

Translation of Discourses with Chinese Cultural Characteristics based on Self-built Government Work Report Corpus (2016-2021)

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Abstract

Government Work Report is a typical political document, and the quality of its translation will affect China's international image and the construction of political discourse. Based on the Self-built Chinese-English parallel corpus of the Government Work Report of 2016 to 2021, through illustrations of key words translation of the political text, this article discusses the six-year Government Work Reports to analyze the English translation of political texts with unique Chinese cultural characteristics, the language connotation, the strategies of English translation and the reasons behind it. Research has found that the report contains many discourses with Chinese cultural characteristics, which have particular and profound connotations in different contexts. In the process of translation, the translation should not only fully reflect the features of the original text but also conform to the principle of balance and harmony so that the Chinese cultural discourse can "survive" in the target language environment for a long time, promote the "going global" of Chinese culture and develop the Chinese diplomatic discourse system.

Keywords

Government Work Report; Discourse with Chinese Cultural Characteristic; Translation of Political Discourse; Corpus.

1. Introduction

As Chen Chen (2021) stated, "*Government Work Report*, as a typical political document, conveys the Chinese governing philosophy, and its translation is vital to China's image building. The translation quality directly affects the international community's understanding and evaluation of the Chinese government and the construction of China's international discourse. Therefore, its translation is highly challenging." From the perspective of the Self-built corpus, this article takes the Chinese and English versions of the 2016-2021 *Government Work Report* as the corpus, adopts the translation principles and methods of translation science as the starting point, and applies a data-based research method to extract and analyze the stylistic features and English translation strategies of the English counterparts with unique Chinese cultural characteristics, hoping to provide new ideas and references for the translation of political documents.

2. Research Background

2.1. Times Background

Since the new era, the development of Chinese culture "going global" has received increasing attention, and the country attaches great importance to building cultural confidence. With the significant increase in China's international influence, the image of China in the context of the new era has become increasingly important for international exchanges. However, how can the international community understand today's China, and in precisely what way can cultural

barriers be removed? The most direct approach for the international community to understand today's China is to obtain descriptions of China through various media. This process inevitably involves translation, which has always been essential to establishing the country's image. Therefore, the exploration of translation strategies is particularly significant, highlighting the application value and guiding significance of foreign communication in shaping the country's image.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19, the world has been under threat for a long time. The Party Central Committee has led all ethnic groups to take strict preventive and control actions. After unremitting efforts, it has achieved a stage victory in the fight against the epidemic. However, unfortunately, some Western media have maliciously distorted the facts, contaminated China's national image, and hindered the international community's understanding of China's efforts to fight the epidemic. Under such circumstances, accurately informing the international community of China's contributions and actions under the epidemic is crucial to building China's international image, and defamation should not be allowed to spread unchecked.

Therefore, research on the translation enhancement of relevant official political documents is imminent.

2.2. Research Status

As shown in Figure 1, In the past twenty years, translation research on overseas-targeted publicity translation has made plenty of achievements, showing a wave-like upward trend. The enhancement of national soft power, the implementation of the strategy of Chinese culture "go global" and the construction of China's international discourse system have to a certain extent promoted the development of translation research.

As shown in Figure 2, the research mainly focuses on the levels of overseas-targeted publicity translation, cultural translation, political translation, and translation strategies, among which the overseas-targeted publicity translation occupies the core of the research. The overseas-targeted publicity translation involves many disciplines such as translation, foreign languages, journalism, and publishing. Therefore, promoting comprehensive interdisciplinary research in this field can dramatically improve the efficiency and effectiveness of external communication.

From the perspectives of translation research institutions and scholars, universities are the main contributors to the research. The School of Journalism and Communication and the School of English at Shanghai International Studies University are representative institutions, but there is a lack of connection between institutions. Zhang Jian (2021), Yuan Xiaoning (2013), and Zhu Yihua (2021) have made substantial contributions to translation research, but there is a lack of cooperation among scholars and insufficient aggregation of research groups.

From the perspectives of the phases of research on overseas-targeted publicity translation, research in this field has gone through three stages. The first stage is the embryonic stage of discussing translation problems and errors, proposing improvement methods, and improving translation quality. The second stage is the formative stage of exploring translation strategies, principles, and approaches based on multiple translation theories to promote the effectiveness of translation. The third stage is the discussion of the translation strategies and communication effects of political and cultural texts, promoting the "going global" of Chinese culture and the transformation and reform of China's external discourse system.

