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Phrasal Verbs in Bilateral International Agreements

Summary

The aim of this paper is to analyse the distribution of English phrasal verbs in bilateral international agreements. For the purpose of the analysis, agreements concluded between Poland and a selected English-speaking country were chosen. The paper includes a quantitative and qualitative analysis of phrasal verbs. The quantitative analysis was carried out to analyse and examine whether there are any patterns regarding the distribution of phrasal verbs in all agreements in question and with regard to four thematic categories. The results indicate a small percentage of phrasal verbs, amounting to about 0.6% overall, with an uneven distribution in the four categories. The qualitative analysis is an attempt to verify the translation choices, establish whether the official translations of the agreements under consideration have fixed equivalents, and categorise the presented phrasal verbs into the functions they fulfil in the texts. In order to achieve these objectives, the translations of the 15 most common phrasal verbs were examined. The results show that there are no fixed equivalents used in Polish translation of the phrasal verbs, which partially is a result of their polysemy. While it is possible to distinguish some functions which phrasal verbs perform in the text, there is neither a relationship between them and the thematic category of agreements nor a pattern. This article complements and broadens the subject matter of phrasal verbs in terms of their presence and translation in international agreements.

Keywords: phrasal verbs, quantitative analysis, international agreements

1. Introduction

International law influences national law by making the rules that maintain relations between the sovereign states. Poland is subject to all international legal standards, as specified in the Constitution of 2nd April 1997: “The Republic of Poland shall respect international law binding upon it”¹. The Constitution, how-

¹ <https://www.sejm.gov.pl/prawo/konst/angielski/kon1.htm>.

ever, does not apply to all sources of international law, but rather focuses solely on ratified international agreements. According to Article 87, **ratified international agreements** are, apart from the Constitution, statutes and regulations, the sources of universally binding law. As stated in Article 91, international agreements that are ratified pursuant to Article 89(1) and announced in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland prevail over statutes when the statutes are incompatible with or in conflict with the agreement.

Article 38(1) of the Statute of the International Court of Justice distinguishes three sources of international law: treaties, custom, and general principles. Thus, a fundamental instrument, binding upon the parties it refers to, is an international treaty. Although the definition of the term *treaty*² applies to all types of international agreements (*treaties, agreements, declarations, conventions, arrangements, accords, pacts, acts, protocols*), the following analysis refers only to these documents that have the term *agreement* in the title and focuses on the presence of phrasal verbs in this type of documents.

A **phrasal verb** is understood in this analysis as a combination of a verb and an element which may be either an adverb or a preposition. This definition, which Hugh Gethin calls a “broad definition” (1990: 178), is endorsed by Collins’ (2000) and Longman’s (2000) Phrasal Verbs dictionaries and the following authors: Bryan A. Garner (2003), Michael McCarthy and Felicity O’Dell (2007) and Rupert Haigh (2009). Phrasal verbs are chosen for analysis as they are a distinctive feature of English. They lack unambiguity because of their polysemy and are redundant since they consist of more words than the solitary form of the verb and can be replaced with a single-word equivalent. Although they are considered to be more typical of colloquial rather than formal language, they are used across different registers (Biber et al. 2007: 8). Agreements are chosen due to their important role, which is constituting a dialogue between the contracting parties, and due to linguistic reasons, i.e. the precise, concise and repetitive legal language they are drawn up in. The combination of such lexical units that stand in opposition to the characteristic features of legal language is uncommon and therefore intriguing. The main aim of this analysis is to examine the phrasal verbs in quantitative and qualitative aspects, i.e. their distribution, translation and the functions they fulfil in international agreements. Since there are not many publications on this matter, this analysis will contribute to the field and fill the gap in the literature.

² Definition of a treaty pursuant to Article 2 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of 1969.

2. Objectives and Methodology

The recent research show that linguists' attention was extended to include phraseology. Researchers have been focused on the examination of collocations, multi-word terms and other lexical units (Kjær1990, Gózdź-Roszkowski 2011, Biel 2014). This study fits in the observed trend as it is devoted to the quantitative and qualitative analysis of phrasal verbs' distribution in bilateral international agreements. When looking at the available literature, there is a noticeable lack of deeper analysis on this subject. One of the most interesting publications is the study carried out by Bilić and Gaspar (2018), which will be used as a reference point for this study. In their work, Bilić and Gaspar focused on extraction of the phrasal verbs. Their examination, unlike the following, did not focus on the form of a single document, but rather on the legal language itself. They took different EU legislative documents (e.g. "Birmingham Declaration (1992), Inter-institutional Agreement (1999/C 73/01), White Paper on European Governance (2001)") into account and based their study on a comparable English corpus consisting of 392,255 words. Despite the evident differences, in order to obtain a certain level of comparison, a similar methodology was used in this paper.

For the purpose of this work, a total of 30 agreements concluded between Poland and a selected English-speaking country in the years 2004-2019 were analysed (the full list is available in the references). All of these agreements were published in the publicly available Journal of Laws (*Dziennik Ustaw*), which is the official source of universally binding law in Poland. The study was divided into two parts: quantitative and qualitative analysis. The quantitative analysis was conducted with regard to the distribution of all phrasal verbs in both the analysed agreements and four thematic categories³: economic, political, intellectual cooperation and social and legal relation agreements. The qualitative analysis is an attempt to verify the translation choices and to categorise the presented phrasal verbs into functions they fulfil in the texts. In order to achieve these objectives, the Polish translation of the 15 most common phrasal verbs are examined.

3. General Distribution of Phrasal Verbs

In the case of general quantitative analysis, there were 57 different phrasal verbs found in the analysed agreements. The bar graph below (Fig. 1) shows these phrasal verbs along with the number of their occurrences. Their distribution is

³ The division was made according to M. Frankowska's classification (1997: 42-46).

varied and ranges from 1 to 113. The sum of all of their appearances amounts to 577. Considering that the total number of words in the 30 analysed agreements was 99,260 and the total number of phrasal verbs reached 577, a phrasal verb appeared on average every 172nd word. In terms of percentages, the phrasal verbs amount to only 0.6% of all words in the agreements. Bilić and Gaspar's (2018) findings showed that phrasal verbs made 2% of the total number of words they examined. Hence, the percentage result on the occurrence of phrasal verbs in EU documents and international agreements is divergent. More than three times fewer phrasal verbs appeared in international agreements. The frequencies of phrasal verbs in both studies are very low, however in the case of the following studies, phrasal verbs are even more rare.

