

## Translation of News Headlines: A Case of English Headlines Rendered into Arabic, Kurdish and Persian

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### Abstract

*This paper explores the translation of news headlines across certain journalistic cultures, specifically focusing on headlines translated from English into Arabic, Kurdish and Persian. Headlines are an extraordinary type of text, which are considered a separate genre on their own. Since a headline is an entrance to the news details, journalists have to utilize different techniques to make the headline concise, effective and eye-catching to the reader. In translating news headlines, these features should be attained so that translated headlines achieve their intended aim in the target language. To do so, journalist-translators ought to employ a variety of translation procedures. This paper postulates that journalist-translators have to be equipped with necessary translation skills and apply multiple translation procedures to be able to translate news headlines effectively, as the use of a single translation procedure is generally insufficient to produce an effective translation. Moreover, the paper argues that this trend is not restricted to a certain pair of languages but the postulation is true of news headlines translated between the aforementioned language pairs and, by extension, any other languages across different journalistic cultures. The results show that over a dozen of translation procedures have been implemented in rendering headlines in each language pairs concerned. The results thus confirm the validity of the postulation put forward in this paper.*

**Keywords:** translation, news headline, journalistic translation, translation procedures, adaptation.

## 1. Introduction

The word ‘headline’ is a self-explanatory term that does not necessarily need to be explained or defined. Headlines are regarded as a genre or a text type on their own. Crystal and Davy (1990: 180), for instance, describe headlines as “a separate study in themselves, being radically different from the rest of newspaper reporting language”. Likewise, Zhang (2013: 396) states that “headlines are a kind of paratexts which occupy a privileged place of pragmatics and strategy in news reports”. Jaki (2014: 35) provides two reasons for considering headlines a distinctive text type: (1) a headline has a different function and structure from the rest of the article or news report; and, (2) journalistic headlines are distinguishable from other types of titles (such as titles of books, paintings, etc.) based on their characteristic features. Allan Bell (1991: 189) distinguishes two major functions of news headlines: (1) they summarize the details of a news story; and (2) they attract readers through the use of “common rhetorical devices such as alliteration, punning, and pseudo-direct quotes, especially in the popular press”.

Due to their significance as a special text type, translation of headlines has particularly attracted translation scholars and researchers (cf. Nord 1995; Rasul 2015; Sidiropoulou 1995; Valdeón 2007; Zhang 2013). When translating headlines, the two functions mentioned above should be preserved in light of the target language culture and readership. That is why headlines are said to pose challenging translation difficulties (cf. Vinay and Darbelnet 1995: 176). The headline features attributed to headlines are also true of translated headlines. Therefore, journalist-translators have to produce news headlines that are concise and appealing to TL readers. Since what is deemed appealing to ST readers may not necessarily be attractive to TT readers, news headlines need to undergo rewording, modifications or even complete replacement. In other words, for translated news headlines to be effective in the TL, journalist-translators have to painstakingly employ multiple translation procedures. This is the core argument and postulation in this paper.

To attest the postulation, we shall analyze the translation of a set of 60 news headlines rendered between three pairs of languages, namely; English-Arabic, English-Kurdish and English-Persian. All the news headlines are published in the first week of 2017 by a five influential media outlets, as tabulated below:

Language pairs	Media outlets publishing the TT
English > Arabic	- <i>BBC</i> (10 headlines) - <i>Aljazeera</i> (10 headlines)
English > Kurdish	- <i>Rudaw</i> (10 headlines) - <i>Xendan</i> (10 headlines)
English > Persian	- <i>BBC</i> (20 headlines)

**Table 1:** Details of the three sets of headlines considered.



between these two types of headlines depends on whether a headline has a verb (it is thus verbal) or it has no verb (it is thus nominal) (Ungerer 2000: 55). Consider the following example in which a verbal headline is transposed into a nominal one - a structural shift that can be criticized since “[v]erbal headlines are generally considered more effective than nominal ones” (Rasul 2015: 173). For ease of understanding, the source text (ST) is followed by the target text (TT), which is followed by its back translation (BT):

(1) Trump national security aide Flynn resigns over Russian contacts (*Reuters*)

وردهکاری دهستلهکار کیشانهوهی راویژکاری ناسایشی نهتهوهیی سهروکی نهمریکا (Xendan)

[‘Details of the resignation of American President’s national security adviser’]

### 3. Textual analysis of the headlines

A thorough textual analysis of the three sets of headlines will be conducted below to identify the type and nature of translation procedures implemented in the translation of the headlines. The ultimate goal is to attest the claim that effective translation of headlines requires utilization of various translation procedures no matter what language pairs considered.

#### 3.1 Headlines translated from English into Arabic

Twenty headlines translated from English into Arabic are chosen from Aljazeera and Reuters. These are two internationally influential media agencies; Aljazeera publishes news in Arabic, English and Turkish, and Reuters publishes in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Urdu, Arabic, Japanese and Korean. Ten headlines (along with their STs) are collected from Aljazeera and ten headlines (along with their STs) from Reuters (see Appendix 1).

Five out of the twenty news headlines translated from English into Arabic are rendered by ‘adaptation’, i.e. the headlines are (nearly) completely replaced in the translation. Four of these headlines are translated by Aljazeera and one by Reuters. This may indicate that Aljazeera is more oriented towards target audience, whereas Reuters is rather oriented towards the source text. Adaptation occurs when the translator decides to completely replace a headline in the TT after taking stock of the news story in the TL situation. This type of headline translation can be the most effective one, as at this juncture journalistic skills prevail to produce a headline that is tailored to attract TT readers. The following example from Aljazeera illustrates the case of adaptation:

(2) US immigrants stay at home to demonstrate their value

مظاهرات مناهضة لترمب بعدة مدن أميركية

[‘Anti-Trump demonstrations in several US cities’]

Here, the focus of the translated headline (Arabic) is almost completely different from the focus of the original headline (English). Whereas the word *immigrants* is the focal point of the source headline, *Trump* is the focal point in the target headline. The adaptation is likely to be motivated by consideration of the target audience; while the Arabic version of Aljazeera targets the Arab and Muslim world, the English version (known as *Aljazeera English*) targets the Western world, especially the UK and the US.