From the perspective of the prominence and cycle of keywords, the direction and purpose of translation research of political texts are still unclear. Political translation, cultural translation, translation strategy, and communication effect will become the main directions for building a translation research system for overseas-targeted publicity translation, and translators need to tell Chinese stories, spread Chinese voices, build an international discourse system, and promote Chinese culture to the world.

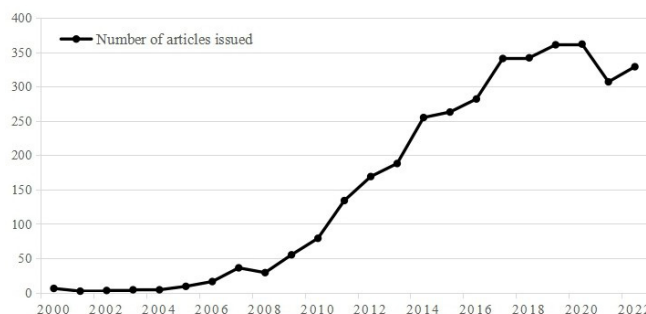


Figure 1. Line chart of the annual trend of papers published in the past 20 years

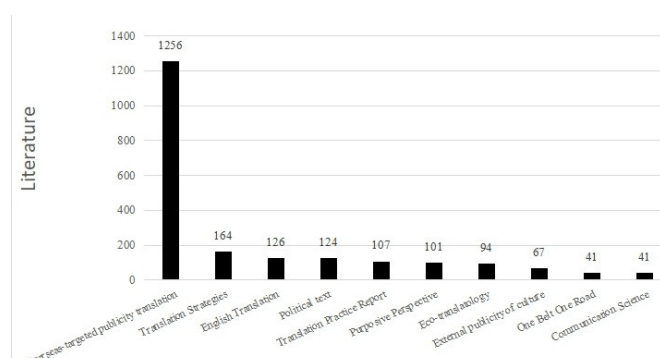


Figure 2. Histogram of main theme distribution

3. Research Questions

If China wants to improve the international discourse, we must build a Chinese discourse system, while the fundamental elements of the Chinese discourse system are the vocabulary with Chinese characteristics. Therefore, with this as the starting point, the article explores the following questions:

- What is the vocabulary with Chinese cultural characteristics?
- What are the words with Chinese cultural characteristics used in the *Government Work Report*? What are the specific categories of these words? What are their features?
- How should we translate the discourse with Chinese cultural characteristics?

4. Research Method

To understand the discourse with Chinese cultural characteristics in political texts, the *Government Work Report* is one of the primary sources. The author downloads the Chinese and English versions of the *Government Work Report* from 2016 to 2021 from the official website of the State Council and Xinhua.com, totaling about 195,133 words.

In this paper, we use AntConc64bit and retrieve the parallel corpus of the *Government Work Report* from 2016 to 2021.

There are 369 discourses in the index line.

5. Research Results

5.1. The Meaning of Vocabulary with Chinese Cultural Characteristics

Vocabulary with Chinese cultural characteristics refers to those words with rich Chinese cultural connotations. It comes from China's unique historical, social and cultural background. In turn, it reflects the social and cultural characteristics of a particular period. Vocabulary with Chinese cultural characteristics ranges from political, economic, cultural, historical, social, and

living fields. It keeps updating with the development of our country and has the features of keeping up with the times. The translation requires the proper handling of cultural differences. We need to skillfully express the Chinese cultural connotations contained in vocabulary while allowing English readers from all over the world and different cultural backgrounds to read it accurately and naturally as if it were their native language. It places high demands on English translators and has also become a hot issue.

5.2. Related Terms and Their Categories in the Government Work Report

The author divides the vocabulary that appeared in the *Government Work Report* from 2016 to 2021 roughly into five types:

- Proper nouns with number abbreviated
- Idioms
- Metaphor expressions
- "War" related expressions
- "Spirit" related expressions

Among them, proper nouns with number abbreviated are the most common (130 in total), accounting for 35.23%. In addition, There are 98 metaphor expressions, accounting for 26.56%, 53 idioms, accounting for 14.36%, 28 "Spirit" related expressions, accounting for 7.59%, 28 "War" related expressions, accounting for 7.59%.

