

# A Study on the Translation Quality and Management Strategies of New Terms in the 2025 Government Work Report from the Perspective of Eco-Translatology

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**How to cite this paper:** Wang, Y., & Chen, Z. (2026). A Study on the Translation Quality and Management Strategies of New Terms in the 2025 Government Work Report from the Perspective of Eco-Translatology. *Social Sciences and Humanities*, 4(1), 12-18. ISSN Print: 3104-4328; ISSN Online: 3104-4336. <https://doi.org/10.63313/SSH.9089>  
**Published: 2026-05-08**

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## Abstract

The translation quality of new terms in the Government Work Report directly affects the international communication of China's policy discourse. Using the "three-dimensional transformation" theory of Eco-translatology as an analytical framework, this study selects four translation platforms – Doubao, DeepSeek, Youdao, and DeepL – to compare and analyze their output quality in translating 12 new terms from the 2025 Government Work Report. The findings reveal that all platforms adequately preserve the core connotations of terms at the cultural dimension, but exhibit issues at the linguistic dimension such as non-standard formatting and lexical errors. At the communicative dimension, efficiency is insufficient due to failure to align with official standard translations. Based on these findings, this paper proposes three translation quality management strategies: terminology database integration, translation guideline standardization, and dynamic monitoring, aiming to provide practical references for the standardized translation of Chinese policy terminology.

## Keywords

Eco-translatology; Government Work Report; terminology translation

## 1. Introduction

The Government Work Report serves a core function in communicating China's policy discourse to a global audience. The translation of newly added terms – being faithful to the original text and conforming to translation norms – directly influences the international community's perception and acceptance of Chinese policies. Wang Jing (2025:20) points out that "the main criteria for political discourse translation involve factors such as information accuracy, ideology, and cultural dissemination." The 2025 Government Work Report introduced new terms with Chinese

developmental characteristics, such as “具身智能” and “零基预算改革”, providing an authoritative textual basis for this study. Currently, AI translation tools have been widely used in the field of policy terminology translation, yet different platforms produce varying translations, and a unified evaluation model has not yet been established. Wang Jing (2025:22) notes that “AI translation may lead to semantic deviations due to context dissolution.” This study adopts the “three-dimensional transformation” theory of Eco-translatology as an analytical framework, selects four translation platforms – Doubao, DeepSeek, Youdao, and DeepL – and compares their translation performance on 12 new terms. It aims to identify feasible pathways for improving and managing the quality of policy terminology translation, thereby providing a reference for the standardized translation and effective international communication of Chinese policy terms.

## **2. Theoretical Framework**

### **2.1. Overview of Eco-Translatology**

Eco-translatology was proposed by Professor Hu Gengshen as a translation theory originating in China. This theory introduces the “adaptation/selection” concept into translation studies. “The translation adaptation selection theory holds that translators must both adapt and select. There is selection within adaptation – i.e., adaptive selection; and adaptation within selection – i.e., selective adaptation” (Hu Gengshen, 2011:8). The core of this theory revolves around “adaptation and selection,” requiring translators to adapt to the translational eco-environment while making selections regarding the source text. It breaks away from the Western focus on linguistic forms and is more suitable for the translation studies of Chinese policy texts. Contemporary Eco-translatology has developed a theoretical system centered on “translation as text transplantation,” “translation as adaptation and selection,” and “translation as ecological balance,” with text life, translator survival, and translation ecology forming a community within its research paradigm (Hu Gengshen & Wang Yuan, 2021). This theory has been widely applied to the analysis of terminology translation in official texts such as Government Work Reports and white papers, making it an important theoretical support for the external translation of policy terms.

### **2.2. The “Three-Dimensional Transformation” Theory**

The “three-dimensional transformation” refers to adaptive selection transformations at three dimensions: linguistic, cultural, and communicative. The linguistic dimension refers to the translator’s adaptive selection transformations of linguistic forms at different levels and aspects during translation. The cultural dimension requires the translator to focus on the transmission of bilingual cultural connotations without distorting the original text from the perspective of the target language culture. The communicative dimension requires the translator to highlight

the communicative intent of the original text, placing the focus of selection at the communicative level after completing linguistic and cultural transformations (Hu Gengshen, 2011). The three dimensions are interrelated and together constitute an evaluation standard for the translation quality of policy terms. The three-dimensional transformation embodies the translation ethics of Eco-translatology, where “translators maintain the balance of linguistic, cultural, and communicative ecology between the source text and the target text” (Wang Jing, 2025:20-21). This study uses this theory as an analytical tool.