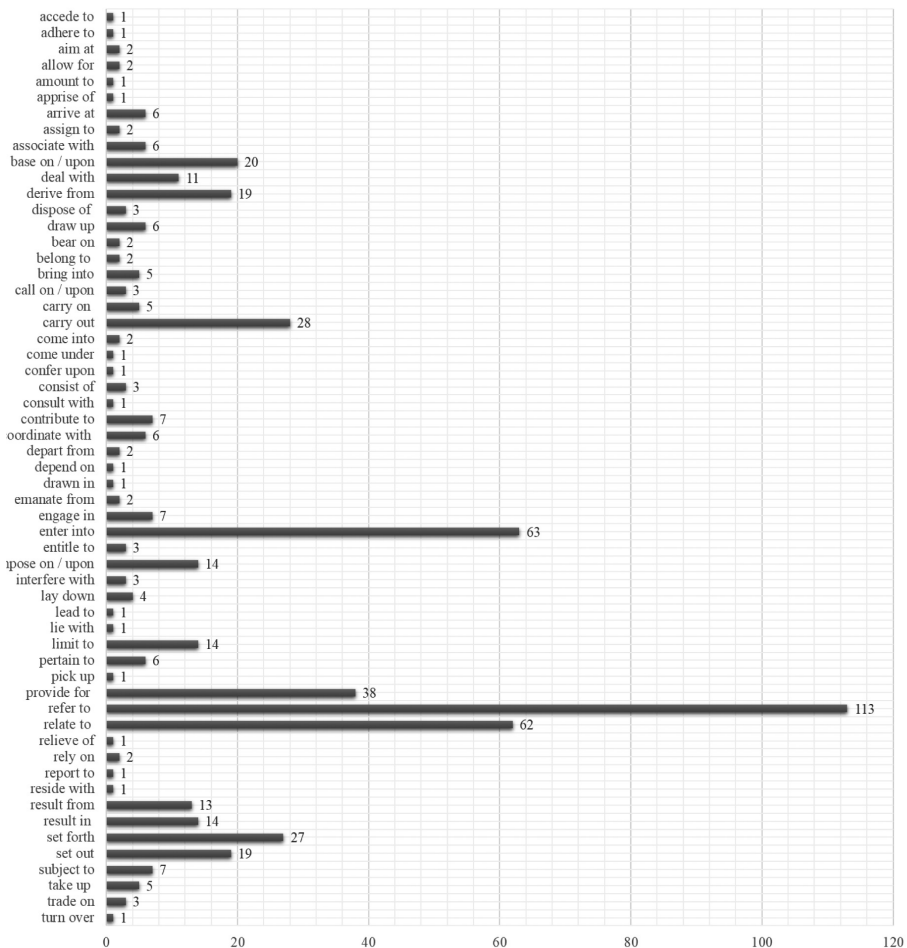


Figure 1. List of all phrasal verbs in the analysed international agreements.

As shown in Figure 1, the most common verb in the analysed agreements is *refer to*. In the next places, with nearly half as much occurrences, namely 63 and 62, are *enter into* and *relate to*. A big drop was noted among the rest of the phrasal verbs, which appeared in numbers of occurrences from 1 to 38. The most numerous group is hapax legomena, i.e. phrasal verbs which appeared only once in the agreements. To this group belong *turn over*, *reside with*, *report to*, *relieve of*, *pick up*, *lie with*, *lead to*, *draw in*, *depend on*, *consult with*, *confer upon*, *come under*, *apprise of*, *amount to*, *adhere to* and *accede to*. In this study, they represent almost 27.6% of all phrasal verbs, while Bilić and Gaspar have recorded the appearance of single verbs amounting to 13%, which is around half as much. However, in terms of occurrence, single phrasal verbs amount to less than 2.7%. For comparison, the phrasal verb that appeared most often, *refer to*, represents almost 18.7% of all occurrences of phrasal verbs. Taking into account the number of verbs, those appearing singularly constitute almost 1/3 of the total. However, when considering the number of occurrences, their number decreases 10 times. In turn, *refer to* is one of 57 verbs, but if considered in terms of the number of its occurrences, it represents almost 1/5 of all phrasal verbs that appeared in the agreements.

To compare these results with the findings of Bilić and Gaspar more closely, the five most common phrasal verbs will be taken into account. In their analysis, the five most frequent phrasal verbs, *refer to*, *relate to*, *lay down*, *set out* and *carry out*, represent 55% of all phrasal verbs. Here, the top 5 phrasal verbs are: *refer to*, *enter into*, *relate to*, *provide for* and *carry out*, which constitute 50% of all phrasal verbs. Not only are the results close to each other in percentage but also in the specific phrasal verbs that appeared. In both research projects, the most common verbs that occur are: *refer to* (1st place in both projects), *relate to* and *carry out* (5th place). This means that these three phrasal verbs are very likely to be encountered in a legal document, regardless of its type. When it comes to phrasal verbs not included in the results of Bilić and Gaspar, *enter into* is one of the most common phrasal verbs in this study due to the specific nature of the analysed genre. Each commencement clause contained in agreements includes information about when the document enters into force or effect. As far as *provide for* is concerned, its high number of occurrences may be related to its polysemic nature and the ability to use it in many different ways. Among its applications, it can be used in legal context, in which it refers to the provisions of the agreements (Longman 2000: 383). Although *lay down* and *set out* do not belong to the top 5 phrasal verbs in this study, they appeared in the analysed agreements.

Bilić and Gaspar took also into account the percentage of the 25 most frequently occurring phrasal verbs in relation to the total and their result shows that these phrasal verbs amount to 91%. In this analysis, the top 25 phrasal verbs

constitute 90% of the total number of phrasal verbs' occurrences in the analysed agreements. This provides the closest result to their research. The percentage and uneven distribution is something that coincides as well since some phrasal verbs appear only once, some a few times and some more than fifty times.

However, despite the percentage similarity, only 49% of phrasal verbs overlap in both studies. Bilić and Gaspar did not record the appearance of such phrasal verbs as *enter into*, *impose on/upon* and *limit to* which may be due to the nature of the agreements (see above) and the issues they address. The number of the remaining non-overlapping phrasal verbs does not exceed seven. Moreover, in the analysed agreements there is no record of phrasal verbs which are frequent in their study, such as *set up* or *pass on*. This comparison reveals a variation in the distribution, but also in the use of different phrasal verbs. Haigh (2009) in his list of phrasal verbs used in legal language included only 20 out of 57 phrasal verbs that appeared in the analysed agreements. His list does not include such phrasal verb as *result from* and, similar to Gaspar and Bilić, *impose on/upon*. It proves that even the literature related to legal language does not cover all of the phrasal verbs present in the legal documents and does not fully apply to the agreements.