5.2.1. Proper Nouns with Number Abbreviated

Number abbreviations consist of two parts, "number + abbreviation." Number abbreviations provide rich information in a limited space and are abstract and general in nature. Li Lingling (2020) mentioned that "*Government Work Report* contains a variety of figures, which can be divided into concrete and abstract figures. The "number" mentioned in this article refer to the Chinese abbreviations with abstract numbers. Because of its high degree of generality and conciseness, it adds much difficulty to the translator's understanding and translation.

In the related entries, most of them use the Omission (reducing numbers, accounting for 54.5%. For example, the translation of "两不愁三保障" is "basic living needs of rural poor populations are met and that such people have access to compulsory The translation is "basic living needs of rural poor populations are met and that such people have access to compulsory education, basic medical services, and housing", instead of "Two worries and three guarantees". The translator obviously deleted "两" and "三" and directly translate the connotation of what they represent. Besides, "六稳" and "六保" are translated by Amplification (adding numbers), which means retaining the numbers, interpreting the Chinese characters, and translating the specific contents in brackets or footnotes. It is obvious that "稳" has a special meaning, and foreigners cannot know its meaning based on the literal meaning in English. Therefore, the English version adds a note in brackets and translates it clearly as "The six fronts refer to employment, the financial sector, foreign trade, foreign investment, domestic investment, and expectations".

Table 1. Statistics of Proper nouns with number abbreviated

Item	Frequency	Translation
一带一路	15	the Belt and Road Initiative
四风	8	formalities performed for formalities' sake, bureaucratism, hedonism, and extravagance
一体化	7	integrated development
双随机、一公开	7	oversight conducted through the random selection of both inspectors and inspection targets and the prompt release of results

三去一降一补	6	the five-sphere integrated plan/five priority tasks -- cutting overcapacity, reducing excess inventory, deleveraging, lowering costs, and strengthening areas of weakness
三农	6	agriculture, rural areas, and farmers
四个意识	5	maintain political integrity, think in big-picture terms, follow the leadership core, and keep in alignment
四个全面	5	the four-pronged comprehensive strategy
五位一体	5	the five-sphere integrated plan
八项规定	5	eight-point decision
五险一金	5	contributions to social security paid by enterprises
两学一做	4	studies on the theoretical and practical issues of party building
两个维护	3	uphold General Secretary Xi Jinping's core position on the Party Central Committee and in the Party as a whole, and resolutely uphold the Party Central Committee's authority and its centralized, unified leadership
四个自信	3	confidence in the path, theory, system, and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics
六稳	3	stability on the six fronts(The six fronts refer to employment, the financial sector,foreign trade, foreign investment, domestic investment, and expectations.)
六保	3	The six areas(The six areas refer to job security, basic living needs, operations of market entities, food and energy security, stable industrial and supply chains, and the normal functioning of primary-level governments)
“三公”经费	3	spending on official overseas visits, official vehicles, and official hospitality
三严三实	3	Three Stricts and Three Honests
三大战略	3	Three Initiatives
约法三章	3	three-point decision on curbing government spending.
两个一百年	3	the Two Centenary Goals
两新一重	2	new infrastructure and new urbanization initiatives and major projects
两个毫不动摇	2	two no irresolutions
“三个代表”重要思想	2	the Theory of Three Represents
四大板块	2	the eastern region, the central region, the western region, and the northeast
两孩政策	2	the policy of allowing couples to have two children
残疾人“两项补贴”制度	2	providing living allowances for people with disabilities in financial difficulty and nursing care subsidies for people with severe disabilities
三权分置	2	separating rural land ownership rights, contract rights, and management rights
两项补贴	1	living allowances and nursing care subsidies
两不愁三保障	1	basic living needs of rural poor populations are met and that such people have access to compulsory education, basic medical services, and housing
三区三州	1	three regions and three prefectures
四早	1	early detection, reporting, quarantine, and treatment of cases
“八五”普法规划	1	The eighth five-year plan for increasing public knowledge of the law
双拥	1	mutual support between the military and civilians

