Reframing Translated Chinese Political News for Target Readers— A Study on English Translations of Chinese Political News

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Abstract— *Drawing on Baker's narrative theory, this paper explores how the application of framing strategies in the English translation of Chinese political news contributes to the communicative effectiveness and stance mediation to the target readers. After a brief literature review, the theoretical apparatus of this study is presented. Source text has been retrieved from news published by Chinese news agencies including Xinhua, China News Service, People and Chinadaily, while samples of their translations are also presented, with results manifesting effective use of framing strategies to mediate stances and enhance communication effectiveness. The paper concludes with a discussion on the constraints of reframing in the C-E translation of political news.*

Keywords— *news translation, narrative theory, framing strategies, stance mediation, communication.*

I. INTRODUCTION

As the boundary of faithfulness in news translation has been re-examined by some scholars (e.g. Bielsa & Bassnett, 2009), it has been argued that news translation involves rewriting whereby the translators reframe the news events in question for purposes including communicative effectiveness (e.g., Hu, 2013) and stance-posting (e.g., Pan 2015; Zhang, 2013). With elevating economic influence and global status since the Reform and Opening Up, China has been eager to introduce to the world its culture and reform achievement, tempting global attention to its mode and philosophy of development as well as its culture (Heng, 2011). Therefore, to bridge China and the western cultures through communication, it is crucial for China to enhance the publicity of its culture and ideas to the globe which may be realized through news translation, since the target culture normally adopts a foreign language and different ideologies. Nevertheless, some scholars in China argue that the communicative effectiveness of translated Chinese news is still left to be desired, and the range of theoretical tools used to study news translation as global communication should be broadened(Ning, 2011).

Drawing onframing strategies in narrative theory, this essay investigates the English translation of Chinese news coverage of(once) heated political events between China and other countries. The Chinese source texts have been derived from state-run news agencies upholding the same ideology, including Xinhua, China News Service and

Chinese government websites including that of the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. By contrasting the Chinese source and the English translations, this study tends to probe in the questions that how the strategies of narrative framing may be used by the translators, and what purposes for which the strategies may serve? This study concludes with a discussion on some possible reasons or constraints behind the translation as narratives reframing.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

There have been studies analyzing framing strategies in news translation (E.g., Valdeón, 2008; Harding, 2011; Cheng, 2013; Hu, 2013; Pan 2012). In the west, Valdeón (2008) explored how the strategy of selective appropriation is deployed to translate BBC news' themes and texts. Harding (2011) probes into the circulation of translated competing narratives on the wars in Chechnya. Chinese scholars also contribute to the studies. Cheng (2013) studies how the ironic narratives in Chinese translations of English news may be reconstructed by the translators/trans-editors. Pan (2012) integrates appraisal theory and narrative theory to explore how the translation of (politically or culturally) sensitive elements in news meditates stances in communication. Hu (2013) examines how English translations of Chinese political news can achieve better effectiveness in communication from perspectives including framing strategies. However, as far as the author can see, although quite a lot of scholarship is devoted to news translation from the perspective of Baker's narrative theory, the one using her framing analysis is still relatively few, especially the ones focusing on translating Chinese political news into English. Therefore, the author tends to expand the discussion on this topic.

III. RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Questions

This paper is an exploratory study on how the strategies of narrative framing may contribute the China's global communication through translating Chinese political news into English. It interrogates the following questions:

1) How are the strategies of narrative framing, if any, deployed to the English translations of Chinese political news?

2) How do the strategies function to help China communicate and meditate its stance to the target readers?

3.2 Methodology and Theoretical Apparatus

In this study, Chinese political news with English translations is the object of research. As for data collection, the author searches extensively on Chinese government websites and state-run news publishers, such as Xinhuanet (新华网), China News Service (中新社), People.cn (人民网)and Chinadaily (中国日报), for Chinese news reporting on one of the following four political topics: the South Sea, the Diaoyu Island, the Belt and Road Initiative and the Snowden incident. Meanwhile, he hasconsulted search engines including Google to find their correspondent translations, some of which are found on government websites while others are posted by the state-owned agencies.

