



## Boyan Bahanov

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**PhilPapers :** <https://philpeople.org/profiles/boyan-bahanov>

**Gender:** Male **Date of birth:** 15/03/1991 **Nationality:** Bulgarian

### WORK EXPERIENCE

[ 01/03/2021 – 31/10/2021 ] **Lawyer-Linguist - Schuman trainee**

***European Parliament, Directorate General for the Presidency - Directorate for the Legislative Acts***

**Address:** Rue Montoyer 75, 1050, Brussels, Belgium

**City:** Brussels

**Country:** Belgium

**Main activities and responsibilities:**

During my traineeship in DLA (the Bulgarian section), which was extended with three months, I assisted the Bulgarian lawyer-linguists in their activities. The main focus of my work was to help with the finalization of legislative texts in Bulgarian with a view to ensuring their legal and linguistic coherence and consistency, covering various areas of EU law, such as the multiannual financial framework, transparency policy, fisheries, immigration/EU labor market, Brexit, etc.

I also followed plenary sessions, preparing texts for the vote and adapting legislative and non-legislative texts to the outcome of the plenary votes.

I was also involved in the negotiation process of the revision of the Eurovignette Directive 1999/62/EC - a file coordinated by my traineeship advisor, where I was able to attend political trilogies and follow the drafting process of the fourth column document.

I also attended Committee meetings of TRAN and CONT and reported to my traineeship advisor afterward. In my spare time during my traineeship, I wrote an article named "Interpretation in EU Multilingual Law".

[ 28/09/2017 – 31/01/2019 ] **Legal assistant**

***Labour for Blind LTD***

**Address:** Obelia 2, 1387, Sofia, Bulgaria

**City:** Sofia

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Business or sector:** Administrative and support service activities

**Main activities and responsibilities:**

Project management;

Providing legal and business advice;

Communication with clients of the company; Communication with institutions;

Ensure compliance with laws and regulations;

Draft and review legal opinions and other legal documents;

Writing and reviewing different types of contracts and other documents (reports, internal employer's documents, presentations, etc.).



## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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[ 01/02/2019 – 10/06/2022 ] **Doctor of Philosophy**

**Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski** <https://www.uni-sofia.bg/>

**Address:** Bul. Tsar Osvoboditel №15, 1504, Sofia, Bulgaria

**Field(s) of study:** Philosophy of Language

**Level in EQF:** EQF level 8

**Type of credits:** ECTS

**Thesis:** Legal Norms as Language Conventions

**Main subject / occupational skills covered:**

From 01.02.2020 to 29.01.2021 - Erasmus + student at Palatsky University in Olomouc, Czech Republic.

[ 01/10/2016 – 30/03/2019 ] **Master of Philosophy**

**Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski** <https://www.uni-sofia.bg/>

**Address:** Bul. Tsar Osvoboditel №15, 1504, Sofia, Bulgaria

**Field(s) of study:** Philosophy

**Level in EQF:** EQF level 7

**Main subject / occupational skills covered:**

Specialization in Philosophy of Language.

Some of my main disciplines:

Philosophy of language, Epistemology, Philosophy of mind, Ontology, Phenomenology, and others.

[ 01/06/2016 – 30/11/2016 ] **Trainee Lawyer**

**Sofia City Court** <https://sgs.justice.bg/>

**Address:** Bul. Vitosha №2, 1000, Sofia, Bulgaria

**Main subject / occupational skills covered:**

Assisting judges with preparing court rulings, legal research

I have Certificate of Legal Capacity

[ 30/10/2010 – 19/04/2016 ] **Master of Law**

**Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski** <https://www.uni-sofia.bg/>

**Address:** Bul. Tsar Osvoboditel №15, 1504, Sofia, Bulgaria

**Field(s) of study:** Law

**Level in EQF:** EQF level 7

**Main subject / occupational skills covered:**

Some of my main disciplines:

International Law: Private International Law: European Union Law; International relations;  
Civil Law: Administrative Law: Constitutional Law and others.

[ 15/09/2007 – 31/05/2010 ] **High School degree**

**School for Visually Impaired Children "Lewis Braille"**



## LANGUAGE SKILLS

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**Mother tongue(s):** Bulgarian

**Other language(s):**

### English

**LISTENING C1 READING C1 WRITING C1**

**SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 SPOKEN INTERACTION C1**

### French

**LISTENING A1 READING A1 WRITING A1**

**SPOKEN PRODUCTION A1 SPOKEN INTERACTION A1**

## DIGITAL SKILLS

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### My Digital Skills

Microsoft Word | Outlook | Google Drive | Skype | Social Media

## COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

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### **Strong communication and interpersonal skills, including in international and multicultural working environments.**

Strong communication and interpersonal skills, including in international and multicultural working environments, were acquired during my traineeship in the European Parliament and my Erasmus studies in the Czech Republic.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### [ 2020 ] **Truth in Legal Norms**

Bulgarian Journal of Philosophical Education, Volume 29, Number 4, 2020. pp. 391-402. Language: English.

Abstract. The text examines the status of the truth in the legal norms, trying to answer the questions of whether they can be subject to a truth assessment and, if such assessment is possible, how a truth value can be attributed to legal norms. To achieve this goal, first of all, the text discusses some basic linguistic conceptions concerning the nature and truth of legal norms, and subsequently, a complex approach is being proposed for attributing truth-value to legal norms. On the one hand, the latter's being studied by the methods of deontic logic and theory of possible worlds, and on the other hand, their relation to truth is being explained by semantic anti-realism.

Keywords: Anti-Realism; Deontic logic; legal norms; possible worlds; truth conditions.

