



**A TRANSLATION-ORIENTED FRENCH-TURKISH
GEOGRAPHY GLOSSARY BASED ON THE FRENCH
DOCUMENTARY “LE DESSOUS DES CARTES”ⁱ**

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Abstract:

With globalization at its peak, Geography has emerged as a crucial field for acquiring and disseminating global knowledge, posing significant challenges for Translation Studies. Terminology and Glossary Studies, a subfield of Translation Studies, play a vital role in the institutionalization of disciplines, yet this field still needs to be developed in Turkey. Existing Turkish geography dictionaries need a translation-oriented framework, limiting their utility for translation purposes. This study addresses this gap by creating a French-Turkish geographical glossary based on a corpus derived from the French documentary program “*Le Dessous des Cartes*.” Known for its in-depth geographical content, this program serves as a rich audiovisual resource, offering a comprehensive repository of terminology through maps, graphics, and narratives. A selection of 40 episodes from the 324 episodes between 2007 and 2017 was analyzed to identify 1409 terms and vocabulary, which were subsequently translated into Turkish. The glossary follows a Translation-Oriented Terminology model, emphasizing contextual accuracy and equivalence. It aims to support translators, educators, and researchers by addressing challenges like the translation of proper nouns and enhancing “world knowledge” in translation education. This work not only contributes to bridging a critical gap in Turkish translation resources but also highlights the interdisciplinary applications of terminology in Geography, Translation Studies, and beyond.

Keywords: *Le Dessous des Cartes*, translation-oriented terminology, terminology studies, geography glossary, geography terminology

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1. Introduction

Translation Studies, as an interdisciplinary field, examines the interaction between languages and cultures and explores the processes of transferring meaning while preserving the essence of language. Formerly considered a subfield of linguistics, Translation Studies has emerged as an independent discipline with diverse subfields, including terminology and glossary studies. The field's interdisciplinary nature enables it to engage with various domains, such as geography, which is particularly relevant in today's globalized world as a means of accessing and disseminating global knowledge.

Geography, as an inherently interdisciplinary field, intersects with multiple sciences, including geology, soil science, lithology, hydrology, meteorology, botany, animal science, anthropology, ethnology, economics, sociology, history, forestry, agriculture and industry (İzbirak, 1986:7). Consequently, geography encompasses a wide range of topics that can pose unique challenges in translation. Addressing these challenges requires specialized tools, such as bilingual terminologies (terminology banks), which facilitate the translation of technical terms and promote effective communication among domain experts. However, in the French-to-Turkish context, comprehensive and reliable geography terminologies are severely lacking. This study aims to address this gap by creating a French-Turkish geography terminology based on the "Translation-Oriented Terminology" model. The French documentary program *Le Dessous des Cartes* ("Mapping the World"), broadcast on ARTE, serves as the primary resource for this research. Known for its detailed geographic content presented through maps and graphics, the program provides a rich and contemporary vocabulary for terminology development. By transcribing and analyzing 324 episodes aired between 2007 and 2017, the study develops a comprehensive bilingual terminology tailored to geography.

In addition to terminology development, this study engages with audiovisual translation by converting visual and auditory content into written texts. Despite its value as a resource, *Le Dessous des Cartes* has not been explored within the context of Translation Studies or foreign language education in Turkey. Introducing such a resource into the literature addresses a significant gap while advancing research in both terminology studies and audiovisual translation.

Against this background, this study aims to create a French-Turkish geography terminology and glossary based on a corpus derived from *Le Dessous des Cartes*. By doing so, it contributes to the institutionalization of geography terminology in the Turkish context and provides a valuable resource for both translation studies and its practitioners. Furthermore, by adopting an interdisciplinary approach that integrates Translation Studies, corpus linguistics, audiovisual translation, terminology and glossary studies, vocabulary, and geography, this study is expected to make a significant contribution to the field as a practical application of translation.

2. Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework of this study will be based on Thelen's (2015) Translation-Oriented Terminology model. Thelen defines translation-oriented terminology as a type of terminology work conducted by translators, either monolingual (to analyze the meaning of a term in the source language and/or its equivalent term in the target language) or bilingual/multilingual (to compare the results of monolingual analyses to determine equivalency). It is always carried out from a translation perspective, where efficiency and productivity in the translation process are of utmost importance (Thelen, 2015, p. 348).

