

Translations from Turkish in Czech Republic, 1990-2010
a study by the Next Page Foundation

conducted by **Petr Kučera**
November 2010

Next Page Foundation series of studies on translation flows

in partnership with "Translating in the Mediterranean" project of Transeuropéennes and the
Anna Lindh Foundation

This work is licensed under Creative Commons



Introduction

The pre-1989 period

From the Middle Ages to the 19th century

A country not directly affected by the expanding Ottoman state, Czech lands¹ had until the 16th century only hazy notions about the Turks. Major battles of Christian armies with the Ottomans in the Balkans are here and there mentioned in chronicles, and historical sources testify to the participation of some Czechs in the Balkan wars. However, it was only after the conquest by the Ottomans of Belgrade (1521), the battle at Mohacs (1526) which cost the Czech and Hungarian king Louis II. Jagiellon his life, and the first siege of Vienna (1529) that the inhabitants of Bohemia and Moravia became keenly interested in the "Turkish phenomenon". Minor Ottoman raids into the territory of south Moravia left its traces in Moravian balads. From the 16th century onwards, the so-called "turcica" gained on prominence, texts like (printed) newspapers, treatises, sermons, chronicles, songs, texts with military and/or religious propaganda, etc. that reflected the interest in the "Turkish threat" and participated in the creation of the image of the "Other".² This, however, was for obvious reasons not translated into an interest in Turkish/Ottoman culture or literature. It is easy to speculate that the most popular genre of the 14th-19th Ottoman-Turkish literature, poetry, would be, even if known to scholars, of little interest to them or to the broader public; its highly intricate imagery, eclectic style and complicated symbolism would be probably inaccessible to them without a deep study of the Ottoman language and tradition and Islamic mythology.

We know of just one instance where a translation activity took place in the pre-19th century period. The Czech philosopher and educator John Amos (Jan Ámos) Komenský (1596-1667), a bishop of the protestant church of the Bohemian Brothers, forced into exile in 1620 by the Catholic Counter-Reformation, stood behind an international project of translating the Bible into Turkish, wrote an introduction to the future translation (*Bibliorum Turcicorum dedicatio*) and a long foreword (or rather a dedication) to the sultan Mehmed IV. However, this was not a translation from Czech, but from Latin. Jacob Golius, a professor of Oriental languages at the Leiden University, and Levinus Warner, a former Dutch ambassador to Istanbul, started to work on the project, but left it unfinished due to underfinancing.³ Interestingly enough, Komenský's textbook *Janua linguarum reserata* (The Open Gate of Languages, 1631), written originally in

¹ The term "Czech lands" designates the three historical provinces that today constitute the Czech Republic: Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia.

² There is an excellent study of this sort of literature by Tomáš Rataj: *České země ve stínu pŕlměsíce*, Prague 2002 (with an English summary). See also M. Mendel, B. Ostřanský and T. Rataj: *Islám v srdci Evropy*, Prague 2008.

³ İsmail Hakkı Kadı, *Hollanda'da Şarkiyat arařtırmaları*. In: *Dođu Batı Dergisi* 5/20, 2002, pp. 90-91.

Latin, was translated by the brother of Jacob Golius, Peter Golius, into Arabic and consequently into Turkish and Persian. No copy, however, of this translation exists.⁴

From the 19th century to World War II

The literature on “the Turks” grew steadily up to the 19th century and the image of the Turks became a firm part of Czech culture – reflected in ballads, songs, poems, proverbs, architecture, food, phrases etc. Needless to say, this was not equal to an interest in Turkish literature itself and was not accompanied by any translation activity from Turkish into Czech (or vice versa).

A scientific study of Turkey and its history and culture in Czech lands dates back just to the 19th century. To the founding fathers of this branch of “Oriental studies” belongs Max Grünert (1849-1929), who taught Arabic, Persian and Turkish philology at the German part of the Charles University in Prague, Jaromír Břetislav Košut (1854-1880) and especially Rudolf Dvořák (1860-1920), a student of Grünert and Košut. Dvořák finished his doctoral studies in Leipzig and became a private (1890) and later ordinary (1896) professor of Oriental philology at the Charles University in Prague. In the the field of Turkish studies, he is well known for his critical edition of the poetic work of the 16th-century poet Baki (*Baki's Diwan, Ghazalijjat*, Leiden 1908-11). He also published essays on Turkish literature and minor translations from Turkish in cultural magazines like *Lumír*, *Květy*, *Zvon* and *Topičův sborník*.⁵

It was thanks to Jan Rypka, (1886-1968), the author of two important works on the Ottoman poets Sabit (*Beiträge zur Biographie, Charakteristik und Interpretation des türkischen Dichters Sabit*, 1924) and Baki (*Báqí als Ghazeldichter*, 1926), that the Czech audience received the very first translation of a larger piece of modern Turkish prose: Muallim Naci's memoirs *Omar's Childhood* (“Mu'allim Nádži-Efendi: Omarovo dětství (až do jeho osmého roku)”, Otto: Prague, 1913).⁶ In 1928 Prof. Jan Rypka established an autonomous “Seminar for the Turkish and New Persian language and literature” at the Faculty of Arts of the Charles University, giving a great impetus to the development of Turkish studies in Czechoslovakia.

⁴ See Jiří Bečka's article *Turkish Literature in Czechoslovakia*, (Archiv Orientální 52/1984, pp. 167-189) for details. Bečka refers to J. Kvíčala (ed.), *Archiv o bádání o životě a spisech J.A. Komenského* (1913) and Milada Bleakstad, *Comenius. Versuch eines Umrisses von Leben* (Praha-Oslo 1969), esp. chapter XII: “Orientalische Interessen Komenskýs, Arbeit für die türkische Bibelübersetzung”.

⁵ Dvořák published medieval Ottoman poetry written by Muhibbi [Süleyman I.] (in *Květy* V, 2, 1883) and Baki (*Zvon* I, 1901), selected poems from the diwans of Fitnat Hanım, Derviş Seyyit Refet and Sultan Selíma III. (*Lumír* IX, 1881) and by newer authors like Abdülhak Hayri (*Z nejnovější turecké poesie, Ferjád /volání o pomoc/ Abd-ul-Hakka Chairího; Máj* X, 1912), Mehmed Emín, Hasan Sa'di, İsmail Hami and Celâl Şâkir (*Topičův sborník* II, 1914-15). A short story by Mehmed Emin, translated by Dvořák, is also worth mentioning (*Starý mlynář. Z knihy “V dědinkách anatólských”*, in: *Topičův sborník* IV, 1916-17). For the evaluation of Dvořák's translations see Luděk Hřebíček, *Překlady Rudolfa Dvořáka z turečtiny*, Dialog 1, 1961, s. 95. A complete bibliography of Dvořák's work can be found in *Archiv Orientální* 28/1960.

⁶ One of Rypka's first translations was a short story by Ahmet Hikmet (Salžin hřích /Salhanın Günahı/, *Besedy času* 16, 1911.)

Other translations of Turkish literature into Czech from this period include Nasreddin Hoca's anecdotes. Some of them appeared in Czech magazines already in 1894 (*Besedy lidu*, No. 2) and 1909 (Šelmovství Hodži Nasreddina [The Rogueries of Hoja Nasreddin], *Švanda dudák* 28/1909, tr. by Jan Rypka) to be soon followed by Richard Hrdlička's *Žerty a příhody Nasreddina chodži* ([Nasreddin Hoja's Anecdotes and Stories], R. Hrdlička: Tábor 1913; based on Mehmet Tevfik Fikret's new Turkish rendition and on translations into other languages) and Karel Šafář's *Šprými hodži Nasr-ed-dína efendiho* ([Hoja Nasreddin Efendi's Jokes], Družstvo práce: Praha 1932). Some of Yakup Kadri (Karaosmanoğlu)'s and Ahmet Hikmet (Müftüoğlu)'s early short stories were collected in *Turecké povídky ze sbírek Jakuba Kadryho a Achmeda Hikmeta* ([Turkish Stories from the Collections of Y.K. and A.H.], translated from Turkish by Jaromír V. Šmejkal⁷, A. Hynek: Prague 1927). Leyla Hanım's "harem memoires", highly popular throughout Europe, were translated by the same J. V. Šmejkal from Claude Farrère's French translation and issued under the title *Lejlā hānum: Vzpomínky na harém sultánů tureckých* [Leyla Hanım: Reminiscences of the Harem of Turkish Sultans] Prague: J.Otto 1928).