The author studies the research questions from the perspective of Mona Baker's narrative theory so that he can better understand and explain the translational decisions made in the C-E news translation in relation to communicative effectiveness in a broader sociopolitical context. In the section devoted to discussion and analysis of exampled results, they have been classified by the deployed framing strategies proposed by Baker. Under the light of Baker's scholarship on the function of framing strategies, the author also describes how some narrative elements are downplayed or accentuated for certain purposes, be they communicative effectiveness and stance-taking.

Narratives, as defined by Baker (2006, p. 19), are "stories", be them "public or personal", that "we subscribe to" and that "guide our behavior". Four interdependent features constitute through narratives, including temporality, relationality, casual emplotment, and selective appropriation. The notion 'temporality' means that narratives are put into certain contexts of time and space whereby certain meaning can be derived; 'relationality' means that every element, not able to be interpreted on its own, produces certain meaning by relating themselves to other narrative elements in certain ways; casual emplotment, unlike relationality, gives individual instance significance. It refers to the narratives' ability to "weight and explain events rather than simply list them" and to "turn a set of

propositions into an intelligible sequence about which we can form an opinion"; selective appropriation means that narratives can be configured with a set of selected events or elements based on a series of criteria, which in the case of translation of political news are usually communicative effectiveness and stance-taking. These selected events constitute what may be a coherent story.

Framing is defined as a strategy used to realize the configuration of narratives. Different configurations may have varied frames whereby the narrators "present a movement or a position within a certain perspective" and "consciously participate in the construction of reality" (Baker, 2006, p. 106). Therefore, translation may be considered a process of framing whereby translators use different strategies to "renegotiate the features of narratives and strengthen or undermine particular aspects of the narratives", so as to offer a "politically charged narrative in the target context" (Baker, 2006, p. 105). This is crucial for this study to discuss the intention of the translational choices made in this paper's examples. Four strategies can be used to frame narratives. As we will examine in the following part, three concerns the most to this study: spatiotemporal framing, selective appropriation of textual materials and labeling. spatiotemporal framing refers to setting a text in a certain context of time and space, which may be different from that of reality but produce meanings and "interpretive potential"; selective appropriation refers to omissions or additions of textual narrative elements to "suppress, accentuate or elaborate particular aspects of a narrative.";labeling, including rival naming systems and titles, refers to identifying key elementsof a narrative, such as a person, a location an event or an object, with lexical items. When achieved by renaming titles, labeling usually entails subtle altering of the text itself, aligning it with the new theme "signaled in the new title" (Baker, 2006, p. 131).

IV.   DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section is devoted to analyze how the framing strategies of spatiotemporal framing, selective appropriation and labeling are deployed in the author's selected examples by comparing the English versions to their Chinese source text. The author also discusses how some narrative elements are downplayed or accentuated to communicate and meditate stances. As observed,

spatiotemporal framing is used to post stances through altering the implied space and time sequence of events or referring to a specific spatial and temporal context in history that carries meaning. Selective appropriation of textual materials is applied to cases where addition of text is used to reinforce the original news' stance or to post a specific attitude towards an event, while omission is for removing offensive narrative elements to the target audience. Labeling is deployed to post stances or to highlight the (newly-framed) theme in the translation, with, also, stances and ideological factors taken into consideration.

4.1 Spatiotemporal Framing

As mentioned above, spatiotemporal framing refers to setting a text in a certain context of time and space, which may be different from that of reality, but produce certain meanings and "interpretive potential" (Baker, 2006, p. 105). As observed by the author, there are Chinese and English news narratives competing with each other through different framing of spatiotemporal contexts. Here is a case taking place on 5th, December, 2013, when a Chinese warship conducted a regular maritime patrol in the South Sea and encountered an American warship who claimed to "conduct a regular freedom-of-navigation" operations. On 13th December, Reuters posted a news as follows:

US, Chinese warships narrowly avoid collision in South China Sea

By David Alexander, Reuters

A U.S. guided missile cruiser operating in **international waters in the South China Seawas forced to take evasive action** last week **to avoid a collision with a Chinese warship maneuvering nearby**, the U.S. Pacific Fleet said in a statement on Friday.

……The U.S. Navy said it was conducting regular freedom-of-navigation operations in the South China Sea when the incident occurred.