While the objectives of translation-oriented terminology roughly align with those of traditional translation practices, it specifically operates within the framework of domain-specific language. Moreover, translation-oriented terminology has two distinct additional goals: translating terms using standardized target language equivalents and creating a record of terms for future use. Translation-oriented terminology focuses exclusively on domain-specific language and is limited to non-literary translation. Additionally, when no standardized equivalent term exists, the creation of new terms as translation solutions contributes to bilingual terminological standardization (Thelen, 2015, p. 354).

This approach works to analyze the meaning of source language terms based on their linguistic and cognitive context in the source text, aiming to find the appropriate equivalent in the target language. The information sources utilized in translation-oriented terminology may include:

- 1) Experts and specialist authors,
- 2) Libraries and documentation,
- 3) Authoritative sources,
- 4) Terminological research,
- 5) Purpose-specific research,
- 6) Text-related research, and
- 7) Subject-related research (Thelen, 2015, p. 357).

For the translation-oriented terminology work that will constitute the practical part of this study, the French documentary program *Le Dessous des Cartes*, which includes audiovisual geographical texts on various topics, will serve as the primary source of information. In this way, the study will inevitably rely on the mentioned information sources, particularly "text-related research" and "subject-related research".

The goal of translation-oriented terminology management is to handle terms in two or more languages quickly and efficiently. A basic method, used in the past and sometimes still preferred, involves storing terminology in dual-column or multi-column word lists using text editors and spreadsheets. In this method, the first column contains terms in the source language, while other columns include equivalent terms in one or more target languages (Vargas-Sierra, 2011, p. 50). Similarly, in this study, the first column will contain the French source language terms or vocabulary, and the corresponding translation will be provided in the adjacent column.

3. Literature Review

3.1 The Role of Geographical Terminology in Translation Studies

Geography is a broad and comprehensive science that helps us understand and recognize various aspects of our world. This discipline seeks to understand the interaction between humans and their environment by examining natural and human-made elements on Earth, such as climates, population distribution, landforms, and many other topics (Warf, 2006). Also known as the science of the Earth, geography offers a wide range of terminology along with its inherent complexity.

Geographical terminology includes the specialized terms used to explain the essence and various topics of this field. For example, "geology" is a subfield that studies the formation and composition of the Earth's crust, while "hydrography" deals with bodies of water and water resources. "Geographic latitude" and "longitude" refer to the fundamental coordinate system used to determine the location of a point on Earth (Doğanay, 2018). This terminology helps us understand the vast areas of geography and also reveals intersections with other disciplines. For example, geopolitics focuses on the political and strategic effects of geographical locations.

The basic terminology of geography aids in understanding the interaction between nature and humans, mapping events around the world, and predicting future developments. The terms of this discipline provide important tools for geography enthusiasts and students, as they make it easier to understand the complex web of relationships on Earth.

According to Turan (2002), the focus of geography on research and study, collecting data within the framework of these studies, and drawing conclusions by evaluating this data plays a crucial role in making it a scientific field. Turan points out that the significant role played by these concepts and terms is clearly seen in the current and broad definition of geography. Özçağlar (2000) defines geography as a community of science that investigates and examines the interactions between humans and nature and the activities that result from these interactions, such as distribution, relationship-building, comparison, and the application of various research methods while following principles of causality. According to the researcher, the concept of "community of sciences" mentioned in this definition clearly shows that the discipline of geography is home to numerous concepts and terms.

According to Turan (2002), when geography examines topics within its research domain, it names the objects and materials it encounters, making it easier to recognize them. For example, geography introduces landforms with names like "plain," "plateau," and "mountain." Geography also names events that occur on Earth, such as tides, landslides, earthquakes, and volcanic activities, facilitating the study of these phenomena.

Şahin (1998) suggests that another reason for the abundance of concepts and terms in geography is that it draws upon other scientific disciplines (sociology, anthropology, geology, history, hydrology, botany, meteorology, astronomy, geodesy, etc.) when conducting research and using terms and concepts from these fields to describe, synthesize, and explain geographical events and phenomena according to its own principles. According to the researcher, geography, by using both terms specific to its own field and those from other

scientific fields, has created a rich vocabulary that needs to be defined and explained (Turan, 2002, p.69).