The few translations (or adaptations) from Turkish literature that we have until the end of World War II are far from being a representation of what was new, original and of higher aesthetic quality in Turkish literature of this period. Even works of such masters of Turkish literature like Rezaizade Mahmut Ekrem, Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil, Mehmet Rauf or Halide Edib (Adivar), to name but a few, were totally ignored. Rather, a mixture of exoticism and randomness can be seen in the selection of the translations.⁸

Turkish Literature in Communist Czechoslovakia

A vigorous interest in Turkish literature and translating from Turkish can be seen after World War II.⁹ The Charles University in Prague and the Oriental Institute, established in 1922 by the then president T.G. Masaryk (now part of the Czech Academy of Sciences), produced a number of scholars in the field of Turkish studies, some of them focusing on literature. It is not difficult to understand that the situation in Czechoslovakia after the Communist coup d'état put grave

⁷ Šmejkal presents himself in the book as "a former dragoman of the Turkish embassy in Prague". His collection includes the following stories: "Obchodník vinnými hrozny" [Grape Seller] and "Tripoliská nevěsta" [Bride from Tripoli] by Ahmet Hikmet and "Dopisy mrtvého" [Letters from a Dead Man], "In flagranti" and "Záležitost ženy" [Woman's Issue] by Yakup Kadri.

⁸ To be correct, a good selection of some short stories of better known writers of that time offers *Na táčkách u cizích spisovatelů. Povídky. Vol V.* [A Pleasant Chat with Foreign Writers. Short Stories]. Stories from all around the world transl. by O.S.Vetti [pseudonym of Alois Koudelka], Nákladem benediktinů rajhradských: Brno 1917). This book includes the following short stories: Aka Gündüz: "Turecké srdce" [Turkish Heart], Uşakizade Halid Ziya: "Psaní" [A Letter], "Když sněží" [When The Snow is Falling], "Ferhande", Ali Bey: "Hvězdy" [Stars] and Hikmet Ahmed: "O, ti muži....!" [Ah, You Men...!] Some other Turkish short stories were translated by the same translator in Volume I of the collection (Necdet, Nasir and Polat) and in *1000 nejkrásnějších novel* [The 1000 Most Beautiful Novels]. Prague 1911, Vol. 9 (a short story by Ahmet Hikmet with the title "Tetička Nakijje" [Aunt Nakiyye]).

⁹ A partial bibliography of translations from Turkish in the post-war period can be found in Karel Petráček: *Překlady z jazyků islámského předního Východu*. Sdružení českých překladatelů: Praha 1984, and Jiří Bečka: *Turkish Literature in Czechoslovakia*, in: *Archiv Orientální* 52/1984.

restriction of what could be published and was considered worth publishing. Thus, left-leaning or outwardly Marxist authors were given preference, while religious or conservative writers were disregarded.

This explains why Nazım Hikmet, a communist poet and playwright prosecuted in his homeland for his leftist ideas, is represented in Czech by an astonishing number of 16 works (plays, poetry collections and a novel), which is more than all other translated Turkish books of the pre-1989 period combined – and we are not counting dozens of his poems, stories and essays put out by literary magazines and dailies and broadcasted by radio stations. A frequent visitor to Prague, Nazım Hikmet made friends with the Czech poets Vítězslav Nezval and Jiří Tufer, and was immensely popular as a playwright. His plays were performed in well-established Czech theaters, sometimes even in world-premieres¹⁰. Based on his drama *Ferhat and Şirin*, a popular melodramatic movie *Legenda o lásce* [Legend of Love] (1956) was shot. With a few exceptions, Nazım Hikmet's works were translated from authorized Russian translations, especially by the aforementioned poet Jiří Tufer.

Other well-known Marxist writer, Sabahattin Ali, was presented to the Czech reading public by two collections of his short stories (*Anatolské příběhy* [Stories from Anatolia], 1953, transl. by Josef Blaškovič; *Šťastný pes a jiné povídky* [The Happy Dog and Other Stories], 1961, trans. by Josef Kováč), and a novel (*Ďábel v nás* [The Devil Within Ourselves], transl. by Helena Turková, 1959). Short prosaic pieces by Sabahattin Ali were printed in numerous dailies and magazines.

Other Turkish books published in Czech in this period include Hüseyin Rahmi Gürpınar's short stories (a selection was translated by Melahat Holečková in 1952), and, more importantly, two novels by the acclaimed novelist Yaşar Kemal (*Zbojník Ince Memet* [Mehmed, My Hawk], trans. by Helena Turková, and *Jeřábi se zlatými perý*¹¹, translated by Luděk Hřebíček).

We have to particularly highlight the role of the latter translator, Luděk Hřebíček, a linguist and author of numerous essays on Turkish literature, in promoting Turkish literature in Czechoslovakia. His translations of Yaşar Kemal, Orhan Veli (*Čeho se nemohu zříci*), Aziz Nesin (*Ulice Istanbulu*) and dozens of Turkish short stories and poems that appeared in magazines, were not only well chosen in regard to their literary qualities, but are also good examples of eloquent translations. Luděk Hřebíček was the most prolific translator of Turkish literature up to 1989. He not only has the lion's share of the translations (he is the author of almost a half of the 150 translations of Turkish literature published in magazines between 1945 and 1989), but also vigorously promoted Turkish literature with popular articles and radio programmes.

¹⁰ *Josef a bratři jeho* [Joseph and His Brothers] had its world premiere in Krajské oblastní divadlo in Olomouc and *Píseň o turecké zemi* [A Song About the Turkish Land] in Armádní umělecké divadlo E.F.Buriana. Jan Werich's highly regarded Divadlo satiry had *Byl Filip Filípek, nebo nebyl...?* [Did Filip Filípek Exist, or Didn't...?] on its program in the 1950s.

¹¹ On the insistence of the publishing house, the translator had to chose a "more poetic and comprehensible" title for the Czech edition than the opaque Turkish *Ortadirek* (lit. "linchpin").

Important vehicles for the dissemination of Turkish literature were especially two magazines: *Nový Orient* (New Orient), a popular-scientific periodical published by the Oriental Institute since 1945, firstly in 10 issues per year and since 2004 quarterly, and *Světová literatura* (World Literature), put out by the publishing house Odeon bimonthly between 1956-1996 in an exceptionally high number of 15.000 copies in its best times. Both magazines printed short stories, poems and essays on Oriental literatures. *Světová literatura* belonged to one the most popular and widely acclaimed literary magazines for more than four decades. Among the most translated writers, one finds Nazım Hikmet, Sabahattin Ali and Aziz Nesin, followed by Sait Faik, Oktay Akbal, Ömer Seyfettin, Kemal Özer, Demir Özlü, Nevzat Üstün and others. (See Table 2 for details).