三证合一, 一照一码	1	the system of a separate business license, organization code certificate, and taxation registration certificate was replaced by a unified business license with a unified social credit code.
多规合一	1	to integrate their various types of urban plans into a single master plan.
三期叠加	1	the slowdown in economic growth, making difficult structural adjustments, and absorbing the effects of previous economic stimulus policies
“七五”普法规划	1	the seventh five-year plan for increasing public knowledge of the law
两免一补	1	receiving compulsory education that waive tuition and miscellaneous fees, supply free textbooks

5.2.2. Metaphor Expressions

Metaphor expressions are Chinese analogical rhetorical words containing Chinese cultural characteristics, which express vivid images and are close to life, making it easy for readers of the target language to understand. This expression makes political documents more approachable to the Chinese people. It usually uses easily understandable things or scenes to explain complex and obscure political terms so that our people can understand the political situation. However, there are no accurate corresponding words in the target language. It is necessary to keep the part of Chinese characteristics and add the cultural background knowledge.

For example, the 2020 *Government Work Report* translates "饭碗" as "food supply". In the Chinese context, the term "rice bowl" has rich cultural connotations and is well-known to the Chinese. When people talk about "rice bowls", they think of the "iron rice bowl", which refers to stable work and income. Here, the "rice bowl" is used to refer to the national food supply, and it is easy to understand by the Chinese. However, in the English context, "rice bowl" may be narrowly understood as "tableware for eating", so here the "rice bowl" is directly translated as "food supply", which is concise and clear.

Table 2. Statistics of Metaphor expressions

Item	Frequency	Translation
中华儿女	7	the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation
“大水漫灌”式	5	a deluge of strong stimulus policies
过紧日子	4	truly tighten their belt
“僵尸企业”	4	zombie enterprises
“房子是用来住的，不是用来炒的”	3	houses are for living in, not for speculation
“新官不理旧账”	3	new officials must not be allowed to get away with ignoring obligations undertaken by predecessors
“揭榜挂帅”谁能干就让谁干	2	introduce an open competition mechanism to select the best candidates
每一笔钱都用在刀刃上	2	every cent is used where it is needed most
真抓实干	2	work diligently(work hard)
国有企业瘦身健体	2	make SOEs leaner and healthier
海绵城市	2	sponge cities
把好总闸门	1	ensure the valve is well controlled
下功夫	1	focusing on
税率三档并两档	1	cutting the number of VAT brackets from three to two
放水养鱼	1	create a more enabling environment

“半拉子”工程	1	stop half way
“最多跑一次”	1	without the need for a second visit
“一张网”建设	1	comprehensive listing system
让乱收费无处藏身	1	making charge collecting open and transparent and leaving unauthorized charges no place to hide
强身健体	1	get stronger and healthier
“大班额”问题	1	the problem of oversized classes
“枫桥经验”	1	the practices of promoting social harmony developed in Fengqiao town, Zhejiang Province
画好海内外中华儿女的最大同心圆	1	seek the greatest convergence of interests among all Chinese, both at home and overseas
根深叶茂、永葆常青	1	grow deep roots and is always in blossom
将疫情防控作为头等大事来抓	1	made its containment the top priority
筑起了抗击疫情的巍峨长城	1	built a Great Wall of solidarity against the epidemic.
留得青山，赢得未来	1	sustain themselves and assure success for the future
不留后遗症	1	do not create any undesired consequences
“米袋子”省长负责制	1	provincial governors assuming responsibility for the “rice bag”
“菜篮子”市长负责制	1	city mayors for the “vegetable basket.”
饭碗	1	the food supply
交出一份人民满意、世界瞩目、可以载入史册的答卷	1	our achievements, which have won the approval of our people and global recognition, will be remembered in history.
点对点”服务	1	Point-to-point transportation services
“一方水土难养一方人”	1	inhospitable areas
“一老一小”	1	a focus on elderly care and child care
不急转弯	1	avoid sharp turns
青山常在、生机盎然	1	help sustain and energize market entities
扰民渔利	1	seeks to make gains at the expense of our people and businesses
轻装前行	1	lighten the burden on market entities and enable them to focus on doing business free from undue concern.
“十年磨一剑”	1	as a blacksmith in the past would spend years forging the perfect sword
拆除藩篱	1	remove barriers
“一刀切”	1	one-size-fits-all approaches
收官之年	1	came to a close
补齐.....的短板	1	strengthen points of weakness in
异军突起	1	emerge
“双引擎”	1	twin engines
伴随阵痛	1	a process of painful adjustment
增速换挡	1	the change of pace in
没有过不去的坎	1	there is no difficulty we cannot get beyond
扎紧制度笼子	1	tighten institutional constraints
少跑腿、好办事、不添堵	1	make fewer visits to government departments to get things done, find procedures simpler, and find the service satisfactory.
砍掉繁文缛节	1	red tape will be cut in

