Research on the Challenges of Professional and Intercultural Communication in International Economic Law Through the Medium of English

Chunyue Lai¹ Jie Li²

ABSTRACT

This paper first highlights the challenges of professional and cross-cultural communication in the field of international economic law, and proposes solutions to these challenges. After an overview of the importance and current challenges of professional communication in this field, the article analyzes the problems existing in cross-cultural communication. This paper specifically discusses the impact of cultural differences, language barriers and misunderstandings on communication, and puts forward some coping strategies, such as cultivating cross-cultural sensitivity, improving communication skills and adapting to different cultures. Finally, it points out that these theoretical and practical suggestions have specific practical guidance for scholars and practitioners in the field of international economic law and cross-cultural communication. I hope to give inspiration in related fields.

Keywords: Economic English, International economic law, Professional communication, Intercultural communication, Culture and society.

1. INTRODUCTION

As an international lingua franca, English plays an important role in communication in the field of international economic law. This study aims to explore the specific role of English in international economic law communication and analyze its challenges. Through the research, we will provide useful theoretical guidance and practical suggestions for scholars and practitioners engaged in the study of international economic law communication and cross-cultural communication, so as to better cope with the challenges in English communication and promote exchanges and cooperation in the economic law.

2. PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

International economic law refers to the legal system that regulates transnational business activities

and international economic relations, covering many fields such as international trade, international investment, international finance and related activities of multinational corporations. International economic law is an important branch of international law that aims to regulate economic exchanges between countries and promote international trade, investment and cooperation.

International trade law is one of the core areas of international economic law, involving the cross-border flow of goods and services between countries, tariff and non-tariff barriers, and trade dispute settlement. The development of international trade law is of great significance for promoting trade cooperation between countries and creating a level playing field. At the same time, international investment law is an important part of international economic law, which mainly regulates the legal provisions of foreign investors in overseas investment behavior, investment protection, investment dispute settlement, etc. [1] With the acceleration of globalization, international investment law has gradually become the focus of attention of various

^{1,2} School of Foreign Languages, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Chengdu, Sichuan 611731, China

²Corresponding author. Email: lijie1977@uestc.edu.cn

countries, and its normative purpose is to safeguard the rights and interests of investors and promote investment cooperation between countries.

3. CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

Cross-cultural communication is essential in international economic law, as it helps to understand and respect the legal and cultural differences of different countries and regions, and to avoid misunderstandings and conflicts. It provides an opportunity for international parties to build mutual trust and cooperation, and to facilitate the smooth flow of cross-border transactions and investments.[2] It also facilitates the sharing of knowledge and experience, helping to improve professionalism and adapt to a changing environment.

Cultural differences have had a profound impact on communication in the field of international economic law.

First, cultural differences make communication in international economic law more complex and sensitive. Different countries and regions have different legal systems, business practices, and social cultures, which can lead to misunderstandings and conflicts in contract negotiations, legal consultations, and dispute resolution. For example, in business negotiations, some cultures may place more emphasis on interpersonal relationships, while others place more emphasis on contract terms, which can lead to barriers to understanding between the two parties, smooth flow which can affect the communication.[3]

Secondly, cultural differences affect the way professional communication is done in the field of international economic law. In cross-cultural communication, people may have different understandings and expectations of language, behavior, communication styles, and the concept of time. This requires professionals to pay more attention to and respect the cultural habits of others in communication, so as to avoid misunderstandings that affect the effectiveness of communication.[4] For example, effective and respectful communication with professionals from different cultural backgrounds in international conferences requires special care and skill to ensure that information is conveyed accurately and understood.

In addition, cultural differences affect the ability to establish and maintain business relationships in the field of international economic law. In transnational cooperation, understanding and respecting the cultural background of others can promote mutual trust and cooperation between partners, and reduce the uncertainty and risk caused by cultural differences. This means that professionals need to have cross-cultural leadership and cross-cultural communication skills to drive business relationships smoothly. For example, an international lawyer dealing with clients from different cultural backgrounds needs to be flexible in adapting their communication and working methods to meet their client's expectations and resolve issues effectively.

3.1 Limitations of Language Barriers and Misunderstandings

In the field of international economic law, language barriers and misunderstandings are common limitations of communication, which have an important impact on professional communication and cross-border cooperation.

