

Review of the
Dictionary of Shipping, Accounting, and Commercial
Terms and Expressions (English – Russian – German)
written by Anton Breiner, Marina-Luminița Militaru,
Alina-Maria Seica, Zinaida-Tamara Fedot, Monica-Alina
Toma and Lora Dagmar-Constantinescu

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In the global, interconnected world we live in nowadays, good communication is of the essence in all professional fields, and even more so in business, where everything unfolds at an accelerated pace and important financial dealings are at stake. Against this background, professionals need to acquire new skills and enhance those they have already, so as to stand out against competitors and become valuable assets for their employers. Thus, out of all the skills that one can "sell" on the labour market, improving one's knowledge of foreign languages has, to this day, remained unrivalled, as multilingualism represents the backbone of contemporary society.

It is commonly known that the richer, more developed a society has become, the more advanced the service industry also turns out to be. Against this background, one can notice a marked development of the high value service industry, covering fields like health, IT, education, law, culture and business. Professionals in these fields contribute significantly to societal advancement, their work provides innovation and growth, leading to a better quality of life and to overall progress. Among the skills that these high-calibre specialists need to work on throughout their lives, good communication reigns supreme, bringing unparalleled value to their knowledge and expertise.

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The *Dictionary of Shipping, Accounting and Commercial Terms and Expressions*, written by Professors Anton Breiner, Marina-Luminița Militaru, Alina-Maria Seica, Zinaida-Tamara Fedot, Monica-Alina Toma and Lora Dagmar-Constantinescu, stands out as a valuable tool for everyone in the mentioned fields, from students and entry-level employees to the most seasoned professionals. Displaying over 10,500 entries, the dictionary puts forward a comprehensive, well-documented selection of the most commonly used terms in these business-related industries, thus making a valuable contribution to the elimination of language barriers and leading to the conclusion of smoother business transactions.

The authors have fully understood the importance of having access to good linguistic resources, against the potentially threatening background of a digital age where almost everything can be found online. In this context, providing a print dictionary that would reach an audience and acquire an interested readership turns out to be an exceptionally difficult challenge. Professors Breiner, Militaru, Seica, Fedot, Toma and Dagmar – Constantinescu have overcome this challenge beautifully, by putting forward a piece of research that is as thorough as it is complex and insightful.

This research stands out in several ways. Firstly, in terms of content and scope, the trilingual dictionary covers essential terminology related to *accounting, commerce, finance, logistics, international shipping* and *global trade*. While the glossary is not exhaustive, nor can it ever be, given the wide range of business areas covered, it skilfully selects the most frequently encountered terms, thus making sure that users have access to the most relevant vocabulary, to terms that they are most likely to come across during their professional activities. The inclusion of English is a must these days, and no multilingual dictionary can be expected to reach a global audience in the absence of this language; however, by adding Russian and German to the languages covered, the authors have attempted to make their research particularly useful to a wider range of people who may not be familiar with these languages, languages that are, however, increasingly spoken and sought after in Eastern and Central Europe.

Secondly, it is important to note that the dictionary was designed as a practical resource for a wide range of professionals and learners, irrespective of the stage of their careers. Thus, the following categories are expected to benefit from this work: accountants and financial professionals, as it may assist them with international financial reporting and with

drafting other documents; shipping, freight and logistics specialists, as they may get help with understanding and correctly using the respective terminology; business owners and entrepreneurs, either seasoned ones or people looking to found a start-up, as it would enable them to clearly communicate in global business transactions, and even students, translators and interpreters who, while not technically qualifying as business people (yet), are still building a career based on communication, on translation accuracy and on language studies.

Nowadays, in all lines of work, efficient communication has paradoxically grown to be both an important hard skill, and an equally important soft skill. While the “soft skill” dimension has more to do with empathetic communication, with emotional intelligence and with conveying messages and interacting so as to not alienate the interlocutor, one cannot even consider the subtleties thereof without first strengthening the basics of accurate communication, which pertains to the correct use of language. In business-related fields, such as when dealing with financial statements, trade agreements or shipping logistics, accurate, precise communication, with good knowledge of the appropriate terminology, lies at the basis of any successful professional partnership.

There are many strengths this dictionary has, out of which we mention, primarily, the fact that it is comprehensive and industry-specific. By including a well-selected range of key terms relevant to global business and trade, it is a must-have for anyone considering a career in the mentioned fields. Secondly, its trilingual format, which we have discussed above, turns it into a very useful tool for people working in different linguistic regions, for those looking to relocate or to expand their business network overseas. Accuracy and clarity also represent crucial strengths of the research, as they help make complex terms more accessible. Last but not least, this is a highly versatile work, suitable for multiple industries and various professional contexts.

As far as the areas for potential improvement are concerned, we have considered the following. Firstly, since the tackled domains are vast, we believe that a new, revised Dictionary would benefit from an expansion of entries. Thus, although the current selection is practical and includes the most commonly used terms, a future edition could further benefit from an even broader range of terms pertaining to the industries covered. Secondly, a revised edition would bring an even more substantial contribution to the development of the field by providing real-world examples and contextual

usage of the terms, as this would enhance the learners' understanding of both the languages and the field of study. Thirdly, since we now live in a predominantly digital age and in a multiple-screen world, we believe that an online version, or even an app, would translate into an even greater advantage for users and would help them keep up with the requirements of their careers, thus becoming significantly more helpful and time-efficient.

To conclude, the *Dictionary of Shipping, Accounting, and Commercial Terms and Expressions (English – Russian – German)* stands out as a useful, insightful tool for professionals who work in international business, irrespective of their level or position. Its approach to the terms selected, which is both accurate and practical, makes the dictionary invaluable for anyone who wishes to overcome language barriers in finance, trade and logistics. There is, as there always is, room for further expansion, and digital adaptation would definitely be a plus; however, the current edition undoubtedly remains a highly useful resource for anyone working in these fields, or in adjacent business domains like insurance, risk management, international relations, inventory management and others. We highly recommend this dictionary for professionals and students looking to improve their multilingual business communication skills and to perform outstandingly in an international environment.