

PRAGMATICS OF IRISH AND AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH: IMPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

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Abstract. This article investigates the role of Irishisms and Australisms in legal discourse through the lens of pragmatics. It also studies how culturally marked realia affect interpretation in legal, diplomatic, and international contexts and potential challenges due to their at times non-equivalent nature in Standard English and Ukrainian. The study also situates these findings within the broader context of Ireland–Ukraine and Australia–Ukraine relations, thereby combining a linguo-pragmatic focus with a geopolitical dimension.

To address these issues, we formulated two research questions: (1) How do Irishisms and Australisms influence legal communication in English? (2) What translation strategies are applied to render the same meaning in the target language?

Among key objectives were: a) examining frequency and contextual patterns of Irishisms and Australisms in corpus-based data; b) exploring their pragmatic use in legal discourse; c) identifying and addressing potential challenges in translation of culturally marked realia.

Keywords: Australian English, culturally marked realia, Irish English, legal discourse, pragmatics.

1. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY.

The language of law has often been criticized for its obscurity and inaccessibility. Lawyers and legal texts have long been the object of popular satire for their reliance on archaic terminology, complex syntactic structures, and specialized jargon (Goodrich 1987).

While numerous scholars like P. Goodrich, S. Mcveigh, S. Mehmi, V. Hayaert have explored legal discourse quite broadly, relatively little research has focused on how specific lexical features of regional English varieties – particularly Irishisms and Australisms – are used within legal communication. Irishisms are linguistic features either borrowed from the Irish language or characteristic of the Irish variety of English, occurring at multiple levels of linguistic structure: phonology, morphology, lexicon, idiomatic expressions, and syntax (Filppula & Hickey 2007).

This study focuses exclusively on lexical Irishisms and Australisms, aiming to address a gap in the literature by examining their use, frequency, and pragmatic functions of a selected range of lexical items within legal discourse. In doing so, it highlights how culturally marked realia affect interpretation and communication in both domestic and international legal settings, with particular attention to challenges in translation into Ukrainian.

The paper is structured into Introductory remarks and several sections. Section 2 and 3 explores Irishisms such as *Gaeltacht*, *Taoiseach*, *Oireachtas* and Australisms such as *Appeasement*, *Court of Petty*

Sessions, Tent Embassy in terms of legal relevance, frequency, and potential for misinterpretation in intercultural contexts. Sections 4 and 5 situate these findings within the legal and treaty frameworks of Irish–Ukrainian and Australian–Ukrainian relations. It is further subdivided into: a) establishment and formalization of diplomatic relations; b) institutionalization; c) post-2014 and post-2022 reinforcement. Finally, Section 6 offers conclusions, emphasizing the interplay of linguistics and law.

2. IRISH ENGLISH: IRISHISMS UNDER THE LEXICO-SEMANTIC FIELD OF LAW.

In exploring the intersection of language, law, and cultural identity, the lexeme *Gaeltacht* offers a compelling illustration of how Irish English preserves and institutionalizes indigenous concepts. *Gaeltacht* refers to a region with a predominantly Irish-speaking population (Filppula&Hickey 2007).

In Ireland, there are three main regions where Irish is the dominant language in everyday life, and which have a legally recognized status due to Gaeltacht Act 2012 (Government of Ireland, 2012). All Gaeltachts are located in the west of the country – in the counties of Donegal, Connemara, Kerry, Cork, and Waterford (Hickey, 2024). The term *Gaeltacht* originates from the Irish language, where it denotes both an Irish-speaking territory and – in literary usage – the population residing there (O Donaill, 1977).

Legal relevance of the term lies in the fact that it determines funding, education policy, and state service obligations in Irish. The lexeme should not be employed exclusively to denote a purely “cultural area”, but rather a legally regulated linguistic territory with rights and quotas.

Gaeltacht often appears in the titles of regulations found on the official website The eISB (Irish Statute Book), which is comprised of: (a) Bunreacht na hÉireann – the Constitution of Ireland, (b) Acts of the Oireachtas from 1922 to the present day, (c) All of the available pre-1922 Acts that remain in force, and (d) All available Statutory Instruments from 1922 to the present day. There we identified **186 tokens**, most of which concern Statutory Instruments regulating departmental administration, changes in ministerial titles, and the appointment of special advisers in areas linked to Irish-language and regional policy (**Figure 1**).



[S.I. No. 175/2025 - Irish Language and the Gaeltacht \(Transfer of Departmental Administration and Ministerial Functions\) Order 2025](#)

Preview unavailable at this time

[S.I. No. 236/2025 - Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media \(Alteration of Name of Department and Title of Minister\) Order 2025](#)

Figure 1. Frequency and the distributional analysis of the term *Gaeltacht*
(source: the official website The eISB (Irish Statute Book <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie>)

Corpus verification confirms the widespread use of this term in the Irish variety of English and its almost absolute absence in other English varieties. For **comparison**, the **Australian English** corpus contains only two isolated instances of the term, both accompanied by parenthetical explanations clarifying that the Gaeltacht refers to Irish-speaking regions in Ireland (**Figure 2**).

In the GloWbE corpus, the anglicized plural form *Gaeltachts* is also found, representing an example of Irishism assimilation at the morphological and grammatical level. However, the original Irish plural form *Gaeltachtan* can also be encountered sporadically, particularly in digital tourism discourse, namely in the titles of online articles such as “The Gaeltachtan of West Cork” (Pure Cork, 2024), in book chapters such as “Gaeltachtan of Connacht” (Hindley, 1990), and in posts on thematic social media pages, for instance, “The Gaeltachtan are beautiful areas of Ireland” on the Facebook page Diaspyra na Gaeltachta (Diaspyra na Gaeltachta, 2020).



Figure 2. Frequency of the lexeme *Gaeltacht/ Gaeltachts/ Gaeltachtai* in the GloWbE corpus

The linguistic landscape of *Gaeltachts* is unique. As the author and traveler M. Bespalov, who visited almost every small and large *Gaeltacht*, notes:

All official signage is exclusively in Irish... Information on street signs is accompanied by pictograms. A cross indicates a cemetery, a building with a pointed roof – a church, and a horse – a parking area, whether for horse-drawn or motorized vehicles. (Bespalov, 2020, p.108)

Gaeltachts were officially recognized for the first time in the 1920s as a result of active efforts to promote the Irish language during the Gaelic Revival (Maguire, 2002). The creation of *Gaeltachts* formed part of the Irish government’s policy aimed at revitalizing the Irish language. This confirms that *Gaeltacht*, as such, functions not merely as a geographical descriptor but as a linguopragmatic marker of Ireland’s language policy, cultural heritage, and legal identity.

From a translation perspective, retention is typically applied to *Gaeltacht* when used in Standard English in order to reflect its institutional authenticity. In Ukrainian, phonetic transcription is always applied: *Gaeltacht* → *Гельтахт/ Гелтахт*, which preserves the linguistic identity while making it pronounceable for Slavic speakers.

In a similar way, the title *Taoiseach* – denoting the official Prime Minister of Ireland and Head of Government – illustrates how Irishism has been integrated into the institutional and legal framework of the state. Etymologically rooted in the Irish word *taoiseach* meaning “chief” or “elder” (Y Dynaill, 1977), the lexeme carries historical associations with clan-based governance. In contemporary discourse though, it designates the highest executive office under Irish constitutional law.