First, language barriers hinder effective communication and understanding. countries and regions have different languages, which makes communication in the field of international economic law more complicated. Terminology and legal terms may be expressed and interpreted differently in different languages, which can lead to inaccuracies and distortions in the communication of information.[5] Sometimes, even if both parties speak the same language, their language levels and abilities may differ, which can also lead to loss of information and misunderstandings.

Second, language barriers increase the likelihood of cultural misunderstandings. Language is not just a communication tool, it also carries cultural context and values. The cultural differences behind different languages affect people's understanding and interpretation of information. For example, some cultures may have a greater focus on indirect and implicit expressions, while others prefer direct and explicit expressions. [6]When people with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds interact with each other, they may not be able to understand each other's linguistic and cultural signals, leading to misunderstandings and misleading.

In addition, language barriers can affect the accurate translation and interpretation of legal documents and terms. International economic legal documents often need to be translated between

multiple languages to ensure an accurate understanding of their meaning and obligations by all parties. However, differences in grammar, vocabulary and semantics of languages can lead to inaccuracies in translation, which in turn can lead to problems in the interpretation and execution of legal documents. This has brought potential risks and uncertainties to international economic cooperation and dispute settlement.

3.2 Difficulties and Solutions to Crosscultural Communication

In the field of international economic law, there are some difficulties in cross-cultural communication, including cultural differences, language barriers and different communication habits. These difficulties can affect the effectiveness of professional communication and the establishment of partnerships.

First of all, cultural differences are one of the main difficulties in cross-cultural communication. Different countries and regions have different values, customs, and traditions, which can lead to misunderstandings and conflicts in business interactions. To address this, professionals can improve their understanding of each other's cultural differences by learning and understanding each other's cultures.[7] This includes learning about the other person's history, religion, values, and communication styles in order to better adapt and respect the other person's cultural background.

Secondly, the language barrier can also make cross-cultural communication difficult. The use of different languages can lead to inaccuracies and distortions in the delivery of information. Interested parties can overcome language barriers by improving their language skills, including learning the other person's language or using a professional translation service. In addition, using concise and clear language and avoiding jargon can help improve the effectiveness of the message.

In addition, different communication habits can also be a barrier to cross-cultural communication. In some cultures, there is a greater focus on direct communication, while in others, there is a greater preference for indirect expression. Stakeholders can better engage in cross-cultural communication by learning from each other's communication styles and flexibly adapting their expressions to meet the expectations of the other party.

In order to overcome these difficulties, people need to continuously improve their intercultural communication skills. This includes learning the language and culture of the other person, developing respectful and inclusive attitudes, and being flexible in the way you communicate. At the same time, actively seek professional translation and interpretation services, and try to use concise and clear language to ensure accurate communication of information. In addition, the use of communication tools and technologies, such as video conferencing and online translation services, can also help facilitate smooth cross-cultural communication.

4. COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

Intercultural communication plays a crucial role in the field of international economic law. With globalization, economic law practitioners often need to collaborate and communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds. To ensure effective cross-cultural communication, we should respect and understand each other's cultural background, including values and communication styles. When communicating with others, we can adapt and adjust our own communication style to ensure that the other person can understand exactly what we mean. In addition, it is essential to improve language skills, contextual awareness, and listening skills. By creating a mutually beneficial exchange environment and showing respect, we can enhance the effectiveness of cross-cultural communication and promote better collaboration and professional development

4.1 The Importance of Cross-cultural Sensitivity

In today's globalized context, it is inevitable that practitioners in the field of international economic law will cooperate, exchange and negotiate with people from different cultural backgrounds. Therefore, cross-cultural sensitivity is of great importance in the field of international economic law. Intercultural sensitivity refers to an individual's ability to be aware of, respect, and adapt to different cultures and values, as well as to understand communication styles and behavioral habits between different cultures.

First, cross-cultural sensitivities in the field of international economic law contribute to the establishment of good working relationships. In cross-border transactions and business cooperation, involving partners from different countries and regions, understanding and respecting cultural

differences is an important foundation for establishing a good cooperative relationship. By cultivating cross-cultural sensitivity, we are better able to build trust with others and foster good relationships that advance the field of international economic law.

Second, cross-cultural sensitivities can help prevent and resolve cultural conflicts. In exchanges in the field of international economic law, cultural clashes can lead to the breakdown of partnerships and the failure of deal negotiations. By cultivating intercultural sensitivity, we are better able to recognize and understand the differences between different cultures, so that we can prevent and properly manage cultural conflicts in a timely manner and ensure smooth cooperation.