Despite this activity, a staggeringly low total of 4 book translations were published in the period between 1970 and 2001: these include a play by Melih Cevdet Anday (tr. by L. Hřebíček) and Nazım Hikmet (tr. from Russian), a novel by Yaşar Kemal and Aziz Nesin's memoirs (both translated by L. Hřebíček). This might be explained by the end of "Turkish studies" as a field of study at the Faculty of Arts of the Charles University – conditioned to a certain extent by the communist ruling class' distaste towards Turkey as a pro-American country and a member of NATO. The major translator of Turkish literature of this period, Luděk Hřebíček, devoted his attention rather to quantitative linguistics, at the expense of his translatory activities (publishing "only" shorter pieces in magazines). In comparison, the situation was somewhat different in Slovakia (which is out of the scope of this report): though no Turkish studies existed there as well, Xénia Celnarová, a very active translator from Turkish and a literary critic, published dozens of translations of modern Turkish prose. However, after her retirement, translations from Turkish almost stopped to appear in Slovakia – after all, one translator cannot keep pace with a whole national literary tradition.

Table 1

Bibliography of Czech translations of Turkish literature, 1945-1988

Books

(ordered chronologically by years); if not otherwise stated, the translations are directly from Turkish. English translation of the titles are given in square brackets, followed by the original name (when it was possible to find it out).

1950

- Helena Turková: *Překlad z turečtiny a zpracování čtyř kapitol z cestopisu Evliji Čelebího po Dalmacii a Bosně v letech 1660-1661, jakož i kritické upravení tureckého textu* [Translation from Turkish and Textual Elaboration of Four Chapters from Evliya Çelebi's Travelogue Concerning his Travels in Dalmatia and Bosnia in 1660-1661] (unpublished PhD thesis, Prague 1950).

1951

- Nazim Hikmet: *Zpěv za mřížemi* [Singing behind Bars; selected poems], tr. from Russian, English and French by Jaroslav Bouček and Adolf Kroupa, Praha: Mladá fronta.
- *Poesie zbraň pravdy. Básníci světa v boji za mír a socialismus.* [Poetry – A Weapon of Truth. World Poets in the Struggle for Peace and Socialism]. Selected and edited by Adolf Kroupa, Prague 1953. (Includes a couple of poems by Nazim Hikmet in Jozef Blaškovič's translation).

1952

- Nazim Hikmet: *Vyprávění o turecké zemi* [A Story About the Turkish Land], trans. from Russian by Růžena Pochová, Praha: ČDLJ [a typewritten text of the play for distribution in theatres]
- Gürpınar, Hüseyin Rahmi: *Cařihradské povídky* [Stories from Constantinople; selected short stories], trans. by Melahat Holečková, Praha: Svoboda.

1953

- Nazim Hikmet: *Vyprávění o turecké zemi*, trans. from Russian by Růžena Pochová-Seydlerová, Praha : Orbis) [a hard cover version of the play]
- Sabahattin Ali: *Anatolské příběhy* [Stories from Anatolia; selected short stories], trans. by Jozef Blaškovič, Praha: SNKLHU.

1954

- Nazim Hikmet: *Legenda o lásce* [Legend of Love; orig. Ferhad ile Şirin], transl. from Russian František Šec Praha: ČDLJ [a play]

- Nazım Hikmet: *První den sváteční* [The First day of Holidays]. From an authorized Russian translation tr. by Vladimíra Horáčka Praha: Čs. divadelní a lit. jednatelství [a typewritten version of the play]
- Zdenka Přenosilová (Veselá): *Dílo Mahmuta Makala "Bizim Köy" – Naše vesnice a jeho postavení v turecké literatuře* [Mahmut Makal's work "Our Village" and its Position in Turkish literature], unpublished MA thesis, Prague 1954 [the second volume includes a translation of the work].
- Savaş Üstünel [pseudonym of İsmail Bilen]: *Cesta boje. Zápisky tureckého komunisty* [The Path of Fight. Notes of a Turkish Communist, orig. Savaş Yolu. Bir Türk Komünistinin Notları], trans. by Zdenka Přenosilá and Ctirad Šárka, with a foreword by Nazım Hikmet, Praha: SNPL 1954.

1955

- Nazım Hikmet: *Legenda o lásce* [Legend of Love; orig. Ferhad ile Şirin], transl. from Russian František Šec Praha: ČDLJ [a hard-cover version of the play]

1956

- Nazım Hikmet: *A věčně budu žít (Josef a jeho bratři)* [And I shall live forever (Joseph and His Brothers, orig. Yusuf ile Menofis]. Tr. from Russian by František Šec. [a play]
- Nazım Hikmet: *Byl Filip Filípek nebo nebyl?* [Did Filip Filípek Existed, or Did He Not?, orig. Ivan Ivanoviç var mıydı yok muyudu], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer, ČDLJ: Praha. [play]
- Nazım Hikmet: *Podivín* [Freak, orig. Enayi], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. ČDLJ: Praha. [a play]
- Nazım Hikmet: *Lebka* [Scull, orig. Kafatası], tr. from Russian by František Šec. ČDLJ Praha [a play]
- Nasr Ed-Dín hodža: *Nasreddinovy taškařice* [Hoja Nasreddin's Escapades], tr. by Pavel Saman and Eva Krausová. SNKLHU: Praha.

1957

- Nazım Hikmet: *Stanice* [Train Station; orig. İstasyon], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. ČDLJ: Praha [a play].

1958

- Nazim Hikmet: *Kráva* [Cow; orig. Īnek], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. ČDLJ: Praha [a play]
- Luděk Hřebíček: *Dílo Mahmuta Makala o turecké vesnici (s překladem vybraných kapitol z knih "Köyümden" a "Memleketin sahipleri")* [The Work of Mahmut Makal on the Turkish village (including a translation of selected chapters from the books "Köyümden" a "Memleketin sahipleri")]. Unpublished MA thesis, Prague.

1959

- Nazim Hikmet: *5 her* [5 plays], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. SNKLHU: Praha.
- Nazim Hikmet: *Člověk ze starých novin (Zapomenutý)* [A Man from Old Newspapers (The Forgotten One); orig. Unutulan Adam], tr. from Russian by Soňa Danielová 1959. Dilia: Praha [a play]
- Nazim Hikmet: *Damoklův meč* [Damocles' Sword, orig. Demokles'in Kılıcı], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. Dilia: Praha. [a play]
- Nazim Hikmet: *Pobyť v Praze* [Poems from Prague], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. Československý spisovatel: Prague.
- Sabahattin Ali: *Ďábel v nás* [The Devil Within Ourselves; orig. İçimizdeki Şeytan]. Mladá fronta: Praha.

1961

- Sabahattin Ali: *Šťastný pes a jiné povídky* [The Happy Dog and Other Stories; selected short stories], tr. by Josef Kováč, Praha : SNDK.

1963

- Nazim Hikmet: *Listí ze šesti stromů* [Leaves from Six Trees; selected poems], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. Praha : SNKLU
- Aziz Nesin, *Udělej něco, Mete* [Do Something, Mete!] Dilia: Praha, tr. by Josef Blaškovič [a play]

- Taner, Haldun, *Destán Aliho z Kešánu* [The Destan of Ali of Kashan, orig. Keşanlı Ali Destanı], tr. by Jitka Zamrazilová, Brno. [a play]

1964

- Orhan Veli: *Čeho se nemohu zřici* [The Things I Can't Give Up, orig. Vazgeçemediklerim], tr. by Luděk Hřebíček, Praha : SNKLU [poetry]

1965

- I. Kučerová, *Tvorba Saita Faika* [The Work of Sait Faik], unpublished MA thesis, Prague (includes a translation of 6 short stories by S.F.)

1966

- Nazim Hikmet: *Romantika* [Romantic Life; orig. Yaşamak Güzel Şey Be Kardeşim], tr. from Russian by Jiří Taufer. Praha: Československý spisovatel.
- Yaşar Kemal: *Zbojník Ince Memed* [The Bandit Ince Memed, orig. İnce Memed], tr. by Helena Turková, Praha : SNKLU.
- Jitka Zamrazilová: *Turecký lidový milostný epos o Keremovi a Asli* [The Turkish Love Epic about Kerem and Asli], unpublished M.A. thesis, Prague [includes a translation of the epic].