Various translation procedures have been implemented in the rest of the headlines translated from English into Arabic. Consider the translation of the following headline, in which four different transplanted procedures employed: transposition, literal translation (3 occurrences), expansion and calque (2 occurrences):

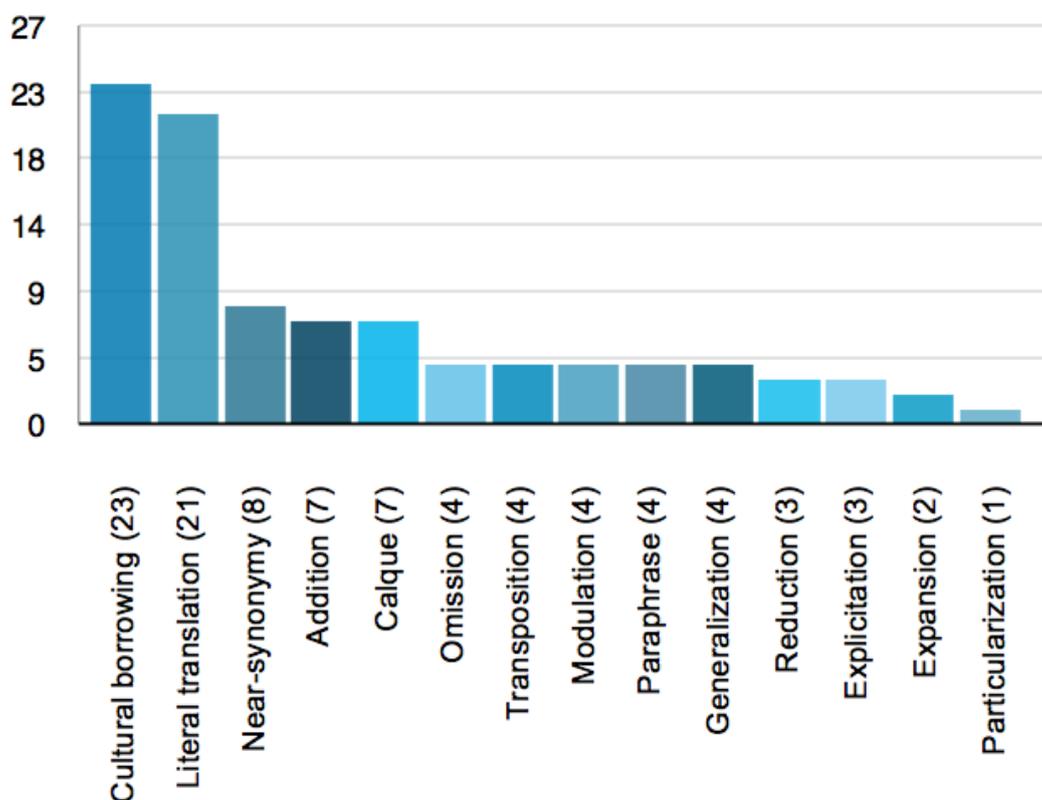
(3) No plan to use National Guard for immigration enforcement: White House (*Reuters*)

البيت الأبيض: لا خطة لاستخدام الحرس الوطني لتنفيذ قوانين الهجرة (Reuters)

[‘White House: No plan to use the National Guard to implement immigration laws’]

First of all, the headline is transposed in the translation, i.e. it has undergone a structural shift. In the original headline, the source of the speech (White House) follows the actual speech. In the Arabic translation, however, the source of the speech precedes the speech. This structural shift is an obligatory one; while English is flexible as to whether the source of a speech comes before or after a speech, Arabic only allows the source of speech to come before the actual speech. The next procedure is literal translation. Three separate translation units are rendered by literal translation, which are: *no plan* > لا خطة; *to use* > لاستخدام; and, *immigration* > الهجرة. The third procedure is expansion, which involves “[a]n increase in the amount of text that is used in the target language to express the same semantic content as compared to the parallel segment in the source text” (Delisle et al. 1999: 138). The word *enforcement* is rendered by expansion as لتنفيذ قوانين [‘to implement law’]. The use of expansion here is obligatory since the term *enforcement* does not have a one-to-one equivalent in Arabic. Finally, the translation involves two instances of calque. The two cultural terms *National Guard* and *White House* are translated by calque as الحرس الوطني and البيت الأبيض respectively. It is only after employing these translation procedures, the translated headline can be considered an effective one.

Overall, 14 different translation procedures are implemented in the translation of the twenty English headlines rendered into Arabic, which resulted in 95 translation occurrences (see Appendix 1). Cultural borrowing is the most frequently employed translation procedure, which occurs 23 times. Literal translation comes the second, which has 21 occurrences. The next procedure is near-synonymy, which occurs eight times. With seven instances, the fourth most frequent procedures are addition and calque. Interestingly, the five translation procedures of omission, transposition, modulation, paraphrase and generalization occur equally frequently, each procedure occurring four times. The least frequently employed translation procedures are particularization (1 occurrence) and expansion (2 occurrences). Explication and reduction are also used infrequently, each occurring three times.



**Figure 1:** Overall procedures used in translating the chosen English headlines into Arabic.

### 3.2 Headlines translated from English into Kurdish

Twenty headlines are chosen from two influential Kurdish media outlets to represent translation of headlines from English into Kurdish. Ten headlines are collected from Rudaw, which is an influential media agency, carrying the self-proclaimed motto: ‘the first and the unrivalled’. The other ten headlines are collected from Xendan, which is a highly popular media outlet. There is a basic difference between the headlines collected from these two media outlets. Rudaw has both English and Kurdish sections (along with Turkish and Arabic), and both the English and Kurdish headlines are collected from the media outlet. Xendan, on the other hand, only has the Kurdish section, and the English headlines translated by Xendan originate from a variety of English media outlets, such as: The Daily Mail, The Guardian, Reuters, etc. (see Appendix 2).