The official website The eISB (Irish Statute Book) demonstrates **36 tokens** of the lexeme *Taoiseach*, predominantly in titles and texts of Statutory Instruments related to appointments within the Department of the Taoiseach (**Figure 3**).

The distributional and contextual analysis showcases that the *Taoiseach* fulfils a set of core executive and administrative functions. These functions include: **(a) executive leadership;** **(b) appointment and oversight functions;** **(c) legislative interaction;** and **(d) international and diplomatic functions:**

36 results sorted by Date (latest first) results per page 10 < 1 2 3 4 >

S.I. No. 298/2025 - Appointment of Special Advisers (Taoiseach) Order 2025

Preview unavailable at this time

S.I. No. 300/2025 - Appointment of Special Advisers (Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach) Order 2025

Preview unavailable at this time

Figure 3. Frequency and the distributional analysis of the term *Taoiseach* (source: the official website The eISB (Irish Statute Book <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie>)

Corpus evidence from GloWbE records **4 164 instances** of *Taoiseach*, underscoring its frequency and visibility not only in domestic discourse but also within international political communication (**Figure 4**). The contextual analysis demonstrates its usage both in highly formal registers, for instance – political speeches and legislative contexts and more informal references in blogs or public debates concerning government decisions.

For comparison, the Australian English corpus contains 16 instances of the term *Taoiseach* (**Figure 4**), usually appearing with context that clarifies it refers to the Prime Minister of Ireland.



Figure 4. Frequency of the lexeme *Taoiseach* in the GloWbE corpus

In Standard English, retention is the prevailing translation strategy of the lexeme *Taoiseach*: its original form is preserved for constitutional and cultural authenticity. However, for audiences unfamiliar with Irish political structures as well as the Irish language, a descriptive gloss (“*prime minister*”) is often added to prevent misinterpretation. A further pragmatic complication arises from the orthography of the term which is therefore frequently mispronounced, especially in international contexts.

In Ukrainian legal contexts, phonetic transcription ensures intelligibility while approximating the original Irish pronunciation. The title is commonly rendered phonetically as *miwɛk* [tishek], which reflects the adaptation of the Irish sound system into Slavic phonology. This translation strategy balances fidelity to the Irish term with accessibility for Ukrainian speakers.

In 2023, the Taoiseach of Ireland, Micheál Martin, was awarded the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise (II degree) in recognition of his significant personal contribution to strengthening interstate cooperation, supporting Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, and promoting the Ukrainian state internationally (President of Ukraine, 2023). This episode not only illustrates the legal-pragmatic visibility of the title in global contexts but also foregrounds Ireland’s consistent support for Ukraine

during the ongoing full-scale war. These aspects of bilateral cooperation, including humanitarian assistance and the Ukrainian community in Ireland, will be discussed in the following subchapter *Reinforcement of Legal and Diplomatic Ties (Post-2022)*.

The lexeme *Oireachtas* constitutes another salient example of Irishism within the lexico-semantic field of *law*. It refers to the Irish National Parliament, which is composed of the President of Ireland, Dáil Éireann (the lower house), and Seanad Éireann (the upper house). Under *Bunreacht na hÉireann* (the 1937 Constitution of Ireland), the Oireachtas represents the central legislative authority, and the formula “Acts of the Oireachtas” appears consistently in primary legal documents, statutes, and judicial proceedings. Its legal relevance is therefore fundamental: no statute may acquire binding force without reference to the Oireachtas.

Having analyzed the frequency of the term *Oireachtas*, we found **14 944 tokens** both in act titles and texts themselves (**Figure 5**). The distributional and contextual analysis reveals that the Oireachtas performs a set of constitutionally entrenched functions. They can be categorized into several groups:

(a) legislative functions:

- enactment of primary legislation;
- amendment of existing statutory provisions;
- delegation of limited regulatory powers through Secondary Legislation and Statutory Instruments.

(b) supervisory functions:

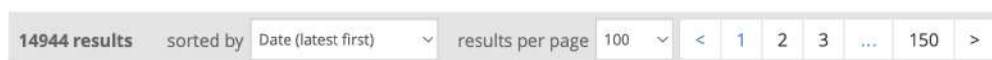
- scrutiny of ministerial decisions;
- approval or annulment of statutory regulations;
- oversight of public bodies via Oireachtas committees (requesting reports, compelling attendance, evaluating administrative actions).

(c) fiscal functions:

- authorisation of public expenditure;
- approval of national budget allocations;
- regulation of financial accountability mechanisms.

(d) international and treaty-related functions:

- approval and ratification of treaties;
- incorporation and oversight of EU obligations;
- approval of intergovernmental agreements.



[Act No. 1/2025 - Ministers and Secretaries and Ministerial, Parliamentary, Judicial and Court Offices \(Amendment\) Act 2025](#)

..... *Oireachtas* (Allowances to Members) and Ministerial, Parliamentary, Judicial and Court Offices (Amendment) Act 19983. Short title Acts Referred to Ministers and Secretaries (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 1977 (No. 28) *Oireachtas* (Allowances t

[Act No. 1/2025 - Ministers and Secretaries and Ministerial, Parliamentary, Judicial and Court Offices \(Amendment\) Act 2025, Section 2](#)

..... *Oireachtas* (Allowances to Members) and Ministerial, Parliamentary, Judicial and Court Offices (Amendment) Act 1998 2. Section 3A of the *Oireachtas* (Allowances to Members) and Ministerial, Parliamentary, Judicial and Court Offices (Amen

[Act No. 2/2025 - Merchant Shipping \(Investigation of Marine Accidents\) Act 2025](#)

..... *Oireachtas* as follows: (*end of document*).

Figure 5. Frequency and the distributional analysis of the term *Oireachtas* (source: the official website The eISB (Irish Statute Book <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie>)

From a linguopragmatic perspective, however, the term presents a challenge. Unlike *Parliament*, which has near-universal recognition across English-speaking jurisdictions, *Oireachtas* is frequently left untranslated in legal and political discourse. This strategy preserves institutional authenticity but may obscure the precise scope of the term for international audiences unfamiliar with Irish political structures. Such opacity becomes especially problematic in comparative law, where *Oireachtas* may be erroneously equated with Westminster-style parliaments or with monocameral legislatures, thereby underrepresenting its tripartite composition.

Corpus-based evidence confirms both the centrality and contextual variability of the term. In GloWbE, *Oireachtas* occurs in formal registers – most prominently in legislative texts (e.g., “any resolution passed by either House of the Oireachtas”) and official websites such as *acts.oireachtas.ie*.

For comparison, the Australian English corpus contains only 7 instances of the term *Oireachtas*, typically accompanied by parenthetical explanations clarifying that it refers to the Irish Parliament (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Frequency of the lexeme *Oireachtas* in the GloWbE corpus

At the same time, the term is embedded in journalistic and civic discourse: references to the *Oireachtas Justice Committee* or debates on controversial bills illustrate its pragmatic salience in public deliberation. While the legal domain provides the most consistent attestations, the pragmatic range of the lexeme demonstrates its embeddedness in both constitutional law and the socio-political imagination of contemporary Ireland.

