

**Title:** Reception of Czech Literature in South Korea  
**Author:** Kyuchin Kim, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

In my paper, I will discuss four themes that are closely connected with translation. First, I would like to explore the introduction of Czech literature in South Korea from its beginnings until today. Since the 1980s, about 30 Czech literary works have been translated into Korean. A turning point in the popularization of Czech literature was one novel: Milan Kundera's *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* was translated into Korean and became popular in 1989. Since then all his novels have been translated into Korean. The second part of my paper will focus on the fundamental questions that concern translation, i.e. how and what to translate. The third part will summarize my own experience with Czech literature and its perception in South Korea. Czech literature and Czech studies began to develop in 1988 when the Czech department was founded at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies. And the last part will open the question of what is Czech literature and how to teach it in a proper way.

kyuchin@hotmail.com