1967

- Eva Filipiová: *Iskendername v tvorbě Ahmediho (podle bratislavského rukopisu)* [Iskendername in Ahmedi's Work (according to the Bratislava manuscript)], unpublished MA thesis, Prague [includes a partial translation of the epic].

1970

- Anday, Melih Cevdet: *Jak se hraje mikádo* [How To Play Micado; orig. Mikado'nun Çöpleri], tr. by Luděk Hřebíček, Praha : Dilia. [a play]

1976

- Nazim Hikmet: *Vzpoura žen* [A Women's Uprising], originally published in Russian and dramatized by Wiktor Grigoryewitch Komissarzhevsky, tr. from Russian by Karel Vondrášek. Dilia: Praha. [a play]

1979

- Yaşar Kemal: *Jeřábi se zlatými pery* [Cranes With Golden Feathers; orig. Ortadirek], tr. by Luděk Hřebíček, Praha : Odeon.

1983

- Aziz Nesin: *Ulice Istanbulu* [The Streets of Istanbul; orig. Böyle Gelmiş Böyle Gitmez], Praha : Odeon. [memoirs]

Total:

Novels:	4 (3 tr. from Turkish, 1 from Russian)
Collections of Short Stories:	3
Poetry Collections:	4 (2 tr. from Turkish, 2 from Russian)
Dramas:	16 (3 tr. from Turkish, 13 from Russian)
Memoirs:	1
History:	2 (unpublished)
Reportages/Essays:	2 (unpublished)
Political Literature:	1
Folk Literature:	2 (1 unpublished)

Table 2

Translations published in magazines 1945-1988 (An Overview)

For the purposes of this report, the magazines *Nový Orient* and *Světová literatura*, where an estimated 90 % of all translations were published, were perused. Minor translations are scattered in other magazines and dailies like *Tvorba (Kmen)*, *Rudé právo*, *Mladá fronta*, *Život*, *Vlasta*, *Zemědělské noviny*, *Svět v obrazech* etc. There were included in the statistics only if given in the translators' bibliographies or in other reference works.

Note: The number of entries on poetry refers to a whole entry in a magazine, not to the number of individual poems in a piece of translation published under a single title (e.g. if a translation in the same issue of a magazine was published under the same title like "The poems of...", this was counted as one item, regardless of how many poems were actually translated).

Abbreviations of translators' names:

LH – Luděk Hřebíček

JZ – Jitka Zamrazilová

TL – Tomáš Laně

JB – Jozef Blaškovič

HT – Helena Turková

Author	Number of translations into Czech		Year of publication/magazines (NO-Nový Orient, SL-Světová literatura)	Translator/s
	Prose	Poetry		
Abasiyanik, Sait Faik	6		1968 SL, 1973 NO, 1977 NO (2x), 80 NO, 1984 NO	LH (5), JZ (1)
Abayhan, Muzaffer	1		1986 NO	TL

Akbal, Oktay	4		1971 SL, 1983 NO, 85 NO (2x)	LH
Ali, Sabahattin	12		1949-50 NO, 50-51 NO, 52 NO 53 NO (3x) + at least 6 in other magazines ¹²	Z. Hanzová (2), Melahat Holečková (1), HT (1), JB (4), H. Dujová (1), O. Zukal (1)
Anday, Melih Cevdet		1	1963 SL	LH
Balıkçısı, Halikarnas	1		69 NO, 1975 NO (2x)	LH
Baykurt, Fakir	2		82 NO (2x)	TL
Behzad, Encüment		2	1966 NO, 1969 NO	LH
Cumalı, Necati	3	1	1971 NO, 1975 SL, 1976 NO 1970 Vlasta	LH (2), JZ (2)
Dağlarca, F.H.		1	1956 NO	LH
Derviş, Suat	2		1963 NO, Vlasta	E. Kudrna (1), F. Marčík (1)
Dölek, Sulhi	2		1987 NO, 88 NO	TL, LH
Durbaş, Refik		1	1983 NO	LH
Dursun, Tarık	1		1969 NO	JZ
Erdoğan, Fahri	2		1959 Kultura, 1962 Svět v obrazech	J. Stára

¹² J. Bečka cites the magazines *Život* (1951 – 2x, 1955), *Rolnické hlasy* (1953), *Zemědělské noviny* (1953) and *Vlasta* (1974), translators: JB, H. Dujková, Z. Hanzová, O. Zukal and other unknown.

Ertem, Sadri Ethem	1		1948-9 NO	R. Resková
Gör, Sitki Salih		1	1969 NO	LH
Güler, Mehmet	1		1987 NO	LH
Gürpınar, Hüseyin Rahmi	1		1963 Lidová demokracie	J. Rypka
Güven, Ferit Celal	1		1952 NO	JB
Horozcu, Oktay Rifat		1	1965 SL	LH
Karaosmanoğlu, Yakup Kadri	1		1946-7 NO	V. Matějček
Kemal, Orhan	1		1976 SL	TL
Kemal, Yaşar	1		1962 NO	Z. Veselá
Kocagöz, Samim	2		1969 NO, 1981 NO	LH, JZ
Muhteremoğlu, Afet	1		1970 NO	JZ
Nazım Hikmet ¹³	> 10	> 23	1949-57 NO (13x) (+ over 20 in other magazines) ¹⁴	Adolf Kroupa (1), JB (3), LH (7), J. Budínová + J. Beran (1)
Nesin, Aziz	> 25	2	1961 NO, 62 NO, 70 NO, 73 NO, 75 NO, 80 NO (6x), 81 NO (3x), 83 NO and SL, 84 NO, 85	LH (16), JB (2)

¹³ N. Hikmet's translations were in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s widely published in dozens of dailies and magazines; therefore, we can provide only approximate figures.

¹⁴ J. Bečka cites the magazines and dailies *Kultura*, *Literární noviny*, *Divadlo*, *Plamen*, *Tvorba*, *Kulturní tvorba*, *Čtení* and *Impuls* (in the 1950s and '60s)

			NO, 87 NO (2x) + more than 7 in other magazines ¹⁵	JZ (1)
Nida, Ömer	1		1957 NO	LH
Ömer Seyfeddin	5		1949-50 NO, 1970 Ostravský večerník and Rovnost, 1973 Průboj, 1976 NO	HT (1), JZ, TL, J. Hamza (2), K. Nebeský (1)
Özer, Kemal	2	1	1980 SL, 1982 NO (2x), 1983 NO	LH
Özyalçiner, Adnan		1	1971 SL	JZ
Püsküllüoğlu, Ali		1	1984 NO	LH
Selçuk, Turhan	1		1979 NO	LH
Seyda, Mehmet	2		1969 SL, 1985 NO	LH, TL
Seyfettin, Tunç		2	1975 NO, 83 NO	JZ
Seyfi, Orhan	1		1963 Svět v obrazech	
Seyyit, Nezir		1	1983 NO	LH
Sümer, Dinçer	1		1979 SL	TL
Süreya, Cemal		1	1984 NO	LH
Taner, Haldun	1		1977 SL	TL
Taşdelen, Hürol		1	1983 NO	LH
Üstün, Nevzat	3	1	1965 SL, 1966 NO 1969 NO, 1980 NO	LH
Veli, Orhan		2	1958 NO, 1960 SL	LH
Yavuz, Hilmi	1		1984 NO	LH
Folk literature¹⁶			NO 1956 (2x), 1957 (2x), 1958, 1969, 1960, 1961, 1962 (2x),	Pavel Saman (5),

¹⁵ J. Bečka cites *Čtení* (1966), *Svět v obrazech* (1966), *Lidová demokracie* (1968) *Dikobraz* (1969), *Mladá fronta* (1969), *Vlasta* (1971) – these are translations mostly via other languages.