Oireachtas exemplifies how Irishisms function as markers of institutional specificity in legal English, yet simultaneously generate challenges of comprehension and equivalence in intercultural and international communication. This duality highlights the necessity of treating such lexemes not merely as linguistic peculiarities but as pragmatic signifiers of legal identity and sovereignty in the Irish state.

From the perspective of translation strategies, retention (borrowing without translation) is most frequently applied to the term *Oireachtas*. Having done the corpus analysis alongside contextual analysis, we can state that *Oireachtas* in Standard English is preserved in its original form in legal texts and international agreements. The reason behind this is maintaining institutional authenticity. This strategy does ensure fidelity but at times it may hinder comprehension for audiences unfamiliar with Irish legal structures. In order to avoid this and mitigate risks of misinterpretation, it is advised to render this term descriptively as well (*The Irish parliament*).

In Ukrainian legal discourse, phonetic transcription/transliteration is applied. The original term’s pronunciation is preserved as closely as possible, while adapting it to the phonological system of Ukrainian: *Oireachtas* is rendered as *Epexmac* in Ukrainian to approximate the pronunciation in Irish.

3. AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH: AUSTRALISMS UNDER THE LEXICO-SEMANTIC FIELD OF LAW.

In the course of examining Australisms across different discourses, it is worth delving into the lexico-semantic field of law. One notable example is the lexeme *Appeasement*, which denotes a policy of buying off an aggressor through concessions, usually at the sacrifice of principles.

Firstly, appeasement is linked to Neville Chamberlain’s policy toward Nazi Germany, which is perceived from a highly negative perspective and might be interpreted as a sign of weakness from the Australian side. The peculiarities of the policy are vividly examined in the first generalist monograph “Australia and Appeasement” (by Christopher Waters).

The study alludes to Australia’s interwar foreign and defence policy during World War II. Waters convincingly demonstrates that, in the 1930s, Australian foreign and defence policy was underdeveloped, questionable, and unsophisticated. Conservative politicians rejected Britain’s suggestions to take a more independent course. They adhered to the idea of a perpetual British Empire whose role was to defend and guarantee Australia’s security.

Furthermore, the Australian government supported and parroted British policy in a restrained manner. At the same time, it followed a “radical appeasement plan” which meant a broader and more assertive commitment to this policy. The monograph has a chapter titled “Friendship with all: Australia’s radical appeasement plan”, which unveils that Australian diplomacy during this period was even more extensive and conciliatory than Britain’s own approach. The author also focuses on leading Australian statesmen of the 1930s: Joe Lyons, Stanley Bruce, Robert Menzies, Billy Hughes, and Richard Casey and their attitude toward the policy of appeasement in different crises.

The most difficult stage, which finally demonstrated the failure of the policy of appeasement, coincided with the time when Hitler invaded Poland and Chamberlain was forced to grind this doctrine to an abrupt halt and declare war. Australian leaders were convinced that a diplomatic resolution was still possible and could not acknowledge the collapse of appeasement. Australian authorities suggested open negotiations rather than hastily imposing sanctions on the invaders. By and large, Australia was more reticent about military confrontation. However, once the Empire was about to crack up in the wake of Britain’s declaration of war, Prime Minister Menzies could not help but join the war as a dominion and fight against Nazi Germany. This marked the moment when the British Empire and its dominions, after years of sticking to appeasement, shifted from a policy of conciliation to violent warfare.

The policy of appeasement remains relevant in the context of modern politics and warfare. The idea is related to the well-known Israeli–Palestinian conflict. Recently, Prime Minister Albanese was blamed for pouring “*fuel on this antisemitic fire*” after recognizing Palestine. The Israeli Prime Minister condemned the action and called it a form of appeasement towards Hamas.

In a broader pragmatic sense, appeasement is used in legal discourse, namely within industrial relations law. It refers to arbitration systems that were regarded as mechanisms of “appeasement” for resolving or settling disagreements and disputes between employers and employees, often to prevent strikes or protest by meeting employees’ demands primarily to pacify them. However, the technique has been viewed as inefficient for achieving sustainable results and addressing underlying issues or inequities, especially when compared with such constructive approaches as meditation or collective negotiations.

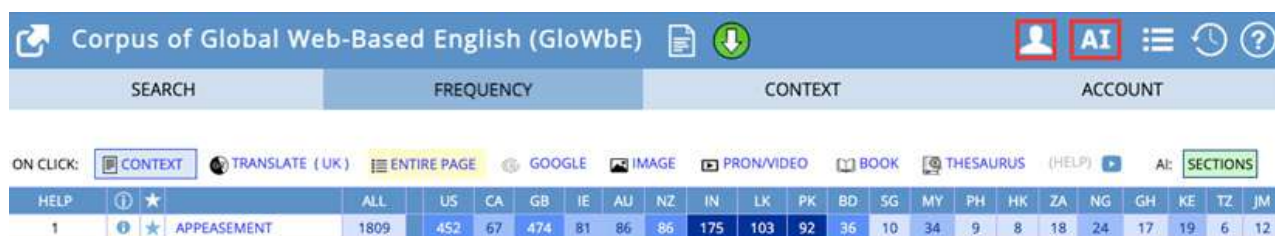


Figure 7. Frequency of the lexeme *Appeasement* in the GloWbE corpus

To sum up, the lexeme *Appeasement* is not a fixed cornerstone in Australian law but rather a rhetorical and evaluative notion. It can occur in sentencing commentary, political-legal debates and on social media to pragmatically point out weakness, meaningless reconciliation, or pacification aimed at evading escalation or maintaining peace. For intercultural communication, it's necessary to emphasize that in Australian usage, “appeasement” almost never carries a neutral connotation – it usually conveys criticism.

In analyzing the legal and regulatory framework that governs the use of the term *Appeasement*, it was worth considering the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976. Although the lexeme itself doesn't appear in the Act, it alludes to the system of pacification aimed at addressing conflicts arising from claims to land rights. Thus, there are some terms related to the semantic field of *Appeasement* – such as “compensation”, “settlement”, “conciliation”. The lexemes appear about 30 times in the Act.

For instance, the lexeme “settlement” denotes the peaceful resolution of disagreements or disputes through conciliation, in other words, by having dialogues or negotiation rather than legal clash.

From a pragmatic perspective “settlement” in this legal context functions as a narrower, institutionalized realization of the broader concept of “*Appeasement*”, as both terms convey the idea of restoring harmony, eluding conflicts, and maintaining social sustainability and cohesion.

When “*Appeasement*” historically carries political connotations of submissiveness and compromise to preserve peace, “settlement” within the Act functions as an institutionalized and formalized form of conciliation, established as a legal instrument for social appeasement.

Therefore, the lexeme “settlement” operates as a legal implementation of appeasement, reflecting the pragmatic objective of the Act – the peaceful resolution of land disputes and the maintenance of law and order within Indigenous land relations: “*Where a Land Council is informed that there is, or there may arise, a dispute with respect to land in the area of the Council between persons to whom this section applies, the Land Council shall use its best endeavours by way of conciliation for the settlement or prevention, as the case may be, of that dispute*”... (p.102).

