Collaboration in Literary Translation

[Quantitative data from an online survey entitled "Collaboration in Literary Translation", distributed through the professional associations of literary translation in Denmark, Norway and Sweden, in 2015.]

BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

Q1: Are you a member of a professional association of literary translators? (187 responses)

- Yes	93.6%
- No	6.4%

Q2: Year of birth? (189 responses)

- 1930-39	5.3%
- 1940-49	32.8%
- 1950-59	17.5%
- 1960-69	24.3%
- 1970-79	15.3%
- 1980-89	4.8%
- 1990-	0.0%

Q3: Gender? (188 responses)

- Male	35.6%
- Female	64.4%

LANGUAGE COMBINATIONS

Q4: Which language(s) do you translate from (as a literary translator)? (183 responses)

In every row.	tick:	Primarily/Occasionally

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- English	78.2% / 21.8%
- Danish	39.6% / 60.4%
- Norwegian	43.5% / 56.5%
- Swedish	61.4% / 38.6%
- Finnish	100.0% / 0.0%
- Scandinavian languages	100.0% / 0.0%
- German	57.9% / 42.1%
- French	66.7% / 33.3%
- Spanish	64.7% / 35.3%
- Italian	57.9% / 42.1%
- Other	75.0% / 25.0%

- If other languages, please specify (44 comments)

Q5: Which language do you translate into? (184 responses)

- Danish	25.5%
- Swedish	35.3%
- Norwegian	33.2%
- Other	6.0%

- If other languages, please specify (23 comments)

Q6: Do the authors whose texts you translate understand the language you are translating into? (187 responses)

- Usually	5.3%
- Sometimes	20.3%
- Seldom	32.1%
- Never	43.3%

PRIMARY/SECONDARY OCCUPATION

Q7: Is literary translation your (183 responses)

- Primary occupation 52.5%- Secondary occupation 33.9%- Occasional occupation 13.7%

Q8: If secondary or occasional, what are your other occupations? (87 responses)

- Other types of translating activity

(interpreting, subtitling, non-literary translation)	35.6%
- Teaching	21.8%
- Research	18.4%
- Publishing sector	12.6%
- Other	44.8%

⁻ *If other, please specify* (62 comments)

Q9: Approximately how many titles (novels / longer texts) do you translate per year? (180 responses)

- 1	26.1%
- 2	27.9%
- 3	17.8%
- 4	15.6%
- 5	6.7%
- 6	1.7%
- 7	4.4%

⁻ *If short stories, poetry or essays, approximately how many pages per year?* (43 comments)

YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A LITERARY TRANSLATOR

Q10: How many years have you worked as a literary translator? (175 responses)

- 1-5 years	9.7%
- 5-10 years	17.1%
- 10-20 years	26.9%
- 20-30 years	24.6%
- 30-40 years	21.7%

Q11: Approximately how many titles have you translated? (174 responses)

- 1-5 titles 9.2% - 5-10 titles 5.7% - 10-20 titles 17.2% - 20-30 titles 14.9% - 30-40 titles 10.3% - 40 or more titles 42.5%

Q12: Which kind of literature do you translate? (182 responses)

Q13: If fiction, which kind?

Please tick one in every row: Usually/Sometimes/Seldom/Never

- Contemporary literary fiction

 (not straightforward genre fiction)
 75.8% / 18.0% / 3.7% / 2.5%

 - Classics
 11.1% / 30.8% / 17.9% / 40.2%

 - Crime-thriller-suspense
 20.3% / 26.6% / 24.2% / 28.9%

 - Poetry
 12.4% / 21.5% / 28.9% / 37.2%

 - Children-youth
 26.3% / 27.8% / 23.3% / 22.6%

 - Drama texts
 5.5% / 19.1% / 21.8% / 53.6%

- Other genres

(fantasy, sci-fi, erotic novels etc.) 5.3% / 16.8% / 28.3% / 49.6%

YOUR COLLABORATION WITH THE AUTHORS

Q14: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Ideally, the translator should have contact with the author whose texts he/she translates" (182 responses)

Definitely agree
Mainly agree
It depends
Mainly no
Definitely not
12.6%
1.1%

Q15: Do you have contact with "your" authors? (181 responses)

- Usually
 - Sometimes
 - Seldom
 - Never
 20.4%
 42.0%
 11.6%

⁻ If short stories, poetry or essays, approximately how many pages? (42 comments)

