

REPORT Using Google Translate for OSINT

v1.1.0

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REVISION HISTORY

Version	Date	≗ Author	Description of Changes
v1.0.0	10/05/2025	Eldon G.	Initial draft.
v1.1.0	10/17/2025	Eldon G.	Updated report structure, clarified task descriptions, and standardized validation steps for all translation exercises.





1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

This project demonstrates how Google Translate can be used in OSINT investigations to understand texts in other languages. Analysts often find content in non-English languages from news, code repositories, social media, and websites. Translating this content into English and other languages helps find important information, such as compromised systems, tactics, and planned operations.



2.0 TASK EXECUTION

2.1 Translating News Article Text

- Identified a news article containing text in a foreign language.
- Action: The text was pasted into Google Translate.
- Output: Translated into English and another target language
- Validation: The meaning remained consistent across translations.

2.2 Translating Source Code Comments

- Identified and extracted comments written in a foreign language from a public GitHub repository relevant to threat intelligence (simulating real-world analysis).
- Action: Pasted into Google Translate.
- Output: Translated into English and another target language
- Validation: The technical context was preserved during translation.

2.3 Translating Text in an Image

- Recovered text: Selected a social media post image containing text in a foreign language.
- **Action:** The image was uploaded to the Google Translate image tool.
- Output: Translated into English and another target language
- **Validation:** The translation was compared with the visible context in the image.

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2.4 Translating a Document

- Recovered document: Located a document in a foreign language using targeted search queries.
- Action: The document was uploaded to Google Translate.
- Output: Translated into English and another target language
- Validation: Verified readable and accurate translations in both outputs.

2.5 Translating a Webpage

- **Recovered webpage:** Identified a webpage containing text in a foreign language through search queries.
- Action: The URL was entered into the Google Translate webpage feature.
- Output: Translated into English and another target language
- Validation: The key sections of the page were translated accurately.

3.0 VALIDATION

3.1 Translation Accuracy Verification

Each translation task was tested and confirmed as follows:

- News articles translated into English and another target language.
- Source code comments were translated into English and another target language.
- Social media images were translated into English and another target language.
- The document was translated into English and another target language..
- The webpage was translated into English and another target language.



4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 Key Takeaways

- Google Translate is versatile for translating text, images, documents, and webpages.
- Translation into multiple languages increases contextual understanding and cross-verification.
- Analysts can quickly process foreign content without deep knowledge.

4.2 Security Implications and Recommendations

- Translations should be validated because automated tools can misinterpret technical jargon or idioms.
- Sensitive investigation content should not be uploaded online, as it may be leaked.
- Google Translate is best used as a first-pass tool, and human linguists should review critical translation.