As for the lexeme “compensation” in the Act, it is evident that it serves as a legal embodiment of the broader policy concept that alludes to “*appeasement*”. Despite the fact that historically “*appeasement*” denotes a political and institutional endeavour to pacify or conciliate conflicting parties, in this legal context it acquires the form of compensatory mechanisms designed to restore social equilibrium.

Overall, the Act is aimed at providing both monetary and material compensation to non-Indigenous owners of licences (occupation licences and grazing/herding ones) whose rights are infringed upon when land is granted to Indigenous Aboriginal holders. Besides, the Act requires paying compensation to Aboriginal owners in case of damage or disturbance caused by undertaking some exploration activities on the land: “*...under section 42 or 43, or determined under section 44, shall include terms and conditions requiring the payment by the applicant of compensation for damage or disturbance caused to the relevant Aboriginal land, and to the traditional Aboriginal owners of the land, by exploration activities undertaken on the land...*” (p.145).

Thus, “compensation” serves as a pragmatic instrument of “*appeasement*” – a mechanism for achieving and sustaining a balance of interests among settlers, Indigenous Aboriginal communities and the Commonwealth: “*...upon the execution under this Act of a deed of grant in respect of the land, that right is converted into a right to compensation from the Commonwealth*” (p.45).

The Act turns *appeasement* from being an abstract notion of conciliation into a codified legal and institutional policy of restitution and conflict management. It reflects the state's attempt to legitimize land distribution and ensure equitable access to resources, while alleviating some disputes and misunderstandings.

The policy of conciliation is crucial in the Act, as it refers to the formal process of resolving disputes peacefully between conflicting parties, typically involving Land Council, applicants, and miners. Its

aim is to ward off conflicts or settle them through dialogue and a mutual willingness to reach compromise rather than lean to confrontation: “...and that person shall thereupon try, by conciliation, to assist the intending miner and the Land Council to resolve the matters in dispute”. (p.150).

Although both terms “conciliation” and “appeasement” share the general idea of mitigating tension and fostering harmony and balance through negotiation or compromise, there is the main institutional difference between the notions. Specifically, “conciliation” possesses a formal legal status and is defined as a regular and official procedure for resolving disputes within the framework of justice and governance.

In contrast, “appeasement” carries a connotation of backing down and pacifying to maintain and preserve peace at the expense of principle and equality: “...the proceedings at any time for the purpose of affording a Land Council the opportunity of undertaking conciliation with a view to the settlement of that dispute”. (p.102)

In conclusion, “conciliation” functions as the legalized, institutionalized form of appeasement. It is the mechanism which plays an integral role in managing potential conflicts and ensuring the sustainability of relationships concerning land acquisition, use, and renting – particularly between Indigenous people and stakeholders.

Another lexeme belonging to the lexico-semantic field of law is *Court of Petty Sessions*. This refers to the lowest tier of court sessions (a board of two or more justices of the peace or, more commonly, stipendiary magistrates). The court considers cases which deal with summary offences (minor crimes, licensing disputes, traffic violations).

Petty Sessions were established in the early 18th century to handle cases without the involvement of a professional or trained jury. The representatives of the court were typically self-appointed men whose authority was based upon their social standing and wealth. The pragmatic load of the term sheds light on its meaning, as “petty” alludes to something small and trivial, therefore it is associated with minor offences, while “sessions” implies “meetings” or “gatherings”. The legal interpretation of “Petty Sessions” refers to formal sittings of the court to resolve minor matters. Nevertheless, it is crucial not to underestimate the legal significance of the court, as such cases could still entail serious consequences, affecting someone’s record, livelihood or social status.

An interesting aspect of the Petty Sessions is that they allowed people to settle legal or civil matters outside the formal courtroom. These sessions were often held in magistrate’s residences, thus victims and suspects could address their case in private. This system was designed to ensure that minor crime matters or grievances could be settled quickly and without using court time. Outcomes were determined by the sitting magistrate’s personal judgment and stance on a situation, taking into account all the circumstances surrounding the case. If a matter was too complex to be resolved within the board of magistrates, it was sent to the Quarter Sessions for further adjudication.

Typical cases heard in the Court of Petty Sessions:

Petty theft and larceny.

Assault: a less serious form of physical violence.

Public drunkenness

Bastardy inquiries

Arbitration: resolutions of local disagreements.

Taking into consideration some pragmatic functions of the Court in both legal and social contexts, it is worth mentioning that this institutional body had the authority to imprison, fine violators or deprive driving licenses. However, the lexemes “petty” and “session” diminished its authority, making the impression of an insignificant judicial process, particularly from an intercultural perspective. Therefore, the subsequent move toward “Magistrates’ Court” enhanced the institution’s perceived legitimacy, making it sound more official and less belittling. Pragmatically, “Magistrates’ Court” conveys greater authority, clarity, and intercultural attainability.



Figure 8. Frequency of *Court of Petty Sessions* in the GloWbE corpus

An examination of the usage of the term *Court of Petty Sessions* in the GloWbE corpus shows that the phrase is predominantly used in historical contexts (e.g., “Dubbo was proclaimed...”, “registers from 1860 are available”, “Justice Act, 1924 created a District Court to replace the Court of Petty Sessions”). Pragmatically, it means that the term is now archival or retrospective, used for describing past legal frameworks rather than denoting a currently active institution.

Examining the regulatory framework and the system of laws in which the term *Court of Petty Sessions* is used, it is crucial to take into account both the context in which the term is applied and the meanings it conveys in different regulations and across various legislative instruments.

For instance, according to *the Justices Act 1959 (Tas)* (a legislative act of the state of Tasmania that codifies and regulates the powers and procedures of justices and related matters of criminal and procedural law in the state), the lexeme *Court of Petty Sessions* appears about 90 times. Mostly, it is employed to define the judicial body, along with its functions and governing members of the court. For example, the Act claims “*court of petty sessions means a court held by 2 or more justices in petty session*” (p.11) (referring to a lower-level judicial institution which deals with minor offences and conducts preliminary hearings in more serious criminal cases).

The lexeme is also associated with certain roles and offices. As an example, “*Chief Clerk of Petty Sessions means the person holding office as Chief Clerk of Petty Sessions by virtue of section 16*” and “*The clerk of petty sessions means the person appointed or assigned as clerk of petty sessions for the district to which the context relates*”, etc. (p.12). While the Chief Clerk of Petty Sessions oversees and directs all clerks and their assistants, providing administrative coordination within districts, the Clerk of Petty Sessions serves as a key administrative officer who is in charge of managing documentation, including court records; assisting justices and magistrates; and dealing with different procedural and administrative tasks during court sessions.

The role of the Deputy Clerk of Petty Sessions should not be underestimated, as the officer has the right to supersede the Clerk if there is such a necessity. Eventually, Magistrates and Justices preside over court proceedings, when all subordinate officers of the court are required to follow the instructions of the Chief Clerk of Petty Sessions. This embodies an institutional hierarchy, ensuring bureaucratic coordination and administrative cohesion among courts across different districts.