In this context, Özdemir (1997) argues that some intellectuals and politicians, as well as the general public, view geography as an endeavor to teach about mountains, rivers, city names, various capitals, or demographic data. According to the researcher, considering encyclopedic knowledge of geography as the essence of science ignores its complexity and advanced scope (Özdemir, 1997, p.221).

In Turkey, there is a significant lack of research on French-Turkish terminology based on concrete data, as well as Turkish scientific literature related to current terminologies in geography. According to the YÖK (Turkish Council of Higher Education) thesis database, there are only five theses at the master’s level that can be included in the field of French-Turkish terminology, and there are no theses at master’s or doctoral level on French-Turkish geographical terminology.

The published geography glossaries are also considered insufficient. Prof. Dr. Hayati Doğan, one of the prominent figures in geography in Turkey, mentions in the preface of his 2017 publication of “*Coğrafya Bilim Alanları Sözlüğü*” (*Dictionary of Geography Disciplines*) that two previous geography term glossaries have not been updated, creating gaps in the field of geographical terms. He states that his dictionary aims to address this issue. This indicates a lack of sufficient glossary work on geographical terms in Turkey.

Among the few studies conducted, only one, Resat Izbırak's work of “*Coğrafya Terimleri Sözlüğü*” (*Dictionary of Geographical Terms*) (1986), contains French equivalents of geographical terms from Turkish. However, this outdated and limited work is deemed inadequate for the translation of French-Turkish geographical texts. These dictionary-like works are distinct from terminology studies focused on translation.

3.2 The Documentary Program “*Le Dessous Des Cartes*”

The *Le Dessous des Cartes* program began broadcasting on France's France 3 channel in 1990 and, starting in 1991, continued on the ARTE channel. It is still broadcast today on the French-German ARTE channel.

The program is based on three fundamental principles:

- 1) The use of geographical maps to determine the location of world events and analyze these issues through various scales of maps, which can be diversified.
- 2) The historical dimension, where political behaviors, whether collective or individual, can only be partially understood.
- 3) The desire to identify long-term trends, particularly in areas such as geopolitics, economics, strategy, international law, and environmental issues.

Broadcast on the French documentary channel ARTE, the program of *Le Dessous Des Cartes* provides rich geographical information in French under many different topics through maps and graphics, thus creating a rich and current geographical lexicon. The maps and graphics shown in the program are prepared by the LEPAC (*Foresight Studies and Cartographic Analysis Laboratory*) in France. The main theme of the program is the examination of individual

countries through maps and graphics, while also covering many other topics that can be related to general geography and other fields (such as epidemics, fuels, agriculture, etc.)

The study of creating a French-Turkish geographical dictionary using the program *Le Dessous des Cartes*, a visual resource enriched with maps, instead of a classical printed map, is also related to the field of audiovisual translation, which is one of the sub-fields of Translation Studies, since audiovisual text is transformed into written text. The program uses a large number of specially prepared maps and graphics containing geographical terms and vocabulary on which the related topics are based.

Each episode is prepared through the same stages. The preparation begins with a wide range of readings based on scientific journals (general or regional), fundamental reference sources (General Geography, atlases, dictionaries), history books, press news, statistical yearbooks, and so on. These documents enable the creation of analyses and the writing of texts. Some of these texts are further completed with fieldwork (Calberac, 2005).

The program of *Le Dessous des Cartes* has also been the subject of many academic studies and is cited in numerous works. Among them, Jaklová (2006) explored the applicability of the videos of the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program in teaching French as a foreign language, providing practical examples on how these videos could be utilized in the classroom (Jaklová, 2006, p. 48). In addition, Tamponi (2014) argued that the program represents a new frontier of geopolitical communication. She emphasized how it integrates different disciplines and multimedia tools, while masterfully using maps to present complex geopolitical issues (Tamponi, 2014, pp. 139-171).

Furthermore, Eleanor and Michel Levieux (1999), in their "*Insider's French: Beyond Dictionary*", included an entry for *Le Dessous des Cartes*, defining the program as "the real explanation of what is going on behind the scenes, never told to the public." They further described it as a short but dense TV program broadcast weekly on Arte that aims to expose the geopolitical context of specific situations or historical developments (Eleanor & Michel Levieux, 1999, p. 71). Moreover, in his book, Szoniecky (2018) noted that despite the full compatibility of geographical coordinates enabled by advancements in GPS technology and online mapping tools, issues of subjectivity remain. He highlighted that Jean Christophe Victor effectively demonstrated this issue in the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program, particularly in relation to border fluctuations, which vary depending on the country being studied (Szoniecky, 2018, p. 98).

