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## **THE EU ENGLISH TERMS INCLUDING THE WORD *MARKET* AND THEIR FRENCH AND LITHUANIAN EQUIVALENTS**

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**Summary.** Translation of terminology is an essential factor and often a challenging task in the translation of legal acts. Various databases are available to facilitate the translation process and ensure its quality. The main inter-institutional terminology database of the European Union is IATE ("Inter Active Terminology for Europe"). The aim of the paper is to conduct a contrastive analysis of a group of English, French and Lithuanian economic terms based on the information provided in IATE. The object chosen for the research is the English, Lithuanian and French multi-word terms including the word *market*. In total, 266 terms were collected from IATE: 90 English terms and their equivalents in French and Lithuanian. The paper presents a classification of the terms into semantic categories according to various aspects of markets (object of the market, place of the market, duration of the market availability, degree and nature of competition among the market participants, production stage of the items offered in the market, etc.), compares the formal structure of the English terms and their French and Lithuanian equivalents and reveals the tendencies of term formation in the investigated languages. Finally, the paper discusses the problem of synonymy of the terms and the data provided in the term entries of IATE.

**Keywords:** the EU's terminology database IATE; economic terms; contrastive analysis; semantics; formal structure; term synonymy.

### **Introduction**

The EU legal acts regulate various domains of the life of the EU citizens and are daily used not only by politicians and functionaries, but also by ordinary people who need to know the EU regulations for personal or professional reasons. Today European Union legislation is drafted in 24 official languages, all language versions of the EU documents are authentic texts which have the same legal effect. Thus, translation is an integral part in the process of drafting and adopting acts. Translation errors may create legal uncertainty, lead to misinterpretation and wrong application of the EU law in the EU member states. Therefore, precision in translation of legal acts is of immense importance.

Terminology is a key component of legal acts. Terms denote concepts of various fields and constitute a conceptual framework of every field. That is why, it

is essential that terms are understood in the same way in different languages. Translation of terminology requires special knowledge of the field, its concepts and their terminological denotations in the source and the target languages. The primary tools enabling translators to search for term equivalents are online multilingual terminology databases, thesauruses and dictionaries.

One of the main databases of the terminology used in the EU legal acts is the EU's inter-institutional terminology database "Inter Active Terminology for Europe" (hereinafter-IATE). IATE is one of the main terminology databases used by the EU translators. The project of establishment of the database was started in 1999 and its objective was to provide a web-based system for all EU terminology resources and to enhance availability and standardisation of the EU terminology. In 2004, IATE was opened for the internal use in the EU institutions, and in 2007 it became available to the general public. IATE incorporates all existing EU terminology databases into a single database. Today it contains approximately 1.4 million multilingual entries, 8,5 million terms, 540 000 abbreviations and 130 000 phrases and covers all 24 official EU languages. IATE is a live database, its contents are constantly updated. New terms are added or the existing are revised on the basis of the information provided by the EU translators, lawyer-linguists, experts of various fields and other reliable sources. This database ensures the quality of the written communication among the EU institutions.

The **aim** of the research is to conduct a contrastive analysis of a group of English, French and Lithuanian economic terms based on the information provided in IATE.

The **object** of the research is the English, Lithuanian and French multi-word terms including the word *market* provided in the database IATE. In total, 266 terms were collected: 90 English terms and their equivalents in French and Lithuanian: 98 French equivalents and 78 Lithuanian equivalents. The number of the terms is different in the analysed languages because the database IATE sometimes provides 2 or 3 Lithuanian and French equivalents of 1 English term and vice versa. Due to the limited scope of the paper, only the multi-word terms in which the word *market* functions as the head of the phrase are analysed.

In order to achieve the aim of the research, the following **objectives** were set:

- 1) to classify the terms into semantic categories;

- 2) to analyse the synonymy of the terms in English, French and Lithuanian;
- 3) to compare the formal patterns of the terms in English, French and Lithuanian.

The research was accomplished using the analytical-descriptive and contrastive methods which enabled the researchers to unveil the semantic and formal structure of the terms in the investigated languages and compare their similarities and differences, as well as to describe the data on the terms provided in the term entries of IATE and discuss how they help the translators and other users of the database to understand the meaning and usage of the given terms.

### **Theoretical background**

Terms are fundamental items of professional language. They name the concepts used in a particular professional field and are one of the main means of communication between specialists of the same field in different countries.