The Act includes some mechanisms which make it possible for the court to operate effectively even when some administrative positions are vacant, as a magistrate might temporarily perform the duties of the Clerk or Deputy clerk if they are absent. Any acts, regulations, or orders issued by the magistrate are considered legally valid.

The Act states: “*The court held by a magistrate, whether in the exercise of the jurisdiction of 2 or more justices or of jurisdiction exercisable by him as a magistrate, shall be deemed to be a court of petty sessions*” (p.25). To sum up, even if a single magistrate is at the head, the court is still legally recognized as a Court of Petty Sessions. It affirms the functional equal value between magistrates’ courts and petty sessions within the judicial framework of Tasmania.

In conclusion, according to the Justices Act 1959, the Court of Petty Sessions operates as the main unit of local justice, representing a fusion of judicial and administrative power.

In addition to the lexemes previously mentioned, it is necessary to consider the lexeme *Tent Embassy*, which denotes a tent protest site set up by Indigenous Australians in front of Parliament House to oppose government policies on land rights. The encampment of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy emerged spontaneously on 26 January 1972 and continues to the present day. It has functioned intermittently since 1972 and on a permanent basis since 1992, located on the grounds of the former Provisional Parliament House in Canberra.

Historically, the Embassy dates back to the annual national holiday known as Invasion Day, or Australia Day. On that day in 1972, four young men from Sydney put up a beach umbrella in front of the Provisional Parliament House, in Canberra, which turned into the Aboriginal Tent Embassy. The camp expanded into a group of shelters constructed from different materials, including canvas tarpaulins and plastic sheeting.

The protestors did not have any violent intentions, rather, they focused on the principles of land rights and self-determination. Practically, protestors demanded ownership of particular patches of land to provide an economic base for Aboriginal communities. As Gary Foley said in an interview: *“We want the land that we get to be completely independent of white Australia in all forms including independent in terms of law and independent in terms of governmental controls...Once we get this land we want to develop it as black communities where Aborigines can live as Aborigines without interference from outside society...We are very specific about the land we want. We want the reserves in which Aborigines live”*. (Foley in Foley, Schaap and Howell 2013 : 161, 162) Land was symbolically important for the protestors in both positive and negative dimensions. On the positive side, it symbolized identity and survival. Land became the focal point in the fierce struggles of communities to preserve their cultural and social values by organizing themselves in relation to their ancestral territories. In its negative aspect, land implied absence: it was land that had been inaccessible for Indigenous Aboriginal people because of the lack of legal ownership. In this sense, it was a symbol of invasion, dispossession, and injustice, demanding reparation. At the same time, one of the original “architects” of the Tent Embassy, Chicka Dixon, remarked on McMahon’s statement *“in effect, was that the niggers could lease their own land. We don’t go along with this kind of thing and that is why this Tent was erected”*. She also added that the protest aimed to draw attention to their issue “putting our plight into the eyes of the world”.

It is crucial to emphasize that, by erecting the Embassy in front of Parliament House, the protestors strove to demonstrate that Aboriginal people felt like foreigners in their own land, as they were deprived of sovereignty, legal ownership, and recognition.

From a pragmatic stance, it is essential to analyze the meanings of the words that constitute this lexeme. For instance, the conventional meaning of “Embassy” is the official representation of one country in another foreign country. Within the lexeme, it refers to Indigenous Australian people who are representatives of their nation, yet are treated as outsiders within their homeland. The term “Embassy” is seen as the lexeme which questions the authority and legitimacy of Australian state law.

The word “Tent,” by contrast, means something temporary, unstable, improvised. It can be interpreted as a comparison to the permanent structure of Parliament House, in front of which it was erected. The lexeme symbolizes fragility and illegal dispossession. However, Indigenous Australian people who participated in the Embassy found it a sovereign diplomatic mission, aimed to reclaim their land rights and status.

In international contexts, foreigners often interpret the “Tent Embassy” literally, which in turn fosters their inquisitiveness to delve into exploring its broader connotations. In a similar way, it contributes a lot to raising awareness of Indigenous land rights and the historical injustices they have encountered.

Based on the corpus data, we can conclude that the lexeme *Tent Embassy* is associated with protests, active actions, conflicts, and public disputes, as well as with references to historical events that inform the etymology of the term. The pragmatic load of the lexeme is determined by its symbolism: the term

does not merely denote the physical location of a protest against the injustice of state law, but also embodies Indigenous resistance, cultural identity, and uniqueness. In modern Australian English, it refers to any demonstration accompanying the establishment of a tent city.

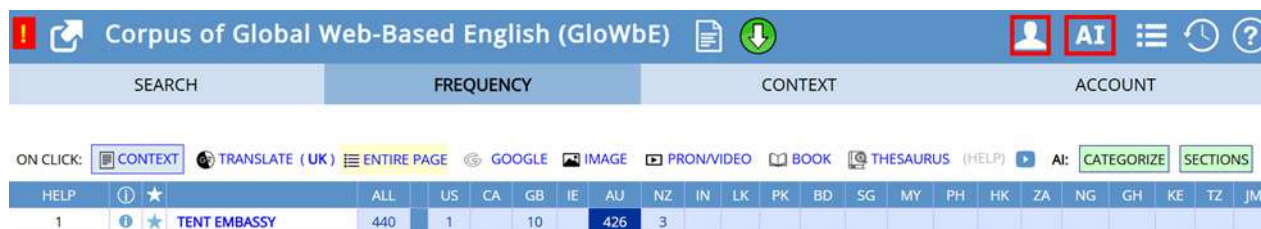


Figure 9. Frequency of *Tent Embassy* in the GloWbE corpus

Within the historical context of the Australian legal framework, a removal ordinance was introduced by the government in September 1972. The ordinance was aimed at “*preventing the re-establishment of tents at Parliament House*”.

In other words, the Tent Embassy, in its recognizable form with the erected camps, tents, vehicles was classified as a structure that had to be removed or regulated under this law: “*...to remove the structure and all articles in, about, attached to, or apparently being used in connexion with, the structure, or to remove the vehicle, to a place that is not unleased land and - (c) immediate steps are not taken to comply with the request; or (d) the structure and the articles or the vehicle, as the case requires, are not removed within a reasonable time after the making of the request, an Inspector appointed under this Ordinance or a member of the Police Force of the Territory may remove the structure and all articles in, about, attached to, or apparently being used in connexion with, the structure, or the vehicle, as the case requires*” (p.415).

This ordinance is more known as **the *Trespass on Commonwealth Lands Ordinance (1972)*** served as the legal basis to control, regulate, suspend, or even prohibit long-lasting protests or erecting camps on Commonwealth land.

The key regulatory features of the ordinance in relation to the semantic capacity of our lexeme are (according to sections 8A/8B):

- Prohibition of establishing, erecting, or occupying any structure on unleased land which belongs to Commonwealth without prior authorization;
 - The fine was \$50, which was a crucial deterrent not to break the law;
- There were a few exceptions, which included:
- Valid authorization (permit) according to the provisions of the relevant section of the law;
 - Following the rules and fulfilling the duties for the Commonwealth.

This regulation effectively outlawed the presence of the Tent Embassy, which was viewed as an unauthorised camp in front of Parliament House.