In a similar vein, in their book, Lambert and Zanin (2020) analyzed the color-coded maps used in the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program. Under the section "*The Effect of Colors*," they discussed how the program's maps, referencing Samuel Huntington's *Clash of Civilizations* theory, depict religious differences and their geopolitical implications in detail (Lambert & Zanin, 2020, p. 73). Additionally, Henneton (2014) mentions the growing success of the weekly *Le Dessous des Cartes* program as a reflection of the increasing public interest in geopolitics in France. This was discussed in the historical geopolitical book *The Worlds of the Seventeenth Century: Hudson Valley*, edited by Jacobs and Roper (Henneton, 2014, p. 187).

Finally, program host Jean-Christophe Victor authored the book *Le Dessous des Cartes: Itinéraires Géopolitique* in 2012 and co-authored the *Le Dessous des Cartes: Atlas Géopolitique* in

2005. Both works, published by ARTE Éditions, incorporate material from the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program, providing further insight into its geopolitical analyses.

3.3 The *Le Dessous des Cartes* Program in Terms of Geographical Terminology

The *Le Dessous des Cartes* program creates a lexical presence or a collection of terms derived from its sources. In preparing the program’s script, key geographical texts, history books, atlases, and dictionaries are utilized. In this way, the program encompasses terminology related to various fields. While the program includes specialized maps and graphics, it is particularly rich in terms related to geography, as well as international relations, history, sociology, and theology.

The program’s scientific language naturally leads to the use of a significant number of specialized terms and vocabulary. Moreover, the program’s visual elements enhance engagement and comprehension, making terminology studies more appealing to researchers. This is particularly important given how rapidly advancing technology has integrated visual and auditory texts into contemporary social life (Güneş, 2015, p. 4).

The *Le Dessous des Cartes* program offers a rich resource of geographical terminology. Its diverse range of topics provides terms from physical geography subfields like geomorphology, hydrography, climatology, and biogeography; human and economic geography subfields such as population geography, settlement geography, industrial geography, agricultural geography, tourism geography, transportation geography, and trade geography; as well as regional geography, including the geography of continents and countries. In this study, the lists of terms presented by episodes were assessed within the broader context of general geography vocabulary, without specifying particular subfields.

The dense geographical vocabulary in the program has also made it a valuable educational resource. In this regard, *Le Dessous des Cartes* is utilized in French schools. Through an agreement signed in November 2014 between the French Ministry of Education, Higher Education, and Research, and ARTE channel, teachers and students can access the program online (<https://www.education.gouv.fr/cid89377/lancement-de-l-offre-arte-sur-edutheque.html>). What is more, The French Ministry of Education recognizes *Le Dessous des Cartes* as an essential resource for history and geography teachers (<https://eduscol.education.fr/histoire-geographie/actualites/actualites/article/un-site-le-dessous-des-cartes.html>).

The visual and auditory support used to explore geographical topics in the program facilitates the accessibility and popularity of terminology studies. Karadüz (2009, p. 647) notes that visual elements are particularly effective in the concretization stage of learning. He argues that specialized dictionaries should be rich in visual elements. In this study, this consideration was incorporated, with maps or graphic visuals in the program content used in harmony with the section transcriptions.

The episodes of *Le Dessous des Cartes* present a current and diverse range of geographical terms and vocabulary, an important element needed in translation. According to Baskın (2014, p. 445), the success and usability of a dictionary are defined by its ability to

provide relevant answers when needed. In this context, this study is expected to partly address this need.

In Turkey, it has already been mentioned that there is a lack of scientific geographical terminology studies in French-Turkish level in Turkey. Therefore, it is believed that this study will make a substantial contribution to the field of geographical terminology. Given that the program covers all areas of geography, it will provide a rich French-Turkish geographical lexicon for translation purposes. Boz *et al.* highlights that, despite an increasing number of corpus studies in Turkey, term corpuses remain very limited. (Boz *et al.*, 2017, p. 235). In this regard, the corpus created through the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program episodes will also serve as a term memory.