Four out of the twenty news headlines translated from English into Kurdish are rendered by adaptation. One of these headlines is translated by Rudaw and the other three by Xendan. As indicated above, the headlines translated by Xendan originate from world news agencies. This may have well contributed to the fact that Xendan opted for adaptation more frequently Rudaw. Translation of international news headlines can be more effective when adapted for the sake of local

readers. As an example of adaptation, consider the translation of the following news headline from English into Kurdish:

(4) Tony Blair: debilitated Labour is facilitating a disastrous Brexit (*Guardian*)

تونى بلير داوا له بهريتانيهكان دمكات بۆچونيان بگۆرن (*Xendan*)

[‘Tony Blair asks Britons to change their minds’]

This news report is about Tony Blair’s comment on Brexit. One can, at the first glance, suggest that there is no connection between the SL and TL headlines. The Guardian has chosen a headline with a pseudo-direct quote, specifically pointing out the negative impact of Labor Party’s weakness on Brexit - an issue in the news in British society. Xendan, on the other hand, has chosen a headline that is generic but catchy enough to attract TL readers and arouse their curiosity. Thus, ultimately both the SL and TL headlines revolve around the same global theme - the Brexit. However, while the source headline is specific and explicit, the target one is generic and implicit.

As for the rest of the news headlines translated from English into Kurdish, a variety of translation procedures are employed. For instance, seven translation procedures are employed in the translation of the following headline:

(5) UN leader says political solutions needed ‘to defeat terrorism’ (*Rudaw*)

سكرتيرى UN بۆ رووداو: بى چارهسەرى كيشهكان شهري تيرور سهخت دهبيت (*Rudaw*)

[‘UN secretary to Rudaw: without solving the problems fighting terrorism will be tough’]

First, the acronym *UN* is translated by cultural borrowing which involves its transference into the TL intact. This is actually an unconventional way of translating acronyms in Kurdish; the common and conventional procedure to render *UN* into Kurdish is calque: نهتموه يهكگرتووهمكان. The reason why the translation is considered an instance of cultural borrowing rather than simply ‘borrowing’ is that international institutional terms are generally regarded as cultural terms (cf. Newmark 1988: 101). The word *leader* in the headline is translated as سكرتير [‘secretary’], which involves two translation procedures concurrently. The first one is borrowing, since *secretary* is borrowed through transliteration. The second is particularization, since the word *secretary* is a more specific position in the UN as comported to *leader*. The latter can refer to any leadership position within the organization. Through adding the phrase بۆ رووداو [‘to Rudaw’], the Kurdish headline provides the additional information that the UN secretary specifically spoke to this Kurdish media agency. This is an occurrence of translation by addition, which is related to translation gain. This type of translation procedure is not uncommon in journalistic translation in the Kurdish media (cf. Rasul 2015: 166). There are two instances of generalization in the translation of the headline. First, the phrase *political solutions* is rendered as چارهسەرى كيشهكان [‘solution of the problems’]. While the ST suggests that the problem is *political*, the TT does not specify it. Secondly, the phrase *to defeat terrorism* is rendered as شهري تيرور [‘fighting terrorism’]. The verb *defeat* means fighting victoriously (specific), whereas the verb *fight* lacks this specificity. The translation of the latter phrase also involves borrowing since the word *terrorism* is rendered by transliteration. The last instance of translation procedure is modulation, a shift from passive voice to active voice. As seen above, translating news headlines is not an easy and straightforward process, all these operations were needed in the translation of the headline above.

Overall, 15 different translation procedures are employed in the headlines rendered from English into Kurdish, which resulted in 101 translation occurrences. The most frequent among these procedures is cultural borrowing that has occurred 17 times. The second most frequent translation procedure is literal translation (15 occurrences), which suggests that a proportion of just over 15% of the headlines is translated by literal translation. There are 10 instances of omission as opposite to 7 occurrences of addition. This suggests that translation loss outweighs translation gain in the rendition of headlines. Explication occurrences (7 instances) are more frequent than implication ones (5 instances). This seems reasonable since differences between the SL culture and the TL culture necessitates the use of explication to cater for the target readers. The rest of the translation occurrences are shown in Figure 2 below.

