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## **Many Signs, One Interpretation**

One sign of our time is the increasing use of two or more languages in law and the judicial process, be it the newly established bilingual legal regime in Hong Kong or the increasing number of languages used in the European Union (EU) and its legislation and the European Court of Justice (ECJ). In such jurisdictions, one basic legal rule is that the law in different official languages is equally authentic and is deemed the same, the 'equal authenticity rule'. The paper will discuss bilingualism/multilingualism in law in different jurisdictions (Hong Kong, the EU, Canada etc) and the judicial interpretive rules for such purpose. It examines the relevant case law and how the courts in these jurisdictions reconcile the various types of linguistic and legal differences and ensure legal uniformity and certainty. It also touches upon the issues of linguistic uncertainty vs legal certainty, and the translatability and transplantability of legal concepts and other linguistic signs as semiotic vehicle across different jurisdictions.