(Reuter, 2013)

In this piece of news, it has been claimed that a U.S. cruiser was conducting a so-called freedom-of-navigation operation in marine under the sovereignty of China. The spatial setting is "international waters in the South Sea" which denied the absolute sovereignty of China in the South Sea region. Moreover, manifested by expressions "was forced to take evasive action", the implied temporal context

is that the Chinese warship was invasive and dangerous as to "bump" in the U.S. cruiser's near water in the first place before the latter one is "forced" to take action. To compete with this narrative containing unfaithful coverage and negativity of China, the Ministry of Defense of China responded to this news on 18th December, thence translated by Xinhua agency shown as follows.

Example 1:

ST:

中美两国防务部门已就军舰相遇事进行了有效沟通

国防部新闻事务局应询就中美两国军舰<u>在南海相遇</u>事表示，近期，<u>一艘正常巡逻的中国海军军舰</u>与一艘美国军舰<u>在南海海域相遇</u>。在相遇过程中，中国海军军舰严格按照操作规程进行了妥善处置。

(People, 2013)

TT:

China, U.S. communicate effectively over warship encounter: ministry

BEIJING, Dec. 18 (Xinhua) -- ……

A Chinese navy warship **on a regular patrol missionencountered** a naval vessel of the United States **in the South China Sea region** several days ago. The Chinese warship handled the situation strictly according to relevant operation specifications, according to the ministry statement on Wednesday.

(Chinadaily, 2013)

The English version is a rather faithful translation which sets a spatiotemporal context different from that of Reuters to mediate the China's stance that the Chinese warship was not an "interceptor" and the South Sea is under thesovereignty of China, not the so-called "international waters". The translated news describes the incident from a more objective perspective by implying a new sequence of events in which the Chinese warship was conducting a regular patrol when it "encountered", not intercepted or deliberately charged towards, the U.S. cruiser. After the encounter, the Chinese Government, as mentioned the translation's title, adopted a cooperative attitude to address the issue with the U.S., which is in contrary to the Reuters's description of China as being dangerous and invasive. Moreover, the translation follows closely to the Chinese source text to put the incident in the spatial context of "the

South China Sea region", not "international waters in the South Sea". This spatial and temporal framingmay convey the message that China holds no hostility but to claim and implement its full sovereignty over the South Sea, mediating the stance of China to the Anglophonic readers.

As the spatiotemporal context set in the narratives should produce "interpretative potential", the translator should make clear the meaning embedded in the arranged settings of space and time since some target readers may not know what information is contained in the place and at the time in question. Here is an example that may fails in reinforcing stances for not elucidating the meaning of the spatiotemporal settings:

Example 2:

ST: 如果日方一意孤行，错上加错，继续在钓鱼岛问题上制造事端，挑战中国，中方也必将采取有力的措施坚决应对……需要指出的是，今天的亚洲已经不是117 年前的亚洲，<u>今天的中国更不是 1895 年的中国，不是 1931 年"九一八事变"和 1937 年"七七事变"时的中国。</u>中国政府维护国家领土主权的决心和意志坚定不移 (People, 2012)

TT: If Japan should continue down the current wrongful path and take more erroneous actions, if Japan should create more incidents regarding Diaoyu Dao to challenge China, then China will definitely take resolute and strong countermeasures……It must be pointed out that the Asia of today is not the Asia of 117 years ago. **The China of today is not the China of 1895, or the China during the "18 September Incident" in 1931, orduring the "7 July Incident" in1937.** The Chinese government has unshakable resolve and will to uphold China's territorial sovereignty.

(Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Belgium, 2012)

In this example, the source text uses the underlined sentence to contrast the power of China in 2013 to that in different historical eventat different historical time, namely the Sino-Japanese war in 1985, the 18 September Incident in 1931 and the 7 July Incident. This framing of time and spacereinforcesthe China's assertion to protect its sovereigntyover the Diaoyu Island. But the historical significance of these events and how China suffered from them may not be so well known bysome of the target readers, thereby exerting less effect on mediating the

Chinese government's stance to them. In Example 2, the target text posted by the Foreign Ministry failed to unveil the implicated significance of the historical events. The author thinks it is plausible to add some explanatory information in the TT's underlined sentence as follows:

> The China of today is not the China of 1895<u>when the Qing government failed in the Sino-Japanese War and was coerced to agree to and sign the unequal pact of *Sino-Japanese Treaty of Shinomoseki*</u>, or the China during the "18 September Incident" in 1931or during the "7 July Incident" in 1937<u>when the Japanese army carried out its malicious military action of invasion against China</u>.