### **3. Comparative Analysis of New Term Translations in the 2025 Government Work Report**

#### **3.1. Analysis of Technical Term Translations**

This study selects three core technical terms – “具身智能”, “人工智能手机和电脑”, and “智能机器人” – with official translations being “Embodied AI”, “AI-enabled phones and computers”, and “intelligent robots” respectively (China Academy of Translation & China Foreign Languages Bureau, 2025). At the linguistic dimension, for the term “具身智能”, the official translation is “Embodied AI”, but all four platforms (Doubao, DeepSeek, Youdao, DeepL) uniformly use “Embodied Intelligence”, which is redundant and fails to meet the conciseness requirement for policy terms. For the other two terms – “人工智能手机和电脑” and “智能机器人” – the translations produced by the platforms exhibit irregularities in initial capitalization and singular/plural usage, indicating insufficient linguistic adaptability across all platforms. Chu Lianglong (2023) points out that for technical terminology translation, one may refer to Zhou Youguang’s “two-tier system of terminology,” which balances “nationalization” and “internationalization.” For many new terms, in addition to free translation, high-level experts may use transliteration to quickly align with international standards. At the cultural dimension, technical terms themselves do not carry special local cultural attributes; all four platforms accurately preserve core technical words such as “Embodied”, “AI”, and “Intelligent”, demonstrating good cultural adaptability. At the communicative dimension, the platforms do not uniformly adopt the official standard translations. Common translations may cause overseas audiences to form misconceptions about China’s future industry policy discourse, resulting in generally moderate communicative adaptability. Multi-dimensional comparison shows that DeepSeek and DeepL produce translations more aligned with international technical discourse habits, performing slightly better than Doubao and Youdao.

#### **3.2. Analysis of Fiscal Term Translations**

This study selects two core fiscal terms – “零基预算改革” and “耐心资本” – with official translations being “Zero-based budgeting reform” and “Patient capital” (China Academy of Translation et al., 2025). At the linguistic dimension, translations of “零基

预算改革” vary only in initial capitalization. For “耐心资本”, Doubao, DeepSeek, and Youdao conform to the official translation of “Patient capital”, while DeepL makes a lexical error by translating “Patient” as “Patience”. At the cultural dimension, both terms are common expressions in the fiscal field; all platforms retain the core professional connotations without semantic deviation. At the communicative dimension, all platforms allow overseas audiences to accurately understand the direction of China’s fiscal reforms. Doubao and DeepSeek maintain consistent formatting, giving them broader applicability in international communication. A three-dimensional comparison shows that Doubao and DeepSeek perform best overall.

### 3.3. Analysis of Economic Term Translations

This study selects three core economic terms – “独角兽企业”, “瞪羚企业”, and “新型离岸贸易” – with official translations being “Unicorn companies”, “Gazelle companies”, and “New types of offshore trade” (China Academy of Translation et al., 2025). At the linguistic dimension, the official translations are standard. The four mainstream translation platforms differ only in singular/plural usage and hyphenation. Wang Jing (2025:21) states that “the primary criterion for translating political discourse is semantic accuracy, which refers to lexical precision and stylistic correctness.” Among the four platforms, Youdao produces translations that are completely consistent with the official ones, demonstrating the highest linguistic adaptability. At the cultural dimension, all three terms are common concepts in the international economic and trade field; all platforms accurately preserve the core conceptual vocabulary, meeting cultural adaptability requirements. At the communicative dimension, all platforms allow overseas audiences to quickly understand the direction of China’s economic development. DeepL simplifies “新型离岸贸易” to “New Offshore Trade”, yet core information transmission remains unaffected. Multi-dimensional comparison shows that Youdao exhibits superior adaptability for economic terms compared to the other platforms.