The quality of terms in specialized dictionaries depends on the quality of the documents from which they are derived (Rondeau, 1984, p. 50). Given that the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program is based on rigorous research and has been featured in many academic studies, it is expected to make a significant contribution as an original and high-quality source of terminology in the current study.

4. Methodology

Based on the translation-oriented terminology method, this study combines audiovisual translation with corpus-based research to build a French-Turkish glossary that reflects both the spoken and visual aspects of the geographical terms and vocabulary extracted from *Le Dessous des Cartes* program.

4.1 Creation of the Corpus

The Collins Dictionary defines a corpus as 'a large collection of written or transcribed texts used for linguistic study' (Collins, 2020, cited in Bekar, 2020, p. 6). In line with this definition, the corpus in the present study consisted of transcriptions from specific episodes of the French program *Le Dessous des Cartes*. To create an original and up-to-date corpus related to geography, the researcher watched and analyzed a total of 324 episodes of *Le Dessous des Cartes* aired between 2007 and 2017.

From this collection, 40 episodes were selected to build the study's corpus. This selection resulted in a linguistic database reflecting the program's rich and varied vocabulary. Additionally, this corpus provided empirical data that informed the development of the French-Turkish geographical glossary, ensuring the terms included were both accurate and contextually appropriate. In these 40 episodes, identified for their dense geographical vocabulary and terminology, the researcher transcribed relevant sections into French.

4.2 Audiovisual Translation

For the creation of a French-Turkish geography glossary, this study used the *Le Dessous des Cartes* program, an audiovisual resource. Therefore, the creation of the glossary involved audiovisual translation, which is one of the subfields of Translation Studies. Audiovisual

translation plays a critical role in transferring meaning not only across linguistic boundaries but also multimodal ones.

As Gambier (2004) argues, this subfield allows for the integration of both verbal and visual elements, which is essential when dealing with content like *Le Dessous des Cartes*, rich in both visual and verbal information. By transforming the audiovisual source into written text, the researcher created a glossary that reflected the linguistic and visual aspects of geographical terminology, making it a more comprehensive and specialized resource.

4.3 Translation-oriented Terminology Method

In the translation of the relevant French vocabulary and terms into Turkish, the translation-oriented terminology method was applied by consulting dictionaries, books, theses, articles, parallel texts related to the field, scientific and institutional journals, web resources, and expert opinions. In this context, a high level of translation concern was adopted to determine the correct and widely used equivalents of the terms, and these equivalents were continuously verified against the mentioned reference sources.

As a result, the French terms and vocabulary related to geography within this corpus have been listed by finding their corresponding equivalents in Turkish from a translation and translator's perspective. In this way, a translation-oriented French-Turkish geography glossary has been created.

4.4 An Example from Data Analysis:

Based on the variety of topics in the program, the episodes have been randomly ordered. When an episode is examined, the following information is provided as the heading: first, the episode number, followed by the title of the episode, and then the date it was first broadcast. For example:

Episode 223: Des Nouvelles de la Mauritanie (7 December 2013)

Then, French transcription of the relevant episode is provided in order, based on the timing in the video, in the form of paragraphs or sentences. Within these transcriptions, words considered to be part of geographical vocabulary or terminology are highlighted in bold. At the end of the paragraphs or sentences containing the transcriptions, the starting time of these paragraphs or sentences in the video is indicated in minutes and seconds in parentheses. To illustrate:

*“La Mauritanie est en Afrique. Le pays est à cheval sur **le Sahara** et sur **le Sahel** et il forme comme un trait d’union entre le Maghreb et **l’Afrique noire**” (0:41).*

To avoid repetition of vocabulary or terminology, the geographical vocabulary or terms obtained in one episode are not included in the terminology of another episode in the same manner. In some episodes, visuals from the relevant video are placed beneath the

transcription text, aiming to create the visuality of the video in the written text. This approach is intended to help readers better internalize the topic. For instance:



Episode 223: Des Nouvelles de la Mauritanie (10 October 2013)

Lastly, a translation-oriented French-Turkish Geography Glossary has been created by listing the French vocabulary and terms obtained from the transcriptions along with their Turkish equivalents. For example:

No	French Term/Vocabulary	Turkish Equivalent
1	La Mauritanie	Moritanya
2	le Sahara	Sahra
3	le Sahel	Sahel
4	l’Afrique noire	Sahra Altı Afrika

The final terminology database has been alphabetically organized at the end of the glossary in the thesis study. Each French term or vocabulary has been accompanied by its Turkish equivalent and the episode number in which it appeared:

No	French Term/Vocabulary	Turkish Equivalent	Episode Number
1	abeille	arı	248
2	accès	giriş yolu	35
3	activités de l’homme	beşeri faaliyetler	1

5. Presentation of the Findings

In this part, we present some examples from our translation-oriented French-Turkish geography glossary study, which is based on the program *Le Dessous des Cartes*. Due to word limitations, not all findings could be documented here. For the full analysis and complete glossary, please refer to the original thesis study.