4. Distribution of Phrasal Verbs in Particular Categories

In the following analysis, including a detailed approach, all agreements were divided following Frankowska's classification (1997: 42-46) into four thematic categories, namely: economic agreements, social and legal agreements, political agreements and agreements on intellectual cooperation. The samples were randomly chosen, obviously taking into account the objectives of the linguistic analysis and the years of drafting, 2004-2019. In further analysis of the samples, the stratification technique was used. The 30 selected agreements were divided into groups in terms of subject matter. Each group consisted of 5 agreements, except for the group of economic agreements, in which 15 documents were collected. This number was dictated by the fact that these types of agreements appear in the Journal of Laws most often. Although the sample is small, the convergence of general analysis results in both Bilić and Gaspar's and this study indicates that the sample may be considered representative. The aim of the analysis was to examine the distribution and to verify the correlation of the results both for individual groups and for all agreements treated as a whole. The results of the analysis are presented in the form of the number of occurrences in relation to the number of all phrasal verbs in the agreements examined in a given category. At this stage, each category will be described first separately and then collectively.

4.1. Economic agreements

The number of words (tokens) of economic agreements was in the range of 1,030 to 7,342. Each agreement contained between 6 and 25 phrasal verbs. The total number of words was 42,959. The total number of phrasal verbs used was 186, which constitutes 372 words (since phrasal verbs are multi-word verbs). Accordingly, the phrasal verbs represent around 0.4% of all words in this category, which means that a phrasal verb occurs on average every 231 words. The percentage analysis determining the ratio of the number of occurrences of a phrasal verb to the total number of phrasal verbs occurring in a category has been conducted. The following analysis was applied to all 25 phrasal verbs that appeared in economic agreements. Their percentage shares are shown in a pie chart (Fig. 2). The most frequent phrasal verb in this category is *refer to* with 25 occurrences, or 13.4%. The next most common phrasal verbs are: *relate to* with 11.8%, *enter into* with a relatively similar score of 11.3%, *provide for* with 8.1% and *derive from* which constituted 7.5% of all phrasal verbs in this category. These 5 top phrasal verbs account for 52.1% of the total.

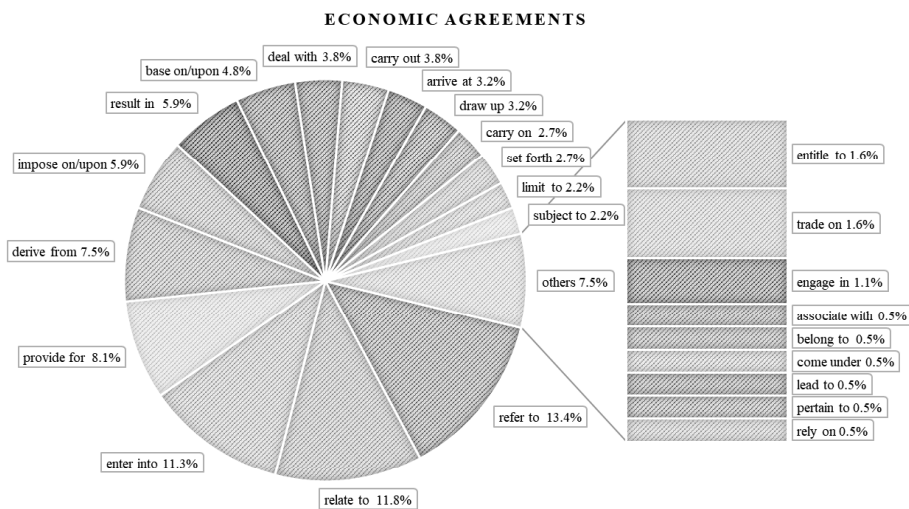


Figure 2. Phrasal verbs' distribution in economic agreements.

The verbs that fall within the range 2%-5.9% are: *impose on/upon* and *result in* with 5.9%, *base on/upon* with 4.8%, *deal with* and *carry out* constituting 3.8%, *arrive at* and *draw up* with 3.2%, *carry on* and *set forth* amounting to 2.7%, and *limit to* and *subject to* with 2.2%. These 11 verbs represent 40.4% of the total. It was

also determined what percentage of phrasal verbs representing less than 2% occur in the whole group. These verbs are marked grey in the graph and labelled as “others”. This subgroup consists of nine phrasal verbs and includes: *entitle to* and *trade on*, both with 1.6%, *engage in* amounting to 1.1% and those with the percentages of 0.5, namely: *associate with*, *belong to*, *come under*, *lead to*, *pertain to* and *rely on*. These verbs appeared from 1 to 4 times each in all agreements covering economic relations. Their percentage in relation to the total is 7.5%. This means that in the economic agreements, some sporadically used phrasal verbs may be encountered. As can be read in the chart, one half consists of only 5 verbs while the other of 20 phrasal verbs. The percentage distribution between different verbs also varies. This proves an uneven distribution of phrasal verbs across the agreements.

4.2. Social and legal relations agreements

The next group consists of five agreements concerning social and legal relations. The number of words in the agreements ranged from 1,400 to 4,106 and each agreement contained between 11 and 42 phrasal verbs. The total number of words was 17,157. The total number of phrasal verbs used was 120, which constitutes 240 words. Within this category, phrasal verbs represent almost 0.7% of all words. In other words, they appear on average every 143 words. There were 28 phrasal verbs found in this category. The results of their percentage share in relation to the total number of phrasal verbs in this category are shown in the pie chart below (Fig. 3).