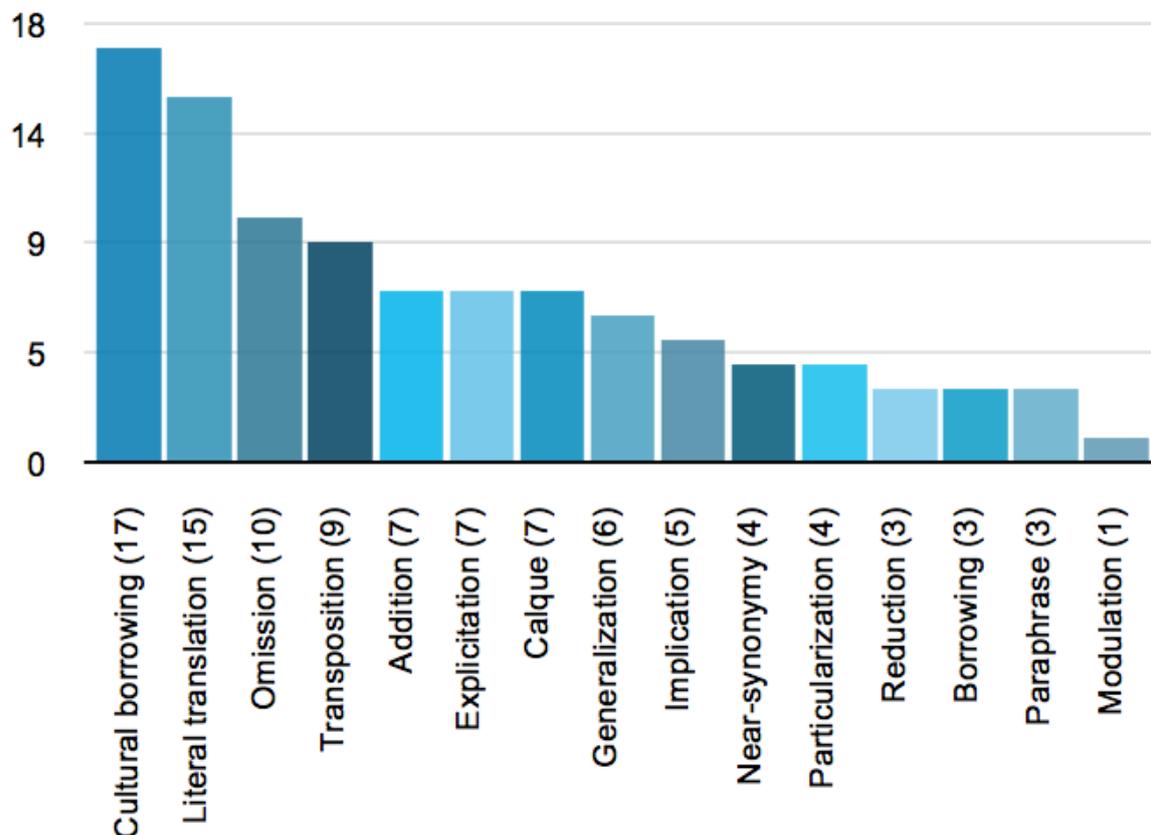


Figure 2: Overall procedures used in translating the chosen English headlines into Kurdish.

### 3.3 Headlines translated from English into Persian

As for the English-Persian translation, twenty news headlines are chosen from the BBC. The source texts are published by the BBC English Service, while the TT texts are published by the BBC Persian Service (see Appendix 3). Seven out of the twenty news headlines translated from English into Persian are rendered by ‘adaptation’, i.e. the headlines are (almost) completely replaced in the translation. The following representative example illustrates headline translation by adaptation in the BBC Persian Service:

(6) Kellyanne Conway sparks media storm from Oval Office sofa

انتقاد از شیوه نشستن مشاور ترامپ روی مبل دفتر رئیس جمهور

[*'Criticism of Tramp's adviser for the way sitting on the sofa of the President's office'*]

The TL headline is not a direct rendition of the SL headline, rather it appears to be the paraphrase of it. Although the topic of the two headlines revolve around the same common theme, the focus is different in each headline. The source headline is more appealing and dramatic, in which the agent (Kellyanne Conway) is mentioned explicitly and given an active role. The target headline, however, is rather plain and straightforward, in which the agent is referred to in implicit and generic terms (Tramp's adviser). Due to cultural distances, the term *Tramp's adviser* is more understandable to Persian readers since not every one of them may know who *Kellyanne Conway* is. It is worth mentioning that the translation also involves a structural shift from a verbal headline to a nominal one. In fact, four out of the seven headlines translated into Persian by adaptation have undergone such a structural shift. This may indicate that the use of nominal news headlines in Persian journalism is a normal practice.

Overall, 15 different translation procedures are employed in the news headlines translated from English into Persian, which resulted in 74 translation occurrences as shown in Figure 3 below. The two most frequently implemented procedures are cultural borrowing and omission, each occurring 11 times and making up 15% of all the translation occurrences. It seems normal for the cultural borrowing procedure to be frequent, since a large number of cultural terms (such as names of people and places) occurred in the headlines, which are best translated by cultural borrowing. What seems abnormal, though, is the considerably large number of omission occurrences. The headlines translated by the BBC Persian Service can be criticized for such an excessive use of omission, especially because most the omissions seem to be unjustifiable. Consider the underlined utterances in the headlines below, which carry essential information to better understand the news story but are omitted in the Persian translations:

- *150-year-old wedding dress lost at dry cleaners found*
- *Sweden brings back military conscription amid Baltic tensions*
- *Nicola Sturgeon to call indyref2 in autumn 2018 or spring 2019*

The second most frequent translation procedures are literal translation, near-synonymy and paraphrase, each occurring seven times. Given the over-all translation occurrences, the instances of literal translation procedure are proportionally few. This indicates that translators working in the BBC Persian Service tend to avoid literal translation as much as possible. The number of paraphrase occurrences, on the other hand, seems to be proportionally large, especially because there is obviously less room for lengthy paraphrase in translating news headlines - which are supposed to be precise and concise. As Baker (2011: 38) asserts, paraphrase is a viable translation procedure for rendering concepts that are not lexicalized in the TL. In the Persian translation, paraphrase is especially used in translating cultural terms that are not lexicalized in Persian. For example, the newly-coined culture-specific concept *Brexit* occurs twice, and both occurrences are effectively rendered by paraphrase as خروج بریتانیا از اتحادیه اروپا [‘the exit of Britain from the European Union’].

As for the rest of the translation procedures, each of addition and particularisation occurs five times. As two dichotomous translation procedures, the instances of addition are half of that of omission. In other words, translation loss outweighs translation gain, similar to the headlines translated from English into Kurdish. With four occurrences, modulation comes next. The instances of modulation involve a shift in the viewpoint. For example, the utterance *EU workplace headscarf ban is legal* is translated as کارفرمایان حق دارند حجاب را منع کنند [‘Employers have the right to ban hijab’], which has the same meaning but expressed from a different perspective. Interestingly, the occurrences of calque, explicitation, implication and reduction are tantamount, each occurring three times.

