

THESSALONIKI

POLYGLOT
CONFERENCE

29 AND 30

OCTOBER 2016



THE CULTURAL ASPECTS OF MULTILINGUAL
EU LEGISLATION

Rodolfo Maslias

The European Union is the largest union of States with a common system of legislation which concerns numerous areas of life.

EU directives are transposed into national law and for their application all 24 of goal languages have equal status

In some domains, most of the laws of the Member States are based on European legal acts.



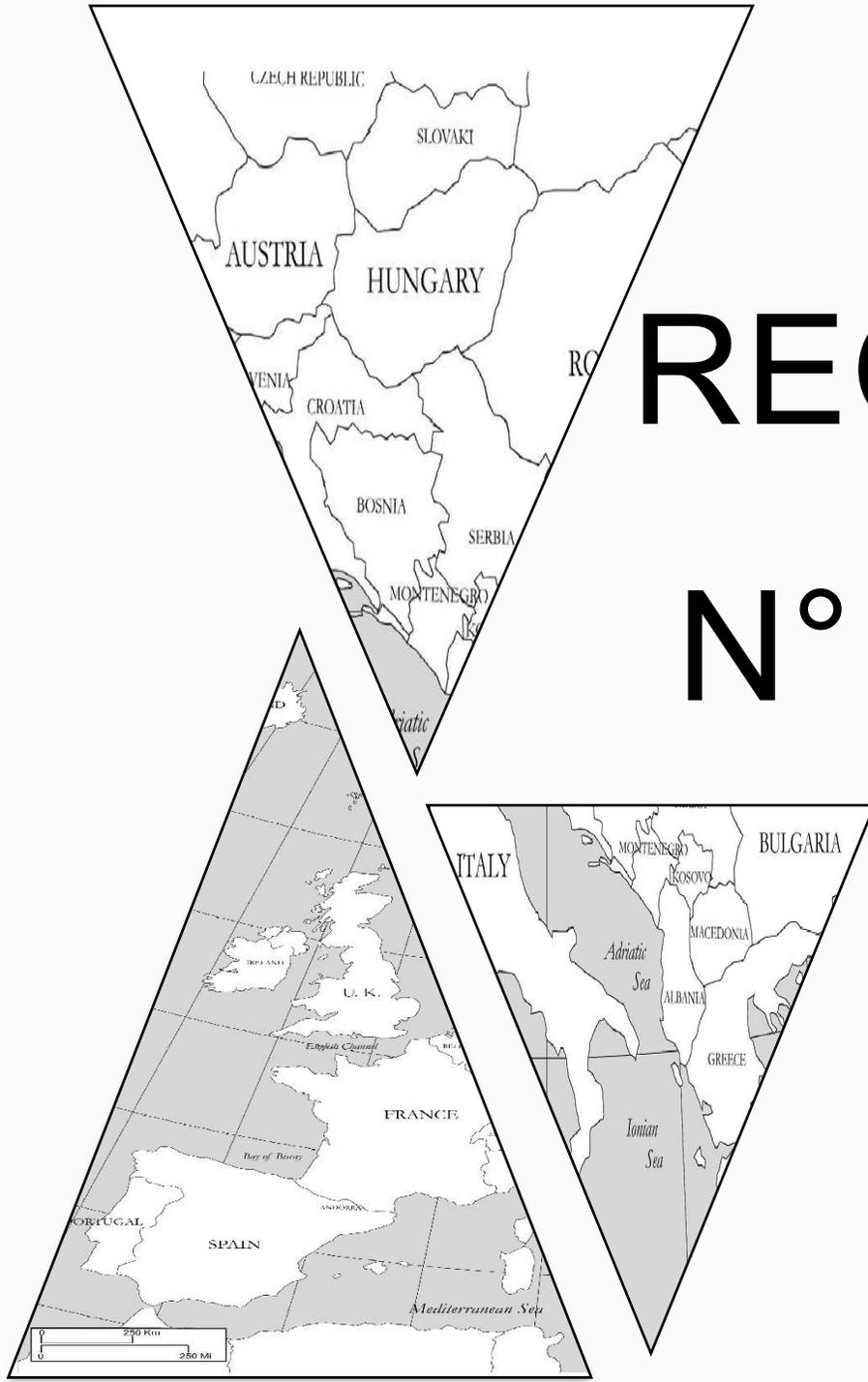
28
COUNTRIES

24
LANGUAGES
ONE LAW

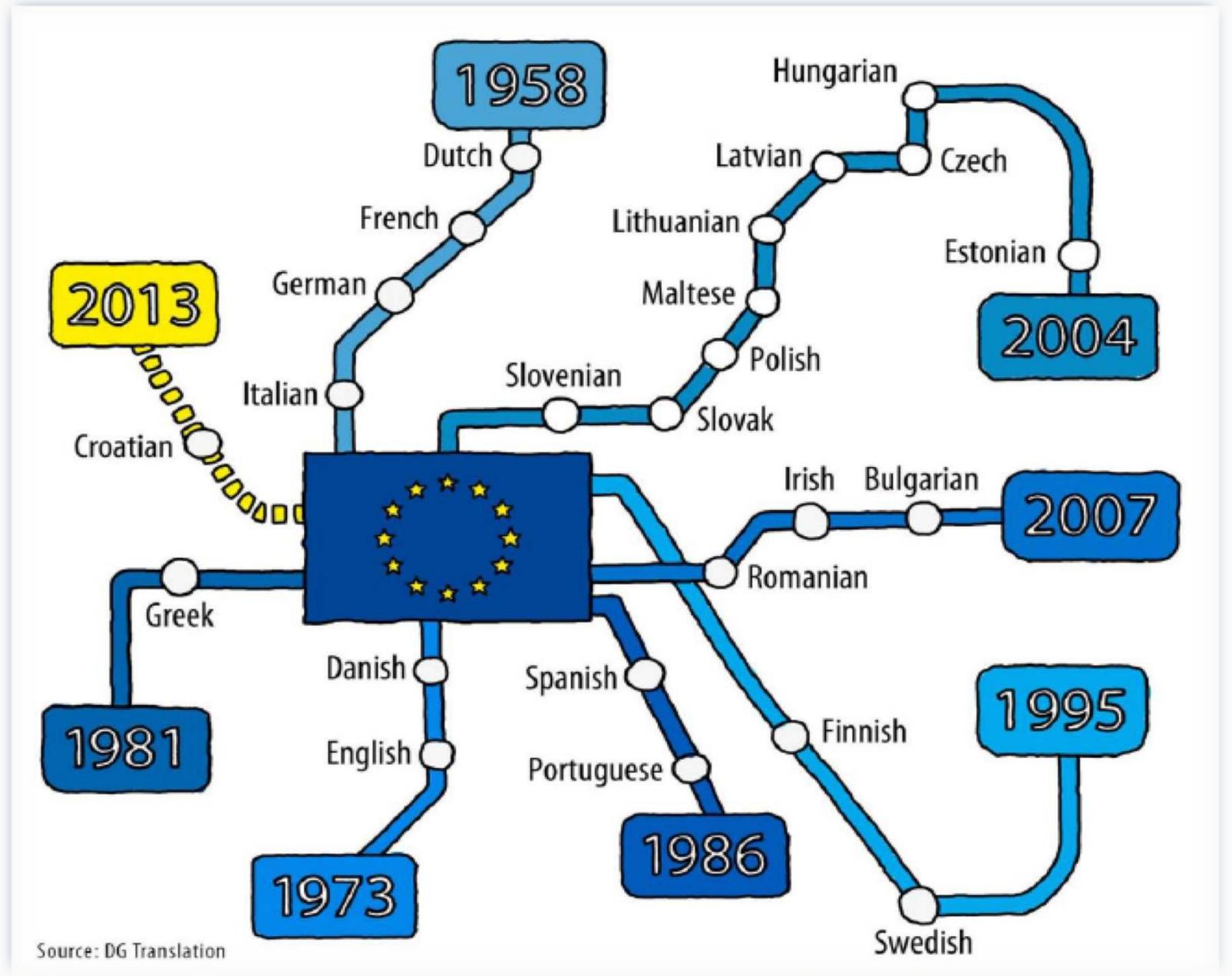
REGULATION

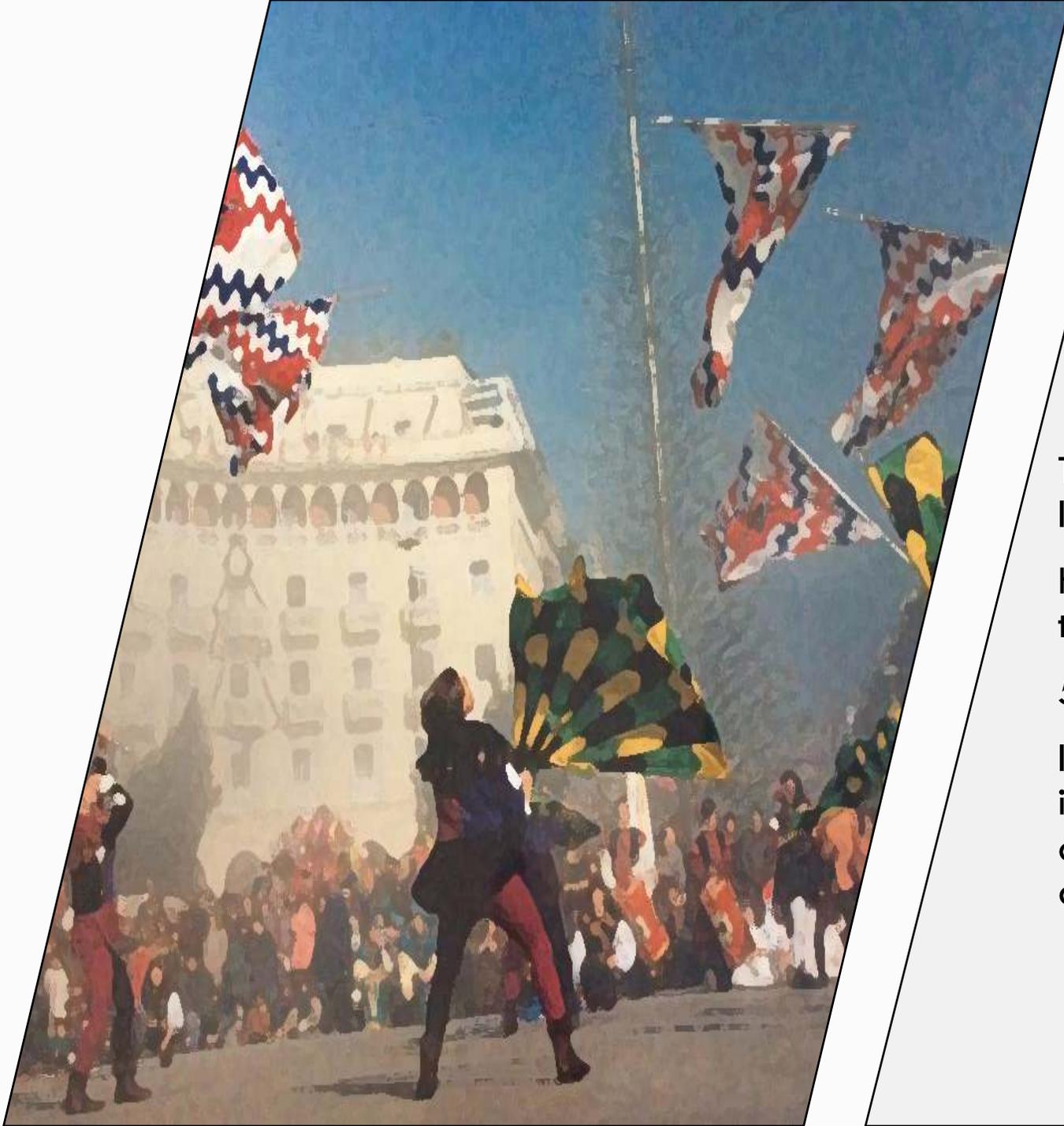
N° 1/1958

The official languages of the institutions of the Union are Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish.



THE EU AND MULTILINGU ALISM





THE MOST MULTILINGUAL LINGUISTIC SERVICE

Translation and Interpretation in the EU
Institutions

How many Institutions? - how many
translators?