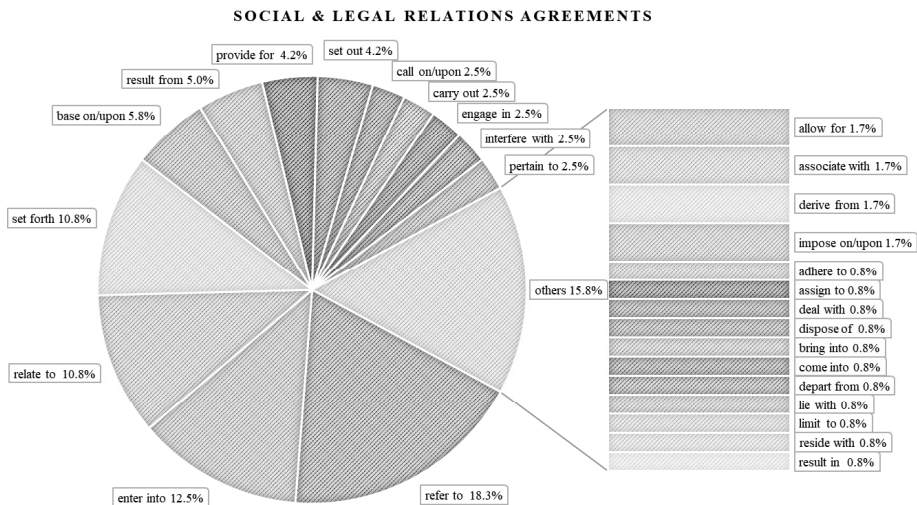


Figure 3. Phrasal verbs' distribution in social and legal relations agreements.

The most frequent phrasal verb is *refer to* with 22 occurrences, which amounts to 18.3%. The next most frequently used verbs are: *enter into* with 12.5%, *relate to* amounting to 10.8%, *set forth* with the same result of 10.8% and *base on/upon* which constituted 5.8% of all phrasal verbs in this category. These five most frequent phrasal verbs account for 58.2% of the total. This means that they represent more than half of all phrasal verbs appearing in this type of agreements. The remaining group consists of 23 phrasal verbs amounting to 41.7%. The phrasal verbs that fall within the range 2.4%-5% are: *result from* with 5%, *provide for* and *set out*, both with 4.2%, and the phrasal verbs whose percentage share amount to 2.5%, namely, *call on/upon*, *carry out*, *engage in*, *interfere with* and *pertain to*. These eight verbs represent 25.9% of the total. A very large group in this category are “other” phrasal verbs. This subgroup consists of 15 phrasal verbs and includes phrasal verbs constituting 1.7% of the total: *allow for*, *associate with*, *derive from* and *impose on/upon*, all of which appeared twice in all agreements, and the phrasal verbs which appeared in the text only once with a percentage amounting to 0.8%, namely *adhere to*, *assign to*, *deal with*, *dispose of*, *bring into*, *come into*, *depart from*, *lie with*, *limit to*, *reside with* and *result in*. Their percentage in relation to the total is 15.8%, which places them in second place, following the most common phrasal verb in this category. Both in the chart and in the description, a large disproportion in the distribution of phrasal verbs can be seen: five phrasal verbs make up more than half, while many of the remaining 23 phrasal verbs appear only a few times in the texts.

4.3. Political agreements

The next analysed category is composed of political agreements. The number of words ranged from 1,093 to 17,927 and each agreement contained between 12 and 92 phrasal verbs. The total number of words was 29,789 and the total number of phrasal verbs used was 201, which constitutes 402 words. In this category, phrasal verbs represent less than 0.7% of all words, which means that they appear on average every 148 words. The percentage shares of the phrasal verbs' occurrence number to the total number of verbs occurring in this category are shown in a pie chart (Fig. 4).

In the political agreements, 38 phrasal verbs were found. The most frequent phrasal verb is *refer to* with 25.4% of occurrences in relation to the total, or 51 occurrences. The next most common phrasal verb is *relate to* with 11.4% (19 occurrences), which is less than half as many as the previous one. Further, there are: *enter into*, which amounts to 9.5%, *provide for* with a result of 8% and *carry out* which constituted 5.5% of all phrasal verbs in this category. These

5 top phrasal verbs account for 59.8% of the total. The next verbs are: *set out* with 5%, and the phrasal verbs amounting to 3%, namely, *coordinate with*, *result from* and *set forth*, and *take up* with 2.5%. These five verbs represent merely 16.5% of the total. 28 verbs were classified as “others” and these are: phrasal verbs accounting for 2%, i.e. *contribute to* and *limit to*, *deal with* and *subject to* with 1.5%, *associate with*, *base on/upon*, *derive from*, *dispose of*, *bear on*, *bring into*, *consist of*, *emanate from*, *lay down* and *result in*, all amounting to 1% and those with the 0.5%, namely *amount to*, *apprise of*, *accede to*, *belong to*, *consult with*, *depart from*, *depend on*, *draw in* *impose on/upon*, *pertain to*, *pick up*, *relieve of*, *report to* and *turn over*. These verbs appeared from 1 to 4 times each in all agreements covering political relations and they account for 23.9%, so nearly as much as the most frequent phrasal verb.

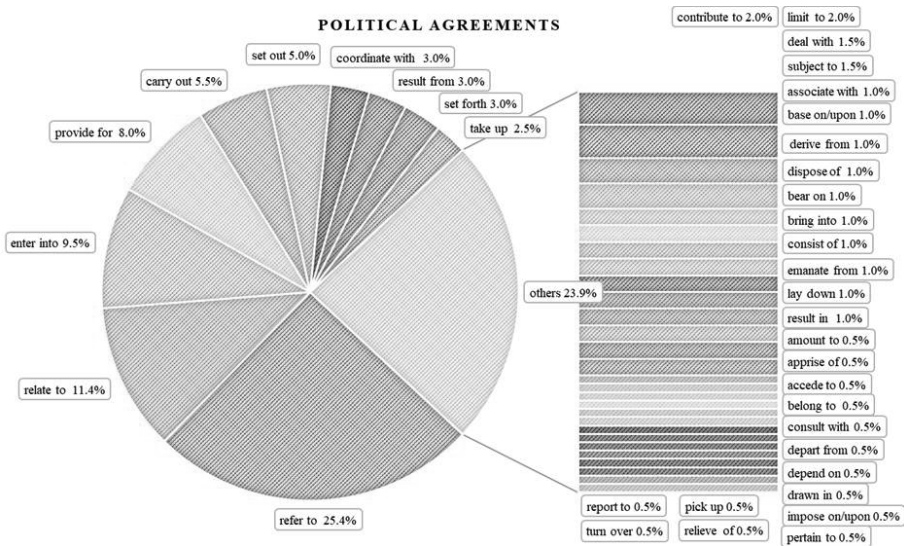


Figure 4. Phrasal verbs' distribution in political agreements.

As can be read in the chart, more than one half consists of only 4 verbs while the other half consists of 34 phrasal verbs. The percentage distribution between the different verbs also varies. This proves an uneven distribution of phrasal verbs across the agreements. As can be noted, numerous phrasal verbs appear occasionally in political agreements and this fact can cause some problems for translators, who must be aware of the presence of single phrasal verbs in this type of agreements.