“人地钱”挂钩政策	1	policies for making both the transfer payments and the land designated for urban development granted to the government of a local jurisdiction conditional upon the number of people with rural household registration who are granted permanent urban residency in that jurisdiction.
挣钱顾家两不误	1	do not have to choose between earning money and taking care of the families they leave behind.
...是硬任务	1	sth is a must
立下军令状	1	make the pledge
“单一窗口”	1	the single window system
户户通	1	enable more households to enjoy
重任千钧惟担当	1	The most formidable tasks demand the greatest sense of mission.
铲除滋生腐败土壤	1	to eliminate room for rent-seeking and eradicate the breeding grounds of corruption.
鱼水情深	1	an ever closer bond between
“两岸一家亲”	1	people on both sides of the Straits belong to one and the same family
撑起发展新天地	1	Open new prospects for China's development.
协同叠加效应	1	The synergy building through coordinated development
“地条钢”	1	the production and sale of substandard steel products
走好新的长征路	1	keep up our stride on the new Long March
啃“硬骨头”	1	take on some really tough problems
化蛹成蝶	1	Like the struggle from chrysalis to butterfly
筑牢金融风险“防火墙”	1	build a firewall against financial risks
群众花钱消费少烦心、多舒心	1	make sure that spending is an enjoyable rather than a disappointing experience for consumers.
既有“面子”、更有“里子”	1	All these efforts will make our cities more attractive and function better.
交出合格答卷	1	make the grade in responding to the people
厕所革命	1	Toilet Revolution

5.2.3. Idioms

Idioms refer to those words derived from ancient poems, historical stories, ancient classics. The idiom is a distinctive feature of traditional Chinese culture. The meaning of an idiom is incisive and often implied in the literal sense, not a simple addition of the implications of its constituents. Behind each idiom are a profound meaning and an interesting story. The idiom is closely related to China's traditional culture and historical background. The use of idioms adds to the aesthetic and appreciation value of the report, highlighting its Chinese characteristics and conveying the profound connotation of Chinese culture. Most of these idioms adopt their derived meanings, and there is a cultural gap in English, so the translation should be contextualized.

For example, "筚路蓝缕" is from "Zuo Zhuan", which originally means to drive a worn-out diesel car and wear shabby clothes to explore the mountain roads. In the 2019 *Government Work Report*, this idiom is a metaphor for the arduous efforts of the general public and cadres in reform and development, so it is translated as "perseverance and hard work" in the context. If we translate it as "drive a cart in ragged clothes to blaze a new trail" without considering, it will make readers from other countries unaware of what is going on.

More use of idioms in government documents, combined with in-depth study of the translation problems, will benefit the spread of Chinese culture. It requires the translator to have extremely

high linguistic and cultural literacy, breaking the inherent notion that English learners do not need to learn the language well. Today, people no longer emphasize the authenticity of English but demand more integration of English with local culture.