The concept *term* is discussed in all major works of terminology. The terminologist J.C. Sager states that "the items which are characterised by special reference within a discipline are the 'terms' of that discipline, and collectively they form its 'terminology'; those which function in general reference over a variety of sublanguages are simply called 'words', and their totality - the 'vocabulary' (Sager, 1990, p. 19). Another terminologist M. T. Cabré states that terms are not so different from words of general vocabulary from the formal and semantic point of view, but are very distinct from them when considered as pragmatic and communicative units (Cabré, 1999, p. 81). The most distinguishing feature of terminology in comparison with the general language lexicon is that "it is used to designate concepts pertaining to special disciplines and activities" (Cabré, 1999, p. 81). The French terminologist Loïc Depecker explains the differences between a *term* and a *word* by stating that the sense of a word may be "vague, multiple or changing", while "the definition of a term can be precise, and validated by the description of the concept and of the object it refers to" (Depecker, 2015, p. 37).

Thus terms denote concepts related among themselves and constituting a conceptual framework of a particular field. Traditionally only nouns and noun

phrases are viewed as terms though some terminologists also include adjectives and verbs into term glossaries and dictionaries (Mockienė, 2016, p. 37).

In order to translate a term, it is important to understand the system of concepts of the field and their denotations (terms) in the source language and to link it to the system of concepts of the same field and their denotations (terms) in the target language. If the concepts do not exist or are not denoted yet in the target language, the translator has to form new terms. As new phenomena constantly occur in various fields, translators often have to deal with new concepts and, together with specialists of the field and terminologists, develop new terms in the target language. These new terms have to be related with other terms by systematic relations and together with them constitute a terminology system of the field.

Terminologists define a number of requirements for term formation. A term must be strictly defined, it is important to distinguish, for example, action from its result (*dekoravimas – dekoracija*), actor from means etc.; it must be clear, precise and unambiguous, correctly formed according to the rules of the target language, stylistically neutral, used coherently and express the same concept in all contexts. Other important requirements for term formations are their systematic character, language economy (brevity), avoidance of synonyms (Leonavičienė, 2010, p. 109; Akelaitis, Pečkuvienė, & Žilinskienė, 2009, pp. 36-44; Gaivenis, 2002, pp. 30-49).

According to their formal structure, terms are usually divided into 2 major types: one-word (simple) or multi-word (complex) units (cf. Sager, 1997, p. 25; Mockienė, 2016). One-word terms are formed according to the general principles of word formation while multi-word terms follow the phrase formation requirements. Possibility to form related terms of a different, but formally similar structure allows meeting the requirement for a systematic quality and denoting the types and subtypes of the concepts within the same conceptual framework using similar formal structures.

Though the language economy criterion requires formation of short terms, multi-word terms consisting of 2-3 or even more words often prevail. Multi-word terms are formed by attaching one or several modifiers to the head of the phrase and may be further classified according to their formation patterns (Janulevičienė & Rackevičienė, 2014, 10-16).

One more important requirement of term formation is avoidance of synonyms. Ideally, there should be one-to-one correspondence between a term and a concept it denotes, i.e. one concept should be denoted by one term. However, synonymy of terms is widespread in many fields and the same concept is often denoted by several terms. It impedes understating and usage of the terms and is assumed as a drawback of a term. Thus, translators' tasks encompass not only finding a corresponding concept in the target language and its terminological denotation, but also analysing the degree of equivalence between synonyms in the source language and looking for their potential matches in the target language (Chromá, 2011, p. 42).

Terminology translators use various procedures to translate terms of the source language. E. Zaikauskas analysed Lithuanian translations of English multi-word terms in the EU legal acts and identified terminology translation procedures used by the translators. In over 80% of the cases the English and Lithuanian terms coincided in their formal structure, i.e. each constituent of the English terms was translated literally. In 13.6 % of the cases, the Lithuanian terms had different formal structure which means that the translators tried to adapt it to the terminology system in the target language and to create a term which was clearer to the users of the target language (Zaikauskas, 2014, p. 87).

The presented review proves that translation of terminology requires special knowledge of the field, its conceptual framework and terminological denotations in the source and the target languages.

### **Empirical analysis of the multi-word terms including the word *market* in English, French and Lithuanian**

#### **The origin and meaning of the term *market* in the online dictionaries**

The term *market* was chosen for the analysis because it is a crucial term in the field of economics and its usage reflects the economic reality of a nation.

Originally the word *market* comes from the Old North French *marchiet* that firstly meant "a meeting at a fixed time for buying and selling livestock and

provisions” (Online Etymology Dictionary). It was firstly mentioned in early 12<sup>th</sup> century; later the word was used to designate a marketplace, trade, commerce.

