

Dancette, J. (2014). *Analytical dictionary of globalization and labour – Dictionnaire analytique de la mondialisation et du travail – Diccionario analítico de la mundialización y del trabajo (DAMT)*. Available online at: <http://zedamt.herokuapp.com/index>

The *Analytical Dictionary of Globalization and Labour* (DAMT) is a trilingual online resource—in English, French and Spanish—that clearly goes beyond many dictionaries in the traditional sense. According to the DAMT website, its target groups are (1) translators working with texts related to globalization and labour and (2) students and researchers who are active in this subject field. The present review is written with the former target group in mind.

This review is divided into two parts. Firstly, we examine the DAMT according to a list of postulates that have been used in recent research on translation-oriented reference tools. Secondly, we take another look at the DAMT from the more practical perspective of professional translators.

We start with examining to what extent the DAMT corresponds to fifteen postulates on professional translators' requirements that have recently been published in Löckinger (2011/2014). All in all, the DAMT fulfils a whole range of requirements, and it is obvious that the DAMT has been compiled with professional translators in mind. What follows is a list of short statements explaining the degrees of correspondence between the DAMT and Löckinger's (2011/2014) postulates. These postulates reflect three categories of requirements: "methodology-related" requirements (postulates 1 and 2), "contents-related" requirements (postulates 3 to 9), and requirements "related to the presentation and linking of contents" (postulates 10 to 15; Löckinger, 2011, p. 45).

Postulate 1 states that a language resource for professional translators should be compiled by means of systematic terminology work. The DAMT fulfils this postulate to a high degree: the use of concept relations indicates that the DAMT has been compiled in accordance with the relevant principles and methods. Doing so means that a subject field or domain is treated in a comprehensive and logical way, and that users know, before consulting a reference tool, whether they will find what they are looking for (Löckinger, 2014, p. 70). According to postulate 2, the language resource in question should provide meta-information on how it was compiled, what the underlying text corpora were, if any, etc. The degree of correspondence between the DAMT and postulate 2 is moderate: the DAMT provides some meta-information in "how to use" and "sample entry" sections. However, some aspects are not described, such as how the boundaries have been drawn around the overall subject field "globalization and labour". It is important to note that relevant in-

depth information can be found in several secondary sources (e.g., Dancette, 2011; Dancette, 2013; or Dancette, forthcoming).

Postulates 3 to 9 reflect contents-related requirements. More specifically, postulate 3 holds that a language resource contains designations in at least two languages. The degree of correspondence is high in this case since the DAMT contains designations, for example, terms and names, in three languages. According to postulate 4, the language resource should provide grammatical information on designations. Since this type of information is missing in the DAMT, the DAMT does not correspond to this postulate. Postulate 5 says that the language resource should contain definitions. Since the DAMT as a rule offers definitions for all three languages, the degree of correspondence is high in this case. The same applies to postulate 6, according to which contexts should be offered, i.e., sample occurrences of the designation concerned in a natural-language environment. The DAMT provides a lot of encyclopaedic information, that is, domain-specific background information related to concepts, designations and objects. Thus, it also fulfils postulate 7 to a high degree, which holds that encyclopaedic information should be included. Postulate 8 is related to the provision of multimedia content, such as non-textual illustrations. Since the DAMT does not offer these, it does not correspond to this postulate. According to postulate 9, the language resource should contain remarks that help translators to take well-informed decisions. The DAMT contains such information, which is why it corresponds to this postulate to a high degree. An example is the following descriptive text on the term “business ethics” (<http://zedamt.herokuapp.com/terme?id=515>): “Today, the term refers primarily to the conduct of multinational companies in developing countries toward their employees, their partners' employees, and their use of environmental resources”. This is more in-depth information than usually found in other reference tools.

Let us now examine to which extent the DAMT fulfils requirements concerning the presentation and linking of contents (postulates 10 to 15). Postulate 10 states that the language resource should be in electronic form. Since this is true for the DAMT, it fully corresponds to this postulate. According to postulate 11, a language resource for professional translators should be both systematically and alphabetically arranged: users should be able to do their terminological research based on a given designation or based on the concept system of the subject field or domain concerned. In the DAMT, users can search for designations via the search box, and there are also three language-specific indexes (based on the underlying individual dictionaries in English, French and Spanish). However, there are no graphical illustrations that go beyond the textual hyperlinks representing semantic relations (e.g., concept diagrams in the traditional ISO 704 style or concept models in the newer ISO 24156-1 style). So, the degree of correspondence is moderate with regard to postulate 11. Postulate 12 says that the relations

between the concepts concerned should be displayed. The DAMT contains a wealth of semantic relations, which is quite unusual for translation-oriented reference tools and creates a high degree of correspondence with this postulate. According to postulate 13, the language resource should both be based on text corpora (i.e., tailor-made collections of texts) and provide access to these corpora. The content of the DAMT comes from a variety of domain-specific documents that are referenced in the individual terminological entries. However, those documents are not accessible within the DAMT framework and users must leave the DAMT website to consult them. Thus, we have a moderate degree of correspondence here. Postulate 14 says that a language resource for professional translators should provide a feature to modify the language resource. The DAMT does not meet this postulate: apart from the option to send comments to the author of the DAMT, users cannot modify its content. According to postulate 15, a language resource should offer a single user interface. The degree of correspondence is moderate in this case: although the DAMT content available at this stage is accessible within the DAMT website, further in-depth resources (e.g., hyperlinked domain-specific documents) are external.