Table 3. Statistics of idioms

Item	Translation	Quoted allusion
思危方能居安	Only alertness to danger will ensure safety	The Zuo Zhuan· Eleventh Year of Xiang Gong
恪尽职守	shoulder our responsibility	Arts of War
三百六十行	a vast range of	White rabbit · joining the army written by anonymous person in Ming Dynasty
雪中送炭	provide help when they need it most	Send charcoal to JieYin on snowy day
筚路蓝缕	perseverance and hard work	Zuo Zhuan· Twelfth Years of Xuangong
风雨同舟	stood together	Arts of War · The Nine Situations
守望相助	stood together in the most trying of times	Mencius · The Duke Wen of Teng
坚如磐石	the unity remains rock solid	Peacock's Flying Southeast
任重道远	have a long way to go	The Analects of Confucius·TaiBo
半壁江山	accounting for more than half	Holly · Outline
趋利避害	to seek benefit and avoid harm	To the General Liang Shang
持之以恒	through tireless efforts	Family Precepts for Fuji
逆水行舟，不进则退	sailing against the current: you either forge ahead or drift downstream.	Scholarly Speech at the Welcome Meeting of Ticket Dealers in Shanxi
浴火重生	reinvigorate the economy and ensure its dynamic growth	Phoenix Nirvana
一举多得	There is much to be gained in this	Book of Jin· The Legend of Shu Xi
重于泰山	is of paramount importance	Report to Ren Shaoqing
夙夜在公	fulfill all their duties	The Book of Poetry
和衷共济	share in a common cause	The Book of History· the Thought of HaoTao
名列前茅	China outpace most other economies	Zuo Zhuan· Twelfth Years of Xuangong
节用裕民	keep government spending low and enrich our people	Xunzi
咬定青山不放松	make dedicated efforts	Bamboo Stone
因地制宜	base measures on local circumstances	The Annals of Kingdoms of Wu and Yue
千方百计	do all we can	ZhuZi YuLei
轻装上阵	reduce the financial burden on	Wen Wei Po
壮士断腕	with the courage to make painful self-adjustments	Records of the Three Kingdoms
披荆斩棘	overcome all odds	Book of Later Han ·biography of FengYi
铺天盖地	burgeoning nationwide	The Sequel ChuanDeng Record
顶天立地	growing mighty	Wu Deng Hui Yuan
精益求精	tirelessly seek improvement	The Analects of Confucius

锲而不舍	continue doing	XunZi
纸上谈兵	just push paper and pay lip service	Records of the Historian
同心协力	work closely with the people	Faults of Qin
焕然一新	full of new drive	Anthology of the GuXi lay Buddhist
安不忘危	when all is calm forget not danger	The Book of Changes
尽心竭力	give our work all we've got	Master Lü's Spring and Autumn Annals
坚忍不拔	(with determination)that won't be broken	Chao Cuo Theory
承上启下	continue to implement	<u>The Book of Rites</u>
量力而行	do everything within our capacity	<u>The Zuo Zhuan·Fifteenth Year of Xiang Gong</u>
尽力而为	do everything within our capacity	Mencius
统筹兼顾	take coordinated action	Prince Zhong LiXiuCheng
大有可为	making things happen	Modern Times: A Brief History of Enlightenment
繁文缛节	outdated rules and regulations	
坚定不移	China is committed to	Comprehensive Mirror for Aid in Government
千帆竞发	everyone is motivated and driven to get things done	A Reply to Bai Juyi's Poem at Our Meeting in Yangzhou
百舸争流	everyone is motivated and driven to get things done	Spring in a pleasure Garden Changsha
根深叶茂	deeply rooted as an evergreen	Ode to the Uprising
休戚与共	share a common future and a common stake	Records of the Three Kingdoms
举世瞩目	impressive	Fisherman
一视同仁	enjoy the same treatment	Yuanren
铭之肺腑	never lose sight of this	Old Tang Book
上下同欲者胜	Success belongs to those who share, from top to bottom, in one purpose.	The Art of War
相得益彰	reinforce each other	Book of Han
相辅相成	reinforce each other	

5.2.4. "War" Related Expressions

Table 4. Statistics of "War" related expressions

Item	Frequency	Translation
三大攻坚战	10	The three critical battles
蓝天, 碧水, 净土保卫战	6	all-out fight to keep our skies blue, our waters clear, and our land pollution-free
脱贫攻坚战	4	the war against poverty
蓝天保卫战	2	make our skies blue again
总体战阻击战	1	all-out people's war against the virus
武汉和湖北保卫战	1	battle to defend Hubei Province and its capital city Wuhan
挂牌督战	1	were placed under special supervision
污染防治攻坚战	1	pollution prevention and control for the current stage
核心技术攻坚战	1	make major breakthroughs in core technologies in key fields
国有企业提质增效攻坚战	1	upgrading them and improving their performance

Based on the functional characteristics of the text of the *Government Work Report*, the author found that among the words with strong political color, the expression of "XX war" accounted for a high proportion. Such expressions can make the vocabulary more vivid and show our determination while ensuring expression concise, such as, "攻坚战", "保卫战" and so on. Such expressions can not only highly generalize the political meaning and policy concepts expressed, but also show the national conditions and development determination of our country vividly. In the translation, literal translations such as "battle, fight, war" are mostly applied, but a few adopt the transformation method to translate their content in substance, such as "污染防治攻坚战" is translated to "pollution prevention and control for the current stage".