4.4. Intellectual cooperation agreements

The last category consists of intellectual cooperation agreements. The number of words ranged from 981 to 2,875 and each agreement contained between 11 and 19 phrasal verbs. There were 23 phrasal verbs recorded in this category. Their total number of occurrences was 70, which is 140 words. Since the total number of words amounted to 9,355, the phrasal verbs represent around 0.7% of all words. On average, we come across them every 134 words. The results of their percentage share in relation to the total number of phrasal verbs in this category are shown in a pie chart (Fig. 5).

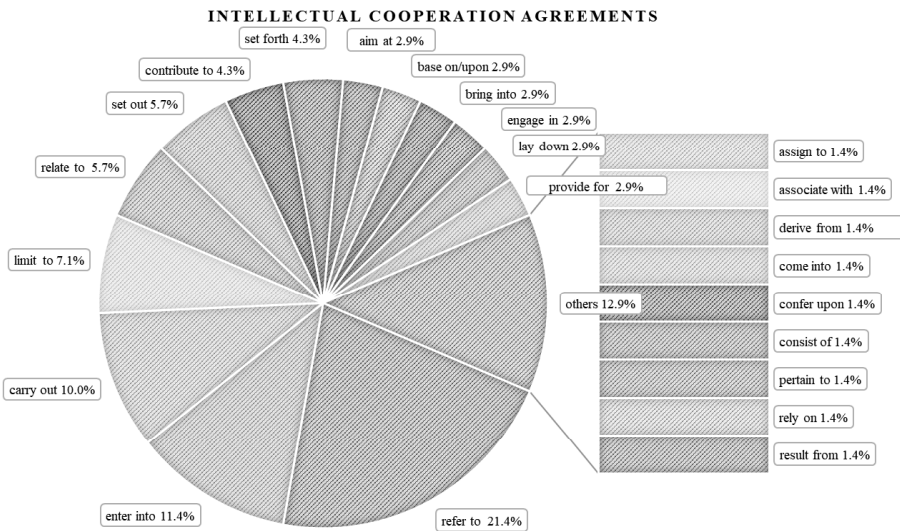


Figure 5. Phrasal verbs' distribution in intellectual cooperation agreements.

Refer to, which is the most frequent phrasal verb within agreements on intellectual cooperation, appeared 15 times, accounting for 21.4%. Other than *refer to*, the five most commonly used phrasal verbs are: *enter into* with 11.4%, *carry out* amounting to 10%, *limit to* with 7.1% and *relate to* which constituted 5.7% of all phrasal verbs occurring in this category. These top phrasal verbs account for 55.6% of the total, which means that they represent more than half of all phrasal verbs appearing in this type of agreements. The remaining group consists of 18 phrasal verbs, amounting to 44.4%. The next phrasal verbs in the hierarchy are: *set out* which has the same percentage result as *relate to*, *contribute to* and *set forth*, with 4.3%, and the phrasal verbs whose percentage shares amount to 2.9%, namely, *aim at*, *base on/upon*, *bring into*, *engage in*, *lay down*

and *provide for*. These nine verbs represent 31.7% of the total. The percentage share of “other” phrasal verbs accounted for 12.9%. This subgroup includes 9 phrasal verbs, all with 1.4%, i.e. *assign to*, *associate with*, *derive from*, *come into*, *confer upon*, *consist of*, *pertain to*, *rely on* and *result from*, which means that they appeared only once in all agreements from this category.

5. Comparative analysis

Having analysed particular categories independently it can be concluded that these categories are similar in that the distribution of phrasal verbs in all of the categories is uneven. Nevertheless, the detailed analysis of the results shows that each category has some distinctive characteristics. The number of phrasal varied from 23 to 38, depending on the category. It turned out that in each category no more than five phrasal verbs accounted for more than one half of occurrences of all phrasal verbs. It can be seen that in all four categories *refer to* is in the first place with a different percentage in each category, ranging from 13.4% for the economic agreements to 25.4% for the political agreements. An interesting finding is the percentage of two consecutive top phrasal verbs. On the basis of the chart, in the second place is *relate to* in two categories and *enter into* also in two categories, with a similar percentage share of about 11.7% +/- 1.5%. In the political, economic and social agreements, second and third place is complementary, which means that if in economic agreements second place is *relate to*, third place is *enter into* and vice versa for the other categories. The situation is different in the case of intellectual cooperation agreements, where the second position is *enter into* with a value of 11.4%, while *relate to* is in the fifth place and represents 5.7%. In this category, unlike the others, the third place is *carry out* with a value of 10%. In groups within the range of 2-9% there is a lack of correlation between the percentage share and the order of their occurrence as well as the occurrences of phrasal verbs in a given category.

When comparing all categories, an overview of the “other” verbs seems quite interesting. In the case of economic agreements, they account for nine occurrences, which is 7.5%, while in the case of social and legal relations agreements, they account for 15 occurrences or 15.8%. In the case of intellectual cooperation agreements there are nine such phrasal verbs and their percentage result is 12.9%. Political agreements are by far the most numerous, as they contain 28 such phrasal verbs, constituting the second largest group in this category, with 23.9%. On average, there are almost twice as many of them as in the other categories. It is impossible to neglect their large share, not only in the individual categories, but also in the general distribution. Phrasal verbs whose occurrences

did not exceed 3 constitute more than one half of all phrasal verbs that appeared. It may be due to the small corpus. However, most likely the more agreements were analysed, the more sporadically used phrasal verbs would appear. This may indicate a lack of pattern when it comes to their occurrence and distribution.

6. Translation

In the second part of the studies, the official translation of the phrasal verbs in international agreements was examined. The fifteen most frequent phrasal verbs were selected and analysed. The objectives of conducting the analysis on the English to Polish translation was to verify the correctness of the translation in terms of semantics of the phrasal verbs and to determine which equivalents are most often chosen by the translators.

The graphic below (Fig. 6) shows the translations of a given phrasal verb found in the Polish official versions of the agreements. All conjugation patterns, grammatical aspects and voice were not included and condensed down into an infinitive form in the case of phrasal verbs. Therefore, the forms *carrying out* and *carried out* will appear in the infinitive, *carry out*. The conjugation in Polish is more complicated since Polish as an inflectional language is changed by person, type, gender and case. The inflections of the verb in Polish translation is marked with the sign "...*". The equivalents in the graph are presented in order of their frequency from the most common to the rarest (Fig. 6).

