and security reform, in line withthe US-Iraqi Strategic Framework Agreement.

===6. ABDUL.

U.S National Security Adviser John Bolton said the U.S. strongly supports the EU’s decision to sanction on Iran .

Earlier ,US issued a pre-emptive warning to Iran against pursuing three planned space rocket launches that it said would violate a UN Security Council resolution because they use ballistic missile technology.

On the other hand , the Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said Iran will continue with its aerospace programme despite U.S. warnings adding there was no international law prohibiting such a program.

The development came after the US President Donald Trump pulled out of an international pact on Iran’s nuclear program and re-impose sanctions which hit Iran’s economy hard.

===7 CINDUS.

The U.N. refugee agency warned that Syrian refugees living in a makeshift camp in the Lebanese town of Arsal are suffering harsh weather conditions, appealing for help to deal with freezing temperatures and shortages brought by winter storms.

The U.N. refugee agency said high winds, rain and snow had heavily impacted more than 150 informal settlements, including some that were fully flooded or collapsed.

Since 2011, more than a million Syrians have fled the war at home to Lebanon, where aid agencies say most live in severe poverty .

===8 ABDUL.

Lebanese parliament speaker Nabih Berri urge to postpone an Arab Economic Summit due to take place this month in Beirut, because Lebanon had failed to agree over a new government.

The speaker said the summit in Beirut should be held at a time when it is guaranteed to succeed, referring to the political divisions and government vacuum in Lebanon.

However, President Michel Aoun said earlier this week that the Jan. 19-20 event would be held on time even if a new government had not been formed by then.

===9. CINDUS.

The Trump administration applauded the European Union for slapping sanctions on Iran.

U.S National Security Adviser John Bolton said the U.S. strongly supports the EU's decision to sanction an Iranian intelligence agency and its operatives to increase pressure on Iran.

This marks the first time the EU has sanctioned Iran since the Iran Nuclear Deal.

===10. ABDUL.

Sudan's President Omar Al-Bashir said that elections are the only determining factor behind who leads the country amid ongoing opposition protests since December 19.

Al-Bashir made the statement during a massive rally of his supporters at the capital Al Khartoum.

Several Sudanese cities have been witnessing opposition protests calling on Al-Bashir to step down.

According to official figures, at least 19 protesters were killed, and more than 400 others injured, while more than 800 were arrested.

===11. CINDUS.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in said that North Korea should take bold steps toward denuclearisation as it would have to seek a compromise in an upcoming second summit with the United States following a prolonged stalemate.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un renewed his resolve to meet again with U.S. President Donald Trump during his summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing this week, and Moon said Kim's trip signalled his imminent second meeting with Trump.

Pyongyang has demanded that Washington lift sanctions, imposed because of its nuclear and missile tests, and declare an official end to the 1950-53 Korean War.

Those demands are in response to Pyongyang's initial, unilateral steps toward denuclearisation that included dismantling its only known nuclear testing site and a key missile engine facility.

===12. ABDUL.

British Prime Minister Theresa May suffered an early defeat to her Brexit plans, when parliament demanded the government come up with a plan-B within days if she loses a vote on her deal to leave the European Union.

May has refused to retreat from her unpopular deal, which envisages close trading ties with the EU after leaving in March, pressing ahead with the vote that she looks set to lose after failing to win over her nominal Northern Irish allies.
Lawmakers voted 308-297 in favour of demanding the government come up with an alternative plan within three working days after Tuesday's vote, rather than a planned 21-day limit, in a non-binding motion that nonetheless piles pressure on the government.

===13. CINDUS.
The UK Department for Transport announced that large phones, laptops and tablets are now allowed in the cabin on flights from the middle east.
Passengers on flights where restrictions have been lifted will be able to take large phones, laptops, tablets and accessories into the cabin with them as of yesterday, according to a statement by the Department.
Normal cabin baggage restrictions will continue to apply in coordination with international partners. The restrictions have been in place since last March due to security concerns.===14. ABDUL.
ECO INTRO:
Global automakers are planning a $300 billion surge in spending on electric vehicle technology over the next five to 10 years.

XXX CINDUS. XXX
The unprecedented level of spending is driven in large measure by government policies adopted to cut carbon dioxide emissions and to extend technological advances that have improved battery cost, range and charging time.

===15. CINDUS.
SPORTS INTRO:
World number two Rafael Nadal told a crowd of admirers that he was healthy and ready to compete in the upcoming Australian Open despite pulling out of a tournament in Brisbane with a thigh strain.
Manchester City scored nine goals as they thrashed Burton Albion with an incredible display of attacking football in the first leg of their Carabao Cup semi-final at Etihad Stadium.
More Sports in the following report with Hadi

===16. Abdul
Next is weather forecast with our meteorologist Jamal Ibrahim

=== CINDUS

Before we end, here is a quick reminder of today's headlines.

