Terminology Management and Social Media in the Terminology Coordination Unit of the European Parliament

Presentation by Rodolfo Maslias

EAFT Terminology Summit Barcelona November 2014
Terminology at the European Parliament
Two channels of producing terminology in the EP:

- **Drafting** *(legislative and non-legislative)*
- **Translation**

The **Terminology Coordination Unit (TermCoord)** *(created in 2008)* faces 3 main challenges in terms of communication:

- To raise awareness of the importance of terminology among drafters and translators
- To improve interinstitutional cooperation on IATE
- To participate in the global evolution of terminology through networking
Why is terminology important for the EP?

- Since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament has adopted final legislative texts, which are translated into the 24 official languages of the EU.
- All language versions are considered authentic (equal originals) and shall have the same legal meaning and legal effect.
- Inaccurate wording and incorrect terminology can trigger legal consequences, therefore the use of correct and consistent terminology is crucial.
Organisation of translation and terminology at the EP

DG TRAD
(1200 staff members)

- Multilingualism and External Relations

**Directorate A**
- Development and Application Support
- External Translation
- Euramis Pre-Translation
- Terminology Coordination

**Directorate B**
- Planning Unit
- Editing Unit
- 23 Translation Units
  - BG, CS, DA, DE, EL, EN/GA, ET, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, SV

**Directorate C**
- Human Resources
- Financial Resources Management and Controls
- Training and Traineeships
- Information Technology and IT Support
Main activities in the central coordination

- Coordinates the **Terminology Network** (EP terminologists of all EU languages)
- Coordinates IATE which contains 8 million terms in all EU languages
- Provides tailored training for terminologists and translators
- Looks for new terminology and provides related glossaries and definitions for important legislative procedures

**TerminCoord Terminology Coordination**
- Assists translators in their daily tasks
- Provides translators with the following **TOOLS**
  - **DOC HOUND**
    - Interinstitutional document search
  - **GLOSSARY LINKS**
  - **TERM FOLDERS**
  - **TERMINOLOGY MACRO**
    - Easy storage of terms translated "on the fly"
- **Interinstitutional Cooperation**
  - Participates in:
    - IATE Management Group
    - Elise Management Group
    - Terminology Coordination Services
    - Language Technology Watch Group
- Organises terminology related **SEMINARS**

*Term extraction tools*
Cooperation and communication

Within DGTRAD
• with terminologists from Translation Units
• other services (e.g. quality, IT, Planning)

With other DGs in the European Parliament
• lawyer-linguists
• interpreters
• parliamentary committees

With other EU Institutions
• terminology coordination services
• IATE Management Group
• Elise Management Group

With external contacts
• European and international terminology networks
• universities
• terminology experts
Cooperation and communication with …

… terminologists of the translation units

- Terminology Framework for the DG

- no full-time terminologists – translators do terminology work

- at least two terminologists - appointed by each unit according to a profile

- Terminology Network – network of around 100 terminologists from all the language units (meet twice a year)
Terminology work in the translation units

23 Translation Units

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- Terminology work in their language
- Advising and helping colleagues
- Checking terminology recorded by colleagues with a macro
- Supervising trainees’ terminology projects, preparing their own projects
- Cooperating with colleagues responsible for quality and policy areas
- Cooperating with terminologists from the other EU Institutions on language level
- Contacts with national authorities and experts
- Organising language-specific seminars
"Rotating" terminology

Terminology research and IATE work in native language

Translation unit terminology seconded for three months to TermCoord

Evaluation and improvement of terminology resources

Contact with terminologists from the translation units

Testing and evaluation of new technical features
Cooperation and communication with ...

... other services and units in the DG:

- Planning: exchange of information about upcoming files and packages for translation in view of proactive work
- IT services: identifying and requesting needs for terminology tools (integration in Studio, macro etc.)

... other DGs in the European Parliament:

- Resources exchange with interpreters
- Collaboration on maintenance of EP internal databases
- Collaboration with EP committees for proactive terminology
Communication campaigns in the EP
For the authors to improve the quality of originals
Seminars and workshops in cooperation with universities and international terminology bodies

TERMINOLOGY IN LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES
28 March 2011 Schuman Hemicyle

MORNING (09h30 – 13h00)
Licia Corbelante (terminology and localisation specialist)
Andreas Eisels (ICL, Alexandros Poullis (IFP)
Jaap van der Meer (ITALI)

AFTERNOON (14h30 – 17h30)
Workshop: Integrating terminology in translation technologies
Presentation of conclusions

LEXICO GRAFFITI
23 January 2012 Schuman Hemicyle

For more information, access our website: tradportal.eu parl.unicode.eu/terminology
A website on the internal DG TRAD Portal for translation department staff

And an intranet page for all EP staff

For translating and drafting (legislative) texts, reliable working tools are needed. DG TRAD has put qualitative terminology and documentation resources at your disposal, because... in termino quitas!

Reliable terminology is essential for translating and drafting (legislative) texts. Staff, Members and their assistants can access this terminology in a number of DG TRAD's databases.

Specifically, the following terminology and documentation resources are available:

- IATE is a terminology database containing more than eight million terms in all EU languages, updated daily by translators from all the EU institutions. Look for terms via a search box and by choosing additional search criteria.
- DOCHound provides links to publicly accessible and useful resources of EU institutions. The site, which comes up with about 150 links, is regularly updated with knowing the user-friendly navigation. It is hosted by the DG TRAD's Interbreast Department.
A dedicated terminology corner at the EP library providing e-books

Bibliography on Terminology

The Library's collection presented from 22 to 26 April 2013

Bibliographie de Terminologie

La collection de la Bibliothèque présentée du 22 au 26 avril 2013
Other internal communication channels and activities

- We offer all kinds of training. Training is obligatory for newcomers, and advanced training is compulsory in order to meet the skill level required to be appointed as a terminologist.

- We issue a bi-monthly e-newsletter - TermNews.

- We give presentations on resources and tools to all Translation Units.

- We have created functional email accounts to communicate with the terminologists.

- Termino-cafés with the terminology team from each language unit.

- Social events like the Xmas Open Day and organise a stand at EP events.
Interinstitutional communication:

TermCoord initiated and continues to develop an interinstitutional terminology portal

The project was suggested by TermCoord in 2011, and was adopted by the IATE Management Group in 2012 and by the EU hierarchy in 2013.
Offers:

- Access to all the tools and resources of the EU Institutions
- Terminology news from the EU and the rest of the world
- Links to terminology websites
- Cooperation on collaborative terminology projects
- Experts in specific domains
- Calendar of EU and external events
- Collection of texts and presentations

TermCoord also hosts a wiki for each language community, accessible from the portal, which facilitates cooperation in terminology between institutions and with their national linguistic bodies.
Interinstitutional terminology finally goes ... online
Working with international terminology networks and organisations

Terminology Associations/Networks

Institutions and Organisations
Thank you!

...and greetings from Luxembourg!