552 Language combinations

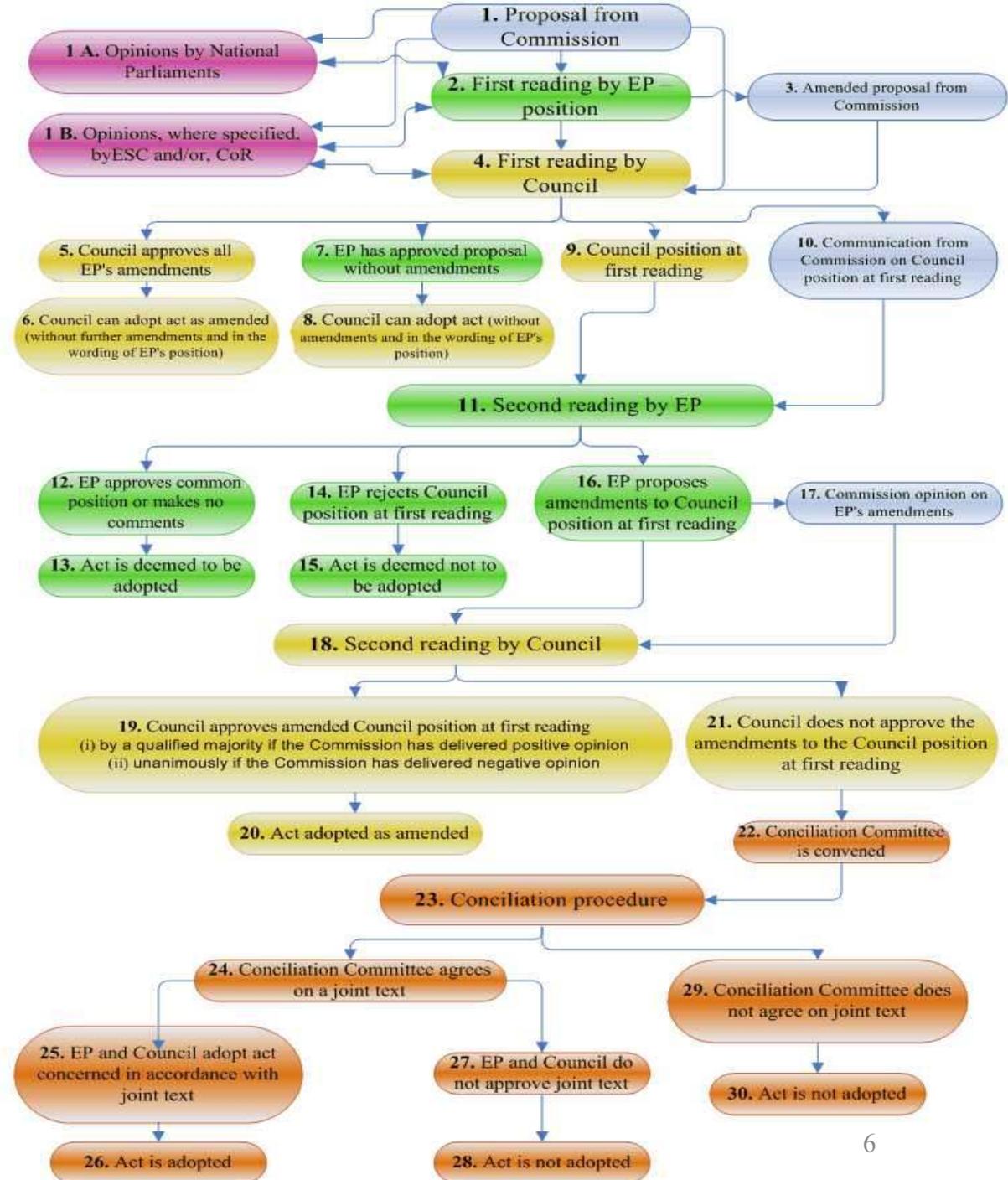
Involvement of translation and
interpretation in the legislative process:
draft, negotiations, co-decisions,