By adding the underlinedinformation including the defeat of Qing court, the unequal treaty and the Japanese invasion, the suffering of China in history due to its lack of national power may be presented to the target readers, helping them understand the meaning implied by the spatiotemporal settings. As a result, a stronger contrast of Chinese national power in today's world and that in history is formed in the translation, contributing to mediate the assertion of Chinese government to protect its sovereignty over the Diaoyu Island.

To conclude Section 4.1, by adjusting the spatiotemporal context of narratives and clarify the meaning of that context, the strategy of spatiotemporal framing function to mediate stances of the Chinese government to the anglophone readers in an effective way.

4.2 Selective Appropriation of Textual Materials

As mentioned, selective appropriation of textual materials refers to the textual operation, including addition and omission, to "suppress, accentuate or elaborate particular aspects of a narrative." (Baker, 2006, p. 114). This suppression and accentuation may contribute to the shaping and effective mediation of stances. This section will explore how this framing strategy is deployed in English translations of Chinese political news.

4.2.1   Addition

As observed, some data uses addition of textual elements to reinforce the original's stance or to re-position the narrator in certain way. For instance, Example 3 shows how addition of textual materials is applied to fortify the narrator stance. The source text posted on the website of Foreign Ministry of China is about condemning the U.S. intervention in the South Sea question. It is translated by Xinhua agency, shown as follows.

Example 3:

ST:

> ……美国在钓鱼岛问题上负有不可推卸的*历史责任(Ø)*。美方上述言论罔顾事实，不分是非，中方对此表示强烈不满和坚决反对。
>
> (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China, 2013)

TT:

> ……"The comments by the US side are ignorant of facts and indiscriminate of rights and wrongs," Qin said.
>
> The United States cannot deny *its historical responsibility* on the issue of the Diaoyu Islands, Qin said, **referring to the fact that despite opposition from China, the United States put the islands under the control of Japan after the World War II.**(Xinhua, 2013)

In Example 3, the italic Chinese words 历史责任 is translated as "its historical responsibility", which is attached with an additional explanation as underlined in the TT to reveal what exactly the responsibility is. The addition of this sentence may be intended by the Xinhua agency to explain the foreign readers that it was the U.S. who initiated the territory controversy over the South Sea, and that only if the U.S. shoulder the responsibility can the controversy be alleviated. Therefore, the addition may be considered a means the agency used to counterattack the false "comments by the US", to reinforce its stance of upholding the sovereignty of the Diaoyu Island and to mediate it effectively to the foreign readers. Again, it may be perceived that addition of textual elements can be a translational tool to fortify and deliver ideological information to the recipient.

Moreover, addition can be applied to help the narrator shape and imply a political attitude towards an event, which is not implicated by the source text. Example 4 exemplifies this point. The original news, posted by Xinhua agency on 12th July, 2013, narrates that Snowden, a former employee in the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and National Security Agency (NSA), escaped to Russia, revealed the massive spy operation of the U.S. over other countries

called Espionage Act, to international coverage outlets, and met with his lawyer and other Russian social activists in Moscow (Xinhua, 2013).

Example 4:

ST: 6 月 23 日，斯诺登乘飞机由香港抵达莫斯科，此后一直滞留在谢列梅捷沃机场中转区。(Xinhua, 2013)

TT: Snowden, **charged by the U.S. government with three felonies, including two under the Espionage Act,** arrived at the airport on June 23.(ECNS, 2013)

In Example 4, the Chinese source text illustrates Snowden's route of escaping capture to Russia, in which Hong Kong serves as a hub. The text provides no information about the U.S. charges on his "crimes". However, the target text offered by ECNS added the accusation of the U.S. government on him, with extra expressions "felonies" and "the Espionage Act" deployed to reinforce the added narrative of his being sued by the U.S. government and the high possibility that he may violate the American law by unveiling the spy plan to international medias. Moreover, it can be noticed that Hong Kong as the hub of his travel is omitted in the target text. By accentuating the narrative of his being prosecuted for the "crime" and omitting the textual element of Hong Kong, it may be argued that the translator can intend to indicate that the event is a matter of the U.S. internal affair, shaping and posting the stance that China does not involve in the Snowden's schema and will not intervene in this incident. As we can see, addition and omission of textual materials is applied in this case to construct a new stance and imply it to the target readers.