¹⁶ This comprises of Nasreddin Hoca's stories, folk anecdotes, folk riddles, songs, poems and fairy tales.

			1973 and NO 1946, 1955 (2x), 1956, 1960 (fairytales)	HT (6), LH (5), Zdenka Veselá (1)
Total:	104	44	+ 16 (folk prose and poetry)	Total of 164

Most prolific translators: LH: 70, JZ: 11, JB: 10, TL: 9, HT: 8, Pavel Saman: 5

Publishing and translations market in the Czech Republic (1999-2009)– an overview

After the Velvet Revolution in 1989, the Czech book market literally exploded. New publishing houses mushroomed, books previously prohibited or censored started to be brought out (including religious literature) and the number of translations skyrocketed (many times at the expense of quality). According to the statistics compiled by the *Svaz českých knihkupců a nakladatelů* (SČKN, The Union of Czech Booksellers and Publishers, see the individual reports for the years 1997-2009 at www.sckn.cz), translated books represented approximately 1/3 of all published books over the last 10 years. English dominated the chart of most translated languages with about 50 % (over the past 5 years), followed by German and, with a much greater distance, by French, Slovak, Polish and Russian. From the total of all published books, fiction (domestic and foreign) made up about 25,5 % in 2009, 22,5 % in 2008, 22 % in 2005 etc.

Since only 6 books were translated from Turkish between 1989 and 2010 (8 if we include translations via English), it is obvious that this couldn't have had any impact on the Czech publishing market

Published books (source: SČKN)

1999 12 551
2000 11 965
2001 14 321
2002 14 278
2003 16 451
2004 15 749
2005 15 350

2006 17 019 10%
 2007 18 029 6 %
 2008 18 520
 2009 17 598

Translations (*source: SČKN*)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
TOTAL	4 088	3 910	4 352	4 342	4 602	4 604	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
from English	2 118	2 088	2 340	2 329	2 362	2 301	2 211	2 556	2 665	2 969	3 005
from German	1 106	927	991	982	1 029	1 033	980	1 186	1 115	1 168	1 157
from French	192	201	227	225	273	267	243	244	285	270	293
from Turkish	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1

Registered publishers (*source: SČKN*)

2005 3 775
 2006 3 908
 2007 4 073
 2008 4 344
 2009 4 583

Translations from Turkish into Czech – the post-1989 period

As mentioned in the previous section, no translation of a Turkish book appeared until 2001. Turkology was, after 1989, again incorporated into the curricula of the Faculty of Arts at the Charles University, including courses on Turkish literature, but it took some time before it produced students with a sufficient knowledge of the language and culture. One of them, Petr Štěpánek, a historian, published in 2001 a translation from Ottoman Turkish: Osman Aga of Timișoara's memoirs on his captivity among Christians at the end of the 17th /beginning of the 18th century.

Five years later, Triton Publishing House commissioned a translation from English of Serdar Özkan's *The Missing Rose*. The book was originally written in Turkish, but the author himself produced (or co-authored) an English edition, which is now the source text for translations into other languages. Serdar Özkan was practically unknown in Turkey at that time and his book attracted some attention there only after being promoted as "a bestseller in the West". Beside a certain attractiveness of its "Eastern mysticism" and pseudo-philosophy, this book seems to be an awkward choice as introduction to modern Turkish literature. The only reason behind the decision to publish a Czech version might be the fact that this small novel had been already translated into some Western languages and scored well in other countries – plus Özkan's very active and persuasive literary agent made it a good marketing commodity.

Already before winning the Nobel Prize for literature in 2006, there was some interest on part of leading publishing houses in the Czech Republic in having Orhan Pamuk's major works translated. Almost simultaneously, three publishers commissioned a translation of one of Pamuk's works. The first of them, *Istanbul. Memoirs of a City*, translated from English by Klára Kolínská, appeared in 2007. It was followed by *My Name is Red*, translated from Turkish by Petr Kučera. Both books have had great success with readers and their first editions were sold out fast. This was, of course, prompted by the Nobel Prize for Pamuk, awarded to him shortly before the publication of the books. Moreover, the translator Petr Kučera won in 2008 the Magnesia Litera Prize in two branches – Best Translation of the Year and Discovery of the Year – for his translation of Pamuk's *My Name is Red*. This prestigious award – the award ceremony was broadcasted by Czech TV and widely publicized – might also have augmented the attraction of Turkish literature for Czech readers and publishers alike. A translation of Pamuk's *New Life* was brought out shortly afterward by Fra (tr. by Petra Prahlová, 2007). Argo, the publisher of *My Name is Red* and a major publisher in the Czech Republic, later acquired the rights for the translation of Pamuk's other works. Thus, *Snow* (2009) and *The White Castle* (2010) appeared in Czech translations (both tr. by Petr Kučera) and *Black Book* should soon follow suit. In the meantime, Zülfü Livaneli's *Happiness* hit the shelves of bookstores in 2008 (tr. by Tomáš Laně), printed by Dar Ibn Rushd, a publishing house focusing on Oriental literatures.

Despite the currently low number of active translators from Turkish, this trend and the openness of publishers to books from Turkey, there is a great hope that other major works of Turkish authors might sooner or later be available in Czech. We shouldn't, of course, underestimate the role English/American (and to a lesser degree German) book markets play as a model for publisher in considering books for translation. A book translated into English,

German and possibly other languages that has already scored well in Western European markets, has definitively higher chances of being published by a Czech publisher than a book not yet discovered by the West.

1. General statistics and genre division

This part is an overview of the translations by year of publication and genre. (If not otherwise stated, the translations are directly from Turkish).

Novels

2006

Serdar Özkan: *Ztracená růže* [The Missing Rose; orig. Kayıp Gül], tr. from English by Libuše and Luboš Trávníček, Triton: Prague.

2007

Pamuk, Orhan: *Istanbul*, tr. from English by Klára Kolínská, BBart: Prague.

Pamuk, Orhan: *Jmenuji se Červená* [My Name is Red; orig. Benim Adım Kırmızı], tr. by Petr Kučera, Argo: Prague.

2008

Livaneli, Zülfü: *Štěstí* [Happiness; orig. Mutluluk], tr. by Tomáš Laně, Dar Ibn Rush: Brandýs nad Labem.

Pamuk, Orhan: *Nový život* [New Life; orig. Yeni Hayat], tr. by Petra Prahlová, Fra: Prague.

2009

Pamuk, Orhan: *Sníh* [Snow, orig. Kar], tr. by Petr Kučera, Argo: Prague.

2010

Pamuk, Orhan: *Bílá pevnost* [White Castle, orig. Beyaz Kale], tr. by Petr Kučera, Argo: Prague.

Memoirs/History

2001

Osman Aga z Temešváru [Osman Aga of Timișoara]: *Ve stínu kříže* [In the Shadow of the Cross; orig. Esirlik hatiralari], tr. by Petr Štěpánek, Brody: Praha.

3. Other publications

In comparison to the pre-1989 period, a relatively low number of translations have been published in magazines and other periodicals. *Nový Orient* still continues to support and print translations of shorter prose and poetry pieces on its pages – however, a total of scant 4 stories/book excerpts have appeared there in the last 10 years. The highly appraised literary magazine *Světová literatura* was for different reasons discontinued in 1996 after almost 50 years of existence. *PLAV – Časopis pro světovou literaturu* (PLAV – Magazine for World Literature), who claims to build on the tradition of *Světová literatura*, is currently putting out a special issue on Turkish literature (with translations of short stories and poems by Luděk Hřebíček, Petra Prahlová, Petr Kučera and Tomáš Laně). *A2*, a leading literary magazine, printed in 2006 an issue on Orhan Pamuk, excerpts of his work and an essay by him and once in a while publishes short reviews of Turkish works. (For details, see *Table 3*) *Iliteratura*, one of the most popular and comprehensive Czech websites devoted to domestic and world literatures, has a special section on Turkish literature, with different reviews, articles, news etc.