====== B.

THE HEADLINES.

=Under the auspices of His Highness the Amir, Kuwait is to host the International Conference with on Integrity for Development at Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center

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=US Secretary of State assures U.S continued support to Iraqis against IS militants

=And , Sudan's President says elections are the only determining factor to end the ongoing opposition protests

======-=-==

That brings us to the end of this bulletin, join us again at 7:00 for the main bulletin. Thanks .for watching, have a good afternoon

5-02-2019

=====DINA & YOUSEF.

THE HEADLINES.

Good afternoon from the State of Kuwait, welcome to the 1-O clock news.

I am Yousef Ibrahim….. I am Dina Khalil with the headlines for today.

===DINA

=Russia, Turkey and Iran agree to take further steps towards the final restoration of peace and stability in Syria.

=Brexit minister says Britain will leave EU next month with or without a deal as Prime Minister could be defeated in parliament.

=The White House says US President is to invoke rare national emergency powers to secure funding for his planned border wall with Mexico.

=Security tightens in Kashmir a day after a suicide bomber rammed a car into a bus killing 44 of them and raising tensions with arch foe Pakistan.

===1. YOUSEF

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations today to the Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic on the advent of his country's national day.

XXPAUSEXX

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations today to the Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic on the advent of his country's national day.

XXPauseXX

And His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the Prime Minister, sent similar cables.

===2. DINA

As part of the national celebrations the Youth Public Authority in association with Makarem held an event labeled “celebrating together” at the Shamiya Youth Center.

==YOUSEF

The event was aimed at orphaned Kuwaiti children, to help include them with the national celebrations.

Our reporter Mohammad Al Onaizi has more in the following report

XXSOUNDXX

===3. YOUSEF

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday after a summit in Sochi that his country, Turkey and Iran have agreed to take further steps towards the final restoration of peace and stability in Syria.

At a press briefing following his meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Iranian President Hassan Rohani, Putin said that they mainly discussed the situation in Idlib province and northeastern Syria, and they have been ready to work together to finally defuse tensions in Idlib.

Putin added that the trio will also help Syria establish a constitutional committee which is to work on the fundamental aspects of the future state system of Syria.

===4. DINA

Still in Russia, where President Putin said that Russia had not noted any big changes suggesting the United States was moving to withdraw its troops from Syria, following an order from U.S. President Donald Trump.

Putin said Trump was trying to fulfill his election campaign promises by ordering the troop withdrawal, but that he was not always able to fulfill his promises because of what Putin described as internal political issues.

The top U.S. commander overseeing American forces in the Middle East said on Sunday that the United States is likely just weeks away from starting the withdrawal of ground troops from Syria.

===5. YOUSEF

The new Lebanese government has recently seen the light, ending the political strife that has plagued the Lebanese political scene for more than eight months, however, postponing the formation of the government has had a major impact on Lebanon's economy, making economic recovery a top priority for the future government.

Lebanon's parliamentary elections were disrupted last May, but the new government was not formed until Jan 31, 2019. During the political impasse of more than eight months, Lebanon faced an expansion of public debt, which had a negative impact on the growth of its imports.

Analysts said that the prompt formation of the new government has a direct relationship with the economic woes that had been troubling Lebanon.

===6. DINA

Sudanese police fired tear gas Thursday to disperse anti-government protesters marching to the presidential palace in the capital, the latest in two months of street protests seeking autocrat President Omar al-Bashir's ouster.

The protests erupted in December, initially over surging prices and a failing economy, but quickly turned into calls for al-Bashir's resignation after nearly 30 years in power.

Thursday's march was called for by an umbrella of independent professional unions, backed by opposition parties. Thousands gathered in the United Nations square before heading to the presidential palace on in central Khartoum.

Police descended on the protesters with tear gas and batons, not allowing them to reach the palace as in previous marches. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

===7. YOUSEF

British Prime Minister Theresa May could be defeated in parliament on Thursday over her plan to renegotiate the Brexit deal, undermining her pledge to the European Union that, with changes, she can get the agreement approved.

The symbolic vote Thursday was seen by May's team as little more than a rubber stamp on her plan to secure changes to the divorce deal with the EU, giving her more time to satisfy lawmakers' concerns over one part of it - the Irish "backstop".

But hardline Brexit supporters in her Conservative Party are angry over what they say is her readiness to rule out a no-deal departure.

May's Brexit minister Stephen Barclay again denied this in parliament, noting that, by law, Britain will leave the EU on March 29, with or without an agreement.