4.2.2 Omission

Among the news read by the author, some omit certain textual materials to remove narrative elements that eitherappear to redundant and irrelevant to the support of the argument, or appear to be offensive to the target readers. Example 5 and 6 illustrate this point.

Example 5 is an excerpt from a news by Renmin.cn condemning the "multiple standards" the US government adopts in cyberspace, as manifested in the American scandal in which the US highly confidential surveillance program, PRISM, is revealed by Snowden (People, 2013; Electrospace, 2014). This example illustrates that omission can be applied to scissor narratives that are redundant and irrelevant to the support of the original argument, so that

the original argument can be better communicated to the target readers.

Example 5:

ST:多重标准之二：美国进行网络监控是为了"反恐"，其他国家的网络监控是别有用心……**美国人对别人动不动就举起"道德"大棒，而对自己则恣意放纵，为所欲为。**(People, 2013)

TT:Example 2 of the multiple standards: The US's implementation of network surveillance is for "anti-terrorism", but the network surveillance implemented by other countries is for ulterior motives……**(Ø)**(ECNS, 2013)

The original text in Example 5 firstly provides an argument that the US government had malicious motives to monitor the other countries internet, which is faithfully rendered by the translation posted by ECNS.cn. Then, the original presents some facts of Google to support the argument, followed by the metaphor 举起"道德"大棒 to indicate that the American judge other countries' internet activities via strict moral criteria if they violate its benefit. It is again followed by a critical comment saying that the American, nevertheless,indulge themself in loose moral criteria in cyberspace. As a result, a critical narrative is framed on the US's moral attitudes towards cyber safety.However, all the critical narrative is deleted in the target text along with the original critical stance implied through the narrative. It may be argued that, to conform to the reading and thinking habits of the target readers, the translator did this to presentthe original argument on the"multiple standards" of American from a more objective perspectivewithout posting any judgement appear offensive, redundant and irrelevant to the support of the argument.

In some other cases, omission of textual materials may be used to delete narratives that may offend the target readers. Example 6 exemplifies this point. This news celebrates the 55th anniversary of the establishment of Sino-France diplomatic relations while giving remarks on the two countries' cooperation through programs including the Belt and Road Initiative.

Example 6:

ST:

27 日是中国和法国建立外交关系 55 周年。抚今追昔，**中法关系的建立**

和发展改变了国际格局走向，树立了国家间相互尊重、互利共赢的典范，**对世界启迪良多。在人类社会面临百年未有之大变局的当下，不断拓展中法以及中欧关系的时代内涵正当其时**。(Xinhua, 2019)

TT:

Since establishing diplomatic relations 55 years ago (Ø), China and France have provided the world a model of friendship featuring mutual respect and win-win cooperation. (Ø) (Global Times, 2019)

In example 6, the original text not only contains narratives that illustrate the Sino-France diplomatic relationship as conforming to the principles of "mutual respect" and "win-win solution", but also contains the ones, as underlined, that focus on the global influence brought by such relationship. Somewhatambitious expressions are used in the latter type of narratives, such as "改变了国际格局走向", "对世界启迪良多"and "不断拓展中法以及中欧关系的时代内涵正当其时". While these textual elements may showcase the significance of the Sino-France diplomacy, they may appear to be offensive to the target anglophones readers, most of whom are based in western societies where the rise of China is considered as a kind of threat (Li, 2021). Therefore, this helps explain why the target text omits all these expressions for the sake of readership.

4.3 Labeling

labeling, including rival naming systems and titles, refers to identifying with lexical items the key elementsof a narrative, such as a person, a location an event or an object. When achieved by renaming titles, labeling usually entails subtle altering of the text itself, aligning it with the new theme "signaled in the new title" (Baker, 2006, p. 131). This section would discuss how labeling as a framing strategy constrains the interpretation of narratives to mediate information and stances effectively.