The most common phrasal verb in all analysed international agreements is *refer to*. It is a verb that may cause some confusion since it has five definitions in the Longman Phrasal Verbs Dictionary (2000). In most cases, this phrasal verb was used in the construction *referred to as*, which means to "call by a particular name" and was translated into Polish *zwane/...* dalej*. The other translations concerned mentions about something stated before *o którym/...* mowa, określonych/...*, wymienionych/...*, odnosi się do, opisany*. These words are close synonyms and their choice is dictated by the style of expression. The other equivalents are connected with another definition of *refer to*, which means to send someone or a problem to the expert who will provide information or a decision. The translation of this definition is included in the words: *przekazuje do, przedkładany, skierowane, wniesiony do*. As can be seen, Polish equivalents coincide with the definitions in the dictionary. The most frequent translation choices were *o których mowa* and *zwane dalej*.

Enter into is a phrasal verb which is very consistent with international agreements. The parties concluding an agreement, *enter into* it. In Polish it is said that the agreement has come into force or has been concluded which

is *wchodzi/...** *w* or *zawierać*. In this context, this verb has appeared most often. Another definition of *enter into* refers to becoming involved in something. However, in Polish translations *przyjął na siebie* and *zobowiązały się do* is more like taking on some responsibilities or being obliged to do something. In this case, the translation is not completely faithful to the definition.

Another phrasal verb which appeared in all agreements and which, like *refer to*, has a few equivalents, is ***relate to***. The definition of this is “to be about some particular subject or be connected with something”. In most cases it appeared in the progressive form: *relating to*. It was translated into Polish as: *w sprawach, o, w odniesieniu do, dotyczy/...**, *związanych/...** *z, co do* and *w zakresie*. These Polish equivalents could be also used for other words and expressions such as: *on (matters)*, *with reference to*, *pertain to*, *connect with* and *in terms of*. However, all these expressions are consistent with the dictionary definition. An interesting procedure was performed in one of the analysed agreements, on the status of the armed forces of the United States of America in the territory of the Republic of Poland (Dz.U. 2009, No. 66, item 422). Namely, *relate to* was translated as *obciążających*. The sentence reads as follows: “Motor vehicles owned solely for personal use [...] shall be exempt from taxes *related to* their ownership, possession and use.” In the Polish language version of this agreement the sentence reads as follows: “Pojazdy silnikowe posiadane [...] wyłącznie dla celów osobistych są zwolnione z podatków *obciążających* własność, posiadanie i użytkowanie tych pojazdów.” In this translation *tax related to ownership* is equivalent to *a tax burden on ownership*. Admittedly, if *something is subject to tax*, it means that *it is burdened with it*. Therefore, this translation, although not literal and rather interpreted, is the proper way to handle this context.

The next phrasal verb with a wide range of meanings is ***provide for***. In the Longman dictionary it has three meanings, with matching Polish equivalents. The first one pertains to giving necessary things: *zapewnia/...**, *udziela/...**, *stanowi, gwarantują, dostarczają*. The second definition states that *provide for* means “to make plans in order to deal with something that might happen in the future.” In this sense it is a synonym of *allow for*. Polish equivalents reflecting the meaning of this definition are: *umożliwia/...**, *dopuszczają, przewidziane/...**. The third definition refers to the law and says: “if a law or rule provides for something, it makes that thing possible.” Here, some equivalents are: *umożliwia, dopuszczają, udziela, uregulowanych, dozwolone*. However, Polish versions of the agreements also included *stosownie do*. It means that *provide for* was treated as a synonym of *pursuant to* or *in accordance with*. In the analysed agreements *provide for* appeared in the form *provide(s) for* and *provided for*.

<p>enter into</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wejście/wejda/wchodzi/-ą w - wejścia/-u/-em w - zawierać/-nia/...* - przyjął na siebie - zobowiązały się do 	<p>set out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - określone/-ymi/...* - o którym mowa - zgodnie z - reguluje 	<p>carry out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - przeprowadzić/-enia/...* - prowadzić/-ona/...* - realizować/-ne - wykonywania /wykonującym - dokonuje/dokonywane/...*
<p>relate to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - w sprawach - o - w odniesieniu do - dotyczy/dotyczące/-ych/...* - związane/-ych/...* z - co do - w zakresie - obciążających 	<p>refer to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - o którym/-ych/...* mowa - zwane/ -ych/...* dalej - określonych/-ego/...* - przekazuje do - wymienione/-ych - przedkładany - odnosi się do - opisany - skierowane - wniesiony do 	<p>set forth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - określa się/określone/-ych/...* - o którym/-ych/...* mowa - wskazane/-o/...* - zgodnie z - uregulowana - użytymi - ustanowionymi - przedstawionymi - wyrażonych
<p>provide for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (nie)uregulowanych - umożliwia/-ją - dopuszczają - przewidziane/-go/...* - zapewnia/-ją/-jący /zapewnienia - określonych/-ymi/...* - o którym mowa - udzielają/ udzielenia - gwarantują - dostarczają - stosownie do - stanowi - dozwolone (prawem) 	<p>impose on/upon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nakłada/-jace/...* na - określić - zobowiązanie 	<p>result from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wynikające/-ych/...* z - poniesione w związku z - spowodowanego
<p>result in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - spowodują/spowodować - powoduje/-ją/-jącym 	<p>base on/upon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - opiera się o/w oparciu o/oparty/-ych/...* o/na - na podstawie - poprzez odniesienie do 	<p>deal with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - rozpatrzone/rozpatrzenia - przetwarzane - rozwiązywane - zajmujące się
<p>subject to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - poddani/poddawania - podlega 		

Figure 6. Top 15 phrasal verbs and their official translations.

Carry out also appeared in the agreements belonging to all four categories. Its meanings may be found in the dictionary and its equivalents match its definitions. According to Longman it is used in order to express doing “something that you have organized or planned”, doing “something that you have said you will do, or intend to do” or doing “what you have been told to do.” In the agreements under consideration only the first meaning was used. In Polish versions of the agreements, *carry out* appeared in the following forms: *przeprowadzić/...**, *prowadzić/...**, *realizować/-ne, wykonywania/wykonyującym, dokonuje/dokonywane/...**. The Polish equivalents are considered to be synonyms. In most cases this phrasal verb appeared in a passive voice, *carried out*, but also in infinitive form, *carry out*, as well as progressive form, *carrying out*.

