

Remarks by the Judges

英汉互译【法律】竞赛单元点评人文稿



2020中华笔译大赛
2020 CHINA WRITTEN TRANSLATION CONTEST
—— 联合国世界法律翻译大赛 ——
A COMPETITION TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LEGAL FIELD

2020 中华笔译大赛

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Law (Chinese character 法), from the outset, is a word which contains the following three meanings according to *Shuo Wen Jie Zi* (a Chinese dictionary of words and expressions) by Xu Shen (circa 58-147) in East Han Dynasty: integrity, fairness and punishing vice. As a special code of conduct, law, distinct from habitual one formed on the basis of human natural necessity, ethical one characterized with blood relationship, or moral one realized by human rational, inner cultivation, self-discipline and public opinion jointly, is recognized as a product created to satisfy some need, such as for the purpose of maintaining a kind of public order, the achievement of which is guaranteed by national forces. Legal order covers from all existing laws and regulations and court interpretations thereof to organizational structure of state organs and their competence.

With the advent of artificial intelligence (AI) applications, which is likely to be one of the most far-reaching developments in the history of humankind, there arise some legal issues related to it, including unanticipated or adverse outcome given the absence of human supervision. The texts chosen for 2020 China Written Translation Contest (Law) are respectively extracted from the article “Emerging Legal Issues in An AI-driven World” and

the book *Views on Criminal Law in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*. The texts were full of terminologies of law and AI and all translators must be praised for doing their best endeavors to convey the dynamic but solemn and conservative spirit of the original. Intellectual aptitude, research expertise, linguistic wealth, translation mastery, and writing proficiency are all qualities required to translate such type of text.

Thanks to all of you who took part in this year's contest. It takes some courage to crawl through a minefield like this! Non-literary translation is a permanent search for accuracy and efficiency of the semantic information to be transferred in the process of translation, with comprehension of intention depending more on background knowledge and cultural understanding than on forms (linguistic structures, esthetic messages, pragmatic functions,etc).