



Translation Traineeships at the EU Institutions as a Step Towards Professionalization: The Case of Former European Commission and European Parliament Trainees

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Objective of the presentation:

- to present the structure and organization of translation traineeships at the EC and EP from the point of view of two former trainees
- to discuss the most popular career paths after traineeships at the EU institutions based on a survey conducted among 17 EC trainees

Traineeships organised by European Union institutions present an interesting offer for EU students majoring in translation studies. Such traineeships are an excellent way to familiarize students with the translation of EU-related texts in real conditions, enabling them to acquire relevant professional experience (Sosoni 2011: 101).

The European Commission (EC) and the European Parliament (EP), as two of those institutions, enable students and graduates to attend paid translation traineeships which offer the chance to:

- get to know how EU institutions function,
- deepen knowledge acquired in the course of university-level training,
- develop professional skills and competences,
- sharpen skills with regards to translating written texts.

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Internships may allow for a dynamic transition between academia and working life.



EU traineeships allow for the development of a set of professional competences (soft vs. hard skills).

Communication

Team work

Persuasion

Time management

Problem-solving

Discipline

Flexibility

Work ethic

Cultural intelligence

Language skills

Computer skills

CAT tools



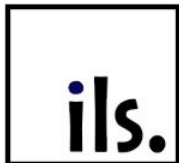
Translation traineeships at the EU institutions as a step towards professionalization: The case of former European Commission and European Parliament trainees



	EC's DGT	EP's DG TRAD
Where?	Luxembourg	Luxembourg
How long?	5 months (+1-2 months)	3 months (+1-3 months)
Scholarship	ca. 1 159,44 EUR/month	ca. 1 313,37 EUR/month
Requirements	3 EU languages, min. Bachelor degree, no traineeships over 6 weeks	
Traineeship organisation	opiekun-mentor, liason trainee, Stage committee	opiekun-mentor
Trainee duties	Translation of documents, attending training sessions and missions	
Work time	8.30 am – 5.00 pm	8.30 am – 5.30 pm (Mon – Thu), 8.30 am – 13.30 pm (Fri)*
Spare time activities	Subcommittees	---

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Missions to Strasbourg, Brussels:








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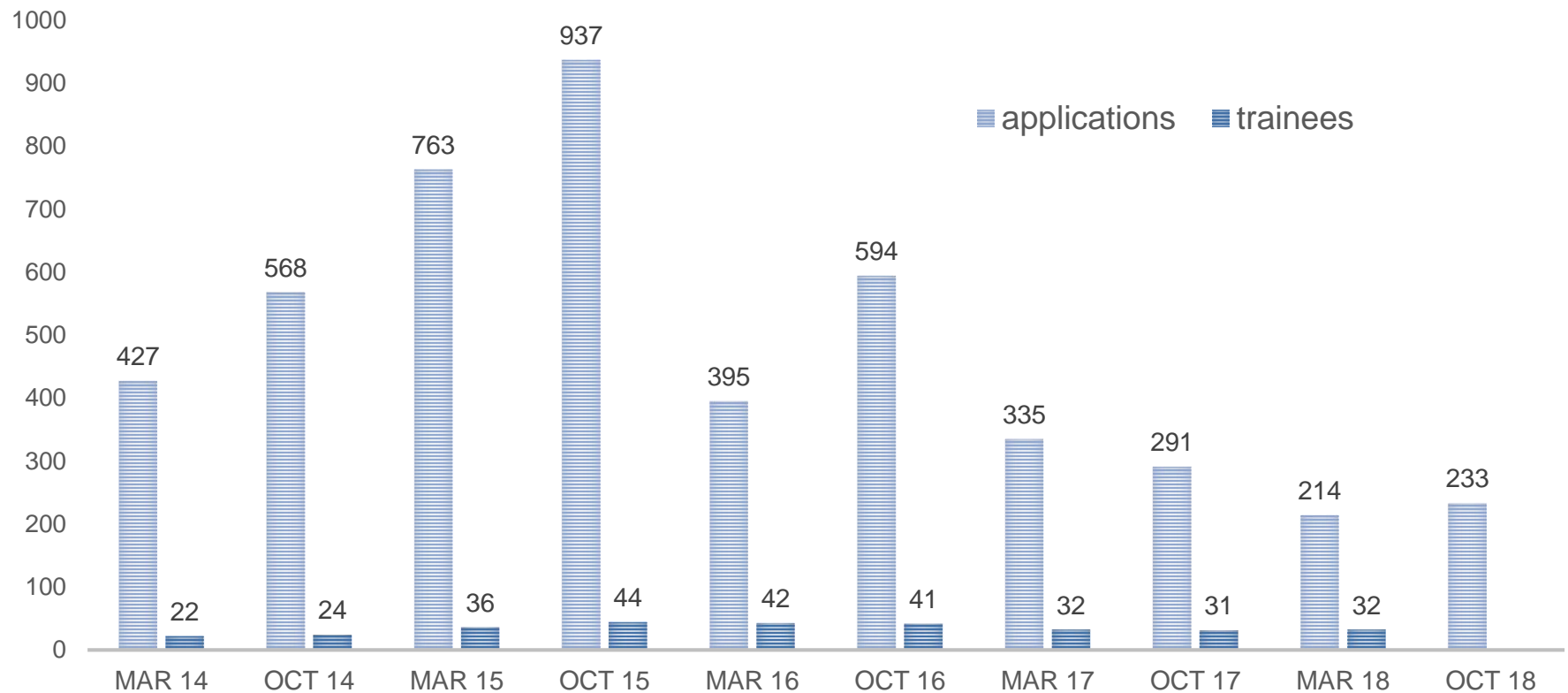
Applications sent to European Parliament's DG TRAD (2010-2014)