Table 3

Translations from Turkish literature published in periodicals (1989-2010)

Abbreviations:

NO=Nový Orient

SL=Světová literatura

If not otherwise noted, the translated pieces are short stories.

1989

1. Türkay, Osman: *Ze současné vesmírné poezie* [From Contemporary Cosmic Poetry], **NO** 10, tr. Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY].
2. Aysan, Behçet: *Hlasy a popely* [Voices and Trashes], **SL** 1, tr. Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY].
3. Edgü, Ferit: *Výkřik* [A Cry], **NO** 4, tr. by Tomáš Laně
4. Özlü, Demir: *Hledat Cristinu Nilssonovou* [Looking for Cristina Nilsson], **NO** 9, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček
5. Özlü, Demir: *Sousedka* [The Neighbour], **NO** 7, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček

6. Özlü, Demir: *Ze "stockholmských povídek". Žena. Hodinář* [From the "Stockholm Stories". A Woman. A Watchmaker] **NO** 7, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček
7. Paksoy, Abdülkadir: *Ze současné turecké poezie*. [From Contemporary Turkish Poetry] **NO** 1, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček. [POETRY]

1990

1. Baykurt, Fakir: *Porodím v horách* [I Will Give Birth in the Mountains], **NO** 4, tr. by Tomáš Laně
2. Emre, Yunus: *Z gazelů* [From the Ghazels], **NO** 9, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY]
Eray, Nazlı: *Monte Christo*, **NO** 3, tr. by Tomáš Laně.
3. Altan, Çetin: *Občan, jehož trápilo bezpráví* [A Citizen Troubled by Injustice] **NO** 5, tr. by Jitka Malečková

1991

1. Emre, Yunus: *Z destánu o rozumu* [From the Destan of Reason], **NO** 9, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY]
2. İzgü, Muzaffar: *Pacient* [The Patient], **NO** 10, tr. by Tomáš Laně
3. Kavukçu, Cemil: *Na lodi* [On Board], **SL** 2, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček
4. Yıldız, Bekir: *Otec a syn* [Father and Son], **NO** 7, tr. by Tomáš Laně

1992

1. İzgü, Muzaffar: *Nejlepší při výprasku* [The Best One at Drubbing], **NO** 2, tr. by Tomáš Laně
2. Ziya Paşa: *Gazel* [A Ghazel], **NO** 5, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY]
3. Ahmet Haşim, *Půlnoc* [Midnight], **NO** 5, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY]
4. Özer, Kemal, *Věřit v navršení* [Believing in Piling Up], tr. by Luděk Hřebíček, [POETRY]

1993

1. Edgü, Ferit: *Ve tmě* [In the Darkness], **NO** 4 tr. by Luděk Hřebíček

1994

1. *Turecký gazel z Bosny* [A Turkish Ghazal from Bosnia], NO 7, tr. by Luděk Hřebíček [POETRY]

2000

1. *Paměti Osmana Agy z Temešváru (ukázka z chystané knihy)* [Osman Aga's Memoirs (Excerpt from a Forthcoming Book)], **NO** 2, tr. by Petr Štěpánek.

2003

1. Oğuz Atay, *Povídkaři z nádraží – Sen* [Storytellers from a Train Station – A Dream], **NO** 7, tr. by Petr Kučera.

2006

1. Ferit Edgü, *Tři sny / pády* [Three Dreams, Tree Falls], **NO** 4, tr. by Petr Kučera.
2. Pamuk, Orhan, *Uvězněn v Istanbulu. Ukázka z románu Bílá pevnost* [Captive in Istanbul. An Excerpt from the Novel The White Castle], **A2**, Nr. 41, tr. by Petr Kučera.

2009

1. Livaneli, Zülfü, *Šťěstí (ukázka z románu)* [Happiness (an excerpt from the novel)], **NO**, tr. by Tomáš Laně.

Total: 25 (poetry – 9, prose-16)

4. Translations in the other direction

If wouldn't be wrong if we say that Czech literature in Turkey means Milan Kundera. Franz Kafka is also at times presented in bibliographical notes as "Czech author" though he is, of course, in the mind of educated readers rather connected with German literature (we do not, therefore, list him in the following bibliography). Among other Czech authors who gained some reputation in Turkey one finds Jaroslav Hašek (his *The Good Soldier Schweik* was translated by 5 different translators and is regularly reprinted), Karel Čapek, Václav Havel and Bohumil Hrabal. Poetry has been translated very rarely – only Vítězslav Nezval is available in Turkish with a representative selection from his poems. Not even the Nobel Prize winner Jaroslav Seifert has been published in Turkish yet. Beside the occasional translation of a book by acknowledged Czech prosaists like Ivan Klíma, Jan Otčenášek or Pavel Kohout, one encounters also such curiosa like a novel by Jan Kozák, an insipid example of the dull Czech socialist realism, two editions (the last one from 1997!) of the *Notes from the Gallows* by Julius Fučík, the poster-hero of communist propaganda, or works by minor writers like Karel Ptáčník or Josef Toman. The selection is, doubtlessly, much conditioned by the availability of these books in translations into other languages (English, French, German), since only very rarely do we find a direct translation from Czech. This is, again, caused by the fact that no Turkish university has offered Czech studies yet which would produce qualified translators of Czech literature (whereas there are, for instance, programs in Hungarian or Polish language and literature). The few exceptions of translators in good command of Czech are Halil Bedi Yönetken, a musicologist and composer who studied in Prague (1928-1932), and Martin Alaçam, a translator and musician of a Turkish-Czech family.

In putting together a list of what has been published in Turkish from Czech literature, one has to deal with a host of serious problems: first of all, since most of the published works are translations via English, French or German, it is difficult to track them down in databases by "source language". Moreover, many publishers do not mention what language was used for the translation (though one might infer the original from the way names are misspelled and from other textual clues).

The publishing policy of Turkish publishers seems to be somewhat haphazard – books by more popular authors are first published in smaller quantities and then reprinted in a fast sequence, sometimes even on a monthly basis. Thus, we have now the 36th edition of Kundera's *Unbearable Lightness of Being*, reprinted uninterruptedly again and again every year.

In the following list, we mention only the first and the last edition (if trackable) of Kundera's works. Other authors are, if possible, given here with all editions. Though Kundera wrote his later works in French, we decided to list them here as well – after all, the discussion to which "national tradition" Kundera belongs is far from being resolved. In contrast, Kafka, who published exclusively in German and is usually brought into connection with the German literary tradition only, is not registered here.

It should be noted that the following list might be incomplete or in some cases inaccurate, as available databases (the Turkish National Library, on-line lists of individual publishers) are not always reliable and I was not able to verify every single edition.

Translations of Czech literature into Turkish

1939

■ Hašek [Hašek], Jaroslav: *Dedektif bürosu* [Detective Agency], tr. from ? by Sabiha Zekeriya Sertel, İstanbul 1939.

1943

■ Sabina, Carl [Karel]: *Satılmış nişanlı* [The Bartered Bride; orig. Prodaná nevěsta], tr. from Czech by Halil Bedi Yönetken. Ankara : Devlet Konservatuvarı 1943. [OPERA]

1962

■ Oçenaçek [Otčenášek], Jan: *Romeo Juliette ve karanlıklar* [Romeo, Juliette and Darkness; orig. Romeo, Julie a tma], tr. from French by Şerif Hulusi. İstanbul 1962.

1964

■ Sabina, Karel: *Satılmış nişanlı*. İstanbul: İstanbul Şehir Operası 1964 [reprint of the 1943 edition?]