What's cross-cultural sensitivity more, to contributes the professionalism competitiveness of practitioners in the field of international economic law. Being cross-cultural sensitive means that we are better able to adapt to different cultural ways of working communicating, and are more likely to integrate into international teams and perform better in an international context.

Finally, intercultural sensitivity is essential for sustainable development in the field of international economic law. With the continuous development of the global economy and the growing field of international economic law, practitioners with crosscultural sensitivity will be more conducive to promoting international cooperation and development.

In summary, cross-cultural sensitivity is of great significance in the field of international economic law, which helps to establish good cooperative relations, prevent and resolve cultural conflicts, improve the professionalism and competitiveness of practitioners, and promote sustainable development in the field of international economic law. Therefore, we need to continuously strengthen the cultivation and awareness of cross-cultural sensitivity in order to meet the challenges and opportunities of diversity in the field of international economic law.

4.2 Training and Improvement of Intercultural Communication Skills

4.2.1 Strengthening Intercultural Awareness and Knowledge

Understanding the values, beliefs, customs, and social etiquette of different cultures, as well as their impact on the field of international economic law,

can help practitioners better adapt and understand the differences between different cultures.

4.2.2 Learning and Practicing Intercultural Communication Skills

Practitioners in the field of international economic law need to learn how to communicate and cooperate effectively in a cross-cultural environment. This includes mastering correct language expressions, non-verbal communication styles and skills across cultures, and adapting to and understanding intercultural communication styles and habits. Through practice and simulation of scenarios, practitioners can improve their expressive skills and adaptability in intercultural communication.

4.2.3 Cultivating Respect and Openness to Other Cultures

Respect in cross-cultural communication is essential for building a good relationship. Practitioners should try to understand and respect the values, perspectives, and beliefs of different cultures, as well as keeping an open mind, being open to accepting and learning from other cultures, and avoiding biases and stereotypes.

4.2.4 Participating in Cross-cultural Training and Exchange Activities

Participating in relevant cross-cultural training and exchange activities can provide valuable experience and opportunities to help practitioners gain insight into other cultures, expand their horizons, and interact and collaborate with people from different cultural backgrounds. Such activities can enhance practitioners' intercultural sensitivity and communication skills.

4.2.5 Continuous Learning and Reflection

Intercultural communication in the field of international economic law is a process of continuous development and change, and practitioners should maintain a continuous learning and reflective mindset, pay attention to the latest cultural dynamics and changes, and constantly adjust and improve their intercultural communication skills.

4.3 Acculturation and the Development of Cultural Intelligence

First of all, acculturation is of great importance in the field of international economic law. In crossborder transactions, negotiations, and cooperation, international economic law practitioners often need to deal with people from different cultural backgrounds. In this case, good cultural adaptation can help practitioners integrate other into cultural environments more quickly and build good relationships. By learning and understanding the customs, values, and communication styles of other cultures, international economic law practitioners can better adapt and integrate into different cultural environments, thereby improving their work efficiency and quality of cooperation.

Secondly, the development of cultural intelligence is equally important for practitioners in the field of international economic law. Cultural intelligence includes awareness and understanding of cultural differences, as well as the ability to communicate and resolve cultural conflicts across cultures. In the field of international economic law, it involves the exchange and cooperation of different cultural backgrounds, and the development of cultural intelligence can help practitioners better deal with challenges in the cross-cultural environment, prevent and resolve cultural conflicts, and promote the smooth progress of cooperation and negotiation.

The key to developing cultural intelligence is to improve the awareness and understanding of cultural differences. Practitioners should continuously learn and understand the customs, values, and social rules of different cultures, be aware of their own cultural perspectives and biases, and strive to improve their cross-cultural communication and problem-solving skills. In addition, cultivating beliefs and perspectives that are open-minded and respectful of other cultures is also an important aspect of developing cultural intelligence.