1. “*Sur la carte, on repère d’abord le virus Ebola, la Dengue, la maladie du Nil occidental, la fièvre Nipah, la fièvre Jaune, le Sras*” (1:09).



Episode 1: La mondialisation des épidémies (10 Octobre 2007)

No	French Term/Vocabulary	Turkish Equivalent
1	le virus Ebola	Ebola virüsü
2	la Dengue	Dang humması
3	la maladie du Nil occidental	Batı Nil hastalığı
4	la fièvre Jaune	sarıhumma
5	le Sras	SARS

The findings from Chapter 1, “*La Mondialisation des Épidémies*,” reveal the intersection of health geography and translation studies. When translating terms such as *la fièvre jaune* (yellow fever) and *la maladie du Nil occidental* (West Nile disease), it is crucial to maintain both geographical precision and cultural appropriateness. Translating these terms into Turkish as *sarıhumma* and *Batı Nil hastalığı*, respectively, aims to align global health discourse with local language norms to ensure clarity and resonance. This process shows the critical role of translation in disseminating public health information, especially during global crises where geographical and epidemiological data are essential.

2. “Voici sur cette carte les régions où se trouve les mines d’uranium, le charbon, le fer, le zinc, le cuivre, le phosphate, l’or, les principaux gisements de gaz naturel et surtout de pétrole” (6:35).



Episode 2: Le continent africain (31 October 2007)

No	French Term/Vocabulary	Turkish Equivalent
1	les mines d’uranium	uranyum madenleri
2	le charbon	kömür
3	le fer	demir
4	le zinc	çinko
5	le cuivre	bakır
6	le phosphate	fosfat
7	l’or	altın
8	gisements de gaz naturel	doğal gaz yatakları
9	pétrole	petrol

The findings from Chapter 2, *Le Continent Africain*, indicate the intersection of geography, natural resources, and translation studies. The listing of natural resources—*les mines d’uranium*, *le charbon*, *le fer*, among others—and their Turkish equivalents (uranium mines, coal, iron, etc.) exemplifies the delicate balance between maintaining technical accuracy and facilitating cross-cultural understanding. In this context, the translation process highlights the critical role of linguistic mediation in transmitting geographical and environmental information, particularly in a globalized context where the dissemination of accurate spatial data is essential. The proper translation of geographical and environmental content in this chapter contributes to a more informed global society, empowered with accessible geographical insights.

3. “Voici un planisphère qui nous montre les reliefs de la terre où apparaissent les principaux massifs des chaînes de montagnes. Parmi lesquels **des Rocheuses** dont le point culminant est le **Mont Elbert**, **des Andes**, **l’Atlas**, **le Massif éthiopien**, **les Alpes**, **le Caucase** et **Monts Zagros**; **les monts Tian Shan** en Chine, **l’Himalaya** où se trouve **l’Everest**, le plus haut sommet du monde culminant à 8848 m., **les Monts Maoke** et **les Monts Bismarck**” (0:48).



Episode 316: Les montagnes: Eternelle Périphérie (5 November 2007)

No	French Term/Vocabulary	Turkish Equivalent
1	des Rocheuses	Rocky Dağları
2	le Mont Elbert	Elbert Dağı
3	des Andes	And Dağları
4	l’Atlas	Atlas Dağları
5	le Massif éthiopien	Etiyopya dağ kitlesi
6	les Alpes	Alp Dağları
7	le Caucase	Kafkas Dağları
8	Monts Zagros	Zagros Dağları
9	les monts Tian Shan	Tanrı Dağları

The findings from Chapter 316, “*Les Montagnes: Éternelle Périphérie*,” reveal the complexities of translating geographical proper names. They show the delicate balance between preserving the identity of place names and adapting them to different linguistic contexts. The translation of mountain range names such as *des Rocheuses* as “Rocky Dağları,” *les Andes* as “And Dağları,” and the nuanced translation of *les monts Tian Shan* as “Tanrı Dağları” exemplify the challenges of balancing fidelity to the original name with local linguistic and cultural preferences. This process shows the critical role of translation in representing geographical proper names. It ensures that the unique identities of places are respectfully conveyed while maintaining clarity and recognition across languages.