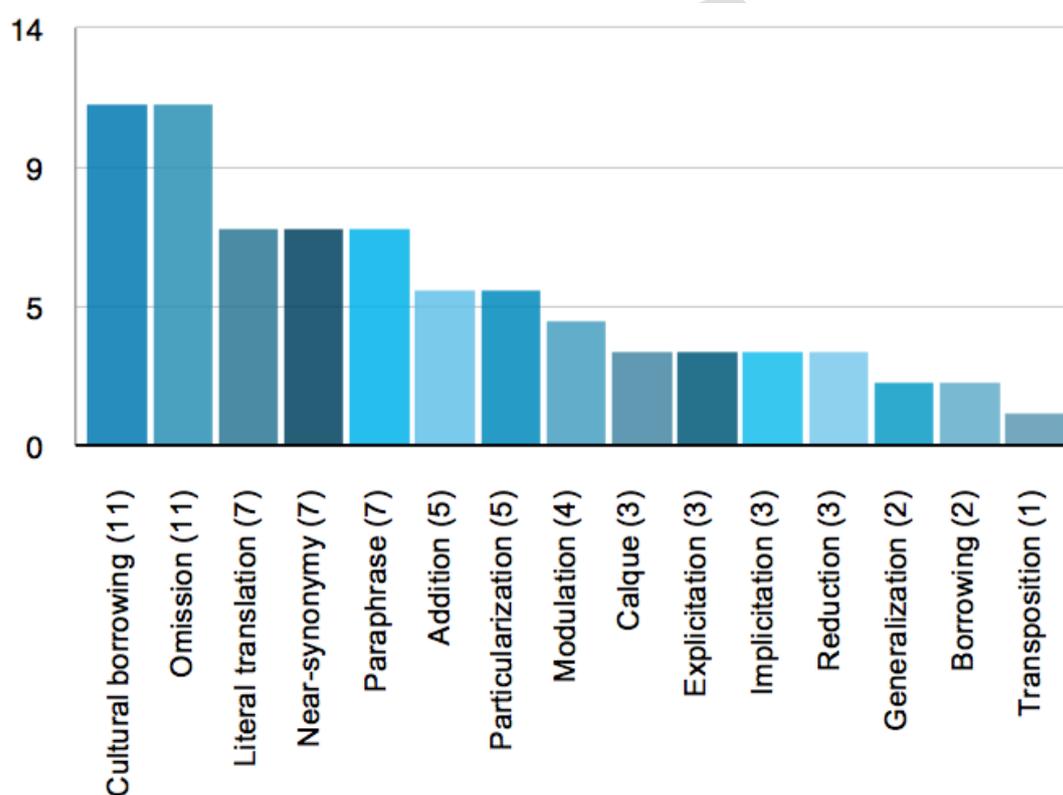


Figure 3: Overall procedures used in translating the chosen English headlines into Persian.

#### 4. Discussion

The sixty representative headlines examined in this study show that for a headline to be effective in the target language, it should be either completely replaced by a new headline based on consideration of the target audience or under go various translation shifts by means of translation procedures.

As a result of the analysis, a kind of pattern can be construed across the three sets of headlines examined. First, a considerably great proportion of headlines is translated by adaptation in all the three chosen sets of headlines: five instances in headlines translated into Arabic, four instances in headlines translated into Kurdish and seven instances in the case of headlines rendered into Persian.

In all these cases, the source headlines are replaced by target headlines that are more relevant and/or interesting to TL readers. Another common feature across the three sets of headlines is the use of cultural borrowing as the most frequently occurring translation procedure. That is because cultural terms (such as proper nouns and geographical locations) constitute essential elements in news headlines - they answer essential questions of 'who' and 'where' in news story writing.

Apart from cultural borrowing, the Arabic and Kurdish translations are marked by literal translation as the second most frequently used procedure. This comes as no surprise given that literal translation "is an inherent part of the translation process and the default translation strategy" (Arrfman 2012: 3). Surprisingly, however, in the Persian translation, omission (along with cultural borrowing) comes the first most commonly employed procedure, occurring 11 times. This does not mean that the Persian headlines are more precise and concise than the source headlines. In fact the information omitted is somehow counterbalanced by translation procedures such as addition (5 instances) and paraphrase (7 instances), at least in terms of formal structure.

Yet, the most important common feature among the three sets of headlines is the use of multiple translation procedures to produce effective translated headlines. By effectiveness we mean a translated headline that demonstrates the two main functions of headlines as outlined at the outset of this study, i.e. summarizing the news story and attracting the reader. In the translation of the headlines considered, these two functions are attained to a great extent.

Over a dozen of translation procedures are employed in each set of headlines: 14 procedures in the case of Arabic translation, and 15 procedures in each of Kurdish and Persian translations. All in all, the results confirm the postulation that effective translation of headlines requires the utilization of a variety of translation procedures, as one single procedure (literal translation, for instance) is insufficient to yield a desired result. This is true of the three language pairs considered and, by extension, any other language pairs.

## 5. Conclusion

This paper has brought translation of news headlines into discussion to investigate the nature of the translation procedures employed in a set of 60 representative headlines translated from English into Arabic, Kurdish and Persian. The study postulated that for a news headline to be translated effectively, various translation procedures have to be implemented. That is because when translating news headlines from one language into another, the target audience should be taken into account. And this can be done through translation changes and shifts by means of multiple translation procedures. The results confirmed this postulation. In each set of headlines considered, over a dozen of translation procedures have been implemented. Had these procedures not been used, the resultant translations would have not been as effective as they seem to be now. This is not to claim that the translations are free of any weaknesses and cannot be improved on. In fact, the use of omission and paraphrase in all the three sets of headlines brings some aspects of the translations into questions. Omission is directly related to translation loss, which may be justified and somehow counterbalanced by instances of addition. The use of paraphrase, however, seems to affect the formal aspect of the translated headlines, because effective headlines should be precise and concise, in addition to being attractive and eye-catching.