DG TRAD
Stages de traducteurs

Nombre de candidatures en ligne depuis octobre 2009 (candidatures recevables)
par période de candidature et par Unité

Unités	2009/4	2010/1	2010/2	2010/3	2010/4	2011/1	2011/2	2011/3	2011/4	2012/1	2012/2	2012/3	2012/4	2013/1	2013/2	2013/3	2013/4	2014/1	2014/2	2014/3	2014/4	Total	%	Unités
BG	62	53	58	50	49	46	49	54	53	54	51	63	40	49	44	47	55	48	67	29	27	1048	2,79%	BG
CS	20	19	10	19	11	20	12	18	13	14	17	13	15	10	16	24	16	9	13	15	13	317	0,85%	CS
DA	8	6	4	3	5	0	0	3	4	4	1	1	4	1	1	1	4	6	2	0	1	59	0,16%	DA
DE	73	58	43	78	64	45	65	60	47	42	60	51	43	22	37	48	47	34	57	51	51	1076	2,87%	DE
EL	50	30	35	30	37	18	47	74	45	64	67	49	45	29	119	97	64	45	56	29	34	1064	2,84%	EL
EN	58	27	44	28	38	29	31	47	34	31	40	46	36	28	39	52	58	38	37	57	54	852	2,27%	EN
ES	134	91	89	109	98	76	120	213	190	115	112	160	167	175	206	309	435	160	179	234	283	3655	9,74%	ES
ET	8	5	3	3	8	3	7	3	5	7	4	5	3	5	3	7	2	2	1	2	5	91	0,24%	ET
FI	6	6	11	8	4	6	10	6	6	7	5	10	6	4	6	8	7	3	9	7	4	139	0,37%	FI
FR	54	48	85	112	48	30	58	97	50	35	77	98	51	42	86	150	42	32	89	62	48	1394	3,72%	FR
HR				6	10	7	11	13	17	8	19	25	30	27	28	111	34	43	50	24	24	487	1,30%	HR
HU	30	19	20	33	23	16	24	33	21	24	33	25	21	20	23	28	25	14	20	26	27	505	1,35%	HU
IT	744	406	452	382	650	801	1003	640	1079	723	712	709	1150	1264	1663	1892	776	483	2092	1223	1299	20143	53,69%	IT
LT	13	11	9	14	7	11	7	2	16	7	12	4	10	5	11	9	8	15	9	6	7	193	0,51%	LT
LV	11	9	13	12	19	8	14	7	6	11	11	7	14	6	6	9	2	6	6	4	1	182	0,49%	LV
MT	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	4	5	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	12	3	2	1	2	45	0,12%	MT
NL	10	9	12	5	17	3	9	6	6	7	12	5	11	8	12	18	11	10	11	4	8	194	0,52%	NL
PL	118	67	56	90	76	65	79	108	87	81	72	112	93	51	86	122	88	44	60	118	72	1745	4,65%	PL
PT	52	48	26	23	25	15	25	23	34	24	18	26	23	39	68	44	37	16	39	64	32	701	1,87%	PT
RO	130	104	142	120	119	148	155	163	97	122	97	76	87	85	140	101	66	51	61	53	47	2164	5,77%	RO
SK	21	8	13	22	11	17	16	27	17	15	18	26	17	22	25	36	20	16	14	19	20	400	1,07%	SK
SL	13	2	8	3	2	3	8	8	9	5	8	10	13	18	13	14	15	10	14	7	15	198	0,53%	SL
SV	17	6	9	8	9	5	5	12	6	3	2	6	7	5	4	8	4	0	3	3	5	127	0,34%	SV
TERM																	144	78	198	154	161	735	1,96%	TERM
Totaux	1633	1032	1143	1160	1331	1372	1756	1621	1847	1404	1450	1528	1887	1916	2637	3138	1972	1166	3089	2192	2240	37514	100,00%	
	 4666				 6596				 6269				 9663				 8687							
	2010				2011				2012				2013				2014							