Nowadays the term has a more extended meaning and denotes “a means by which the exchange of goods and services takes place as a result of buyers and sellers being in contact with one another, either directly or through mediating agents or institutions. In the modern industrial system, however, the market is not a place; it has expanded to include the whole geographical area in which sellers compete with each other for customers” (Encyclopedia Britannica).

The EU is a large market which imposes the integration of local markets into the European market. This integration is regulated by legal acts which are translated into national languages to facilitate the integration processes.

In legal and business communication, this word is mostly used as a nucleus of multi-word terms describing various aspects, functions and types of markets. Therefore, the given research focuses on multi-word terms including the word *market*.

### **The semantic classification of the English, French and Lithuanian terms including the word *market* provided in IATE**

IATE provides the following information relevant to the semantic analysis of the terms: 1) definition of a term and reference to the document providing the definition; 2) reference to the source from which the term is taken; 3) context in which the term is used and reference to the cited document; 4) notes with further explanations about the meaning and usage of the term. The semantic classification below is based on the information provided in IATE.

As it was mentioned in the introduction, the analysis in the paper focuses only on those multi-word terms in which the word *market* functions as the head of the phrase. The terms denote a great variety of concepts referring to markets and their types according to various criteria. Translators working on economic texts have to gain awareness of the whole system of the concepts of this field, determine which aspect of the market is denoted by the term, what other terms belong to the same category, what semantic interrelations they have, etc. This knowledge is necessary to find an equivalent in the target language, as well as to assess critically the equivalents given in IATE.

The classification below provides 6 semantic categories of the terms classified according to different aspects of markets:

**1) Object of the market:**

a) Goods sold in the market:

- *sugar market – marché du sucre/marché sucrier – cukraus rinka;*
- *hop market – marché du houblon – apynių rinka;*
- *vegetable market – marché aux légumes – daržovių rinka.*

b) Services sold in the market:

- *services market – marchés des services – paslaugų rinka;*
- *day-ahead market – marché à 24h – kitos paros rinka.*

c) Financial objects and services offered in the market:

- *share market – marché des actions – akcijų rinka;*
- *bond market – marché des rentes – obligacijų rinka;*
- *credit market – marché du crédit – kredito rinka;*
- *capital market – marché des capitaux – kapitalo rinka.*

d) Employment offers in the market:

- *labour market – marché du travail/marché de l'emploi – darbo rinka.*

**2) Place of the market:**

a) Territory:

- *national market – marché national – nacionalinė rinka;*
- *neighbouring market – marché voisin – gretima rinka;*
- *geographic market – marché géographique – geografinė rinka.*

b) Exchange environment:

- *online/electronic market – marché électronique – skaitmeninė rinka.*

**3) Duration of the market availability:**

- *intraday market – marché intrajournalier – dienos rinka.*

**4) Degree and nature of competition among the market**

**participants:**

- *competitive market – marché compétitif – konkurencinė rinka;*
- *captive market – marché captif – uždaroji rinka;*
- *thin market – marché serré – nelikvidi rinka;*
- *regulated market – marché réglementé – reguliuojamoji rinka.*

**5) Production stage of the items offered in the market:**

- *upstream market – marché en amont – pradinės grandios rinka;*
- *downstream market – marché en aval – galutinės grandios rinka.*

**6) Types of markets according to their relation to the standard market:**

- *representative market – marché représentatif – tipinė rinka;*
- *lead market – marché pilote – eksperimentinė rinka.*

The given classification is not exhaustive, but it provides the most typical semantic categories of the multi-word terms containing the word *market* in IATE. Only those English terms which have both French and Lithuanian equivalents, were included. However, there are quite a few terms which have only French equivalents, but not Lithuanian. Not all terms are given definitions in IATE which aggravates their understanding as the provided context is not always sufficient to conceive the meaning of the terms. Some term entries provide references to the related terms, belonging to the same category. This information is very helpful to the users, it facilitates the understanding and translation process of the terms and should be included in other term entries as well.

**Formal structure of the terms**

The investigated terms are formed according to different term formation patterns. The analysis below reveals the peculiarities of the formal structure of the terms in English, French and Lithuanian provided in IATE.