⁻ Feel free to comment further if you clicked "it depends" (57 comments)

LITTLE OR NO CONTACT WITH THE AUTHORS

Q16: Why do you have little or no contact with the authors? (67 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Don't feel the need 69.6% / 19.6% / 3.6% / 7.1% - Time pressure 16.7% / 25.0% / 20.8% / 37.5% - Don't want to expose my doubts 6.4% / 6.4% / 10.6% / 76.6% - Don't want the author to interfere in my work 12.2% / 12.2% / 14.3% / 61.2% - Don't want to bother the author 21.2% / 30.8% / 7.7% / 40.4% - The author doesn't answer my request 6.1% / 14.3% / 22.4% / 57.1% - The author is dead 17.5% / 31.6% / 15.8% / 35.1%

- Other reasons (12 comments)

Q17: Do you miss the contact with the authors? (68 responses)

- *Yes* 35.3% - *No* 64.7%

Q18: Which issues would have been important for you to discuss with "your" authors? Rank the following options from A = most important to D = least important. Please use each letter once only. (66 responses)

In every row, tick: $A \ / B \ / C \ / D$ - Information $66.2\% \ / \ 20.0\% \ / \ 7.7\% \ / \ 6.4\%$ - Interpretation $26.2\% \ / \ 36.1\% \ / \ 16.4\% \ / \ 21.3\%$ - "Bonding" $5.2\% \ / \ 20.7\% \ / \ 20.7\% \ / \ 53.4\%$ - Translation strategies $12.2\% \ / \ 12.2\% \ / \ 14.3\% \ / \ 61.2\%$

- Other issues (4 comments)

WAYS OF COMMUNICATING WITH THE AUTHORS

Q19: Who initiates the contact with the authors? (110 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never
- I, the translator 82.6% / 12.8% / 2.8% / 1.8%
- The publishing house 9.6% / 28.8% / 26.0% / 35.6%
- The author 3.0% / 17.9% / 26.9% / 52.2%

- Other actors (3 comments)

Q20: How do you communicate with the authors? (111 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never - Letter 12.1% / 10.6% / 25.8% / 51.5% - Email 93.6% / 3.6% / 1.8% / 0.9% - Phone 4.3% / 24.3% / 30.0% / 41.4% - Face to face 10.8% / 38.6% / 36.1% / 14.5% - Skype 0.0% / 7.7% / 4.6% / 87.7% - Facebook 5.7% / 17.1% / 12.9% / 64.3% 0.0% / 1.6% / 6.3% / 92.1% - Blog

- Other means? (2 comments)

Q21: Is your communication with the author? (111 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

Personal
 Collective
 A combination of personal and collective
 92.8% / 6.3% / 0.9% / 0.0%
 0.0% / 12.3% / 18.5% / 69.1%
 1.3% / 7.7% / 16.7% / 74.4%

CONTENT OF THE COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUTHORS

Q22: What is the communication about? (105 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never
- Information 76.7% / 19.4% / 2.9% / 1.0%
- Interpretation 35.1% / 26.6% / 24.5% / 13.8%
- "Bonding" 12.4% / 24.7% / 19.1% / 43.8%
- Translate 17.2% / 24.7% / 29.0% / 29.0%

- Other issues? (6 comments)

Q23: If "your" authors comment on translation strategies, what do they advocate / emphasize? (87 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Fidelity 10.8% / 32.4% / 25.7% / 31.1%

- Equivalence 37.3% / 31.3% / 10.8% / 20.5%

- Comprehensibility 36.3% / 27.5% / 16.3% / 20.0%

- Maintaining the foreignness of the source text 2.7% / 20.3% / 27.0% / 50.0%

- Creativity 7.8% / 24.7% / 18.2% / 49.4%

- Feel free to elaborate (22 comments)

Q24: Rank the different issues according to their importance to you (from A = most important to D = least important. Please use each letter once only) (99 responses)

Q25: Rank the issues according to how important they seem to the authors (95 responses)

 In every row, tick:
 A / B / C / D

 - Information
 55.9% / 29.0% / 11.8% / 3.2%

 - Interpretation
 38.3% / 47.9% / 10.6% / 3.2%

 - "Bonding"
 8.6% / 15.1% / 36.6% / 39.8%

 - Translate
 9.8% / 10.9% / 30.4% / 48.9%

MODES OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUTHORS

Q26: In which mode do the authors communicate? (98 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never
- Instructions 3.4% / 13.6% / 34.1% / 48.9%
- Recommendations 43.6% / 29.8% / 10.6% / 16.0%
- Dialogue 38.9% / 27.8% / 22.2% / 11.1%

