

**THE STUDY OF DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS FROM A LINGUOSTYLISTIC
PERSPECTIVE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF MODERN CONCEPTS OF TEXT
LINGUISTICS**

Mirmakhmudova Iroda Irsmatovna

Independent Researcher, Alisher Navoi Tashkent State University
of Uzbek Language and Literature

In modern linguistics, text linguistics has developed as a distinct scientific field, which entails studying the text as an independent linguistic category. Since the mid-20th century, the Prague School, the Moscow Semiotic School, and the Western schools of functional linguistics have provided a scientific foundation for the semantic integrity, coherence, cohesion, genre-specific features, and pragmatic purpose of texts. Diplomatic correspondence is among the genres that most clearly embody these theoretical principles in practice. Diplomatic documents serve not only as a means of conveying information but also as official legal instruments that reinforce legal relations between states. Therefore, in studying them from the perspective of text linguistics, issues of genre architecture, linguostylistic conventions, coherence, and pragmatic impact occupy a central place. The structure of diplomatic texts, their lexical and syntactic constructions, and the adequacy of their translation are closely interconnected with international legal norms.

The main genre-specific feature of diplomatic correspondence is its strict compositional structure: the introductory part (preamble), the main part (articles and clauses), and the concluding part (ratification, authentication clauses, and signature formulas). The introductory part contains diplomatic salutations, protocol formulas, and a statement of purpose. For example, in Uzbek diplomatic texts, the phrase “*Ўзаро манфаатли ҳамкорликни ривожлантириш мақсадида...*” is used as a standard cliché in the introductory part; in Russian texts, the equivalent is “*Руководствуясь целью развития взаимовыгодного сотрудничества...*”; while in English texts, the form “*Desiring to develop mutually beneficial cooperation...*” fulfills the same genre-specific function. In the main part, the obligations and legal conditions between the parties are set out clearly and with strict syntactic precision through articles and clauses. Here, passive or nominative constructions and formal legal phraseology occupy a central place. For example, in Uzbek: “*Томонлар мажбуриятни ўз зиммасига олади*”, in Russian: “*Стороны принимают на себя обязательства*”, and in English: “*The Parties undertake to...*”. In this construction, the word order and grammatical forms are maintained with such strictness that the legal meaning remains

unchanged. In the concluding part, the conditions for the treaty's entry into force, its duration, and the official authentication clauses are included. For example: *"This treaty is drawn up in two copies, in Uzbek and Russian, both texts being equally authentic."* This clause grants equal legal status to all language versions of the treaty, thereby ensuring the principle of equally authentic in international law.

In diplomatic correspondence, linguostylistic precision is manifested not only in compositional structure but also at the lexical level. Genre-specific clichés and formulas such as *"has the honour to inform"*, *"имеет честь сообщить"*, and *"Эҳтиром билан маълум қилади"* ("Respectfully informs") are formal forms of address that constitute an integral part of the cultural code and pragmatic effect. An arbitrary translation or shortening of these expressions leads to a violation of diplomatic etiquette and causes the text to fall short of genre-specific requirements. In diplomatic documents, pragmatic weight carries great significance. For example, various legal obligations or rights are defined through modal verbs: *"shall"* indicates obligation, while *"may"* expresses legal possibility. Therefore, every grammatical element must be preserved with literal accuracy in the process of translation; otherwise, errors in legal interpretation may occur.

In Uzbekistan's practice, the preparation of bilingual or multilingual diplomatic documents has developed in harmony with international practice. For example, in treaties between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan or Uzbekistan and Russia, the system of articles, numbering of clauses, and official phraseology are preserved in accordance with international standards. However, comparative analysis shows that in the UN or the EU, documents are produced synchronously through multilingual standardization and parallel corpora. Through specialized Translation Memory and TermBase lexical databases, official clichés and legal terms are ensured to appear in a uniform form. In Uzbekistan, however, these tools have not yet been fully implemented, and in many cases the outcome depends on the translator's personal competence. Therefore, in diplomatic correspondence, the modern concepts of text linguistics, namely coherence, cohesion, genre requirements, and pragmatic load, need to be further reinforced in national practice. Including a full authentication clause in every treaty or diplomatic note, and developing official clichés and syntactic constructions on the basis of a national template database, is one of the urgent tasks of today. It should be especially emphasized that in studying modern diplomatic correspondence from the perspective of text linguistics, one cannot be limited only to grammatical or syntactic rules. This is because the diplomatic genre has historically developed as a distinct form, and its modern conventions are closely intertwined with international legal norms. Throughout the history of diplomatic correspondence, symbolic conventions, rules of formal etiquette, and genre-specific