### 3.4. Analysis of Livelihood-Related Term Translations

This study analyzes four core terms in the livelihood domain – “因城施策调减限制性措施”, “投资于人”, “育儿补贴”, and “无还本续贷”. These terms have both policy operational and livelihood-oriented characteristics. The official translations are: “City-specific policies on adjusting or reducing property transaction restrictions”, “Use funds and resources to serve the people”, “Childcare subsidies”, and “Grant loan renewals without full repayment of the principal” (China Academy of Translation et al., 2025). At the linguistic dimension, for the long term “因城施策调减限制性措施”, the official translation is structurally complete, while all four platforms make reasonable simplifications. DeepL produces the most normatively structured translation; Doubao and Youdao produce more colloquial expressions. For “投资于人”

and “育儿补贴”, the different translations vary only in capitalization, with no errors. For “无还本续贷”, all platforms simplify the official translation but retain all core vocabulary, showing good overall linguistic adaptability. Wang Jing (2025) illustrates with the example of “窜访” that political vocabulary must convey evaluative coloring; likewise, terms such as “因城施策” must preserve the unique characteristics of Chinese local policies. At the cultural dimension, all platforms retain the core policy connotations without losing the local characteristics of Chinese livelihood policies, fully conveying the practical meaning of the terms. At the communicative dimension, DeepL and Youdao produce translations that are more aligned with international policy discourse, enabling overseas audiences to accurately understand the implementation purposes of China’s livelihood policies. Multi-dimensional analysis indicates that DeepL performs best in translating livelihood terms.

#### **4. Quality Management Strategies for Translating Terms in the 2025 Government Work Report**

Summarizing the comparison results of different term translations under the three-dimensional transformation theory, and aggregating the various issues present in the terminology translation by the four major platforms, three categories of problems emerge: non-standard linguistic forms, failure to synchronize with official standard translations, and inadequate adaptability in certain domains. This study proposes the following three management strategies.

First, it is necessary to establish a mechanism for integrating official terminology databases with AI translation platforms. Wright & Budin (1997) define a terminology database as “a system for structured storage and management of terminology,” considering it a core tool for achieving terminology standardization. The China National Committee for Terminology in Science and Technology could take the lead in advancing related work, incorporating the new terms from the 2025 Government Work Report and their official standard translations into the national policy terminology database, opening standardized data interfaces, and promoting synchronization with AI platforms such as Doubao and DeepSeek. An operational model combining machine pre-translation and human proofreading can be adopted to address issues such as inconsistent translations and redundant expressions.

Second, in the field of policy terminology translation, it is necessary to develop special guidance norms. Based on the translation of long and complex terms in the livelihood domain and the translation of professional terms in the technical domain, the different characteristics of the two categories can be organized to develop translation assistance functions that enhance contextual awareness and formulate translation ethical guidelines. After preparatory work is completed, a translation guide can be drafted, clarifying stylistic requirements, formatting norms, and contextual adaptation principles, marking common translation errors in the industry to serve the optimization of AI platform algorithms and to assist translators in their

actual work.

Third, establishing a dynamic monitoring model for policy terminology translation quality is a necessary step to accomplish the relevant work. The translation studies community, government foreign affairs departments, and platform providers can jointly form a monitoring group to regularly verify the translations of policy terms generated by AI platforms, identifying and correcting deviations in fiscal and livelihood domains. At the same time, feedback from overseas audiences can be incorporated to optimize translations and enhance the effectiveness of cross-language communication.

## 5. Conclusion

This study adopts the three-dimensional transformation theory of Eco-translatology as an analytical framework, selects 12 new terms from the 2025 Government Work Report, and compares and evaluates the translation quality of four major AI translation platforms. The results show that all four platforms perform stably at the cultural dimension, fully preserving the core connotations of the terms without conceptual deviation. At the linguistic dimension, the platforms exhibit non-standard formatting and lexical errors. At the communicative dimension, some translations deviate from the official standards, resulting in insufficient communication efficiency. Wang Jing (2025) previously noted that AI translation of political discourse tends to suffer from ethical issues such as “context misjudgment” and “cultural distortion.” The findings of this study are largely consistent with that observation. A comprehensive evaluation of multidimensional performance indicates that DeepL has the best adaptability across different domains of terminology translation, followed by Youdao, while Doubao and DeepSeek show comparable performance, each with their own strengths and weaknesses.

This study selects 12 core terms as a sample, and the research logic and analytical methods can be extended to the study of translation in more policy terminology fields. Hu Gengshen & Li Xiaoxiao (2024:14) suggest that the modeling of the Eco-translatology theoretical system can help “more intuitively and completely present the knowledge system of Eco-translatology, eliminating possible deviations and misunderstandings in the process of understanding Eco-translatology.” Future research may draw on this modeling approach to expand the breadth of terminology translation studies. Zhao Wen et al. (2015:147) propose that “future terminology database research will focus on the construction of Chinese characteristic terminology databases, intelligent-enhanced terminology databases, the construction and application of multimodal terminology graphs, and the construction and application of multi-domain professional terminology databases.”

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