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### Appendix 1: Headlines translated from English into Arabic

English	Arabic	Back Translation	Procedures Employed
Turkey's Erdogan approves constitutional reform <u>bill</u> (Aljazeera)	أردوغان يحيل الإصلاحات الدستورية للاستفتاء الشعبي (Aljazeera)	Erdogan refers constitutional reforms to <u>the popular referendum</u>	Addition, c. borrowing, modulation, calque, omission, addition
Violence grips protest rally in Baghdad (Aljazeera)	قتيل وجرحى في إطلاق نار على المتظاهرين ببغداد (Aljazeera)	Dead and wounded in shooting at demonstrators in Baghdad	Adaptation
US government asks court to reinstate Trump travel ban (Aljazeera)	ترمب يجدد انتقاده للقضاء الأميركي (Aljazeera)	Trump renews his criticism of the American judiciary	Adaptation
Explosion hits Viransehir in Turkey's southeast (Aljazeera)	مقتل طفل وإصابة 15 بتفجير جنوب شرق تركيا (Aljazeera)	A child killed and 15 injured in an explosion in Turkey's southeast	Adaptation
US immigrants stay at home to demonstrate their value (Aljazeera)	مظاهرات مناهضة لترمب بعدة مدن أميركية (Aljazeera)	Anti-Trump demonstrations in several US cities	Adaptation
Michael Flynn quits <u>as national security adviser</u> (Aljazeera)	استقالة مستشار الأمن القومي الأميركي (Aljazeera)	Resignation of American national security adviser	Generalization+explicitation, transposition, omission
Jeff Sessions facing growing pressure to stand aside (Aljazeera)	مطالبات باستقالة وزير العدل الأميركي و"إنقاذ نفسه" (Aljazeera)	Demands for American justice minister to resign and " <u>rescue himself</u> "	Generalization+explicitation, paraphrase, reduction, synonymy, addition
Hosni Mubarak acquitted over 2011 protester killings (Aljazeera)	حكم نهائي ببراءة مبارك من قتل متظاهري ثورة يناير (Aljazeera)	<u>al judgment</u> acquitting <u>Fin</u> Mubarak over killing demonstrators of the January Revolution	C. borrowing, addition, modulation, literal, synonymy, explicitation
Marine Le Pen's immunity lifted by European Parliament (Aljazeera)	البرلمان الأوروبي يرفع الحصانة عن مارين لوبان (Aljazeera)	European Parliament lifts immunity from Marin Le Pen	C. borrowing, literal, modulation, c. borrowing

Francois Fillon to be summoned over 'fake work' scandal ( <i>Aljazeera</i> )	اتهامات الفساد تلاحق فيون ولوبان بفرنسا ( <i>Aljazeera</i> )	Corruption charges directed at France in and Le Pen onlFi	C. borrowing, modulation, paraphrase, generalization+omission, addition, addition
Under police probe, Israel's Netanyahu leaves helm of communications ministry ( <i>Reuters</i> )	نتنياهو يقول إنه سيتخلى عن مهام وزير الاتصالات وسط تحقيق جنائي ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Netanyahu says he will relinquish duties of communications minister amid a criminal investigation	Transposition, paraphrase, addition, c. borrowing, synonymy, synonym, literal
Turkey says almost taken Syria's Bab, war monitor cites heavy toll ( <i>Reuters</i> )	تركيا تقول إنها توشك على السيطرة على الباب والمرصد يقول عشرات قتلوا ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Turkey says it is about to take control of Al-Bab and the observatory says dozens were killed	C. borrowing, literal, expansion, omission, c. borrowing, reduction, synonymy, paraphrase
U.S.' Tillerson calms allies on Syria ahead of Geneva talks ( <i>Reuters</i> )	وزير خارجية أمريكا يطمئن الحلفاء بشأن سوريا قبل محادثات جنيف ( <i>Reuters</i> )	America Secretary of State reassures allies on Syria ahead of Geneva talks	C. borrowing, generalization, synonymy, literal, c. borrowing, literal, c. borrowing, literal
Germany says building more Israeli settlements may end two-state solution ( <i>Reuters</i> )	ألمانيا: زيادة المستوطنات الإسرائيلية قد تقضي على حل الدولتين ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Germany: Increasing Israeli settlements could destroy the two-state solution	C. borrowing, reduction, c. borrowing, literal, synonymy, calque
With 'one state' reference, Trump stumbles into a Middle East minefield ( <i>Reuters</i> )	ترامب يخطئ حقل ألغام في الشرق الأوسط بإشارته إلى 'دولة واحدة' ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Trump walks into a minefield in the Middle East with his reference to 'one state'	Transposition, literal, c. borrowing, synonymy, calque, calque,
France says U.S. position on Middle East peace 'confused and worrying' ( <i>Reuters</i> )	فرنسا: موقف أمريكا من السلام في الشرق الأوسط "مشوش ومقلق" ( <i>Reuters</i> )	France: America's position on peace in the Middle East "is confusing and worrying.	C. borrowing, c. borrowing, literal, calque, literal, literal
Turkey says U.S. not insisting on Kurdish role in Raqqa operation ( <i>Reuters</i> )	وزير تركي: أمريكا لا تصر على دور كردي في عملية الرقة ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Turkish minister: America does not insist on Kurdish role in Raqqa operation	Particularization, c. borrowing, lit, c. borrowing, lit, c. borrowing, literal
Netanyahu asks Trump to recognize Israeli sovereignty over Golan Heights ( <i>Reuters</i> )	نتنياهو يطلب من ترامب الاعتراف بالسيادة الإسرائيلية على الجولان ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Netanyahu asks Trump to recognize Israeli sovereignty over Golan Heights	C. borrowing, literal, c. borrowing, literal, c. borrowing, literal, c. borrowing

Bosnia to appeal U.N. court's genocide ruling, even at risk of crisis ( <i>Reuters</i> )	البوسنة تطعن على قرار لمحكمة دولية ببرى صربيا من الإبادة الجماعية ( <i>Reuters</i> )	Bosnia appeals international court's decision to acquit Serbia of mass killing	Adaptation
No plan to use National Guard for immigration enforcement: White House ( <i>Reuters</i> )	البيت الأبيض: لا خطة لاستخدام الحرس الوطني لتنفيذ قوانين الهجرة ( <i>Reuters</i> )	White House: No plan to use the National Guard to implement immigration laws	Transposition, literal, literal, calque, literal, expansion, calque