Applications sent to the European Commission from Poland (2014-2018)



Constant development of traineeship programmes

Traineeships at the EU institutions are constantly improved upon based on former trainee's feedback:



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parlament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

Directorate-General for Translation
Directorate for Resources
Training and Traineeships Unit • Translation Traineeships

Traineeship Report

(pursuant to Article 12(2) of the internal rules)

Name:

Nationality:

Unit:

Dates of the traineeship: 04 / 01 / - 31 / 03 / 2016 (3 months)

Constant development of traineeship programmes

Source languages: English and German

Target language: Polish

Part A

1. Please provide an overview of the traineeship (organisation, scope, training received, your language unit, achievements etc.)

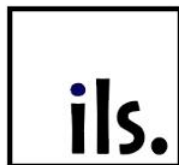
.....

2. Which tools did you use during your traineeship? What kind of documents did you translate? What languages did you use during your traineeship tasks?

.....

3. How would you evaluate the support, training and supervision that were provided by your language unit?

Date and signature (trainee):



Constant development of traineeship programmes

Participation in terminology projects: YES NO

Title of the project: Trade and External Policy.....

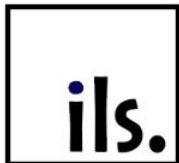
Name of the supervisor:.....

Remarks of the trainee concerning the project:
.....

Assessment of the supervisor (quality, efficiency, cooperation etc.):
.....

Date and signature (terminology supervisor):

Please submit the original report at the end of your traineeship
to the Training and Traineeships Unit
(office: TOB 02B005)

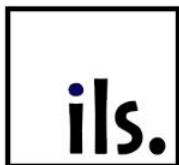


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Career opportunities



www.eu-careers.eu

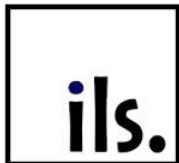


<https://epso.europa.eu/apply/job-offers>

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Employee evaluation at DG TRAD as a guide concerning the skills needed to become a permanent EU official

ABILITY	EFFICIENCY	CONDUCT
<i>Organisational, planning and/or coordination skills</i>	Quality of work (rigour, precision, exactitude)	Sense of responsibility and professional conscientiousness
<i>Ability to grasp internal and/or parliamentary procedures and practices</i>	Respecting priorities, meeting deadlines	Compliance with rules and procedures
Knowledge necessary for performance of duties	Output	Ability to work in a team
Mastery of key work tools	<i>Quality of file and/or urgent case management</i>	Flair for human relations (in the department and externally)
Communication skills	<i>Contribution to the Unit/Directorate/Directorate-General</i>	<i>Attitude at work</i>
Critical thinking and judgement	<i>Time management and organisational efficiency</i>	Availability, reliability, adaptability



Results of a survey - „What’s next?”

The most popular career paths after traineeships at the EU institutions

The key question is: are they related to translation business?