With regard to the fifteen postulates described above, the majority of special language reference tools on the market today are not ideally suited for professional translators. However, the DAMT has some unique properties that may be of great use to language professionals working in the subject field “globalization and labour” (see, for example, the discussion of postulates 7 and 12 above). In that sense, it comes closer to the complex requirements of professional translators than many other reference tools on the market today. Taking the postulates of recent research on translation-oriented language resources as benchmarks, there is, however, still some room for improvement. For example, a direct integration of text corpora into the DAMT website, that is, the display of texts within the DAMT website interface, would be a great asset (see postulate 13). Implementing this feature would mean that the external documents referenced at <http://zedamt.herokuapp.com/terme?id=5630>, for example, would also be available in the form of indexed full text. The basic structure of the DAMT is well thought out and does not need any fundamental change.

Having a closer look at the DAMT from a practical perspective, we can state that translators can find a wealth of information in the DAMT that goes far beyond many traditional language resources. As an example, let us take the terminological entry for the concept “freedom of association” (<http://zedamt.herokuapp.com/terme?id=2269>), in which we find the following information:

- hyperlinks to the English synonyms “freedom of association for workers” and “workers’ freedom of association” (even if these synonyms are in slight contrast to the definition of the concept “freedom of association”), as well as hyperlinks to the equivalents

“liberté syndicale” and “libertad sindical” in French and Spanish, respectively; see postulate 3 above;

- a definition quoted from an international treaty (International Labour Organization convention, ILO); see postulate 5 above;
- a context quoted from an article in a specialist journal; see postulate 6 above;
- extensive encyclopaedic information, ranging from details about the underlying concept to ILO founding documents on the freedom of association, to a short account of its main elements, to a case study about the freedom of association in Indonesia; see postulate 7 above;
- an impressive network of semantic relations: one remarkable property of the DAMT is that it not only holds lexical and terminological information, which is found in many reference tools, but that it also assists users with learning more about the subject field by providing an extensive set of semantic relations (see postulate 12 above): the terminological entry for “freedom of association” offers semantic relations of two types: associative and hierarchical. For the latter type, three generic relations are mentioned (with the concepts “basic human right”, “basic worker right” and “trade union right”), two partitive relations (with the concepts “right to bargain collectively” and “right to strike”), as well as many others; see <http://zedamt.herokuapp.com/terme?id=2269>, at the bottom.

The above-mentioned terminological data alone indicate that the author and her support team have made a great effort in compiling and designing this reference tool. Whether translators need information about the object, concept or designation level, they will find well-selected information within one and the same terminological entry. Hyperlinks to external sources can be used for further in-depth terminological research.

In the DAMT, users can search in four different ways. In addition to a traditional designation-based search in one of the three languages (search “by word”), DAMT users can also search for terminological data using the feature “by domain” (i.e., in domains belonging to the subject field “globalization and labour”, such as “economy”, “transnational corporation” or “production organization”, to name just three). In this case, users can decide whether they want to carry out a domain-specific search using a search expression or display all entries belonging to a domain. In the latter case, all the relevant designations appear in an index view on the left side, producing a list of domain-specific designations. Yet another feature is “Index” search. Using this type of search, users can produce an alphabetical list in one of the selected languages in the main frame of the DAMT website. In doing so, one can carry out a general search or narrow the search down to a specific domain. From the resulting alphabetical list, users can go to individual terminological entries by clicking on the designation concerned. A highly innovative feature of the

DAMT is its “semantic relations” search. By using this search option, users can display semantic relations of a certain type that exist in the DAMT. While this feature is certainly unique, it would be even more useful if it could be combined with a domain-specific search criterion. This would enable users to display (one type of) the semantic relations within a domain, which would make knowledge acquisition for them even easier.

With its well-ordered structure and its target group-specific information modelling, the DAMT can certainly be recommended to language professionals working in the subject field of “globalization and labour”. There is just one small weakness in the way that designations are displayed. In the DAMT “how to use” instructions, we can read the following (<http://zedamt.herokuapp.com/howto>): “Capitalized terms indicate full-fledged entries; whereas lower case signifies less developed entries. In both cases, italics are used for synonyms or variants. They redirect to head terms”. While a visual differentiation between different variants or synonyms is useful, this results in designations being presented in a somewhat distorted fashion. For terminological resources, it is generally recommended to display designations in their grammatical base forms irrespective of their actual uses in real-life texts, where capitalisation or endings may need to be changed. For instance, the title of a book might be “Basic Human Rights” (capital letters, plural form), while in a terminological resource the term to record would be the grammatical base form “basic human right” (no capital letters, singular form).

Merging the research and practical perspectives, we can conclude that it would be exciting to know how professional translators use the DAMT in their daily work. In a dedicated empirical study, we could learn more about language professionals’ behaviour towards novel language resources, which has been a research desideratum for quite some time. In this context, the author of the DAMT has informed us that a study is being conducted with students who use the dictionary for translation tasks.

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