amendments....

HOW AN EU LAW IS BORN

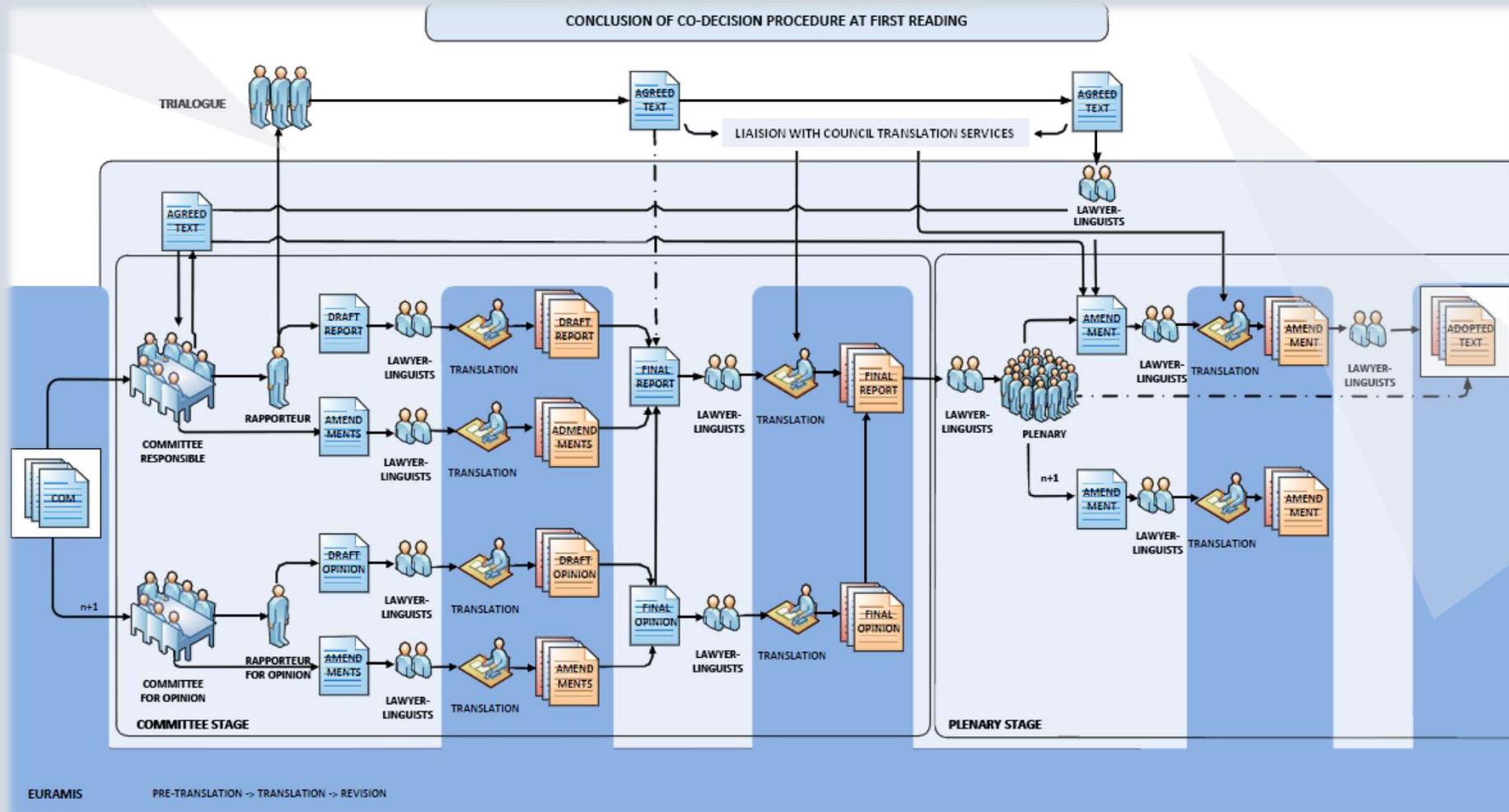
When 28 countries sit together to create a law valid in each one of them