- Please add or specify (18 comments)

Q27: How do you approach "your" authors? (102 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Asking open questions 39.6% / 32.3% / 15.6% / 12.5%

- Asking for advice 34.7% / 44.6% / 8.9% / 11.9%

- Asking for approval 22.0% / 40.0% / 22.0% / 16.0%

THE AUTHOR'S AND YOUR RELATION TO THE TEXT BEING TRANSLATED

Q28: How do you think the authors feel about you working on "their" text? (97 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never - "It is still my text and I want you to do so and so" 4.4% / 12.2% / 36.7% / 46.7% - "It is still my text. However, I trust you recreate its equivalent" 36.6% / 30.1% / 11.8% / 23.7% - "It is our text and we are in it together" 22.8% / 41.3% / 20.7% / 15.2% - "It is not my text any more but I will help you with the new text" 14.1% / 23.9% / 29.3% / 33.7% - "It is not my text any more; do what you find appropriate" 6.7% / 22.2% / 28.9% / 42.2%

- Feel free to add comments (16 comments)

Q29: And what do you, as the translator, feel about the text that you are working with? (99 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never - "It is my text now and I do what I find appropriate" 12.4% / 22.5% / 31.5% / 36.0%- "It is my text now but I will accept your help" 27.0% / 21.3% / 22.5% / 29.2%- "It is our text and we are in it together" 31.6% / 38.9% / 14.7% / 15.8%- "It is not my text, but I will try to recreate its equivalent" 55.3% / 25.5% / 5.3% / 13.8%- "It is not my text so it's ok if you tell me what to do" 11.2% / 21.3% / 25.8% / 41.6%

- Feel free to add comments (14 comments)

YOUR RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUTHOR

Q30: How do you find the collaboration / communication with the authors? (96 responses)

- Very useful
- Useful to a certain degree
- Not very useful
- Not useful at all
1.0%

- Please elaborate (19 comments)

Q31: To which extent do you follow the authors' instructions / suggestions? (97 responses)

- Usually 73.2%
 - Sometimes 25.8%
 - Seldom 1.0%

Q32: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "The authors' instructions / suggestions make me feel more confident about my translation choices" (97 responses)

Definitely agree 34.0%
Mainly agree 47.4%
It depends 12.4%
Mainly not 5.2%
Definitely not 1.0%

- If "it depends", please specify why (10 comments)

Q33: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "The authors' instructions / suggestions make me feel less free in my translation choices" (96 responses)

Definitely agree
Mainly agree
It depends
Mainly not
Definitely not
34.4%

- If "it depends", please specify why (4 comments)

Q34: Does "your" authors' knowledge / ignorance of the language you are translating into influence on how consistently you comply with their suggestions / instructions? (95 responses)

Yes 38.9%
 No 51.6%
 It depends 10.5%

- If "it depends", please specify why (12 comments)

YOUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AUTHORS

Q35: How do you see your relationship with the authors? (95 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- (Real) collaboration
 - Negotiation
 - Conflict
 - Subservience
 - (Real) collaboration
 - (8.4% / 20.0% / 8.4% / 3.2%
 - (8.1% / 20.9% / 37.2% / 33.7%
 - (9.0% / 1.2% / 15.1% / 83.7%
 - (9.0% / 1.2% / 15.1% / 84.9%

Q36: Please share a specific positive experience of collaboration with an author. (52 responses)

(52 comments)

Q37: Please share a specific negative experience of collaboration / interaction with the author. (46 responses) (46 comments)

COLLABORATION WITH THE PUBLISHING HOUSES

Q38: How do you communicate with the publishing houses? (164 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Letter 2.5% / 15.1% / 21.0% / 62.2% - Email 90.2% / 7.9% / 0.6% / 1.2% - Phone 22.1% / 58.4% / 17.4% / 4.0% - Face to face 12.6% / 48.3% / 31.5% / 8.4%

- Other means? (7 comments)

Q39: Do you have a regular contact person at the publishing house throughout the translation process? (166 responses)

- Usually
 - Sometimes
 - Seldom
 16.3%
 10.2%

Q40: How many agents representing the publishing house do you communicate with? (166 responses)

The editor at the publishing house
The copy editor/reviser
The proofreader
If overlapping roles
39.8%