The survey conducted among 17 trainees from the European Commission’s DGT (October 2014-2015)

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For those who found a job in translation business after the traineeship

1. Did you find a job in translation business after the traineeship?

YES (14)

NO (3)

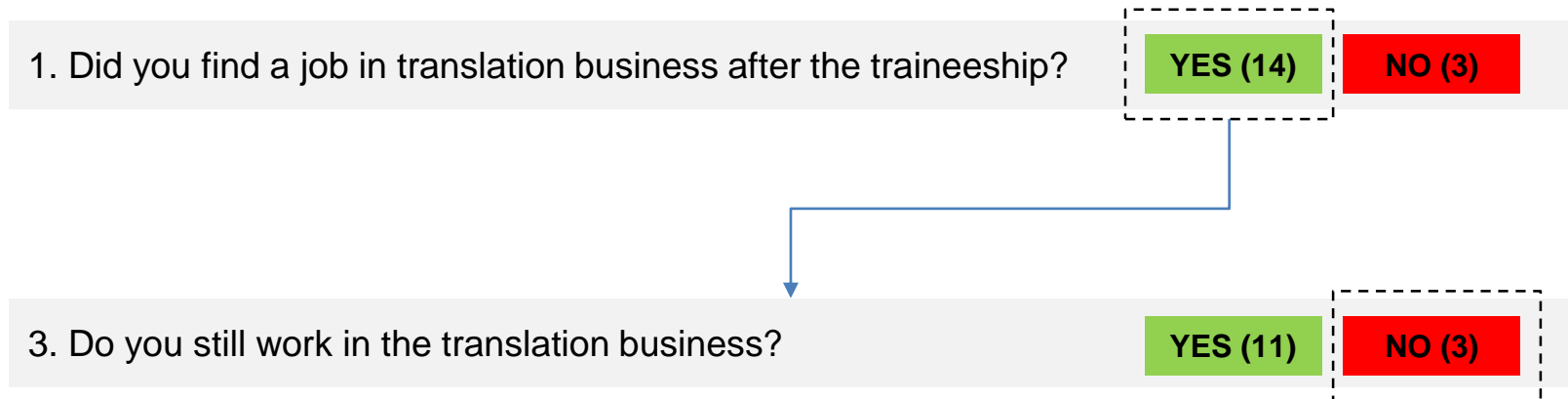
2. If so, which sector (you can select more than one answer)



Translation as the most frequent answer with strong representation of freelancers

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For those who found a job in translation business after the traineeship



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For those who didn't find a job in translation business after the traineeship

1. Did you find a job in translation business after the traineeship?

YES (14)

NO (3)

4. If not, was it because (you can select more than one answer):

- a) you did not get any job offers in translation business
- b) job offers did not meet your expectations
- c) you did not want to work in the translation business
- d) other

2

2

5. Did you find a job in:

- a) a multinational company
- b) an international organisation
- c) other (please specify)

1

1

1

The responder answered with „public administration”

6. Do you work in the translation business now?

YES (0)

NO (3)

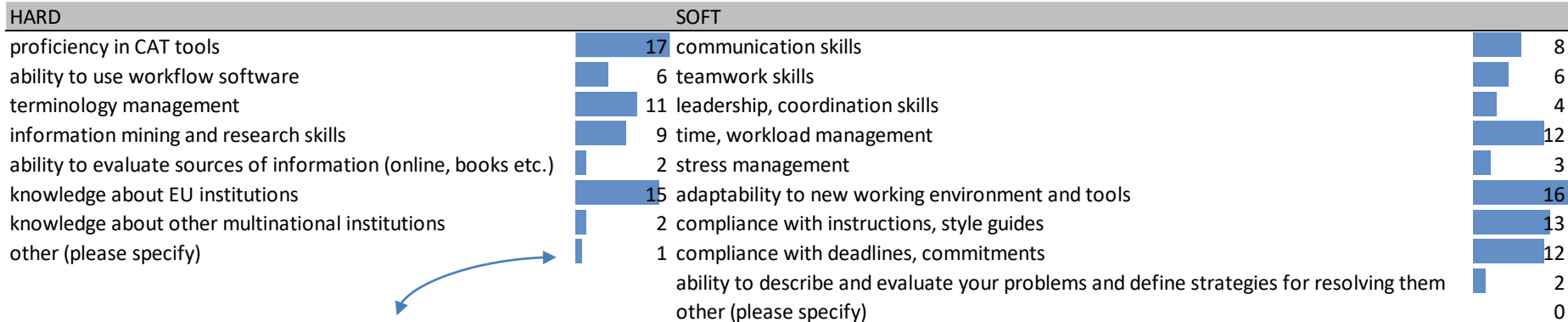
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For all responders

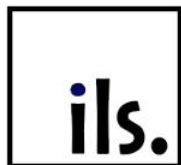
7. How long did it take you to find a job after you started looking for one after the traineeship?



