

**Translation Policies in the Republic of China (1912-1949):
A Comparative Study of Governmental, Semi-governmental, and Non-
governmental Translating Institutions**

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The Republic of China (1912-1949, ROC for short hereafter) witnessed a surge of enthusiasm for translation, as is evidenced by the establishment of at least 86 translating institutions. These institutions exhibited distinctive translation policies that distinguished them from their counterparts in imperial China and modern China. This study adopts González Núñez's model to investigate translation policies (translation management, practice and beliefs) in governmental, semi-governmental and non-governmental institutions through the examination of three typical cases in the ROC: National Institute for Compilation and Translation (國立編譯館, NICT, 1932-1949), The China Foundation for the Promotion of Education and Culture (中華教育文化基金委員會, CFPEC, 1924-present), and the Fu Association (復社, 1937-1941). The study reveals that governmental translating institutions primarily formulated policies regarding domestic education and minority ethnic groups in order to consolidate political control over the country. Semi-government institutions aimed to promote the culture and education of the ROC by translating Western books on humanities, science and literary classics and their translation practices and management displayed greater flexibility and subjectivity. Non-governmental institutions, lacking stable patronage and explicit regulations, tended to engage in low-cost book translations where the quality of translation could not always be guaranteed. Generally speaking, institutional translation in the ROC played a vital role in political conflicts, cultural and educational reforms, and the resistance against foreign aggression, exhibiting a prominent political ideology and an inclination towards embracing Western cultures.