INTERACTION WITH THE PUBLISHING HOUSES

Q41: About which issues do you communicate with the publishing house (not the copy editor)? (100 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

Deadline issues
 Economic issues
 Title, cover, illustrator
 Translator's note/preface/afterword
 Translation strategies
 67.3% / 20.4% / 9.2% / 3.1%
 52.0% / 30.6% / 13.3% / 4.1%
 25.3% / 39.4% / 25.3% / 10.1%
 Translator's note/preface/afterword
 6.4% / 23.4% / 37.2% / 33.0%

Q42: If you get instructions / guidelines regarding the translation from the publishing house, what do they touch upon? (95 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Specification of target reader 3.2% / 6.5% / 26.9% / 63.4%
- Style 7.5% / 16.1% / 18.3% / 58.1%
- Punctuation 6.4% / 17.0% / 24.5% / 52.1%
- Fluency 6.5% / 15.1% / 17.2% / 61.3%
- Need for explanation of foreign cultural items 2.1% / 14.9% / 35.1% / 47.9%

- Other issues? (4 comments)

THE (COPY) EDITORS' ASSESSMENT OF YOUR TRANSLATION

Q43: What do the editors comment on? Rank the options according to the frequency of the comments (A = most frequent; F = least frequent. Please use each letter once). (142 responses)

In every row, tick: $A \ / B \ / C \ / D \ / E \ / F$ - Style $20.4\% \ / 21.2\% \ / 15.3\% \ / 13.1\% \ / 13.9\% \ / 16.1\%$ - Fluency $22.8\% \ / 17.6\% \ / 14.7\% \ / 7.4\% \ / 20.6\% \ / 16.9\%$ - Punctuation $12.4\% \ / 11.7\% \ / 25.5\% \ / 11.7\% \ / 21.2\% \ / 17.5\%$ - Spelling $4.5\% \ / 6.1\% \ / 6.8\% \ / 18.9\% \ / 23.5\% \ / 40.2\%$ - Foreign names/titles $9.5\% \ / 9.5\% \ / 17.5\% \ / 19.0\% \ / 21.9\% \ / 22.6\%$ - Need for explanation of culture specific items $10.4\% \ / 14.9\% \ / 16.4\% \ / 14.2\% \ / 19.4\% \ / 24.6\%$

- Other issues? (15 comments)

Q44: How do the editors support their corrections/suggestions? Rank the options according to frequency (A = most frequent; F = least frequent; please use each letter once only). (137 responses)

In every row, tick: $A \ / B \ / C \ / D \ / E \ / F$ - Reference to the source text $23.9\% \ / \ 16.4\% \ / \ 15.7\% \ / \ 10.4\% \ / \ 9.7\% \ / \ 23.9\%$ - Target language norms $28.2\% \ / \ 29.0\% \ / \ 18.3\% \ / \ 9.2\% \ / \ 5.3\% \ / \ 9.9\%$ - Target readers' competences/expectations $10.8\% \ / \ 23.1\% \ / \ 23.1\% \ / \ 20.8\% \ / \ 9.2\% \ / \ 13.1\%$ - Translations in other language $0.8\% \ / \ 10.1\% \ / \ 10.1\% \ / \ 10.1\% \ / \ 10.1\% \ / \ 18.6\% \ / \ 50.4\%$ - Previous translations of the same author $3.1\% \ / \ 0.8\% \ / \ 7.7\% \ / \ 13.8\% \ / \ 35.4\% \ / \ 39.2\%$ - General editorial practices $18.2\% \ / \ 16.7\% \ / \ 28.0\% \ / \ 14.4\% \ / \ 13.6\% \ / \ 9.1\%$

- Other arguments? (12 comments)

Q45: Do the copy editors understand the language you are translating from? (153 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- If English 98.3% / 0.8% / 0.0% / 0.8% - If Norwegian 82.2% / 8.9% / 4.4% / 4.4% - If Swedish 90.6% / 5.7% / 3.8% / 0.0% - If Danish 83.0% / 14.9% / 2.1% / 0.0% 10.0% / 0.0% / 40.0% / 50.0% - If Finnish - If Norwegian/Swedish 100.0% / 0.0% / 0.0% / 0.0% - If German 40.6% / 46.9% / 9.4% / 3.1% - If French 42.2% / 35.6% / 22.2% / 2.2% - If Spanish 15.4% / 38.5% / 38.5% / 7.7% - If Italian 4.5% / 27.3% / 68.2% / 0.0% - If other languages 7.7% / 17.9% / 25.6% / 48.7%