1968

■ *Çekoslovak Hikayeleri Antolojisi* [Antology of Czechoslovak Short Stories], tr. by ?, İstanbul: Varlık Yayınları 1968.

1969

■ Ptačnik [Ptáčník], Karel, *Bir Avuç Delikanlı* [A Handful of a Boy; orig. Chlapák?], tr. from English ? by Tektaş Ağaoğlu, Gün Yayınları 1969.

1978

- Čapek, Karel: *Haydutoğlu haydut* [The Bandit, orig. Loupežník], tr. from English by Can Kapyalı. Istanbul: Gözlem Basımevi, 1978 [DRAMA]
- Kundera, Milan: *Veda oyunu* [The Farewell Waltz, orig. Valčík na rozloučenou], tr. from French by Aydın Emeç. Istanbul: Hür Yayın & Ticaret A. Ş., 1978. ■ Voříšková, Marie: *Çingene masalları* [Gipsy Fairy Tales; orig. Zpívající housle: cikánské pohádky], tr. from ? by İlhan Kubanç, Istanbul: Özal Basımevi 1978.

1979

- Fučík [Fučík], Julius: *Darağacından Notlar* [Notes from the Gallows, orig. Reportáž psaná na oprátce], tr. from German ? by Şemsa YeğİN 1979. [MEMOIRS/ESSAYS].

1981

- Hrabal, Bohumil: *Sıkı kontrol edilen trenler* [Closely Watched Trains, orig. Ostře sledované vlaky], tr. from German by Zeyyat Selimoğlu, Istanbul: Can Sanat, 1981.
- Kundera, Milan: *Gülüşün ve unutuşun kitabı* [The Book of Laughter and Forgetting, orig. Kniha smíchu a zapomnění], tr. from French by Halim Inal, Istanbul: Hür Yayın & Ticaret A. Ş. 1981.

1982

- Hrabal, Bohumil: *Sıkı kontrol edilen trenler*, 1982 (2nd edition).

1983

- Hašek, Jaroslav: *Aslan Asker Şvayk* [Osudy dobrého vojáka Švejka za světové války], tr. from English by Reşit Ergener. Istanbul: Acar Matbaacılık 1983. ■ Hašek, Jaroslav: *Köpek suratlı maymun* [Dog-faced monkey, orig. ?], tr. from English by Ülkü Tamer. Istanbul: Milliyet 1983.

1984

■ Pelikán, Jiří: *Doğu Avrupa'da sosyalist muhalefet* [Socialist Opposition in Eastern Europe], tr. from English? by M. Halim Spatar, Istanbul: Sistem Ofset Matbaacılık Yayıncılık ve Ticaret Limited Şti. 1984. [FACT]

1986

■ Hašek, Jaroslav: *Arslan Asker Şvayk* [Osudy dobrého vojáka Švejka za světové války], tr. from ? by SâmiH Tiryakiođlu, Istanbul: Amaç 1986.

■ Kundera, Milan, *Varolmanın dayanılmaz hafifliđi* [The Unbearable Lightness of Being, orig. Nesnesitelná lehkost bytí], tr. from French by Fatih Özgüven, İstanbul : İletişim 1986.

1987

■ Özkırımlı, Atilla (ed.): *Yazarları da vururlar* [They Kill Also the Writers], tr. from English by Celal Üster, Istanbul: Cem 1987. [collection; contains a translation of Kundera's writing].

■ Kundera, Milan: *Yaşam başka yerde* [Life is Elsewhere, orig. Život je jinde], tr. from French by Levent Kayaalp. Istanbul: İletişim 1987.

1988

■ Kundera, Milan: *Ayrılık valsı* [The Farewell Waltz, Valčík na rozloučenou], tr. from French by Aydın Emeç Istanbul: Can 1988.

■ Kundera, Milan: *Gülünesi aşklar* [Laughable Loves, orig. Směšné lásky], tr. from French by Serdar Rifat Kırkođlu. Istanbul: Ayrıntı 1988.

1990

■ Kundera, Milan: *Anahtar sahipleri* [The Owner of the Keys, orig. Majitelé klíčů], tr. from French by Rekin Teksoy. Istanbul: Remzi 1990 [DRAMA]■ Kundera, Milan: *Şaka* [Joke, orig. Žert], tr. from French by Zehra Gençosman. Istanbul: Can 1990.■ Havel, Václav: *Görüşme kutlama çağrı: Üç oyun* [Audience: Three Plays, orig. Audience and Vernisáž], tr. from ? by Esin Talû Çelikkan. Istanbul: Remzi 1990.■ Havel, Václav: *Buruk ezgi* [orig. Largo desolato], tr. from ? by Kemal Boztepe and Ülkü Akbaba, Istanbul Can 1990.■ Havel, Václav: *Şeytan çelmesi* [Temptation, orig. Pokušení], tr. from English by Sevgi Sanlı, Istanbul: Can 1990.

1991

■ Kozák, Jan: *Mariana Radvaková*, tr. from English by Yurdanur Salman. Istanbul: Simavi Yayınları 1991.

■ Nezval, Vítězslav: *Bütün şiirlerinden seçmeler* [A Selection from His Collected Poems], ed. by T. Fişekçi, tr. from German by Ahmet Cemal 1991.

1992

■ Klíma, Ivan: *Sevda ve süprüntü* [Love and Garbage, orig. Láska a smetí], tr. from English by Armağan İlkin. Istanbul: Remzi 1992.

■ Kundera, Milan: *Jacques ile efendisi* [Jacques and His Master, orig. Jakub a jeho pán], tr. from French ? by H. Haluk Kuruoğlu, Istanbul: Can 1992. [DRAMA]

■ Hašek, Jaroslav: *Aslan asker şvayk (1-2)*, tr. from ? by Zeynep Özalpsan. Istanbul: Engin 1992.

1994 ■ Nezval, Vítězslav: *Bütün şiirlerinden seçmeler*. Istanbul: Kavram, 1994. (2nd edition)

■ Kundera, Milan: *Jacques ile efendisi* 1994 (2nd edition).

1995

■ Čapek, Karel: *Ana* [Matka], tr. from ? by Armağan Sancar Ersin 1995?.

1997

■ Fučík, Julius: *Darağacından Notlar*, Payel Yayınevi 1997 [2. edition]

1998

■ Daněk, Oldřich: *Savaş ikinci perdede çıkacak* [Válka vypukne po přestávce], tr. from English by Yücel Erten, Ankara: Öteki 1998 [DRAMA].

■ Nezval, Vítězslav: *Bütün şiirlerinden seçmeler* 1998 (2nd edition)

■ Nezval Vítězslav: *Nezval*, tr. from German by Turgay Fişekçi 1998. ■ Kundera, Milan: *Kimlik* [orig. L'Identité], tr. from French by Aykut Derman, 1998.

2001

- Hašek, Jaroslav, *Aslan asker Chveik* [The Good Solider Schweik], a dramatization of Hašek's novel by Charles Apotheloz, tr.from French by Selehattin Hilav, İzlem Yayınevi 2001.

2002

- Kundera, Milan: *Bilmemek* [orig. L'Ignorance], tr.from French by Aysel Bora İstanbul : Can Yayınları 2002
- Kundera, Milan: *Ölümsüzlük* [Immortality, orig. Nesmrtnost], tr. by Aysel Bora, İstanbul : Can Yayınları 2002
- Kundera, Milan: *Yavaşlık* [orig. La Lenteur], tr. from French by Özdemir İnce İstanbul : Can Yayınları 2002
- Kundera, Milan: *Roman sanatı*[orig. L'art du roman], tr. from French by Aysel Bora, Can Yayınları 2002.

2003

- Kohout, Pavel: *Dul kasabı* [orig. Hvězdná hodina vrahů] tr. from German by Ali Özdamar 2003.