According to the ordinance (section A), police officers and inspectors were given the authority to demand the removal of any structures, tents, vehicles established on unleased land. If protesters rebuffed to remove the structure “*within a reasonable time*”, the police were able to impound everything by themselves. All the erected structures might be taken into custody and disposed of in three months if nobody reclaims it. Thus, the ordinance empowered law enforcement, giving them legal grounds for dismantling the Aboriginal tents erected by protestors.

Taking into account section 8B, it states that authorised officers (the Department of the Interior) issue permits for events such as “*festivals, shows, fairs, circuses, or carnivals*” (p.416). However, these permits can be applied to non-political and short-term gatherings. The people who protested in front of Parliament House were not given a permit, thus, their encampment was proven to be illegal. Therefore, a system of selective permit was established.

Finally, the question occurs as to what the lexical-pragmatic significance of the term “Tent Embassy” is according to **the *Trespass on Commonwealth Lands Ordinance***. The lexeme “tent” acquired its legal reference to the structure which used to be a symbol of protest and self-determination. However, it came to be perceived as an object that violated the law. The protestors recognized the tents as tokens of diplomacy, like an embassy whose task is to defend the rights of their people. In contrast, the legal framework redefined these tents as unauthorized structures or buildings erected on the land which belongs to the Commonwealth. Consequently, the law and the protest are shown in a different light, having opposite connotations. While the protest tents were established to articulate political identity as well as Indigenous perseverance and sovereignty, the government sought to declare them illegal structures. It alludes to the fact that the institutional-pragmatic function of this ordinance was to fortify control over public space by the government and to restrict forms of political expression that questioned authority.

After examining these terms within the context of the Australian legislative system, it is worth analyzing their usage in Irish English, focusing on the frequency of their occurrence and the connotations they convey in different contexts.

According to data from the GloWbE corpus, the lexeme “*appeasement*” appears 81 times, and the corpus evidence shows that it mostly carries negative or cautious connotations. It frequently co-occurs with references to Nazi Germany, Hitler, Chamberlain, and features of World War II diplomacy. The term is associated with notions of political uncertainty and weakness, issues of moral compromise, and unsuccessful attempts to conciliate.

However, the corpus also reveals some lexical extensions of the terms that can be applied to non-political contexts, for instance - “*aesthetic appeasement*” or “*canine appeasement signals*”. The uses highlight the term’s semantic flexibility and illustrate a metaphorical extension of the lexeme, whereby it continues to convey the pragmatic sense of pacifying or alleviating tension, though its negative connotation becomes significantly weaker or absolutely neutralized.

In Irish legal-pragmatic discourse, the term “*appeasement*” is charged with both institutional and ethical implications. It can indicate an imbalance of power or an unjust agreement or concession, particularly within discussions concerning reconciliation, indigenous issues, or the establishment of governmental policies. From a pragmatic perspective, “*appeasement*” functions as a discursive marker of moral stance, which encodes not only the act of pacification but also the speaker’s evaluative judgment regarding the legitimacy of that act along with its broader implications.

The lexeme “*Court of Petty Sessions*” occurs in the corpus data in legal and historical contexts, carrying institutional and procedural connotations. It appears twice in Irish English sources, and denotes a lower-level judicial body that historically dealt with minor criminal offences and civil matters, as evidenced by both corpus examples.

In the first corpus extract, “*It created a District Court to replace the court of petty sessions and the Justice of the Peace*”, the lexeme performs a referential function, alluding to a judicial institution that has become obsolete. The use of the verb “*replace*” highlights a diachronic legal transformation, marking institutional transition and the evolution of the judicial framework, when the Courts of Petty Sessions were substituted for the District Court system.

In the second passage, the phrase appears in a legislative and procedural context: “*A court of petty sessions may, on application by a minor, by order approve a contract...*”. The lexeme in the example refers to an active judicial body which is responsible for approving contracts involving minors. The use of the lexeme within the modal structure “*may approve...*” underscores judicial discretion and procedural formality.

In both examples, the term functions as an institutional designation that collocates with a number of other judicial lexemes and procedural verbs such as *replace*, *approve*, *order*. This model bolsters its denotative function as a reference to a legal body, devoid of any figurative or metaphorical connotations.

From a pragmatic perspective, the term “Court of Petty Sessions” does not carry any evaluative or emotive overtones. It denotes a sense of strict legal hierarchy, formality, and procedural authority. The lexeme “petty” historically signifies the jurisdictional realm of the court that handles minor criminal cases, rather than implying any notion of inferiority.

In conclusion, according to modern corpus evidence, the lexeme “Court of Petty Sessions” serves as an archaic institutional term that marks historical stages of judicial organization, evoking connotations of administrative order, procedural power, and historical distinction.

The final lexeme examined within the legal context was “Tent Embassy”. However, the GloWbE corpus analysis reveals no occurrences of this term in Irish English legal or jurisdictional sources, as it is historically rooted in the Indigenous history of Australia and reflects a unique aspect of its cultural identity.

4. TREATY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF IRISH–UKRAINIAN RELATIONS

Establishment of Diplomatic Relations (1992). The contractual basis of bilateral relations between Ireland and Ukraine originates in the early 1990s, immediately after Ukraine proclaimed its independence. On 23 January 1992, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine formally addressed the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland with a proposal to establish diplomatic relations (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, 1992). The note emphasized Ukraine’s readiness to build cooperation in political, economic, scientific, cultural, and humanitarian fields, while expressly grounding future relations in the principles of the *Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961* (United Nations, 1961).

The Agreement on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations (1992) had foundational significance as it provided the legal basis for interstate cooperation, confirmed Ireland’s recognition of Ukraine’s sovereignty, and opened the way for subsequent bilateral treaties.

Expansion of the Treaty and Legal Framework (2005). Bilateral contacts gradually developed within broader European and international forums (Embassy of Ukraine in Ireland, 2020). For instance, a new stage was reached in 2005 with the conclusion of the *Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Political Consultations* (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine & Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, 2005).

The Memorandum institutionalized regular consultations at the level of foreign ministries, providing a formal legal mechanism for political dialogue. It reflected mutual interest in strengthening cooperation on international security, European integration, human rights, and economic development. Importantly, *the Memorandum* confirmed both states’ adherence to international law and their commitment to resolving disputes through peaceful means, in line with the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) and the *Helsinki Final Act* (1975).

This instrument marked Ireland’s recognition of Ukraine as a significant partner in Eastern Europe and underscored its support for Ukraine’s Euro-Atlantic aspirations. It also laid the groundwork for coordinated action within the European Union, of which Ireland had long been a member, and within international organizations such as the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

Reinforcement of Legal and Diplomatic Ties (Post-2022). Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 marked a turning point in Irish–Ukrainian relations. Ireland, though a militarily neutral state, undertook a series of legal and diplomatic commitments that substantially reinforced its bilateral framework with Ukraine.

On 23 February 2022, Ireland joined other EU member states in adopting sanctions against Russia under the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy, thereby aligning its obligations with both European law and international humanitarian law. These measures were complemented by national initiatives, including humanitarian assistance, refugee reception, and participation in EU financial instruments supporting Ukraine’s resilience (Office of the President of Ukraine, 2024).