4.3.1   Rival Systems of Naming

MacIntyre (1988)proposes that rival systems of naming co-exist with "rival communities and traditions", who use a name is "at once to make a claim about political and social legitimacy and to deny a rival claim."(p. 378, as quoted in Baker, 2006, p. 124).

Rival systems of namingare used to take stances in news (translation) to mediate stance and deny a rival one. The naming of the Diaoyu Island by China and Japan is a classic example to illustrate this. Below is an excerpt of the introduction to the Diaoyu Island composed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, where "Senkaku Islands" (尖阁列岛) is used to name the place.

There is no doubt that the **Senkaku Islands** are clearly an inherent part of the territory of Japan, in light of historical facts and based upon international law. Indeed, the **Senkaku Islands** are under the valid control of Japan.

(Ministry

of Foreign Affairs of Japan, n.d.)

This Japanese name of the place was inspired by the British who originally call the islands "Pinnacle Islands" (尖阁列岛) (Diaoyudao, n.d.) and named it accordingly in Japanese to show its possession of the islands. However, long before this happened, China had already taken possession of the islands in Ming Dynasty, calling them "Diaoyu Islands" (钓鱼屿). Today, when the Chinese official media translate the name of the islands after how the originating place as mainland China call them: the Diaoyu Islands. Please see Example 7. This naming posts the Chinese stance of its ownership over the islands. It is also noticeable that Chinese official media sometimes translate 钓鱼岛 as "the Diaoyu Dao and their affiliated islands" or "the Diaoyu Island and their affiliated islands", both of which are suitable for labeling the place as possessed by China.

Example 7:

ST: **钓鱼岛及其附属岛屿**是中国领土不可分割的一部分。无论从历史、地理还是从法理的角度来看，钓鱼岛都是中国的固有领土，中国对其拥有无可争辩的主权。(Xinhua, 2012)

TT: **The Diaoyu Islands** are an inalienable part of China's territory, and the Chinese government and its people will absolutely make no concession on issues concerning its sovereignty and territorial integrity. (Xinhua, 2012)

Similarly, as observed, there are also other places in the South Sea that have rival naming systems. Please see Table 1. The counter-naming imply different political views over the Islands, that is, the ownership and sovereignty exercised over them.

Table 1 Rivalry naming of islands in the South Sea, referred to in Hu (2013, p.116)

Naming by the Chinese Mainland	Naming by other parties
黄岩岛 (Huangyan Islands)	Panatag Shoal (named by Philippine officials)
东沙群岛 (Dongsha Islands)	Pratas Islands (originally named by Portugal)
中沙群岛 (Zhongsha Islands)	Macclesfield Bank (originally named by Britain)
西沙群岛 (Xisha Islands)	Paracel Islands (originally named by Portugal)
南沙群岛 (Nansha Islands)	Spratly Islands (originally named by Philippines)

As a translator, we should be aware of translating places like these that are under political controversy and render the Chinese name of these places according to how their originating place, mainland China, call them, so that the stance of the Chinese government that the islands are under Chinese sovereignty and possession can be mediated to the target readers.

4.3.2   Titles

Labeling also involves textual operation over titles. According to Baker (2006, p. 129), unlike rival naming systems in which rival communities and translations compete with each other. Titles of textual and visual products, including books, news and films, can be used to frame or reframe narratives in translation (Baker, 2006, p. 129).

As observed by the author, some English translations of Chinese political news adopt a different configuration of narratives to the original, with certain narrative(s) in the source text highlighted while some are deleted or downplayed. Aligning to this change in text, they rewrite their English title, whose literal meaning is different from its original, to present the highlighted narrative in the reframed target text. The titles in Example 8 exemplify this point.The ST is the title of the original and the TT is the title of the English translation.