Q46: Does the editors' knowledge / ignorance of the language you are translating from influence on how consistently you comply with their corrections / suggestions? (142 responses)

 - Yes
 51.4%

 - No
 32.4%

 - It depends
 16.2%

- Please specify (26 comments)

YOUR RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNICATION WITH THE EDITORS

Q47: Do you find the feedback of the editors (149 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Necessary 55.7% / 31.4% / 10.7% / 2.1% - Sufficient 31.2% / 54.6% / 11.3% / 2.8% - Competent 38.5% / 55.2% / 4.9% / 1.4% - Useful 55.6% / 38.9% / 4.2% / 1.4% - Respectful of your work 73.5% / 24.5% / 0.7% / 1.4%

- Please specify why (29 comments)

Q48: If you don't agree with the (copy) editors' suggestions, what do you do? (149 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never - I accept their suggestion 4.4% / 50.7% / 31.6% / 13.2% - I negotiate, trying to find a middle way - I stick to my choice 26.4% / 65.3% / 6.9% / 1.4%

- Please add comments (20 comments)

Q49: How do you argue for your choice / reject their suggestion? Do you refer to (144 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- The source text (semantics/style) 71.4% / 25.0% / 1.4% / 2.1%
- The original authors 26.5% / 41.9% / 18.4% / 13.2%
- The target readers 10.6% / 42.4% / 36.4% / 10.6%
- Target language norms 25.9% / 55.6% / 13.3% / 5.2%
- The quality and integrity of the translated text itself 43.8% / 43.8% / 8.8% / 3.6%

- Other reasons? (9 comments)

YOUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EDITORIAL STAFF

Q50: How do you see your relationship with the publishing house? (146 responses) Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

(Real) collaboration
 Negotiation
 Conflict
 Subservience
 61.8% / 30.6% / 6.3% / 1.4%
 14.3% / 53.6% / 25.7% / 7.1%
 0.0% / 9.5% / 51.1% / 40.1%
 1.5% / 8.4% / 20.6% / 69.5%

Q51: How do you see your relationship with the copy editors? (144 responses)

Please tick one box in every row: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

 - (Real) collaboration
 70.1% / 22.2% / 3.5% / 4.1%

 - Negotiation
 11.0% / 5.9% / 24.3% / 8.8%

 - Conflict
 0.0% / 8.1% / 53.7% / 38.2%

 - Subservience
 0.7% / 5.2% / 13.4% / 80.6%

Q52: Please share a specific positive experience of collaboration with the editorial staff. (58 responses)

Q53: Please share a specific negative experience of collaboration with the editorial staff. (57 responses)

COLLABORATION WITH TRANSLATOR COLLEAGUES

Q54: Have you been involved in co-translation projects (that is, more translators working on the same text)? (146 responses)

- Yes 45.9%- No 54.1%

CO-TRANSLATION

Q55: Who proposed / decided to have more translators for the same text? (65 responses)

The translator (you or your co-translator) 61.5%
The publishing house 53.8%
The author 0%

Q56: Did you and your co-translator(s) work on equal terms? (64 responses)

- Yes 85.9%- No 14.1%

- If no, please specify why and how (14 comments)

Q57: Did you find working with a co-translator (63 responses)

In every row, tick: Very much/To some extent/Not at all /Indifferent

- Time-saving 32.3% / 21% / 32.3% / 14.5% - Valuable for the quality of the translation 31.7% / 38.1% / 23.8% / 6.3% - Gratifying on a personal/ professional level 42.6% / 37.7% / 11.5% / 8.2% - Messy business 11.3% / 29% / 45.2% / 14.5%

- Feel free to comment further (19 comments)

CONSULTING TRANSLATOR COLLEAGUES

Q58: Do you discuss translation challenges with colleagues during a translation process? (146 responses)

- Usually
 - Sometimes
 - Seldom
 - Never
 30.1%
 50%
 16.4%
 4.1%

LITTLE OR NO CONTACT WITH TRANSLATOR COLLEAGUES

Q59: Why don't you consult translator colleagues? (30 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom
- Don't feel the need 79.3% / 10.3% / 10.3%
- Time pressure 19.2% / 26.9% / 53.8%
- Don't want to expose my doubts 8% / 4% / 88%
- Don't know who to ask 26.9% / 26.9% / 46.2%
- Don't want interference 26.9% / 18.2% / 53.8%