The strengthening of Ireland's legal and diplomatic commitments has been paralleled by the sociocultural dimension. It is manifested in the expansion of the Ukrainian community and in visible expressions of solidarity within Irish media and public discourse. Since 2022, the Ukrainian community in Ireland steadily continues to grow to this day. Expressions of support toward Ukrainian immigrants are also evident in media discourse, as seen in the titles of articles such as *Cúad mhíle fóilte for hundreds of Ukrainians in North Clare*, *Ukrainians staying in Kilkee given a cúad mhíle fóilte*, *Cúad Míle Fóilte to Ukrainians*, and many others. The popular phrase in Irish English, *cúad mhíle fóilte*, is a literal translation from the Irish language meaning 'a hundred thousand welcomes' (Y Dynaill, 1977). It is a traditional greeting that symbolizes warmth and hospitality and often appears on doormats at the entrances of Irish homes, on souvenirs such as postcards and magnets, on road signs in the Republic of Ireland, marking significant tourist routes and locations. Additionally, the phrase is widely used in advertising materials, tourist brochures, and marketing campaigns, reinforcing Ireland's reputation as a welcoming destination (Kutaieva, 2025).

5. TREATY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN–UKRAINIAN RELATIONS.

Establishment and Formalization of Diplomatic Relations between Ukraine and Australia.

Australia declared its recognition of Ukraine on December 26, 1991. Albeit bilateral relations between the two countries originate in the early 1990s, namely on January 10, 1992. Diplomatic relations between Ukraine and Australia were established by exchange of *Verbal Notes*. The notes emphasized both countries' readiness to cooperate, reinforcing joint efforts in military and humanitarian assistance, security agreements and guarantees, as well as in the economic and cultural spheres. As a result, the process of deepening bilateral relations between the two countries was marked by the establishment of the Australian Embassy in Ukraine in 2015 and the Ukrainian Embassy in Australia in April 2003. Since 1993, the Honorary Consulate of Ukraine has been operating in Melbourne.

The visit to Australia in November 1992 marked the official beginning of inter-parliamentary cooperation. A legislative delegation, led by the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, visited its Australian counterpart to strengthen not only government-to-government relations but also parliament-to-parliament ties. This initiative contributed a lot to building a sustained inter-parliamentary dialogue, the exchange of best practices in democratic governance, and the standardization of legislative priorities including the rule of law, institutional improvements, reforms, transparency, etc..

Years later, in 2004, an Australian parliamentary delegation officially visited Ukraine. This visit was of pivotal importance, serving as clear evidence of Australia's support for Ukraine's democratic course and its consolidation as an independent, sovereign state.

Expansion of the Treaty and Legal Framework

Bilateral contacts between Ukraine and Australia continued to evolve through a series of high-level meetings which underscored the significance of dialogue and cooperation between the two countries. These included bilateral consultations between the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and Australia during the 47th session of the UN General Assembly (September 1992), the 52nd UNGA session (October 1997), the 54th UNGA session (September 1999), the 58th UNGA session (September 2003), the Conference on Afghanistan (London, January 2010), meetings at the UN Headquarters in New York (May 2010), the Munich Security Conference (February 2011), the OSCE Council of Ministers in Vilnius (December 2011). These meetings proved to be highly significant for establishing a sustained and long-term Ukraine-Australia partnership and for institutionalizing regular political contacts. Both countries positioned themselves as like-minded partners united by a common commitment to security, democracy, and international law. If it weren't for these early and sustained contacts and relations, it might have been much harder to attain the level of robust cooperation witnessed after 2014 (MH17, sanctions, assistance to Ukraine).

Reinforcement of Legal and Diplomatic Ties (Post-2014).

After Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea in March 2014 and its subsequent invasion of eastern Ukraine, our country emerged as one of the central elements of global politics. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the turning point in bilateral relations was the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over eastern Ukraine by Russian-controlled illegal armed groups – an atrocity that claimed 298 lives, including 38 Australians. The intensification of cooperation and dialogue after this tragedy accelerated the establishment of the Australian resident embassy in Ukraine later that same year.

Furthermore, in the summer of 2014, Air Marshal Angus Houston, the Australian Prime Minister's special envoy, visited Ukraine to initiate the investigation into the MH17 disaster and to reinforce collaboration between the Australian and Ukrainian authorities. This was the period when the *“Agreement between Ukraine and Australia on the Deployment of Australian Personnel to Ukraine in Connection with the Crash of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17”* was signed (2014).

Another milestone in manifesting the unity of values and aspirations between both countries was the *“Invictus Games”* held in Sydney in 2018. A considerable number of Ukrainian athletes took part in the competition, representing Ukraine and its sporting spirit. “The participation of our Ukrainian team in the contest is of pivotal importance, as here one can truly feel the power of Western civilization's unity and the inviolability of its foundational values”, said the head of the Ukrainian delegation, Iryna Klymush-Tsintsadze.

However, relations between Australia and Ukraine deepened significantly after the full-scale invasion (2022). Australia lifted tariffs on Ukrainian imports for 1 year, making an important contribution to its broader assistance packages for Ukraine (July 2022). In 2023, this tariff-free regime was extended for another year, and in April 2024, it was prolonged again until July 2026.

The period between 2023 and 2024 was rather productive in terms of strengthening bilateral cooperation. Numerous meetings and telephone conversations were held at the highest levels of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Finance. Interparliamentary relations have been actively developing. This period was also marked by exchanges between the President of Ukraine and the Prime Minister of Australia, both through meetings and telephone conversations. This time it was on the sidelines of the G7 Summit (Hiroshima) and the NATO Summit (Vilnius), underscoring high-level contacts between the two countries, particularly regarding economic cooperation, security support, and humanitarian aid.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that Australia is one of the largest contributors of military aid to Ukraine beyond NATO. The country has supplied Ukraine with ammunition, armored vehicles, defense equipment, drones, dry rations, and other forms of assistance. Notably, Australia also cooperates with other countries in providing military aid to Ukraine, particularly in the production of various types of arms.

Australia continues to support Ukraine financially and holds Russia accountable by imposing large-scale sectoral and personal sanctions. As of August 2024, Australia has sanctioned over 1,400 individuals and legal entities that consciously overlook Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

CONCLUSION

The selected Irishisms (*Gaeltacht, Taoiseach, Oireachtas*) and Australisms (*Appeasement, Court of Petty Sessions, Tent Embassy*) have a significant influence on legal and intercultural discourse as they reflect the intersection of language, law, and cultural identity. The lexeme *Gaeltacht* denotes legally recognized Irish-speaking regions that determine state funding, education policy, and public service obligations. Corpus evidence confirms its prevalence in both formal and digital discourse.

Taoiseach, denoting the Prime Minister of Ireland, appears over 4,000 times in the GloWbE corpus and demonstrates the dual challenge of retention and descriptive translation strategies for audiences

unfamiliar with Irish political structures. Similarly, *Oireachtas*, the national parliament, is a vivid example of both the institutional specificity of Irish legal English and the potential for misinterpretation in international contexts. To mitigate these risks, strategies such as phonetic adaptation (Epextrac) or descriptive glosses (“Irish Parliament”) in Ukrainian legal discourse are applied.