8. What skills and competences did you develop during the traineeship?



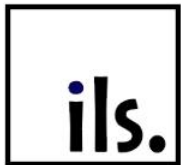
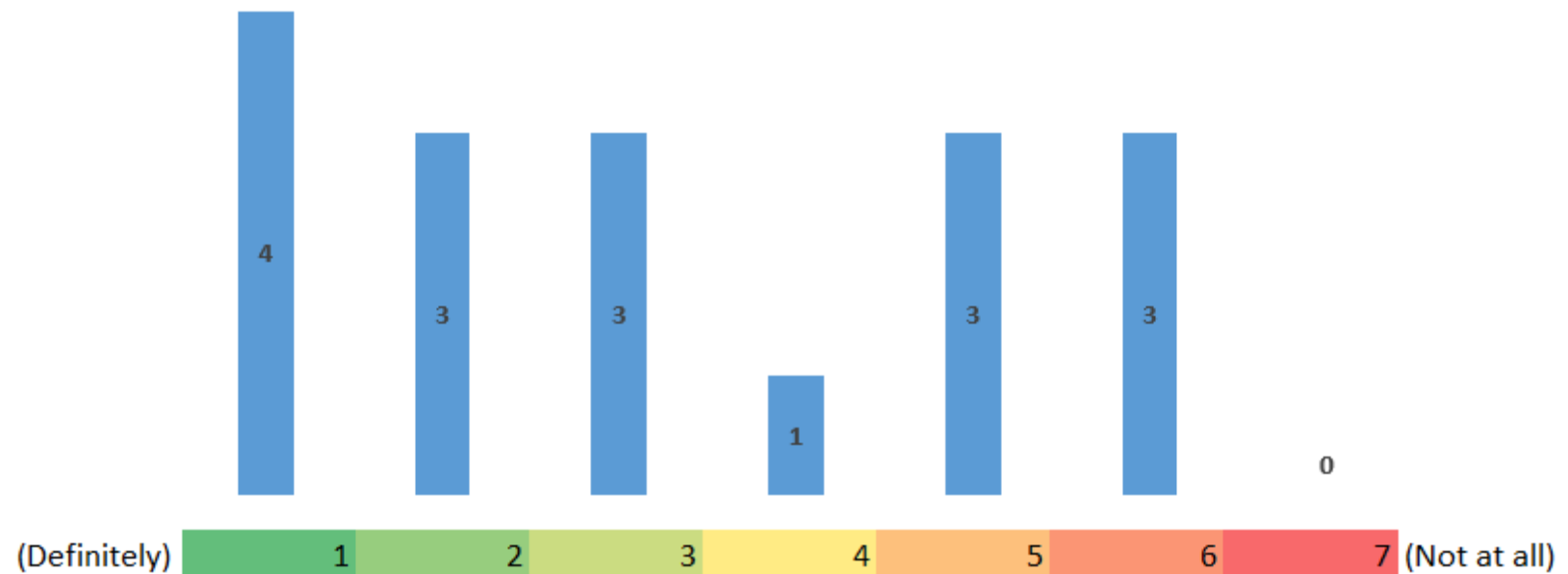
The responder answered with „basics of proof reading”



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For all responders

9. Do you think that the skills and competences developed during the traineeship helped you find a job? To what extent?



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For all responders

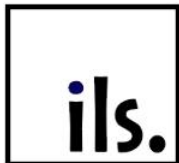
10. If you had the chance to go back in time and decide again, would you take part in the traineeship?

YES (17)

NO (0)

11. Additional comments

„I believe the traineeship would have played a bigger role in my job hunting if I had looked for a job in the translation industry.”



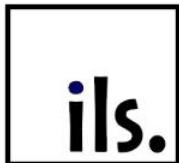
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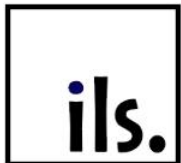




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Thank you for your attention



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