When 24 languages are all considered original

When drawing a common policy governing many domains of daily life



THE IMPRESSIVE FLOW OF A DOCUMENT IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: TRANSLATION AND LEGAL REVISION INTERVENES 8 TIMES



THE CHALLENGE OF A COMMON MULTILINGUAL LEGISLATION

The linguistic dimension of legislation is the central pivot of European law: legal acts, being expressed in various languages of the Union, can be applied uniformly only if they are written in an understandable accurate way, and are devoid of ambiguity.

In this multilingual reality, translation and terminology assume fundamental roles of transmission.

HOW MANY LANGUAGES IN EUROPE?

What makes a language?

Regional

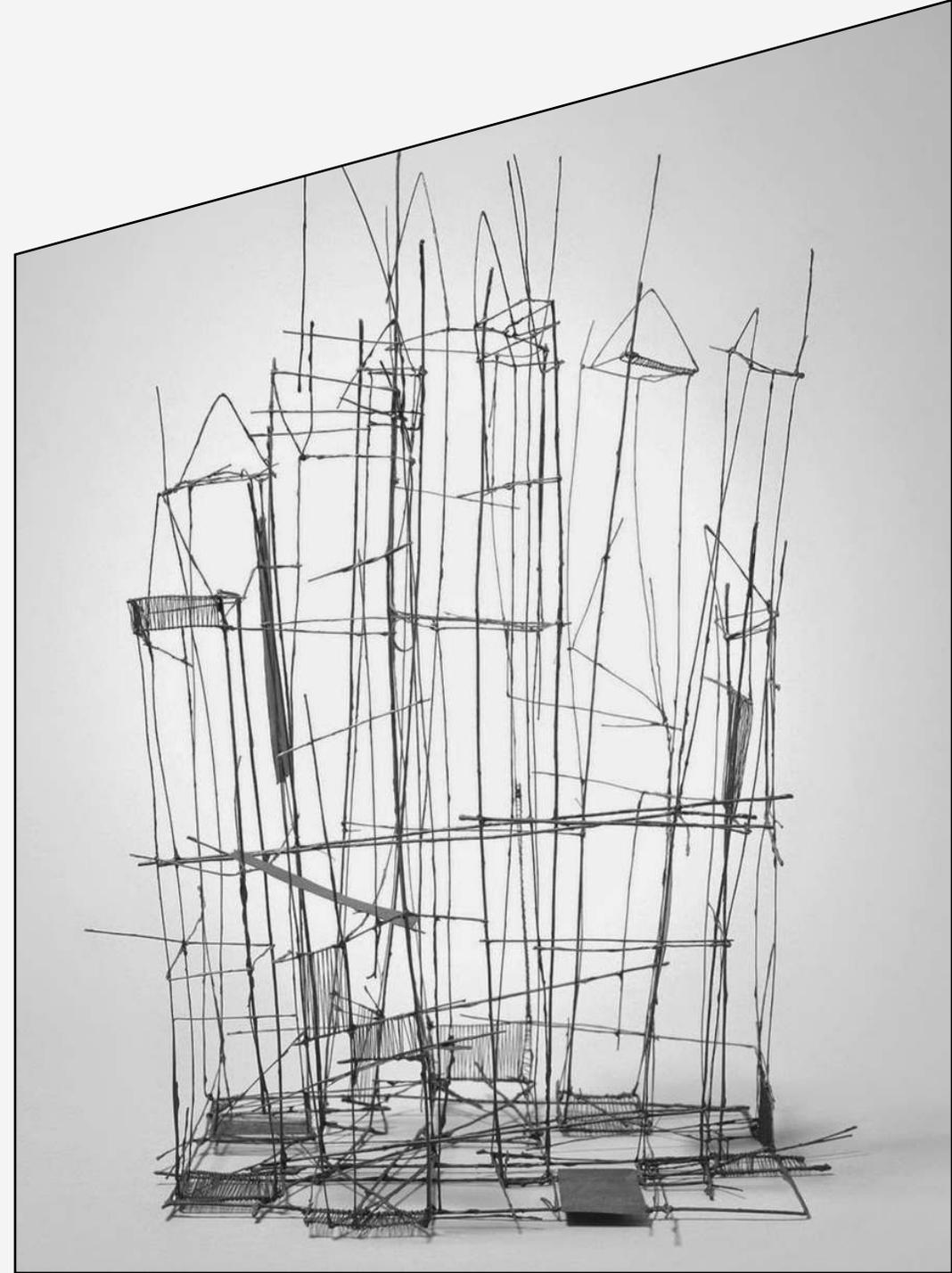
Local

Spoken

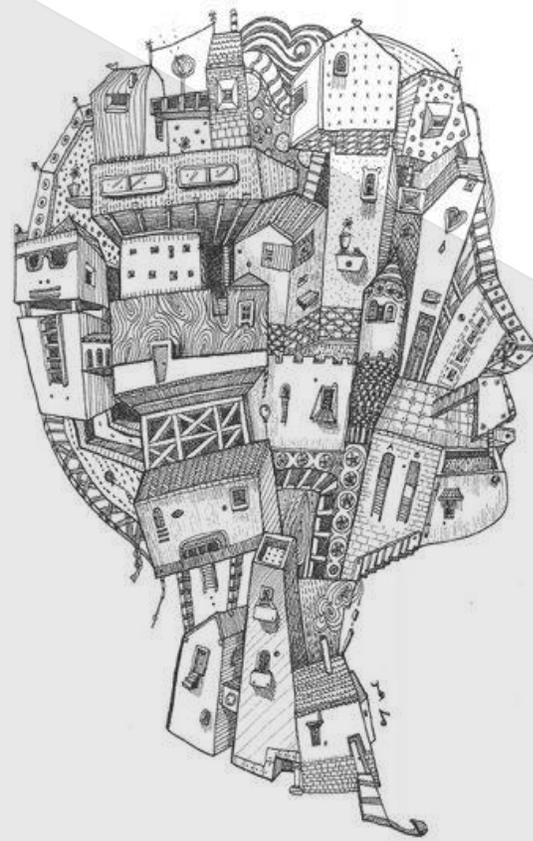