The latest twist in the two-year negotiation to leave the EU underlines the deep divisions in parliament over how, or even whether, Britain should leave the bloc - its biggest political and trade policy shift in more than 40 years

===8. DINA

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Thursday the U.S. thinks more sanctions and pressure on Iran are needed.

Pompeo spoke at a Middle East peace conference in Warsaw attended by 60 countries

European powers, who oppose the Trump administration's decision to pull out of a nuclear deal with Iran, were openly skeptical of a conference excluding Tehran. France and Germany declined to send their top diplomats, while British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt left before Thursday's main events.

European countries say they share Washington's concerns about Iran's regional behavior but believe withdrawing from the nuclear deal was a mistake, and have promised to try to salvage

the deal as long as Iran continues to abide by it. In practice, European companies have accepted new U.S. sanctions on Iran and abandoned plans to invest there.

===9. YOUSEF

The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to pass a new funding bill, avoiding another government shutdown.

The bill contains no money for president Donald Trump's border wall, but in the other hand the president says he will declare a national emergency in an attempt to get the funds without congressional approval.

A stunning announcement on the Senate floor from Majority Leader Mitch McConnell ends days of doubt over whether President Donald Trump would agree to a bipartisan border security deal.

But Trump told McConnell he will also declare a national emergency - a move many Republicans had opposed.

===10. DINA

U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said he was looking forward to trade talks with China ahead of a March 1st deadline for a deal.

Mnuchin and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer are in Bejing, meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, the top economic adviser to Chinese President Xi Jinping.

United states president Donald Trump has said a delay was possible, though not desired, He also said he won't meet with Xi before March 1st.

If the two sides don't reach a deal by that deadline, U.S. tariffs on $200 billion worth of Chinese imports will rise from ten to 25 percent.

===11. YOUSEF

Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido insisted humanitarian aid will enter Venezuela on February 23, further setting the stage for a showdown with the government of Nicolas Maduro.

President Maduro is resisting foreign efforts to send food and medicine to the hyperinflationary country suffering from rising hunger. An aid convoy supplied by the United States and Colombia arrived in Cucuta last week, where it is being held in warehouses.

As head of the National Assembly, Guaido invoked constitutional provisions last month to assume the interim presidency, but Madruro has been pushing back

Earlier on Thursday Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza told reporters at the United Nations that, "in Venezuela there's only one government - the government of President Maduro - so no one can give deadlines, especially this man."

===12. DINA

Security is tight in Kashmir today, a day after a suicide bomber rammed a car into a bus carrying Indian paramilitary police, killing 44 of them and raising tensions with arch foe Pakistan.

The Pakistan-based extremists militant group “JeM” claimed responsibility for the attack.

The Indian government accused Pakistan of letting militant groups operate from its soil and called on it to take action. Islamabad said it rejected the suggestion it was linked to the attack.

===13.YOUSEF

==YOUSEF

Dar Alaathar Al-Islamyiah recently hosted the Uzbek youth orchestra for a special concert in yarmouk cultural center.

==DINA

The event was organized with cooperation of the Uzbek embassy in Kuwait and Professor Amer Jaafar from music department in Basic Education College.

More about it with Our reporter Hanadi Albloushi :

XXSOUNDXX

===14.DINA

ECONOMIC

DINA: Vietnamese airlines will be able to fly to the United States and codeshare with American carriers after the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration declared the Southeast Asian country complies with international safety standards.

==YOUSEF

The U.S. aviation safety agency said in a statement late on Thursday that it was awarding Vietnam a “Category 1” rating, two weeks after the decision was expected.

More with coming Report by Dana Al Anizi.

XXSOUNDXX.

===15.YOUSEF

SPORTS

Chelsea claimed a narrow victory over Malmo in the Europa League after they were greeted with a rousing atmosphere in Sweden for the first leg of their last 32 tie.

==DINA

Ross Barkley poked in a curling cross from Pedro to score in the first half, and Olivier Giroud flicked in the second after Willian cut the ball back having beaten his opponent in the box.

More with coming Reports Dana Al Anizi.

XXSOUNDXX. ===16. WEATHER

===DINA

Next is the weather forecast in Kuwait City with our meteorologist _____.

====YOUSEF

Before we end, here is a quick reminder of today's headlines.

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THE HEADLINES.

=Russia, Turkey and Iran agree to take further steps towards the final restoration of peace and stability in Syria.

=Brexit minister says Britain will leave EU next month with or without a deal as Prime Minister could be defeated in parliament.

=The White House says US President is to invoke rare national emergency powers to secure funding for his planned border wall with Mexico.

=Security tightens in Kashmir a day after a suicide bomber rammed a car into a bus killing 44 of them and raising tensions with arch foe Pakistan.

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That brings us to the end of this bulletin, join us again at 7:00 PM for the main bulletin. Thanks for watching, have a good afternoon.

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