## Appendix 2: Headlines translated from English into Kurdish

English	Kurdish	Back Translation	Procedures Employed
US VP Pence will meet with <u>separately</u> PMs of Iraq and Turkey in Munich ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	جېگری سهروکی ئەمەریکا لهگەڵ عەبادی و یلدرم له میونشن کۆدەبیتەوه ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	American Vice President will meet with Abadi and Yeldirim in Munich	C. borrowing, calque, omission, literal, omission, explicitation, explicitation, c. borrowing
<u>Top</u> US security advisor to Trump steps down ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	راویژکاری ئاسایشی ئەتەوهیی ئەمەریکا دەستی له کار کێشایهوه ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	American <u>national</u> security advisor stepped down	Omission, c. borrowing, calque, addition, literal
US appeals court rejects Trump attempt to reinstate travel ban ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	دادگای تێههڵچوونەوهی ئەمەریکا بربار مکهی ترمپی رەتکردوه ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	American Court of Appeal rejected Trump's decision	C. borrowing, calque, literal, c. borrowing, reduction+implication
UN leader says political solutions needed 'to defeat terrorism' ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	سکرێتیری UN یۆ رووداو: بێ چارهسەری کێشهکان شەری تیرۆر سەخت دەبێت ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	UN secretary to <u>Rudaw</u> : without the solution of the problems fighting terrorism will be tough ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	C. borrowing, particularisation+borrowing, addition, generalisation, generalisation, borrowing, modulation (passive>active)

Turkish President signs constitutional reforms <u>expanding his executive powers</u> ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	ئەردوڭان واژۆی لەسەر یاسای گۆڕینی دەستوور کرد ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	Erdogan signed the constitution change <u>law</u>	Explication, literal, transposition, generalisation, addition, omission
Russian <u>airstrike</u> kills three Turkish soldiers in al-Bab ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	رووسیا بەهەڵە سەربازانی تورکیا لە باب بۆردومان دەکات ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	Russia <u>mistakenly</u> bombards Turkish soldiers in Bab.	C. borrowing+transposition+omission, addition, generalisation, implicitation, literal, c. borrowing
Biting the hand that feeds you: <u>How ISIS killed a Mosul restaurateur</u> ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	داەش بەزمیی بەو دەستانەشدا نەهات کە نانی دەدات ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	Daesh did not take pity upon the hands that fed it	Explication, paraphrase, implicitation
Reina nightclub mastermind arrested in Istanbul ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	پلانداری ژێره‌ری هێرشەکەمی شەمی سەری سەل لە ئیستەنبول دەستگیر کرد ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	Mastermind of New Year's eve attacks in Istanbul was arrested	Paraphrase, literal, literal, c. borrowing.
Syrian peace talks in Geneva to start February 23, says UN spokesperson ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	گوتەبێژی دیمستورا بۆ رووداو: دانوستاندەکانی جنیف لە 23ی شوبات دەستپێدەکەن ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	de Mistura's Spokesperson <u>to Rudaw</u> : Geneva's negotiations will start on February 23	Explication, addition, reduction+implicitation, c. borrowing, literal, literal, transposition
Over half the number of Iraqis displaced by ISIS war have returned home ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	60 هەزار ناواری پارێزگای مووسڵ گەڕاونەتەوە ( <i>Rudaw</i> )	60 thousand displaced [people] of Mosul Governorate have returned	Adaptation
Trump national security aide <u>Flynn</u> resigns <u>over Russian contacts</u> ( <i>Reuters</i> )	وردەکاری دەستلەکارکێشانەوی راویژکاری ئاسایشی نەتەوەیی سەرۆکی ئەمریکا ( <i>Xendan</i> )	<u>Details of</u> the resignation of American President's national security adviser	Addition, implicitation, calque, near-synonymy, omission, transposition, omission, transposition
Syria Used Chlorine Bombs <u>Systematically</u> in Aleppo, Report Says ( <i>New York Times</i> )	هیومان رایتس ۆج: رژیمی سوریا گازی کیمیایی لەهەڵبە بەکارهێناوه ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Human Rights Watch: the Syrian regime has used chemical gas in Aleppo	Expansion, literal, generalisation+borrowing, omission, c. borrowing, explication, transposition
Malaysia arrests North Korean man as row over Kim Jong Nam's death escalates ( <i>Reuters</i> )	مالیزیا گومانێکراویکی بەتۆمەتی کوشتنی زەربراکەمی سەرۆکی کۆریای باکور دەستگیر کرد ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Malaysia arrested a suspect accused of murdering the half-brother of North Korea's president	Adaptation
No plan to use National Guard for immigration enforcement: White House	کۆشکی سپی جێگیرکردنی سوپا بۆ رێگرتن لەکوچمەران بەتەمکاتەوه ( <i>Xendan</i> )	White House refuses to deploy military to prevent immigrants	Reduction, particularisation, generalisation, transposition+transposition, calque,

(AP)			transposition
Tony Blair: debilitated Labour is facilitating a disastrous Brexit ( <i>Guardian</i> )	تونی بلیر داوا له بریتانییهمکان دهکات بۆچونیان بگورن ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Tony Blair asks the Britons to change their minds	Adaptation
Pentagon might propose sending ground troops to Syria ( <i>CNN</i> )	رمنگه پنتاگون پېشنیاری نار دنی هیزی زمینی بۆ باکووری سوریا بکات ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Pentagon might propose sending ground troops to Northern Syria	C. borrowing, literal, literal calque, particularisation+c. borrowing
Evacuees from California dam allowed home even as storms near ( <i>Reuters</i> )	بههوی مهترسی ههه سهینانی دریزترین بهنداوی نهمریکاوه شاریک چۆلدهکرنیت ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Because of the risk of the collapse of the longest American dam a city is evacuated	Adaptation
Switzerland <u>votes to</u> relax its citizenship rules ( <i>BBC</i> )	سویرا یاساکانی وهرگرتتی رمنگه نامه ناسان دهکات ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Switzerland eases <u>acquiring</u> citizenship rules	C. borrowing, omission, near-synonymy, addition, literal
Trump's pick for national security adviser turns down offer: <u>White House official</u> ( <i>Reuters</i> )	کاندیدهکهی ترههپ وهرگرتتی پوسنی راویژکاری ناسایشی نهتهومی رندهکاتهوه ( <i>Xendan</i> )	Trump's candidate refuses to accept the position of national security adviser	C. borrowing, near-synonymy, calque, near-synonymy, particularization, omission
Germany says U.S. demand for more NATO burden-sharing is 'fair' ( <i>Reuters</i> )	وهزیری بهرگری نهلمانیا: داواي نهمریکا بۆ پېشکەشکردنی کومهکی زیاتر به ناتو "رهوايه" ( <i>Xendan</i> )	German Defence Minister: American's demand for offering more fund to NATO is "fair"	Explication, c. borrowing, literal, paraphrase, c. borrowing, literal