Written

Education

Literature.....

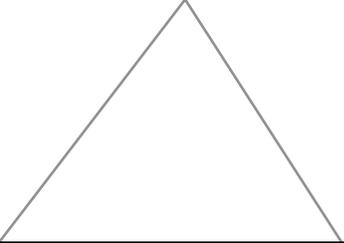


OFFICIAL LANGUAGE in a State in the EU



An 'official language' is the language officially used by a State for legislation and administration and in courts and schools. The identification of an official language gives citizens the right to expect the State to communicate with them in that language. In many countries, national languages of minorities are also legally guaranteed as additional official languages.

Each national official language becomes an official language of the EU only if the Member State concerned seeks that status for it.



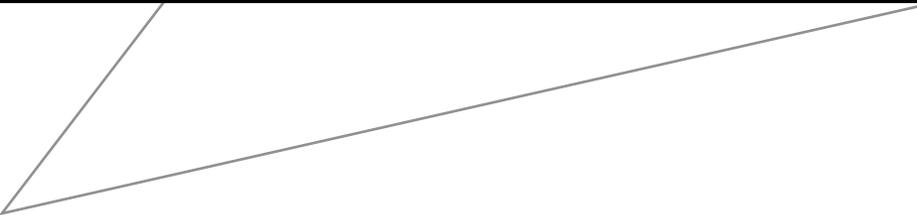
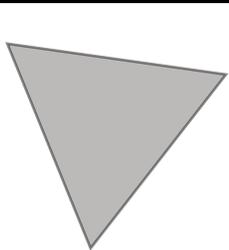
The relationship between the European, national and local level leads to a mutual transfer of knowledge.