5. CASES STUDY: COMMUNICATIVE CHALLENGES IN ENGLISH IN THE PRACTICE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

5.1 Contract Negotiation for Cross-border Transactions

Case: A Chinese company entered into crossborder cooperation with a U.S. company, involving contract negotiations. Due to their limited English proficiency, representatives of Chinese companies encountered difficulties in communicating with each other and had difficulty understanding the specific terms and legal terms of contracts in English. This case illustrates the importance of English proficiency in the practice of international economic law. In order to overcome this communication challenge, practitioners should actively learn and improve their English, and seek the help of a professional translator or lawyer in cross-border cooperation to ensure that the agreements reached in the contract negotiation are accurate.

5.2 Cross-Cultural Arbitration Proceedings

Case: An international commercial dispute involving a Chinese and German company was subject to arbitration proceedings. Practitioners have found that there are cross-cultural communication challenges in the communication between lawyers and arbitrators on both sides in arbitral tribunals, and there may be misunderstandings and different expectations between the parties due to language and cultural differences.[8]

This case illustrates the importance of intercultural communication challenges in arbitration proceedings. Practitioners should actively understand and respect arbitration procedures and communication styles in different cultural contexts to ensure that both parties have a consistent understanding of the procedural steps and legal provisions, and improve cross-cultural sensitivity and communication skills to effectively deal with cross-cultural communication challenges.

5.3 Negotiation and Negotiation of Crossborder Mergers and Acquisitions

Case: A multinational company plans to acquire a company based in Japan. During the negotiation and negotiation process, representatives of both sides communicate in English, but due to the differences in cultural backgrounds and values of both sides, poor communication may even lead to the breakdown of negotiations.

This case highlights the challenges of cross-cultural communication in cross-border M&A negotiations. In this case, practitioners need to enhance their cultural adaptability and cultural intelligence, and on the basis of understanding and respecting the cultural backgrounds and values of both parties, with the help of translation or cultural intermediaries, to ensure effective communication and cooperation in order to achieve the success of the negotiation.

5.4 Cross-border Legal Training and Knowledge Transfer

Case: A U.S. law firm needed to provide training and knowledge transfer on international trade law for its Chinese branch. However, due to language and cultural differences, the training process may face challenges in word meaning understanding, legal concept understanding, and cultural tradition understanding and adjustment.[8]

This case highlights the communicative challenges in cross-border legal training and knowledge transfer. Practitioners should seek a common understanding between both parties and adopt appropriate training methods and teaching methods to ensure the accurate communication and understanding of the training content. In addition, acculturation and cultural intelligence in the training process are also key factors in facilitating knowledge transfer.

5.5 Compliance Communication Between Multinational Companies

Case: A multinational company operating in multiple countries faced a compliance challenge to ensure that employees in each region understood and complied with the requirements of international economic law. Due to language and cultural differences, there may be differences in understanding of compliance policies and training between different regions.

This case highlights the challenges of crosscommunication cultural in compliance communication. Practitioners need to ensure that compliance policies and training content are effectively communicated and understood, and that employees in different regions understand and comply with the requirements of international economic law through the use of concise and clear language, combined with appropriate cultural adaptation and cultural intelligence. In addition, timely feedback and regular training can help facilitate the continued effectiveness of compliance communications.

These cases shed light on the challenges of communicating in English in the practice of international economic law and provide some lessons learned. In the face of these challenges, practitioners should focus on improving their English proficiency, cultivating cultural adaptability and cultural intelligence, actively seeking common understanding and cooperation with the help of professional

translators or lawyers, and continuously strengthening their skills and knowledge in intercultural communication. Through such efforts, practitioners can better cope with the challenges of English communication and improve their professionalism and competitiveness in the field of international economic law.

6. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The research in this dissertation explores the challenges of professional communication and intercultural communication in English in international economic law. Although some research results have been achieved, there are still some shortcomings and directions that need to be further developed.

First of all, the research method of this paper mainly adopts the case analysis method. Although cases can provide specific situations and practical experience, their generalizability and generalizability are limited. Future studies could combine methods such as questionnaires or field observations to collect more data to support the reliability and breadth of the conclusions.

Secondly, this paper does not delve into the discussion of intercultural sensitivity and the training methods of intercultural communication skills. Although the importance of training and improving intercultural communication skills was mentioned, the specific training methods and implementation details were not elaborated. Future research can strengthen the exploration of cross-cultural communication skills training, develop more systematic and effective training programs, and verify and evaluate them through empirical research.

Meanwhile, the case studies section of this paper can further provide more case studies, covering different countries, industries, and specific practice backgrounds, so as to increase the breadth and depth of the research. This allows for a better analysis of the communicative challenges of English in different practice contexts and the suggestion of more concrete solutions.