All investigated terms are noun phrases including the head *market* and one or several modifiers which may be nominal or adjectival. In the investigated English material, the terms have only one modifier which is either nominal or adjectival:

1) **terms including a nominal modifier:** *labour market, market abuse, bond market, market entry, product market, energy market.*

2) **terms including an adjectival modifier:** *secondary market, neighbouring market, representative market, national market.*

### **Comparison of the formal structure of the English and French terms**

In most cases, the English and French terms have the same formal structure, i.e. the same number and types of modifiers (nominal or adjectival). However, the position of the modifiers is often different in English and French:

**1) nominal modifiers take place before the head noun in English and after the head in French:**

- *hop market – marché du houblon;*
- *share market – marché des actions;*
- *comodity market – marché des produits de base;*
- *debit market – marché de dettes;*

**2) adjectival modifiers take place before the head noun in English and after the head in French:**

- *single market – marché unique;*
- *lead market – marché pilote;*
- *domestic market – marché national;*

Only few examples with different types of modifiers (nominal and adjectival) in English and French were found:

**1) adjectival modifiers in English – nominal modifiers in French:**

- *relevant market – marché en cause;*
- *unofficial market – marché hors cote;*
- *balancing market – marché d’ajustement;*

**2) nominal modifier in English – adjectival modifier in French:**

- *cash market – marché ponctuel.*
- *money market – marché monétaire.*

### **Comparison of the formal structure of the English and Lithuanian terms**

Many Lithuanian terms, contrary to the French terms, differ formally from the English terms. The Lithuanian terms often include more modifiers than the English term. In the Lithuanian terms including more than one modifier, only one of the

modifiers is governed syntactically by the head noun, the rest of the modifiers are governed by other modifiers:

1) **one modifier in English – two modifiers in Lithuanian:**

- *collateral market – užtikrinimo įkaitu rinka;*
- *cash/spot market – neatidėliotinių sandorių rinka;*

2) **one modifier in English – three modifiers in Lithuanian:**

- *debit market – skolos vertybinių popierių rinka;*

3) **one modifier in English – four modifiers in Lithuanian:**

- *sovereign market – valstybės skolos vertybinių popierių rinka.*

In the Lithuanian material, there are also quite a few terms which coincide formally with their English equivalents. They have the same number and type of modifiers:

1) **one nominal modifier in both English and Lithuanian:**

- *sugar market – cukraus rinka;*
- *capital market – kapitalo rinka;*
- *energy market – energijos rinka.*

2) **one adjectival modifier in both English and Lithuanian:**

- *electronic market – skaitmeninė rinka;*
- *competitive market – konkurencinė rinka;*
- *emergent market – besiformuojanti rinka.*

The analysis shows that the English and French terms are much closer formally, their formal structures in many cases coincide. Meanwhile, the Lithuanian terms are often formed differently, they have more constituents than the English equivalents. This could be explained by the different structure of the investigated languages and their historical relations. The differences also reveal different terminology formation traditions in the investigated languages. The Lithuanian term developers often prefer longer terms consisting of several words which denote the most important features of the concept and thus reveal its content (cf. Mockienė, 2016, p. 187). Meanwhile the English and French terms meet the criterion of language economy, they are short and user-friendly.

### **Synonymy of the terms**

Though one of the important requirements of term formation is avoidance of synonymy, numerous terms have synonyms. This is also the case in the investigated material of the multi-word terms including the word *market*.

IATE provides all synonymic variants in a single term entry in which one definition for all synonyms is given. Then every synonym is characterized separately: the source from which the term is taken is provided, as well as the context in which it is used. The synonymic terms are also ranked by the specialists and given the labels "preferred", "admitted", "deprecated" or "obsolete" (IATE Handbook, 2016, p. 23).

In the investigated material, some English terms are given 1 French and 3-4 Lithuanian equivalents or 1 Lithuanian term is given 3-4 English and/or French equivalents. The tables below (see Table 1 and Table 2) illustrate the most striking examples.

Table 1.

#### **English terms and their English and French equivalents\***

<b>English term</b>	<b>French equivalent</b>	<b>Lithuanian equivalent</b>
<i>upstream market</i>	<i>marché en amont</i>	1) <i>pradinės grandies rinka</i> 2) <i>gamintojų rinka</i> 3) <i>gamintojų grandies rinka</i>
<i>downstream market</i>	<i>marché en aval</i>	1) <i>galutinės grandies rinka</i> 2) <i>žemutinė rinka</i> 3) <i>virtotojų rinka</i> 4) <i>virtotojų grandies rinka</i>

\*EN (1 term)-FR (1 term)-LT (3-4 terms)

Table 2.