In the same way that legal systems, cultures and languages of the Member States have influenced the legal system of the Union, the latter redounds on the legal systems of the Member States and their linguistic and cultural environment.

MUTUAL INFLUENCE

The EU introduces terminology in the internal and external institutional network, which is then fixed by usage in the Member States and their customs, and fed back to the institutional level.

The fact that the official language of a Member State has at the same time become the official language of the Union has, in many countries, promoted the emergence of a conscious language policy.



LANGUAGE EQUALITY IN EU INSTITUTIONS

▶ The daily practice especially after the addition of 9 languages in 2004

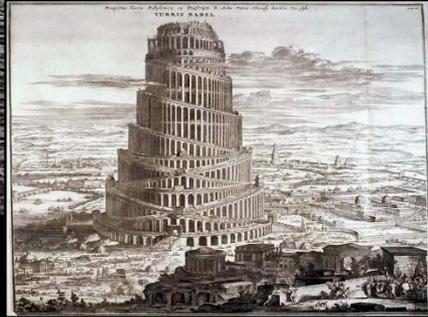
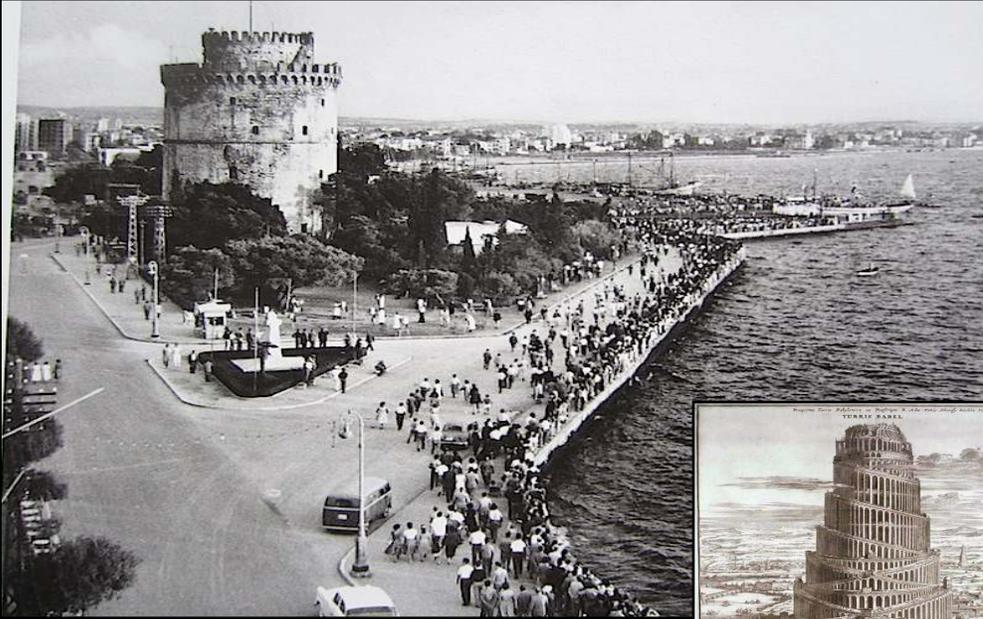
▶ To ensure efficiency in internal communication there has to exist a "lingua franca" for communication in multinational departments. But this does not affect the respect of the multilingual legislation

▶ Pivot languages and relay translation

▶ Editing Units for proofreading texts drafted by non-native speakers



THE 'PIVOT' LANGUAGES



- ▶ Since 2003 it has become impossible for practical reasons to use the 552 language combinations which ought to be used on a footing of equality for the unrestricted application of EU Regulation No 1.

Some texts are first translated into English,

- ▶ French and German, so that these translations can then be used as originals and translated by relay.

Translations are authentic texts and

- ▶ translators have equal responsibility to the authors of the texts.