In the case of **set forth**, one of its definitions states that, when used in a formal way, it means “to explain ideas, facts, or opinions in a clearly organized ways”. The other definition is a literal one and says: “to begin a journey” (Longman 2000: 450). The most popular translations were: *określa się/...** and *o których/...** *mowa*. The other equivalents used were: *wskazane/...**, *zgodnie z, uregulowana, użytymi, ustanowionymi, przedstawionymi* and *wyrażonych*. All these words carry the meaning of this phrasal verb, however some of them were used in reference to other phrasal verbs such as: *refer to* and *provide for*.

Base on/upon is another top phrasal verb. Although the Longman Dictionary provides the information that *base upon* is more formal form than *base on*, this phrasal verb was mostly used in the latter form. It is the least confusing term, as it has only one definition, namely “to use facts, ideas, written material, etc. that you already have in order to decide or produce something.” It was translated as *opiera się/...** *na, w oparciu/...** *o, na podstawie* and *poprzez odniesienie do*. The last Polish equivalent literally translated means *by reference to*.

Derive from is another phrasal verb that appeared in all categories of the analysed agreements, mostly in the passive voice. In the Longman Dictionary it has two definitions: “to get satisfaction, pleasure, or an advantage from something”, used in a formal way, and “to develop or come from something else”. In the first sense it was translated into: *otrzymane za, uzyskany/...** and *osiągane/...**. The second definition overlaps with *pochodził/...** *z, wywodzą z* and *mających swoje źródło*. The last equivalent is a translation of the expression *to have its source in*.

Another analysed phrasal verb is **set out**. It has four definitions, e.g. “start out” or “lay out”, but was used in only one meaning: “to explain ideas, facts, or opinions in a clearly organized way, by writing or speaking.” It was expressed as: *określone/...**, *o którym mowa, zgodnie z, reguluje*. Its sense overlaps with *set forth* and so do the equivalents.

As with the phrasal verb *base on*, **impose on** appears also under **impose upon**. Similarly, we come across the particle *on* most often. Out of three definitions, only one was used. According to Longman this phrasal verb means “to officially order that something must be taxed, that someone should be punished etc”. It has appeared in the text in relation to agreements that raise economic issues. Its translations are: *nakłada/... * na, określić* and *zobowiązanie*.

When it comes to **limit to**, the Longman dictionary does not include it in their list. However, the Oxford and Cambridge dictionaries consider it a phrasal verb. The former defines it as “to make something exist or happen only in a particular place or within a particular group” and the latter provides the definition: “to only allow someone a particular amount or number of something.” In most cases its translation was omitted, and if it was taken into account, it took the form of *ograniczać/... * się do, wyłącznie* and *między innymi* which means *among others*.

Result in is not a confusing phrasal verb as it has only one meaning. The Longman dictionary states that “if something results in a situation or event, it causes the situation or event to happen”. In the Polish version of international agreements it appeared as *(s)powodować/... ** with the difference that when used in present tense it was translated as *powodować*, and when used in the future simple, the equivalent was *spowodować*. These two words, which differ from each other by a single letter, speak of the completed (*spowodować*) and non-completed (*powodować*) action (aspect of verb).

When it comes to **result from**, Longman excludes it from its list of phrasal verbs. However, the Cambridge dictionary considers it a phrasal verb and provides the following definition: “if a situation or problem results from a particular event or activity, it is caused by it”. Polish choices of equivalents were: *wynikający/... * z, spowodowanego* and *poniesione w związku z*. An interesting procedure was performed in terms of the last translation. A sentence from the agreement on the protection of classified information in the military sphere (Dz.U. 2007, No. 224, item 1658) in English version was: “Each Party shall cover its own expenses *resulting from* the implementation of this Agreement”, while the Polish version read: “Każda ze Stron pokrywa swoje własne koszty *poniesione w związku z* realizacją niniejszej Umowy.” The equivalent could be replaced by another word, however the choice was probably dictated by the Polish expression *ponosić koszty* which in English is to *bear the costs*.

Subject to was also included as one of the most common phrasal verbs. It appeared in a passive form. It was translated into Polish as *poddani* and *podlega*, which complies with its definition in the Longman dictionary: “to test something or examine it carefully.” This phrasal verb has two more meanings,

namely: “to force someone to experience something very unpleasant” and “to be affected by physical forces such as heat, light, energy” which were not used in the agreements.

To these top 15 phrasal verb also belongs ***deal with***. In most cases it was used in the passive voice. It has the highest number of definitions of all 15 phrasal verbs. Out of its 6 meanings, only one was used. *Deal with* means “to take action in order to solve a problem or make sure that something is done properly.” Its synonyms are *tackle* and *handle*. In the Polish agreements it appeared in a few forms, namely *rozpatrzone*, *przetwarzane*, *rozwiązywane* and *zajmujące się*.

7. Partial conclusions

Having compiled the 15 most common phrasal verbs, a conclusion can be drawn that there is no single specific equivalent that conveys the meaning of a particular phrasal verb. Equivalents appearing slightly more often than others may be considered somewhat preferred, but apparently other equivalents are acceptable too. Some of these equivalents are translations of other, synonymous expressions, such as *in accordance with* or *pursuant to*. Despite so many translation solutions, in several cases it has been decided to use the same equivalents for several different verbs. For example, *referred to* has been used as an equivalent for the following verbs: *set out*, *refer to*, *provide for* and *set forth*. The formulation *określono* and its other forms also conveyed the meaning of the above mentioned verbs and additionally the meaning of the phrasal verb *impose on*. This proves that in many cases these four phrasal verbs have been treated as synonyms.

As can be seen in the graph (Fig. 6), sometimes phrasal verbs will not even be translated into verbs. There are cases in which they are translated into adjectives such as: *przedstawionymi*, *uzyskany*, *obciążających*, *realizowane*, *spowodowanego*, etc. Another time, the verbs are expressed by means of a noun, as in the case of: *przeprowadzenia*, *udzielenia*, or *rozpatrzenia*. The meaning of phrasal verbs can also be conveyed using expressions that are common in Polish formal registers. Such a translation procedure applies for example to clichéd expressions: *o których mowa*, *w oparciu o* and *mających swoje źródło*.

What contributes to the multiplicity of equivalents is that each phrasal verb used in international agreements often has several meanings. The average number of meanings amongst these 15 phrasal verbs is three. The most definitions, i.e. five, has *refer to*. *Set out* has four definitions. The ones with three definitions, constituting the most numerous group, are: *enter into*, *relate to*, *provide for*, *carry out*, *impose on* and *subject to*. The ones with two are: *set forth*, *derive*

from and deal with. Phrasal verbs with only one definition are: *base on*, *result in* and *result from*. Phrasal verbs from the last category do not cause great confusion and should not pose a translation problem. Nevertheless, it should be kept in mind that even obvious phrasal verbs may have a completely different meaning as with *refer to*. Thus, when translating phrasal verbs, it is better to check all of their definitions in order to avoid making a mistake.