- I seek advice elsewhere 48.1% / 40.7% / 11.1%

Q60: Do you miss contact with translator colleagues (28 responses)

- Yes 32.1% - No 67.9%

- Please specify why (10 comments)

WAYS OF COMMUNICATING WITH TRANSLATOR COLLEAGUES

Q61: How do you communicate with your translator colleagues? (113 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

- Letter 1.3% / 5.1% / 11.4% / 82.3%
- E-mail 79.5% / 13.4% / 6.3% / 0.9%
- Facebook 22.7% / 19.3% / 13.6% / 44.3%
- Blog 4.7% / 4.7% / 9.3% / 81.4%
- Skype 6.0% / 7.1% / 7.1% / 79.8%
- Phone 10.4% / 42.7% / 27.1% / 19.8%
- Face to face 23.1% / 60.6% / 13.5% / 2.9%

Q62: Which way of communicating do you prefer? (113 responses)

- Personal (e-mail, letter, phone...)
- Collective (Facebook, blogs...)
- It depends
14.2%
18.6%

- Please specify why (33 comments)

Q63: Has your rate of communication changed with the possibility of using Facebook, chat rooms, and blogs? (112 responses)

- A lot 23.2%
 - To a certain degree 25.9%
 - No 52.7%

- If yes, please specify why (30 comments)

Q64: The translator colleagues you communicate with are translating (113 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

into the same language as you
 into the language you translate from
 the same text/author
 77.5% / 16.2% / 5.4 % / 0.9%
 17.3% / 29.8% / 29.8 / 23.1%
 6.7% / 19.2% / 33.7% / 41.3%

THE CONTENT OF YOUR COMMUNICATION WITH TRANSLATOR COLLEAGUES

Q65: Which matters do you discuss with your translator colleagues? (113 responses)

In every row, tick: Usually / Sometimes / Seldom / Never

The meaning of words/passages in the source text
Specific target language terminology/jargon/slang
General translation norms/standards
Publishers'/ editors' comments on your translation
Working conditions (salaries, deadlines, tools)
The joys and challenges of a literary translator
65.2% / 29.5% / 4.5% / 0.9%
49.5% / 43.2% / 5.4% / 1.8%
6.3% / 43.2% / 34.2% / 16.2%
24.1% / 50.0% / 19.6% / 6.3%
25.5% / 43.2% / 18.2% / 3.6%

Q66: Does your communication with translator colleagues add to (112 responses)

In every row, tick: Yes, very much/ Yes, to a certain degree/ No, not really

The quality of the translation
 Your general translation skills
 Your professional identity (being part of a community)
 Your negotiating power with publishers/editors
 27.5% / 61.5% / 11.0%
 26.4% / 55.5% / 18.2%
 Your negotiating power with publishers/editors
 26.8% / 33.3% / 9.9%
 23.2% / 45.5% / 32.1%

- Other (please specify) (4 comments)

Q67: Please share a specific positive experience of collaboration with translator colleagues (36 comments)

Q68: Please share a specific negative experience of collaboration with translator colleagues (24 comments – 21 reporting "none")

SUMMARIZING COLLABORATION IN LITERARY TRANSLATION

Q69: Which kind of collaboration is most important for the quality of the translation? Rank from A=most important to C=least important (140 answers)

Please use each letter once only:	\boldsymbol{A}	/	\boldsymbol{B}	/	C
- Collaboration with the author	17.5%	/	37.2%	/	45.3%
- Collaboration with the editorial staff	46%	/	39.6%	/	14.4%
- Collaboration with translator colleagues	29.4%	/	38.2%	/	32.4%

Q70: Which kind of collaboration is most important for you on a personal/professional level? Rank from A=most important to C=least important (138)

Please use each letter once only: A / B / C - Collaboration with the author - Collaboration with the editorial staff 35.8% / 47.4% / 16.8% - Collaboration with translator colleagues 41.8% / 30.6% / 27.6%

Q71: What would you suggest as "best practice" for collaborating with the author? Elaborate freely or write 3-5 characteristics of successful collaboration (48 comments)

Q72: What would you suggest as "best practice" for collaborating with the editorial staff? Elaborate freely or write 3-5 characteristics of successful collaboration (51 comments)

Q73: What would you suggest as "best practice" for collaborating with translator colleagues? Elaborate freely or write 3-5 characteristics of successful collaboration (46 comments)