

Ce en tour figé : qu'en faire en allemand ?

French *ce* in fixed expressions: what to do about it in German?

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Abstract: The contribution looks at how to render into modern German some fixed expressions of French containing the pronoun *ce* – *ce disant*, *ce faisant*, *pour ce faire*, *ce nonobstant*, *et ce* – in order to examine whether the discursive differences between the two languages reveal anything about the functions of French *ce* in this use. It examines the procedures by which translators attempt to preserve the semantic content of communication in a corpus consisting of French-German translations of these sequences containing *ce*, based on five bilingual sub-corpora of one hundred occurrences of each of the expressions in texts of law and international conventions. Examination of the translations shows the false semantic transparency of these *ce* formulations, whether their meaning fade away in favour of authoritative factual descriptions or change in favour of an argumentative move.

Key words: French *ce* formulations, French-German translation, *ce* as an anaphorical pronoun, *ce* as a conceptual reformulation, *ce* as an argumentative shifter.