8. Functions of phrasal verbs

For this analysis, it was also decided to carry out a qualitative analysis focusing on the functions phrasal verbs fulfil in the text. Due to the wide use of phrasal verbs, the constraints of their polysemic nature, and the fact that their translation is firmly embedded in the context, such functional analysis is difficult to perform. In the literature, there are works which focus on the functions of prepositions (cf. Quirk 1990; Biel 2015). In this analysis, prepositional functions will serve as a point of reference for the division of the phrasal verbs since they are an integral part of this kind of verbs. The proposed division refers to the 25 most frequently occurring phrasal verbs, which appeared at least five times throughout all of the agreements. After a thorough semantic examination, the following categories have been identified: referencing, inferencing, relating, and resulting functions. Phrasal verbs that were problematic to be assigned to the proposed categories are included in the column labelled as “other functions”. The functions and the assigned phrasal verbs are presented in the table below (Fig.7).

Referencing function	Inferencing function	Relating function	Resulting function	Other functions
refer to set forth set out <u>provide for</u>	result from derive from base on/upon	relate to deal with associate with coordinate with impose on/upon pertain to subject to <u>contribute to</u>	result in arrive at bring into enter into engage in limit to <u>provide for</u> <u>contribute to</u>	draw up carry on carry out take up <u>provide for</u>

Figure 7. Functional categories of phrasal verbs.

The first category contains the phrasal verbs that fulfil a **referencing function** (what Łucja Biel calls referencing pattern), i.e. they refer to something,

link to a particular place in either the same (intratextual references) or related (intertextual references) text (Biel 2015: 157), or an institution, e.g. *referred to in Article 71* (or *it may not be referred to any national or international court tribunal or similar body*). The same will apply to the other phrasal verbs within this category. All of them semantically point to indications or deixis. In the above example, *refer to* could be replaced with either one of them. The phrasal verbs assigned to an **inferencing function** category have meanings related to the process of deduction. They indicate the source from which the activity or the described phenomenon results or is based on. This is the only category that combined the phrasal verbs with a particle *from*. It may be due to the very process of drawing conclusions as they are always drawn on some basis and it is to this basis that these verbs refer. The most numerous, **relating function** category, gathers phrasal verbs whose meaning expresses a connection, however in opposite to the referencing function, it points to the specific concepts. In other words, while referencing phrasal verbs refer to specific places, these refer to a particular phenomenon, they particularise a certain concept, e.g. *it relates to the defence of the North Atlantic area*. As can be seen the reference does not concern the place in the text where the phenomenon is described, but refers directly to the phenomenon itself. To this category belong all the phrasal verbs that combine with a particle *with*. Depending on the definition of a verb it can carry the meaning of participation (cf. Biel 2015: 158) or relation. The next, **resulting function** category, is a collection of phrasal verbs which semantically express a result, an effect or an intention, e.g. *arrive at a satisfactory solution*. It includes as many phrasal verbs as the previous function. All of the phrasal verbs with the particle *in/into* are found in this category. Based on this, it can be concluded that such phrasal verbs will more likely indicate a result. The last category is a collection of phrasal verbs that express **other functions** and do not belong to any of the proposed ones.

The above categorisation of the phrasal verbs is tentative, since some categories may be considered very close to each other in terms of semantics of the analysed phrasal verbs. This division is hindered by the polysemic nature of these verbs. Some dictionary definitions of the same phrasal verb are very distant from each other – they are not linked in any way. It is therefore difficult to make an unambiguous and clear-cut division of what can be proved by the verbs that appear in several categories at the same time, all of which are underlined in the table. *Provide for* was included in three categories due to its polysemy since it means either to support, allow for or make possible, and also has a similar usage to the phrase *referred to in*. The presented division takes into account only the meanings of these phrasal verbs that have been used in the agreements and in this way does

not apply to all dictionary definitions. If more definitions were included, it would probably be possible to distinguish more categories. On the other hand, the more meanings that are included, the more difficult it would be to make such division.

In the course of the analysis, it was also verified whether any of the four thematic categories, into which all agreements were divided, tend to more often use the phrasal verbs that fulfil a particular function. As it turns out, there is no relation to the division into thematic categories of agreements. The analysis showed that the phrasal verbs occur randomly. There is neither a relationship between the thematic category of agreements and the function of phrasal verbs nor a pattern.

9. Final conclusions

The results of the analysis prove that there is a high probability of encountering phrasal verbs such as: *refer to*, *enter into*, *relate to*, *provide for* or *carry out*, and while there is a large group of such repeating verbs in all categories, some of the most numerous groups are those that occur sporadically and not in every category. Most likely, as more agreements were analysed, the number of such phrasal verbs would increase. Also, the actual number of phrasal verbs in a particular category differs. Between 23 phrasal verbs in international cooperation agreements and 38 in political agreements were found in the analysed agreements. This unequal distribution of phrasal verbs may constitute evidence that although phrasal verbs are present in international agreements, no pattern concerning their presence exists.

There is no model for translation either. The analysis of phrasal verb translation shows that there are no fixed equivalents in the Polish language. The choices are rather liberal. It may result from the polysemic nature of the phrasal verbs and thematic diversity of the agreements. Translation in this case will strongly depend on the context. Since agreements cover many areas of life, they are drawn up for different reasons, and take up many topics, the type of language measures chosen will vary depending on the theme. For example, *impose on/upon* as a strongly economic verb (e.g. *impose on taxes*) would not be observed in intellectual cooperation agreements and its translation would meet its definition.

As also shown in the course of this analysis, phrasal verbs fulfil some functions in the text. According to the division made in line with the semantic aspects, the majority of phrasal verbs indicate either a relation or a result. Some constitute references to the places both in the text and in real life. There are also phrasal verbs that express inference. They are the resultant of individual thought processes; they refer to the drawing of conclusions. However, due to

the polysemy of phrasal verbs, it is hard to make clear-cut distinctions and categorise them. The fact that agreements are broad in scope and can refer to both politics and economics in one document makes it even harder. The whole study proves the distinctive nature of phrasal verbs and lack of patterns in their functional analysis in bilateral international agreements.

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