Corpus-based analysis of Australisms also shows that the lexeme *Appeasement* is used in political, diplomatic, and historical contexts, usually denoting a negative connotation. The term most frequently emerges in references to foreign politics, historical allusions, and criticism of ideology. Furthermore, *Appeasement* pragmatically functions not just as a potential tool for conciliation between countries engaged in war or conflict. It is applied to highlight political weakness – a strategy some states are exposed to in order to avoid escalation, capitulate, or underscore their inability to stand against aggression.

The term *Court of Petty Sessions* appears 16 times in the GloWbE corpus and is used in legal-administrative and historical contexts. It determines the process of the evolution of minor courts into more formal and standardized judicial bodies, such as district or magistrates’ courts.

Ultimately, the lexeme *Tent Embassy* is employed in governmental and Indigenous discourses, referring to a place of assembly for protestors who put up camps as a symbol of the Indigenous Australians’ struggle for their rights (land ownership) and for fair recognition in society.

Furthermore, situating these linguistic findings within the frameworks of Ireland–Ukraine and Australia–Ukraine relations demonstrates their real-world relevance. For instance, the awarding of the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise to the Taoiseach in 2023 underscores the international visibility of these titles in diplomatic and legal settings.

In a similar way, Australia has provided sustainable support to Ukraine since the very beginning of Russia’s full-scale invasion in 2022. For example, in 2022–2023, the AFUO contributed roughly 9 million USD in humanitarian aid in response to Russia’s aggression. Moreover, Australia continues to make commitments to military, economic, and energy assistance, reflecting its objective of helping Ukraine achieve a just and lasting peace.

Overall, the research confirms that culturally marked realia function as both pragmatic markers and symbols of institutional and national identity. Within legal discourse, linguo-pragmatic competence is especially relevant for accurate interpretation, translation, and intercultural communication. Future research could explore real-world cases of intercultural miscommunication and the effectiveness of translation strategies for culturally marked realia.

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ПРАГМАТИКА ІРЛАНДСЬКОГО ТА АВСТРАЛІЙСЬКОГО ВАРІАНТІВ АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ: ПРАВОВИЙ ДИСКУРС ТА МІЖКУЛЬТУРНА КОМУНІКАЦІЯ

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Анотація. Стаття присвячена дослідженню прагматичних особливостей ірландського та австралійського варіантів англійської мови у правовому та міжкультурному дискурсі. У статті здійснено корпусний та лінгвопрагматичний аналіз вибраних ірландизмів (*Gaeltacht, Taoiseach, Oireachtas*) та австралізмів (*Appeasement, Court of Petty Sessions, Tent Embassy*). Вибір цих культурно маркованих реалій пояснюється їхнім активним узусом у правових контекстах і безпосереднім впливом на процеси дипломатичної комунікації. Визначається, що зазначені лексеми не лише фіксують національно-специфічні концепти, а й виконують інституційно-прагматичні функції, закріплені у законодавстві, судовій практиці та офіційних міжнародних угодах. Особливу увагу приділено аналізу договірно-правової бази українсько-ірландських та українсько-австралійських відносин, зокрема після 2014 та 2022 років, коли співпраця у сфері безпеки, гуманітарної допомоги та культурної дипломатії набрала нового виміру.

Методологічно дослідження базується на кількісному аналізі даних із цифрового корпусу Global Web-Based English (GloWbE) у поєднанні з якісними методами дослідження, зокрема: дискурс-аналізом, контент-аналізом та прагматичною інтерпретацією правових документів і урядових публікацій. У статті виокремлюються три основні стратегії перекладу культурно маркованих реалій: (1) збереження оригіналу (retention), (2) адаптація (зокрема фонетична чи транслітерація), (3) описовий переклад (descriptive translation). Завдяки лінгвопрагматичному аналізу джерельної бази дослідження, автори доходять висновку, що у перекладі на українську мову важливо зберегти рівновагу між збереженням автентичності та забезпеченням зрозумілості для реципієнтів. У деяких публікаціях спостерігаються випадки непоінформованості щодо культурного контексту Ірландії та Австралії, що, у свою чергу, призводить до хибної інтерпретації. Для уникнення таких ситуацій рекомендується застосовувати стратегію описового перекладу, оскільки зрозумілість та чіткість у правовому дискурсі є вкрай важливою.

Практична значущість дослідження полягає у виявленні впливу згаданих ірландизмів та австралізмів із лексико-семантичного поля «Право» на юридичну комунікацію та перекладацьку практику. Результати свідчать про тісний взаємозв'язок між правом і мовою, а отримані висновки можуть бути корисними при викладанні, перекладі та практиці переговорів.

Ключові слова: австралійський варіант англійської мови, ірландський варіант англійської мови, культурно марковані реалії, правовий дискурс, прагматика.

PRAGMATICS OF IRISH AND AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH: IMPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Abstract: The article is dedicated to the study of the pragmatic features of the Irish and Australian varieties of English within legal and intercultural discourse. A corpus-based and linguo-pragmatic analysis of selected Irishisms (*Gaeltacht, Taoiseach, Oireachtas*) and Australisms (*Appeasement, Court of Petty Sessions, Tent Embassy*) is applied. Our choice of these specific culturally marked realia could be explained by their active usage in legal contexts (proven by the corpus data) and their direct impact on the processes of diplomatic communication (proven by our qualitative analysis). These lexemes not only contain nationally specific concepts but also perform

institutional and pragmatic functions. Particular attention is paid to the analysis of the treaty and legal framework of Ukrainian–Irish and Ukrainian–Australian relations, especially after 2014 and 2022, when cooperation in the areas of security, humanitarian aid, and cultural diplomacy acquired a new dimension.

Methodologically, the study is based on quantitative analysis of data from the Global Web-Based English (GloWbE) digital corpus combined with qualitative research methods, which includes: discourse analysis, content analysis, and pragmatic interpretation of legal documents and governmental publications. The article identifies three main strategies of translating culturally marked realia: (1) retention of the original, (2) adaptation (phonetic or through transliteration), and (3) descriptive translation. Through linguo-pragmatic analysis of the data, the authors conclude that in translation into Ukrainian it is important to maintain a balance between preserving authenticity and ensuring clarity for recipients. Several cases of unawareness of the cultural context of Ireland and Australia were revealed in the study, which in turn led to misinterpretation. To prevent such situations, the application of descriptive translation is recommended, since comprehensibility and precision are crucial in legal discourse.

The practical significance of the study lies in identifying the influence of the aforementioned Irishisms and Australisms from the lexico-semantic field of “Law” on legal communication and translation practice. The results demonstrate a close interrelationship between law and language, and the conclusions reached may prove useful in teaching, translation, and negotiation practice.

Keywords: Australian English, culturally marked realia, Irish English, legal discourse, pragmatics.

Date submitted by author: 12.09.2025

Date accepted after review: 20.11.2025

Date of publication: 17.12.2025

Cite this article: Kutaieva, N., Yatskiv, V. (2025). Pragmatics of Irish and Australian English: implications for legal and intercultural communication. *Law and Innovative Society*, 2(25), 34–53. doi: [https://doi.org/10.37772/2309-9275-2025-2\(25\)-3](https://doi.org/10.37772/2309-9275-2025-2(25)-3).