2004

- Hrabal, Bohumil: *Gürültülü yalnızlık* [Příliš hlučná samota], tr. from ? by Ruşen Sezer, İstanbul : Tavanarası Yayıncılık 2004.
- Kohout, Pavel, *Dul kasabı*. İstanbul : Doğan Kitapçılık 2004. [reprint from 2003]

2005

- Topol, Jáchym: *Andel* [orig. Anděl], tr. from Czech by Martin Alaçam. İstanbul : Norgunk Yayıncılık 2005.

2006

- Hašek, Jaroslav: *Galaride Portreler, Bürokratlar - Esnaflar ve Öteki Taşlaşmışlar* [Portraits from a Gallery, orig. Galerie karikatur], tr. from ? by [Naime Yılmaer](#), Kastaş 2006.
- Hašek, Jaroslav: *Aslan asker Şvayk ve Dünya Savaşı'nda başından geçenler*, tr. from English by Celal Üster, İstanbul : Can Yayınları 2006
- Toman, Josef: *Sokrates. Tanrıdan insana, karanlıktan aydınlığa* [orig. Sokrates], tr. from ? by Çiğdem Canan Dikmen Ankara : Yurt Kitap Yayın, 2006.
- Ouředník, Patrik, *Europeana*, tr. from French by İsmet Birkan, Dost Kitabevi 2006.
- Kundera, Milan, *Perde* [orig, Le Rideau] tr. French by Aysel Bora, Can Yayınları 2006
- Kundera, Milan, *Şaka*, İstanbul : Can Yayınları, 2006 [2. edition].

2007

- Hašek, *Köpek Suratlı Maymun* [2nd edition]
- Hrabal, Bohumil *Sıkı kontrol edilen trenler*, tr. from German by Zeyyat Selimoğlu İstanbul : Everest Yayınları, 2007 [new edition]
- Ptačnik [Ptáčník], Karel *Bir avuç delikanlı*, 2007 [2nd edition]
- Oçenaçek Jan: *Romeo Juliette ve karanlıklar* [2nd edition]
- Kundera, Milan, *Ölümsüzlük*, İstanbul : Can Yayınları, 2007. [2.edition]
- Kundera, Milan, *Saptırılmış vasiyetler* [About the Disputes of Inheritance, orig. O sporech dědických], tr. from French by Özdemir İnce, İstanbul : Can Yayınları, 2007.

2008

- Çapek, Karel: *Semenderlerle savaş* [War with the Newts, orig. Válka s mlöky], tr. from English and compared with the Russian translation by Can Kapyalı İstanbul : Everest Yayınları, 2008.
- Kundera, Milan, *Bilmemek*. İstanbul : Can Sanat Yayınları, 2008 [3rd edition].

2009

- Kundera, Milan, *Ayrılık vals*, İstanbul : Can Sanat Yayınları, 2009 [2nd edition]
- Kundera Milan, *Gülünesi aşklar*, tr. from French by Serdar Rifat Kırkoğlu Yay [5th edition?]

- Kundera *Yaşam başka yerde* [12th edition].
- Kunder *Gülüşün ve unutuşun kitabı*, tr. from French by Gülhan Bener [2nd edition, new translation].

2010

- Kundera, Milan: *Bir Buluşma* [orig. Une rencontre], tr.from French by Roza Hakmen, Can Istanbul.
- Kundera, Milan: *Varolmanın dayanılmaz hafifliđi* [The Unbearable Lightness of Being, orig. Nesnesitelná lehkost bytí], tr. from French by Fatih Özgüven, İstanbul : İletişim [36th edition].

Translations of Turkish authors via other languages

As we have already discussed in sections I and III, in the pre-1989 period authorized Russian translations of Nazım Hikmet were preferred for translations into Czech. The author himself in many cases collaborated with the translator and provided explanatory notes. After 1989, two works from Turkish literature were translated via English: Pamuk's "memoirs of a city", *Istanbul*, and Serdar Özkan's *The Missing Rose*. While the latter English edition was made by the author himself and usually serves as a source text for translations into other languages, the Czech translation of Pamuk's *Istanbul* from English nicely captures Maureen Freely's admirable rendition of Pamuk, but stays somewhat far from the original Turkish version. With these exceptions, almost all other translations in the post-War period were made from the Turkish original – which is different from Turkey, where due to the lack of translators of Czech the bulk of the translations from Czech literature was prepared via other languages (English, French, German)

Translators from Turkish – working conditions and training

The situation of translators from Turkish (or other non-European languages for that matter) doesn't differ much from the conditions of the rest of the translators. Since literary translation is not a profitable activity and a translator can't earn his living just by translating fiction, almost all translators of non-Western literatures (and a majority of other translators as well) have other professions (commercial translating, editing, teaching etc.) and translate fiction only in their free time.

The average basic fee for a literary translation is about 135 CZK (cca 5,4 EUR) per page, while 150-160 CZK (6-8,4 EUR) is considered an over-the-average payment. The page is calculated as 1800 strokes (with spaces). Usually, it is not taken into account, how demanding a source text is; rather the commercial side of it is reflected in the payments (thus, a translator of a simple detective novel is paid the same or even more than a translator of linguistically highly demanding authors). Royalties are usually not paid to translators. In some, rather rare cases, translators can get a very small percentage of reeditions of a given book (2-3 percent).

Especially in bringing out less known writers, grants and subsidies might play a decisive role. In the case of Turkish literature, the TEDA project, a translation and publication subvention project started in 2005 by the Turkish Ministry of Culture, is one of the major frameworks for obtaining subsidies. The translation of Orhan Pamuk's 4 novels and a translation of Zülfü Livaneli's book were supported by the project; the publication of Pamuk's *New Life* was, in turn, subsidized by three foundations: Nadace Český literární fond, Allianz Cultural Foundation and EU's Culture 2000. To my knowledge, these grants do not contribute to a better payment of translators; they mostly cover only the costs of publication.

There are currently three active translators of Turkish literature: Petr Kučera, Tomáš Laně and Petra Prahlová.

Mediators

Since only one publisher (Argo) has brought out more than one translation from Turkish after 1989, we can not make any generalizing statements about the role of publishers in contributing to the translation and dissemination of Turkish literature. As we have already noted, the international recognition of an author and the fact the s/he has been translated into English, German or French might increase his/her attractiveness for a Czech publisher. Availability of grants/subsidies is also instrumental in the decision making process of a publisher.

There have been only a few events focusing on Turkish literature: the Prague Book Fair (Svět knihy) in 2009 hosted the novelist Elif Şafak and the poet Bejan Matur had a public reading in 2010. Here and there, reviews of Turkish works and news about Turkish authors (particularly if involving prosecution in Turkey, as in the case of Pamuk and Şafak) are released.

Reception

Given the low number of translated works from Turkish after 1989, it is not easy to make any evaluative statements on the reception of Turkish literature in general. Orhan Pamuk was well received both by critics and readers alike; his books belong to good selling items (though not bestsellers) and are regularly reviewed and commented upon in newspapers, and, in some cases, radio and TV programs.

Evaluative assessments and recommendations

Looking back at the post-1989 period in regard to translations from Turkish into Czech, we can identify two trends: an increased interest in Turkish literature, enabled by a combination of different factors (the Nobel Prize for Orhan Pamuk, Turkey approaching the EU membership, Turkey as a favorite tourist destination etc.), and a rising number of translations into Czech, with a generally good quality both of the translation and of the print. However, since literary translations are badly paid and the number of translators from Turkish strongly limited, this translation activity is far from reaching the limits of its potential. A comprehensive system of

subsidies to translations from less-known languages (like the one established in Scandinavian countries) would definitively invigorate translations from Turkish into Czech.

On the other side, unless there is a program in Czech studies established at a Turkish university, one cannot expect a rise in the number of translations from Czech, let alone translations directly from Czech. Until that time, the Turkish reading public has to get along with the few "translations of translations".