6. Conclusion and Implications

Geographical terminology, with its inherent complexity and interdisciplinary nature, poses unique challenges for translation. In Turkey, the lack of comprehensive French-Turkish geographical glossaries has hindered the effective translation and understanding of specialized texts. This study sought to address this gap by developing a bilingual glossary using the rich audiovisual content of *Le Dessous des Cartes*, a French documentary program. By utilizing robust informational sources and audiovisual materials, the research aligns with the modern demands of translation in an increasingly visual and data-driven world.

This research integrates various disciplines—corpus linguistics, audiovisual translation, terminology development, and geography—within a unified framework. Such an approach enhances our understanding of the complexities of specialized translation while providing practical tools for translators and educators. By adopting this interdisciplinary methodology, the study contributes to terminological standardization in the French-Turkish context, a pressing need in geography and related fields.

Grounded in translation-oriented terminology theory, which emphasizes systematic resource creation through a translation lens, this study analyzed 324 episodes of *Le Dessous des Cartes* aired between 2007 and 2017. From these, 40 episodes with dense geographical vocabulary were transcribed to create the raw material for the glossary. The audiovisual translation was pivotal, capturing both spoken and visual elements of geographical terms. Terms were translated into Turkish using dictionaries, academic works, and expert opinions to ensure accuracy. The resulting glossary, alphabetized and cross-referenced with the original episodes, reflects the study's meticulous approach.

The findings reveal the critical role of translation across various geographical contexts. For example, translating health geography terms like *la fièvre jaune* (sarihumma) and *la maladie du Nil occidental* (Batı Nil hastalığı) required balancing linguistic accuracy with cultural appropriateness to align global health discourse with local norms. Similarly, translating terms related to natural resources, such as *les mines d'uranium* (uranium madenleri), demonstrated the importance of linguistic mediation in conveying spatial data across languages. These efforts contribute to a more informed global society by ensuring the accessibility and accuracy of crucial information.

The research also highlights the prevalence and significance of proper nouns in geography-related texts. Accurate translation of names like *des Rocheuses* (Rocky Mountains) and *les monts Tian Shan* (Tian Shan Mountains) requires balancing fidelity to the source language with cultural adaptation. This ensures both clarity for Turkish audiences and the preservation of the unique identities of these locations.

The analysis covered diverse topics, including human and physical geography, health, geopolitics, agriculture, energy, ecology, natural disasters, and cultural issues like the Israel-Palestine conflict and the Silk Road. Authentic French texts on endangered species, rare earth elements, and regions such as Xinjiang and the North Pole were also obtained.

These texts are expected to serve as valuable teaching resources in French Translation and Interpreting departments at universities, particularly for translation courses. They will enhance students' world knowledge, which is essential for developing an in-depth understanding of global events, cultures, and international relations. Using such materials in translation education strengthens students' linguistic skills while broadening their general knowledge.

By integrating audiovisual translation with corpus-based research, this study successfully developed a French-Turkish geography glossary that reflects both linguistic and visual dimensions. From health geography to natural resource management and proper name translation, the findings highlight translation's vital role in cross-cultural understanding and knowledge dissemination. This work not only advances translation-oriented terminology research but also enhances the accessibility of geographical knowledge for Turkish-speaking audiences, especially in academic and educational contexts.

This glossary aims to assist translators and researchers in overcoming the challenges of geographical text translation. By offering a standardized, comprehensive resource, the study contributes to the professionalization of translation practices and fosters interdisciplinary collaboration. Future research could extend this work to other specialized fields.

In conclusion, this study contributes to Translation Studies, Translation and Cultural Studies, French Translation and Interpreting, and Geography. It is a valuable resource for academics, students, and translators working in social sciences. Additionally, it raises the visibility of geography terminology within Translation Studies, encouraging further research and fostering an interdisciplinary bridge to expand knowledge and understanding.

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Conflict of Interest Statement

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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