

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF LEGAL TERM FORMATION IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK: LOANWORDS, CALQUES, AND NEOLOGISMS

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Introduction

Legal terminology is an essential component of any legal system, providing precision, clarity, and uniformity in legal communication. The formation and adaptation of legal terms vary across languages due to historical, cultural, and linguistic differences. In Uzbekistan, the development of legal terminology has been strongly influenced by **Russian and English**, due to historical ties with the Soviet Union and the increasing integration into international legal frameworks [1,2].

The accurate formation of legal terms in Uzbek is crucial for several reasons. First, Uzbekistan's participation in international treaties, contracts, and collaborations requires precise translation of foreign legal concepts. Second, modern legislation introduces concepts that were not previously present in the Uzbek legal lexicon, creating the need for **loanwords, calques, and neologisms**. Loanwords are terms borrowed directly from another language, preserving much of the original semantic content. Calques (loan translations) involve translating foreign terms literally into the target language. Neologisms are newly created terms intended to express legal concepts not previously present in Uzbek [3].

The main aim of this research is to provide a **comparative analysis of legal term formation in English and Uzbek**, examining the strategies used to adapt foreign legal concepts into the Uzbek language. Special attention is given to the **influence of Russian legal terminology** as an intermediary, which sometimes causes semantic interference or incomplete understanding of English legal concepts [4].

Relevance of the Topic

The topic is relevant for several reasons:

1. **International Legal Communication:** Uzbekistan's legal system increasingly interacts with English-language legal documents, international contracts, and treaties. Accurate translation and term formation are essential to avoid misunderstandings or legal disputes.
2. **Language Modernization:** As new laws are enacted and global legal standards are adopted, Uzbek needs precise and standardized legal terminology. Understanding the strategies of term formation helps **modernize legal language** and align it with international norms [5].
3. **Educational and Professional Importance:** Legal translators, linguists, and law practitioners require systematic knowledge of how English legal terms are rendered in Uzbek. Misinterpretations due to reliance on Russian intermediaries may affect both translation accuracy and legal practice.
4. **Lexicographical Development:** This study contributes to compiling comprehensive **legal dictionaries** that reflect contemporary realities and provide guidelines for translators and lawmakers [6].

Research Methods



The following methods were employed in this research:

1. **Comparative Linguistic Analysis** – Comparing the formation of legal terms in English and Uzbek, identifying patterns in loanwords, calques, and neologisms.
2. **Corpus Analysis** – Examination of legal texts, contracts, and legislation in English and Uzbek to detect term formation strategies and frequency of usage.
3. **Historical Linguistic Method** – Tracing the origin and adaptation of foreign legal terms into Uzbek, particularly through Russian influence.
4. **Case Studies** – Detailed analysis of selected English legal terms and their Uzbek equivalents to evaluate effectiveness, semantic clarity, and practical usage.
5. **Survey of Legal Translators** – Gathering expert opinions on challenges in term formation, semantic interference, and translation strategies [7,8].

Analysis of Term Formation

Loanwords

Loanwords are borrowed directly from English (or Russian as an intermediary) and retain much of their original meaning. Examples include:

Contract → *Kontrakt*

Arbitration → *Arbitraj*

Appeal → *Apellyatsiya*

Loanwords are beneficial for maintaining **international compatibility**, especially in contracts, arbitration, and international law. However, excessive reliance on loanwords can lead to comprehension challenges for those unfamiliar with foreign languages.

Calques (Loan Translations)

Calques translate foreign terms literally to preserve meaning in Uzbek, making concepts more **semantically transparent**:

Legal entity → *Huquqiy shaxs*

Due process → *Qat'iy jarayon*

Intellectual property → *Intellektual mulk*

Calques help integrate foreign legal ideas without introducing foreign lexical items, thus supporting understanding among legal practitioners and citizens.

Neologisms

Neologisms are newly coined terms developed to fill lexical gaps:



Social contract → *Ijtimoiy shartnoma*

Administrative liability → *Ma'muriy javobgarlik*

Corporate governance → *Korporativ boshqaruv*

Neologisms demonstrate **linguistic creativity** and adapt foreign concepts to Uzbek cultural and linguistic norms.

Table 1. Comparative Analysis of Legal Term Formation in Uzbek

English Term	Uzbek Loanword	Uzbek Calque / Loan Translation	Uzbek Neologism
Contract	Kontrakt	Shartnoma	—
Arbitration	Arbitraj	—	—
Legal Entity	—	Huquqiy shaxs	—
Due Process	—	Qat'iy jarayon	—
Social Contract	—	—	Ijtimoiy shartnoma
Administrative Liability	—	—	Ma'muriy javobgarlik
Corporate Governance	—	—	Korporativ boshqaruv

The table illustrates that **loanwords, calques, and neologisms** serve complementary purposes: loanwords ensure international understanding, calques preserve semantic clarity, and neologisms allow integration of new concepts into the Uzbek legal lexicon.

Findings and Discussion

1. English legal terms are transmitted into Uzbek mainly through **loanwords and calques**, with Russian often serving as an intermediary.
2. Neologisms are increasingly employed to accommodate new legislation and modern legal concepts.
3. Reliance on Russian intermediaries can create **semantic interference**, occasionally distorting the intended meaning of English legal terms.
4. The combined use of loanwords, calques, and neologisms ensures that legal terminology is both **accurate and accessible** to Uzbek legal practitioners and citizens.

Conclusion



The study demonstrates that the formation of legal terms in Uzbek relies on **loanwords, calques, and neologisms**, each serving a distinct role in integrating English legal concepts. Loanwords provide international compatibility, calques ensure semantic transparency, and neologisms enable adaptation of modern legal concepts into the Uzbek system.

Recommendations:

- Encourage **direct English-Uzbek translation**, minimizing Russian mediation where possible.
- Develop **standardized legal dictionaries** for consistent term usage.
- Provide training for legal translators and linguists on **term formation strategies**.
- Conduct ongoing research to support the **modernization of Uzbek legal terminology**.

Overall, the study contributes to the **clarity, precision, and modernization of the Uzbek legal lexicon**, enhancing legal communication and international cooperation.

References

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