cliché expressions have occupied a central place in its structure. These traditional devices elevated correspondence between states beyond the level of mere information exchange, shaping it as an important instrument for expressing political prestige, representing national interests, and strengthening international relations. From the perspective of modern linguistics, the defining features of diplomatic correspondence as a genre are its institutional status, the ethics of formal communication, and the strategies of polite expression. These characteristics position diplomatic texts within the broader framework of institutional discourse, where language functions not only as a neutral channel of communication but as a regulated instrument shaped by political, cultural, and legal norms. In this sense, diplomatic discourse embodies more than the transmission of factual information; it represents a socially embedded system of speech that reflects and performs state policy. By employing conventionalized formulas, honorifics, and genre-specific clichés, such discourse maintains both decorum and balance in international communication. Moreover, it plays a significant role in fostering linguistic and cultural equality, mitigating potential conflicts of interpretation, and promoting mutual understanding among states. Consequently, the study of diplomatic discourse from a linguistic point of view highlights the intricate interplay between language, power, and intercultural negotiation, underscoring its importance as both a communicative and a political phenomenon.

In practice, diplomatic documents are often based on a single template. For example, in treaties of the European Union or the United Nations, the order of articles and the syntactic structure are drafted on the basis of a clearly defined master template. Versions in any language are prepared without departing from this template. In Uzbekistan as well, in recent years, this approach has begun to be applied in many bilateral and multilateral treaties.

The task of a diplomatic translator is not merely to provide a word-for-word translation, but to ensure genre-based coherence and to maintain the connections between the preamble, main part, and concluding part through cohesion devices. Here, along with linguistic elements, legal knowledge also plays an important role. For example, the translator must avoid errors when rendering the literal and functional equivalents of modal or legal verbs such as “*shall*”, “*may*”, “*undertake*”, “*agree*”, and “*comply*” into the target language. In addition, in modern international practice, the institution of the legal editor plays a key role in drafting diplomatic texts. Every prepared treaty or note is first produced by the translator, after which the legal editor checks, article by article, the syntactic structure, the consistency of the clauses, and the standardization of legal terminology. This practice has been formally established in the UN and the EU. For example, in

the European Union, the legal reviser reviews the document in parallel with all versions in the official languages.

In the theory of text linguistics, the sufficient preservation of coherence and cohesion is a primary task for the diplomatic genre. Coherence is achieved through the semantic interconnection of the parts of the text. For example, the constructions “*desiring*”, “*taking into account*”, and “*having regard to*” in the preamble of a treaty must stand in semantic harmony with the clauses in the main articles. If the preamble states “*Ўзаро манфаатли ҳамкорликни ривожлантириши мақсадида... (With the aim of developing mutually beneficial cooperation...)*”, then the main part must contain articles consistently directed toward that purpose. Cohesion, on the other hand, is ensured through grammatical and lexical linking devices: phrases such as “*шу билан бирга*” (“at the same time”), “*бундан ташқари*” (“moreover”), “*furthermore*”, and “*in addition*” serve to connect the clauses of a treaty.

In practice, it is often observed that in diplomatic correspondence unexpected lexical reductions or the free replacement of cliché constructions occur, which diminishes the legal force of a treaty or note. Therefore, in Uzbekistan’s practice as well, it is of urgent importance to create a special national database of clichés to ensure linguostylistic standardization.

In certain documents, official correspondence carried out through an exchange of notes follows specific lexical conventions in the format of a “*Note Verbale*” or “*Verbal Note*.” For example, in the notes of U.S. embassies or the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the expressions “*has the honour to inform*” or “*имеет честь сообщить*” are always preserved in their original form. This practice must also be fully implemented in Uzbekistan.

Moreover, with the development of digital technologies, the use of CAT tools, parallel corpora, and electronic dictionaries in the translation of diplomatic texts has significantly expanded. For example, CAT programs such as SDL Trados or MemoQ segment diplomatic treaties article by article, store clichés and syntactic templates, and provide automatic suggestions for new texts. This reduces human error on the part of the translator and ensures linguostylistic consistency.

At this point, another important aspect is the manifestation of moral code and cultural diplomacy in diplomatic correspondence. Since the culture of diplomatic speech is linked to the image of the state, it is essential to observe etiquette in addressing heads of state or in official statements within a note or treaty. The expressions “*Жаноби Олийлари*” (“His Excellency”), “*His Excellency*”, and “*Его Превосходительство*” serve precisely this function.

In general, in diplomatic correspondence, the modern concepts of text linguistics, coherence, cohesion, genre standards, and pragmatic load, are closely interconnected and must develop in national practice in harmony with international requirements. In Uzbekistan's practice, this process is gradually improving; however, strengthening the institution of the legal editor, implementing electronic standardization, and systematically enhancing translators' legal knowledge will continue to remain urgent tasks.

In conclusion, it can be said that analyzing diplomatic correspondence from a linguostylistic perspective on the basis of modern text linguistics not only ensures the legal force of intergovernmental agreements but also brings the national legal system closer to international standards. In national practice, the use of parallel corpora, the strengthening of the institution of the legal editor, and the enhancement of translators' legal knowledge will guarantee that Uzbek diplomatic texts fully meet international standards in the future.

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