5.2.5. "Spirit" Related Expressions

"Every era has its spiritual background." "Spirit" related expressions are closely associated with the social environment background at that time, and to a large extent reflect the social spirituality and topical issues.

Under the background of China's industrial transformation, China's manufacturing has gradually turned to China's intelligent manufacturing, and innovation has become the new driving force for the development of the times. The spirit of entrepreneurship and craftsmanship has been mentioned many times in the *Government Work Report*, reflecting that innovation is the hot social ethos and phenomenon.

Table 5. Statistics of "Spirit" related expressions

Items	Frequency	Translation
党中央八项规定精神	6	the CPC Central Committee's eight-point decision on improving Party
企业家精神	5	entrepreneurialism
工匠精神	3	Craftsmanship spirit (workmanship)
科学精神	2	the spirit of science
人民首创精神	2	the pioneering drive of the people
劳模精神	2	model worker work ethic (a role-model work ethic)
古田全军政治工作会议精神	1	guiding principles adopted at the military's meeting on political work held in Gutian, Fujian.
担当精神	1	willingness to bear the weight of responsibility
专业精神	1	professionalism
人文精神	1	the spirit of humanity
奋斗精神	1	the spirit of struggle
民族精神	1	spirit of the Chinese nation
抗疫精神	1	the great spirit forged in the battle against Covid-19
"十年磨一剑"精神	1	as a blacksmith in the past would spend years forging the perfect sword

For another example, in the context of the global epidemic in 2021, the 2021 *Government Work Report* mentioned the great anti-epidemic spirit. How to dispel the smearing impression of the international community on the Chinese people's backward thinking, the translation of this kind of spirit plays a very important role. Besides, the correct and ingenious translation allows the international community to see the new spirit of the Chinese people in the new era. For example, when translating the word "工匠", the word "Craftsmanship" is chosen instead of "artisan", because the core of "工匠精神" is dedication, excellence, concentration, etc., while artisan is more inclined to describe dexterity, which is not in line with the core of "工匠精神".

To make the international community understand the Chinese spirit, it is necessary to improve the quality of foreign translations, spread Chinese culture to the world through translations, interpret Chinese culture in a form that other countries and people can accept, understand and share. Use translation as a link to bring our country closer to other countries and meet the needs of our cultural communication in the new era.

6. Conclusion

There is a long way to build an overseas-targeted publicity discourse system with Chinese cultural characteristics. Vocabulary with Chinese cultural characteristics is one of the essential manifestations of Chinese culture and the most fundamental part of building a Chinese discourse system. Studying its translation strategy serves a vital purpose in promoting Chinese culture "going out" and telling the Chinese story well.

Currently, the international community is full of misunderstandings about China against the backdrop of the epidemic. The *Government Work Report* is one of the major channels for foreign readers to get a comprehensive understanding of China's values and actual national conditions, including the daily life and historical background of our people. The discourse that describes China's current development path and demonstrates the country's comprehensive strength contains China's unique cultural values and a Chinese saying that has universal significance for world development.

In the context of constructing a discourse system with Chinese cultural characteristics and vigorously spreading Chinese culture, translators should pay attention to the influence of Chinese and Western social and cultural differences on language, in addition to the clever conversion of language. Adopt appropriate English translation strategies to give full play to the language.

At the same time, translators should "retain less flattery" and adopt the strategy of preserving cultural images as much as possible to highlight the unique charm of Chinese culture, rather than blindly pursuing localization of translation. Not only is this to let the international community understand China's development status, governing philosophy, and political system, but it also provides a platform to improve China's soft power, so that China's voice can effectively echo in the center of the world stage.

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