Example 8:

ST: 李克强会见巴布亚新几内亚总理奥尼尔 (cf.Hu,2013,p.120)

TT: Chinese VP **reiterates DiaoyuIslands** in meeting

（cf. Hu, 2013, p. 120）

The news of the source text in Example 8 contains two major narratives: a review of the intimate diplomatic relationship between China and Papua New Guinea, and Li Keqiang's talk with Papua New Guinea's premier on their agreement on Chinese sovereignty exercised over Diaoyu Island. However, the target text omits the first narrative and maintains the second one to make more prominent the narrative of Li Keqiang's talk on the Island, highlighting the China's stance to uphold Chinese sovereignty over the Island. To align to the English news's reframed narrative configuration andpresent the prominent thematic narrative in the title at the very beginning of the English news, the TT uses "reiterates Diaoyu Islands" to cohere to the reframed English version, and to highlightthe important narrative in the English news. Through this labeling, the China's intention to mediate its stance on the Islands' issue is made explicit to the target readers, while the prominent narrative of Li Keqiang's talk on the issue is introduced and reinforced. Therefore, it may be perceived that labeling through rewriting titles can help promote political stances byhighlighting and reinforcing the narrative(s) in the translation that is/are vital to mediate stances and messages and by aligning the title to the reframed text to form a coherent narrative discourse aimed to mediate political stances, in this case that is the China's assertion to protect its sovereignty over Diaoyu Island.

Similar examples are Example 9 and 10, which are translations of Chinese political news under the topic of the Belt and Road Initiative (abbr. as BRI in the TTs). In thesetwo news, the national leaders meet to discuss and promote international cooperation under BRI.

Example 9:

ST: 习近平会见新西兰总理阿德恩(cf. Li, 2021, p. 55)

TT: Xinhua Headlines: New Zealand PM's China visit **to promote ties, boost cooperation under BRI.**(cf. Li, 2021, p. 55)

Example 10:

ST: 王毅同吉尔吉斯斯坦外长艾达尔别科夫举行会谈(cf. Li, 2021, p. 55)

TT: China, Kyrgyzstan vow **to strengthen practical cooperation under BRI.**(cf. Li, 2021, p. 55)

The original of these examples, similar to that of

Example 8, contains two major narratives: the close diplomatic relationship between two countries in question, and their agreement on the cooperation under BRI. But unlike Example 8, the translation does not omit any of the two narratives. Nevertheless, TTs of Example 9 and 10 highlight the latter narrative in their body by relabeling their title with additional description of the gist of the meetings as to "to promote or strengthen cooperation under BRI". In this way, the target audience may be guided by the translator to understand the main idea of the news with only a glance. The cooperative attitude of China is also well delivered by the title relabeling, presenting China's stance ofpromoting international cooperation under the framework of BRI.

V.   CONCLUSION

To conclude, the framing strategies of spatiotemporal framing, selective appropriation of textual materials and labeling are used in English translations of Chinese political news mainly to mediate stances, deny the rival and enhance the effectiveness of communication. To be specific, the author has major findings listed as follows:

1) The strategy of spatial and temporal framing may be deployed in some English translations of Chinese political news to mediate stances of the Chinese government to the anglophone readers by rearranging the implied sequence of events and the spatial context. While using this strategy, the meaning implied by the framed context of time and space shall be elucidated by the translator.

2) Selective appropriation may be applied to ensure communicative effectiveness and stance mediation. Addition can be used to reinforce the original's political stances through additional clarification, and to shape and post a new stance in the translation. Omission may be deployed to remove narrative elements that are, with reference to the target readers' reading and thinking habits, irrelevant to support the original's argument, or that may appear offensive to the target readers.

3) Labeling can be used to reinforce political stances and to ensure communicative effectiveness of the English translation. The rival system of naming is used to mark the different political attitudes and ideologies of different parties, while the relabeling

of titles can be applied to make explicit the stance and gist, as expressed by the important narratives in the body, and make the reframed translations a more coherent text.

Though it has examined how English translation of Chinese political news may be reframed for mediating stances and attitudes to the target readers, it is equally important for the translators to bear in mind some possible constraints of the reframing process. First, they should know well the reading and thinking habits of the target readers. Critical comments in some Chinese political news may be offensive to the readers if faithfully translated, and the significance of some Chinese historical events may be unfamiliar to them. This may be illustrated by Example 5 and 6. Secondly, international political situations may also be a constraint of the reframing. The translators should be aware that the dynamic state of China's international relationship with other countries and know what stances China should take and mediate. Thirdly, the translators should also be cautious about the features and political stance of the news agency in which they are based. Though upholding the same ideology, different Chinese news agencies may have subtly different viewpoints, and different preferences of narration and topic selection, constraining the translators' process of translating the Chinese political news.

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