### Appendix 3: Headlines translated from English into Persian

English	Persian	Back translation	Procedures Employed
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150-year-old wedding dress <u>lost at dry cleaners</u> found	لباس عروسی ۱۵۰ ساله پیدا شد	150-year [old] wedding dress was found	Reduction, calque, omission, literal
Sturgeon: Cutting off Dubs child refugee route 'inhumane'	وزیر اول اسکاتلند از توقف احتمالی پذیرش کودکان پناهنجی بدون همراه در بریتانیا انتقاد کرد	The Scottish First Minister criticized <u>the possible</u> pausing of unaccompanied children in Britain	Implication+c. borrowing, addition, near-synonymy, paraphrase+explicitation, generalisation
Trump <u>travel ban</u> : <u>President</u> considering 'brand new order'	ترامپ: امکان صدور دستور مهاجرتی تازه ای وجود دارد	Tramp: There is a possibility to issue a new immigration order	C. borrowing, omission, omission, paraphrase, reduction, explicitation,
Iraqi air force 'kills 77' in strikes aimed at IS leader Baghdadi	سرنوشت نامعلوم بغدادی بعد از حمله جنگنده‌های ارتش عراق	The unknown fate of Baghdadi after the Iraqi Army air strikes	Adaptation
Oroville Dam risk: Thousands ordered to evacuate homes	دویست هزار نفر از مناطق اطراف بلندترین سد آمریکا خارج شدند	Two hundred thousand people left the area around the tallest dam in America	Adaptation
Kellyanne Conway sparks media storm from Oval Office sofa	انتقاد از شیوه نشستن مشاور ترامپ روی مبل دفتر رئیس جمهور	Criticism of Tramp's adviser for the way sitting on the sofa of the President's office	Adaptation
<u>Kim Jong-nam died within 15-20 minutes</u>	برادر رهبر کره شمالی با 'سم اعصاب' ترور شد	The brother of the North Korean leader was assassinated by the "neurotoxin"	Adaptation
Sweden brings back military conscription <u>amid Baltic tensions</u>	خدمت سربازی بار دیگر در سوئد به اجرا درمی‌آید	The military service is once again implemented in Sweden	C. borrowing, modulation (active>passive), near-synonymy, omission
Trump Attorney General Jeff Sessions urged to step aside from Russia probe	بحث‌ها بر سر کناره‌گیری وزیر دادگستری آمریکا	Discussions over the resignation of American Justice Secretary	Adaptation
Brexit <u>bill</u> : Parliament clears way for talks with EU	مجلس اعیان بریتانیا هم با خروج از اتحادیه اروپا موافقت کرد	The British House of Lords <u>also</u> agreed to the exit [of Britain] from the European Union	Paraphrase, omission, particularization+expansion, addition, reduction.

Nicola Sturgeon to call indyref2 in autumn 2018 or spring 2019	وزیر اول اسکاتلند خواهان برگزاری مجدد همه‌پرسی استقلال شد	The Scottish First Minister called for the re-launch of the Independence Referendum	Implication+c. borrowing, literal, paraphrase, omission
EU workplace headscarf ban is legal, says ECJ	دیوان دادگستری اروپا: کارفرمایان حق دارند حجاب را منع کنند	European Court of Justice: Employers have the right to ban hijab	Omission, modulation (whole > part) modulation (different viewpoint), c. borrowing, calque
Trump wiretap claims: White House softens stance on unproven tweets	کاخ سفید ادعای شنود اوپاما از ترامپ را 'تلطیف' کرد	The White House softened the claim of Obama's wiretap on Trump	Omission, calque, literal, near-synonymy, paraphrase+explicitation
US health bill: '14m to lose insurance'	طرح بیمه جمهوری خواهان ۱۴ میلیون آمریکایی را بدون پوشش بیمه می‌گذارد	Republicans insurance bill leaves 14 million Americans without insurance coverage	Particularization, generalisation, literal, addition, paraphrase
Turkey-Netherlands row: Dutch warn citizens after Erdogan threat	هشدار هلند به شهروندان در مورد سفر به ترکیه	The Netherlands warning of its citizens about visiting Turkey	Omission, c. borrowing, literal, literal, omission, addition+c. borrowing, transposition
Brexit: Queen gives Royal Assent to Article 50 bill	ملکه آغاز روند خروج بریتانیا از اتحادیه اروپا را تایید کرد	Malika confirmed the start of the exit of Britain from the European Union	Paraphrase, c. borrowing, implication, omission
Second US judge block new executive order	دادگاه فدرال هاوایی دستور مهاجرتی تازه ترامپ را معلق کرد	The Hawaii federal court suspended Trump's new immigration order	Particularization+c. borrowing+modulation, near-synonymy, addition, literal, particularisation
US charges Russian spies over Yahoo breach	آمریکا 'مأموران روسیه' را در رابطه با هک یاهو تحت پیگرد قرار داد	America prosecute "Russian agents" in relation to Yahoo hacking	C. borrowing, near-synonymy, c. borrowing, near-synonymy, near-synonymy, borrowing, borrowing+particularisation
PM Rutte sees off anti-EU Wilders challenge	'پیشتازی' حزب حاکم در انتخابات پارلمانی هلند	The leading of the ruling party in the Dutch parliamentary election	Adaptation

Germany election: Martin Schulz stakes anti-populist bid	جدیترین رقیب آنگلا مرکل رسماً وارد مبارزات انتخاباتی شد	The most serious rival of Angela Merkel has officially entered the election campaign	Adaptation
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