#### **English terms and their English and French equivalents\***

<b>English term</b>	<b>French equivalent</b>	<b>Lithuanian equivalent</b>
1) <i>share market</i> 2) <i>stock market</i> 3) <i>equity market</i>	1) <i>marché des actions</i> 2) <i>marché des fonds propres</i> 3) <i>marché des titres</i>	<i>akcijų rinka</i>
1) <i>OTC market</i> 2) <i>unofficial market</i>	1) <i>marché hors cote</i> 2) <i>marché hors bourse</i>	<i>nebiržinė rinka</i>

English term	French equivalent	Lithuanian equivalent
3) <i>over-the counter market</i>	3) <i>marché de gré à gré</i>	
1) <i>thin market</i> 2) <i>narrow market</i> 3) <i>illiquid market</i> 4) <i>inactive market</i>	1) <i>marché serré</i> 2) <i>marché étroit</i> 3) <i>marché peu actif</i>	<i>nelikvidi rinka</i>

\*EN (3-4 terms)-FR (3terms)-LT (1term)

The analysis shows that IATE administrators seek to register all synonyms of the terms and provide the information about their usage which could help translators and other users of the database to choose the most appropriate terms and their equivalents in other languages. One more characteristics of synonyms that might be indicated in IATE and help its users is the frequency of synonymic variants in the EU legal acts. Such data would reveal the dynamics of the usage of synonyms and provide insights for term standardisation.

## Conclusions

The results of the analysis of the English, French and Lithuanian terms including the word *market* provided in IATE allow drawing the following conclusions:

1) The multi-word terms, in which the word *market* functions as the head of the phrase, denote various types of markets and may be classified into semantic categories according to different aspects of markets: object of the market, place of the market, duration of the market availability, degree and nature of competition among the market participants, productions stage of the items offered in the market, types of markets according to their relation to the standard market. The list of the categories is not exhaustive as only those English terms which have both French and Lithuanian equivalents in IATE, were included.

2) The formal structure of the English and French terms in many cases coincide, they have the same number and types of modifiers. Meanwhile, the Lithuanian terms are often formed differently, they have more constituents than the English equivalents. This could be explained by the different structure of the investigated languages and their historical relations, as well as by different terminology formation traditions. The Lithuanian term developers often prefer

longer terms revealing the most important features of the concepts, while the English and French terms meet the criterion of language economy and are short and user-friendly.

3) Though one of the important requirements of term formation is avoidance of synonymy, numerous terms including the word *market* have synonyms. In IATE some English terms are given 1 French and 3–4 Lithuanian equivalents or 1 Lithuanian term is given 3–4 English and/or French equivalents. IATE administrators seek to register all synonyms of the terms and provide the information about their usage which could help translators and other users of the database to choose the most appropriate terms and their equivalents in other languages. However, synonymy aggravates the understanding and usage of the terms and points to the necessity for further work on standardisation of terminology.

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**ES ANGLIŠKŲ TERMINŲ, KURIŲ PAGRINDINIS DĖMUO „RINKA“,  
ANALIZĖ IR GRETINIMAS SU EKVIVALENTAIS PRANCŪZŲ IR  
LIETUVIŲ KALBOSE**

**Santrauka.** Straipsnyje analizuojami ir gretinami anglų, prancūzų ir lietuvių kalbų ekonomikos daugiažodžiai terminai, kurių pagrindinis dėmuo yra žodis *rinka*. Iš viso tyrimui atrinkti 266 terminai trimis kalbomis iš Europos Sąjungos terminų bazės IATE (angl. Inter-Active Terminology for Europe). Straipsnyje pateikiama semantinė terminų klasifikacija, gretinama formalioji trijų kalbų terminų struktūra, aptariama sinonimijos problema. Tyrimas rodo, kad daugiažodžiai terminai, kurių pagrindinis dėmuo yra žodis *rinka*, nusako įvairias rinkos rūšis, klasifikuojamas pagal rinkos objektą, vietą, trukmę, rinkos dalyvių konkurencines sąlygas, parduodamo produkto gamybos etapus ir kt. Formaliosios sandaros analizė atskleidė, kad anglų ir prancūzų kalbų terminai neretai yra trumpesni už lietuviškus terminus. Angliški ir prancūziški terminai susideda iš dviejų dėmenų, tuo tarpu nemažai lietuvių kalbos terminų turi tris ir daugiau dėmenų. Tai rodo, kad anglų ir prancūzų terminų kūrėjai pirmenybę teikia termino trumpumo ir vartosenos patogumo kriterijams, o lietuvių kalbos terminų kūrėjams svarbiausias yra termino tikslumo kriterijus. Tyrimo metu aptikta nemažai terminų sinonimų, dažnai ta pati sąvoka nusakoma skirtingais terminais. IATE terminų bazės sudarytojai klasifikuoja sinoniminius terminus pagal jų tinkamumą ES dokumentams. Sinonimija apsunkina terminų suvokimą ir vartoseną, todėl būtina tokius terminus standartizuoti.

**Pagrindinės sąvokos:** ES terminų bazė IATE; ekonomikos terminai; gretinamoji analizė; semantika; formalioji struktūra; terminų sinonimija.