### [ 2022 ] **Speaker Meaning and Conventional Meaning in Legal Norms**

#### **Reference:**

Journal Philosophical Alternatives, Volume 31, Issue 1, pp. 120-138 Language: Bulgarian.



**Abstract:** Law is a main source of justice in a democratic society, and as such it must send clear and unequivocal messages to its addressees. Therefore, the question of the meaning in the legal vocabulary does not lose its relevance and universality.

The present study examines the question of the linguistic significance of legal norms in legal vocabulary, applying an interdisciplinary approach. Joining the thesis that the legislation can be considered as an expression of the legally significant will of the rule-making authority, the legal provisions will be presented as an intentional act. In search of the most appropriate explanatory method, two kinds of theories will be applied in parallel: Paul Grice's theory of linguistic meaning, on the one hand, and some theories with both textualist and intentionalist orientation, on the other. Subsequently, the communicative maxims proposed by Grice will be related to selected normative requirements related to the language of the normative acts.

**Keywords:** Intention; Legal norms; Linguistic conventions; Linguistic reassignment; Paul Grice; Textualism.

### **Legal Norms as Linguistic Conventions**

Annual of Sofia University, Faculty of Philosophy, Book of Ph.D. Students, IV, 2019.  
Language: Bulgarian. pp. 15-29.

**Abstract.** Law is the main regulator of public relations, and the question of the proper use and understanding of legal language is essential for law enforcement. This topic is of interest to both lawyers and philosophers, who often join efforts to study it.

This article attempts precisely to take such an interdisciplinary approach when examining legal rules as specific linguistic conventions. First of all, for the sake of a better and more thorough understanding of legal language, legal norms are viewed both from the point of view of semantics and from the point of view of pragmatics.

Therefore, for this purpose, a distinction is made between legal norms and legal provisions as their linguistic equivalent. Legal norms are then explored through Wittgenstein's Later Philosophy, which describes their semantic content. The pragmatic aspect of the question is explained through John Austin's theory, thus treating legal rules as a kind of specific speech act of a conventional nature.

*Key words:* Semantics, pragmatics, legal norms, legal provision, legal conventions, Wittgenstein, language game, John Austin, speech acts.

### **Consciousness as a Prerequisite for Law and the Law as Prerequisite for the Free Will**

Journal "Philosophical Alternatives", Volume 30, Issue 3, 2021, pp.75-83; Language: Bulgarian.

**Abstract.** The present study expresses the thesis that there is a direct connection between the development of the consciousness of individuals in a society, the occurrence of law, and the formation of free will. First of all, the text distinguishes between consciousness in the broad sense and consciousness in the narrow sense. Also, the text represents the different degrees of awareness, which will answer the question at what level of their development human individuals reach the ability to coexist in a legal society. Subsequently, the thesis will be defended that in such a legal society the necessary prerequisites for the formation of free will in the individual subject are created.



Keywords: Integrative function; Law; Legal experience; Legal society; Free will; Subjective rights; Consciousness; Legal obligation

[ 2021 ] **Legal Consultation as Language Translation**

Collection of Ph.D. Conference Papers of Sofia University, 2021, №4, pp33-46. Language: Bulgarian

**Abstract.** This research examines the issue of linguistic interpretation of normative texts as a special type of language translation. For this purpose, in the first place, we will support the view that the legal language, and in particular the language in which regulations are expressed has an independent nature. It will be presented as different from the daily language of society, and lawyers as a kind of mediator between both of these diverse, albeit close, languages. After this, legal consultation will be explored by applying W. V. Quine's theory about under determinacy of translation, and a solution will be sought in cases when this linguistic interpretation would not be sufficient to reach a definite end result. The view that legal interpretation can serve as a stand-alone means of achieving sound legal knowledge will be supported as a means of resolving these cases.

Keywords: Everyday language, Language interpretation, Language translation, Legal consultation, Legal interpretation, Legal language, Quine.

[ 2022 ] **Interpretation in EU Multilingual Law**

<https://www.europeanpapers.eu/en/e-journal/interpretation-eu-multilingual-law>

European Papers, Volume 7, Issue 1, pp. 465-480. Language: English

**Abstract:** The European Union as a supranational entity that unites many different legal systems, each with its own linguistic category and distinct legal vocabulary, presents unique challenges in the legal translation of European legislation. This *article* examines the process of legal-linguistic finalization of EU multilingual law and considers the difficulties arising from the interpretation of EU acts in light of the linguistic diversity of the Union's 27 Member States. The inquiry reaffirms the importance of the role of the Court of Justice of the European Union to guarantee the uniform functioning of law. Joining the views of some leading researchers in the field, this *Article* defends the view that a shared European legal discourse is necessary to achieve clarity in European Union law.

**Keywords:** Court of Justice – language translation – linguistic relativity – multilingual European Union law – common European discourse – uniform language interpretation.

**CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS**

[ 22/09/2020 – 25/09/2020 ] **Conference of PhD. Students** Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski - Sofia, Bulgaria

Title of article: Legal Consultation as Language translation. Language: Bulgarian



Abstract. This research examines the issue of linguistic interpretation of normative texts as a special type of language translation. For this purpose, in the first place, we will support the view that the legal language, and in particular the language in which regulations are expressed has an independent nature. It will be presented as different from the daily language of society, and lawyers as a kind of mediator between both of these diverse, albeit close, languages. After this, legal consultation will be explored by applying W. V. Quine's theory about under determinacy of translation, and a solution will be sought in cases when this linguistic interpretation would not be sufficient to reach a definite end result. The view that legal interpretation can serve as a stand-alone means of achieving sound legal knowledge will be supported as a means of resolving these cases.

Keywords: Everyday language, Language interpretation, Language translation, Legal consultation, Legal interpretation, Legal language, Quine.