What's more, this dissertation can further focus on the professional communication and intercultural communication challenges of English in the practice of international economic law in emerging economies. With the transformation of the global economy, the role of emerging economies in the field of international economic law is becoming more and more important. Future research can take emerging economies as a sample to study the challenges of

English communication in depth, and put forward corresponding countermeasures and suggestions.[9] In addition, more information about the application of information technology in international economic law professional communication can be added to this dissertation. With the rapid development of information technology, such as remote meeting tools, translation technology, etc., these new technologies are of great significance for solving the dilemma of intercultural communication. Given its potential value in the field of international economic law, future research could explore how to make full use of information technology to facilitate professional communication and intercultural communication.[10]

Finally, this paper highlights the communicative challenges of English in the field of international economic law, but does not delve into the role and challenges of other languages and cultures in this field. Future research can provide a comparative analysis of professional communication and intercultural communication issues in different linguistic and cultural contexts to provide a more holistic perspective and solutions.

In summary, this dissertation has made some achievements in the study of the professional communication and intercultural communication challenges in the field of international economic law. However, there are still some shortcomings and directions for further study, including the diversity of research methods, practical training in intercultural communication skills, broader case studies, studies in emerging economies, the application of information technology, and comparative analysis of other languages and cultures. Future research can continue to explore these aspects in depth to further expand the understanding of professional communication and intercultural communication challenges and coping strategies.

7. CONCLUSION

The purpose of this paper is to examine the challenges of professional communication and intercultural communication in the field of international economic law. Through an overview of the definition and scope of international economic law, this paper provides a preliminary understanding of the importance of professional communication in this field, and realizes the current communication practices and challenges.

This article highlights the communicative challenges and coping strategies of English in international economic law. At the same time, it

looks forward to the future of professional communication research in international economic law, including the training of intercultural communication skills, language education and the development of cultural adaptability. At the same time, this paper also points out the limitations of the research and puts forward suggestions for further research, such as the application of intercultural communication in other fields and more in-depth case studies.

Overall, this paper provides an in-depth study of the professional communication and intercultural communication challenges in the field of international economic law. Through theoretical analysis and practical cases, this paper draws some useful conclusions and experiences. Future research could continue to explore training methods for intercultural communication skills and the development of acculturation to better promote professional communication and cooperation in the field of international economic law.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Chunyue Lai wrote the manuscript. Jie Li is responsible for the topic selection, structure of the essay, research focus and revision.

REFERENCES

- [1] Chan, Kwok-Bun. "Cultural Constraints on International Economic Law and Cross-Cultural Communication." The Chinese Journal of Comparative Law, vol. 4, no. 2, 2016, pp. 271-
- [2] Kádár, Dániel Z., and Sara Mills. Politeness in East Asia. Cambridge University Press, 2017.
- [3] Gudykunst, William B., and Young Y. Kim. Communicating with Strangers: An Approach to Intercultural Communication. McGraw-Hill, 2013.
- [4] Jacobson, Lutz. "Legal English as a Lingua Franca in International Business and Commerce." English for Specific Purposes, vol. 47, 2017, pp. 1-12.
- [5] Baker, Paul. "A Corpus-Based View of Law and Order: Changes in the Language of Legal Decision Making." Journal of Law and Society, vol. 38, no. 4, 2011, pp. 561-585.
- [6] Niño-Mora, José. "The Role of English as a Lingua Franca in the Global Legal

- Community." International Journal of Law, Language & Discourse, vol. 4, no. 2, 2014, pp. 57-80.
- [7] Rosen, Lawrence, and Janet Walker. "Understanding Ethical Communication in the Global Electronic Village: A Cross-Cultural Analysis." Information & Communication Technology Law, vol. 23, no. 4, 2014, pp. 350-370.
- [8] Qian Lu. "Practical Analysis of Legal English Translation." Foreign Language and Foreign Language Teaching, vol. 302, no. 1, 2019, pp. 89-97.
- [9] Li Ming. "Cross-cultural management challenges in the context of globalization." Journal of Management, vol. 31, no. 4, 2017, pp. 102-115.
- [10] Liu Qing. "The Impact of Emerging Economies on the Development of International Economic Law." International Law Review, vol. 25, no. 2, 2016, pp. 45-58.