



EULITA

and its projects enhancing the quality of legal translation and interpreting

Forum on Quality in Legal Translation
Translating Europe Workshop
Warszawa, June 6, 2016



EULITA = European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association

- **international not-for-profit association (aisbl)**
- **founded in Antwerp, Belgium, on 26 November 2009**
- **established under the Criminal Justice Programme of the Directorate-General Justice, Freedom, Security of the European Commission (project number JLS/2007/JPEN/249)**



EULITA = European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association

a two-year project carried out by the consortium of partners

- 3 associations of professional legal interpreters and translators (APTIJ, SKTL, TEPIS)**
- 3 universities training legal interpreters and translators (Lessius University College, Antwerp, Belgium, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK)**
- 2 experts (FIT, AIIC)**

cooperated to prepare the foundation of a European association of legal interpreters and translators.



Mission Statement of EULITA

EULITA is committed to promoting the quality of justice, ensuring access to justice across languages and cultures and thus, ultimately, guaranteeing the fundamental principles of human rights as enshrined in the European Convention of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.



EULITA aims to bring together in its membership as **full members the professional associations of legal translators and spoken and sign-language legal interpreters in the EU member states** as well as the general associations that include legal translators and spoken or sign-language legal interpreters among their membership. **As associate members EULITA welcomes all interested organisations, institutions and individuals that are committed to the improvement of quality in legal interpreting and translation.**



EULITA aims to strengthen and to represent the interests and concerns of the associations and their members vis-à-vis national, European and international organizations and institutions, to promote the establishment of associations of legal interpreters and translators in member states where as yet they do not exist, **to promote close cooperation with academic institutions in the field of training and research and encourage the establishment of national and EU-wide registers of qualified legal interpreters and translators**, while at all times respecting the diversity of judicial systems and cultures.



EULITA is further committed to promoting quality in legal interpreting and translation through the recognition of the professional status of legal interpreters and translators, the exchange of information and best practices in training and continuous professional development and the organisation of events on issues such as training, research, professionalism, etc. thus promoting judicial cooperation and mutual trust by the member states in each other's systems of legal interpreting and translation.



EULITA, finally, aims to promote cooperation and best practices in working arrangements with the legal services and legal professionals.



EULITA = European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association

33 professional associations in EU

59 associate members (34 organisations and 25 individual associate members)



EULITA

- plays an important role in ensuring fair-trial standards by promoting professional language services in judicial settings**
- is present in EU fora on all issues related to legal interpreting and translation**



EULITA in EU projects:

- TRAFUT (Training for the Future)
- QUALETRA (Quality in Legal Translation)
- LIT Search (pilot project for a European data base of legal interpreters and translators)
- JUSTISIGNS (access to justice for deaf people through signed language interpreting)



TRAFUT = Training for the Future

EU project on the implementation of Directive 2010/64 EU on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings

> conducted by Lessius University College and EULITA

4 regional workshops for judicial stakeholders:

(Ljubljana: November 2011, Madrid: March 2012, Helsinki: June 2012, Antwerp: October 2012)

- invited experts addressed and discussed with the participants the various aspects covered by the articles of the directive**
- representatives of national or regional associations of (legal) interpreters and translators presented reports on the situation**

in their country



QUALETRA (Quality in Legal Translation)

focus on actions to develop curricula, evaluation procedures, and certification and accreditation strategies for legal translators

Four work streams:

- “essential documents”
- European Arrest Warrant
- development of core curricula and training materials (competence and curriculum)
- testing evaluation and assessment of legal translation practitioners
- VADEMECUM for users of legal translations



LIT Search (Pilot Project for an EU Database of LITs)

explores the modalities and practical features of a database of legal interpreters and translators, eventually linking up the countries participating in the pilot project, as well as recommendations for national registers.



JUSTISIGNS

Use of sign-languages and sign-language interpreting in judicial settings

- a ground-breaking initiative focusing on identifying competencies for interpreting in legal settings and providing training for both qualified and qualifying signed language interpreters in this domain



**Latest initiative → for an ISO standard
for interpreting services in legal settings**



Thank you for your attention!

www.eulita.eu