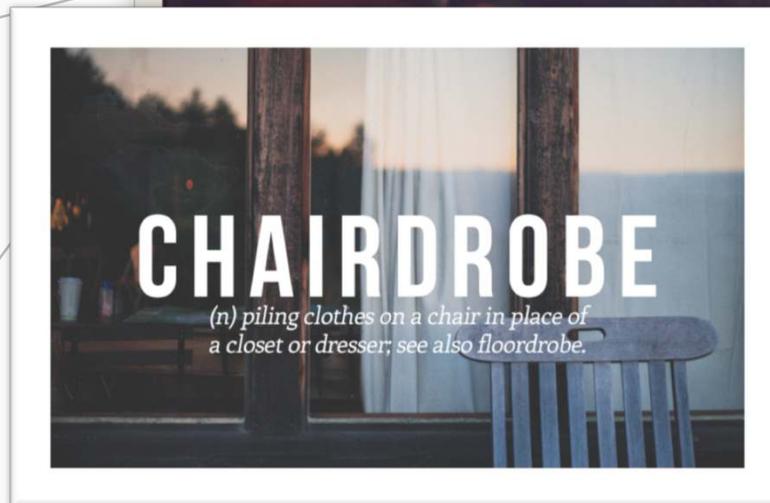
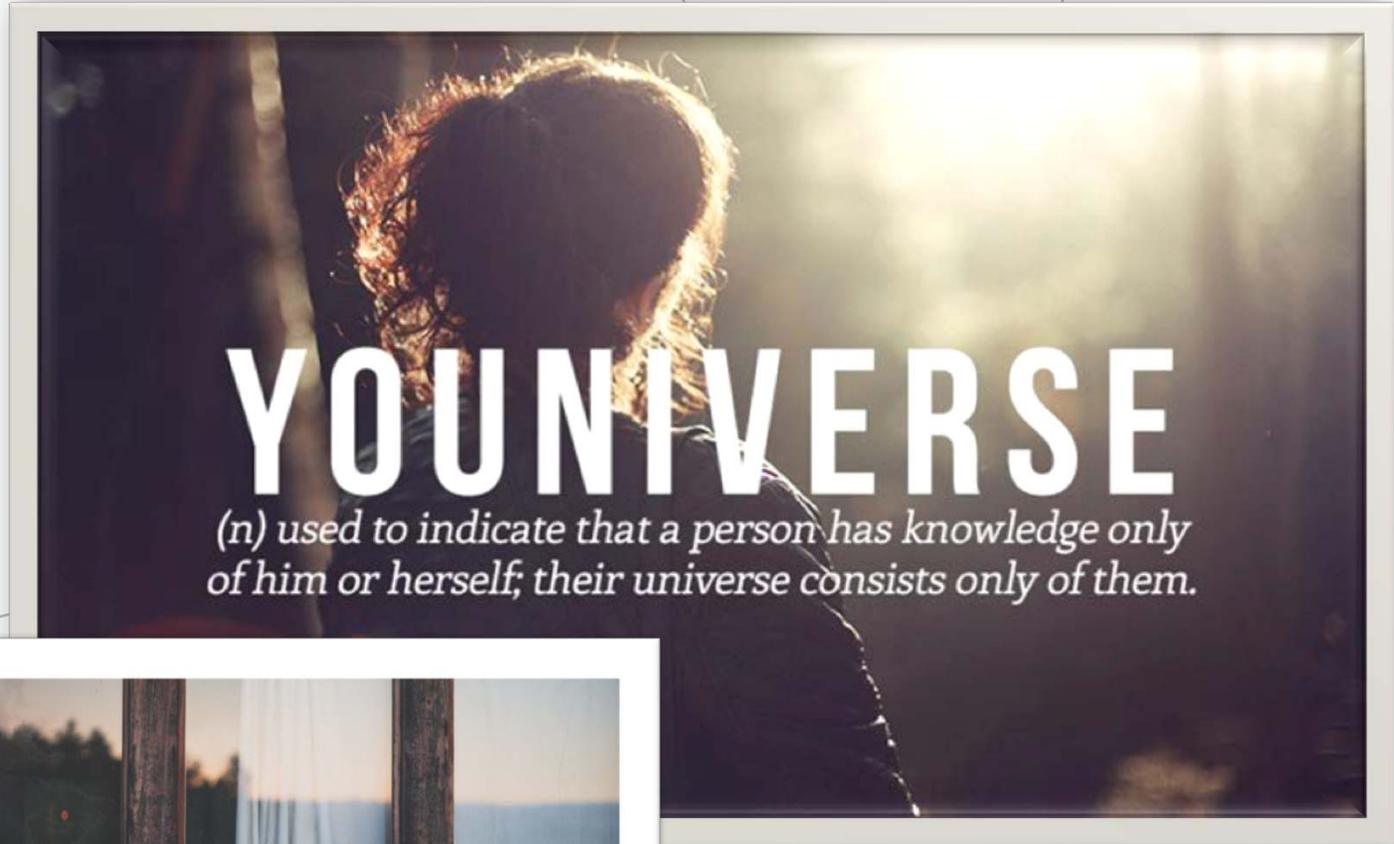
The role of Terminology

In implementing the same legal acts in all States and in all the languages of the European Union, the most important point is that fundamental linguistic concepts should be understood in the same way everywhere.

Increased neology, or the emergence of new terms, demands finding equivalents in all other languages in a short period of time. Multilingual databases have therefore become essential (not only at institutional level, but also in politics)

This is only possible thanks to a shared and consistent terminology.

IATE is a concept-oriented database covering more than 100 fields.



“The term is a living sign” – L. Depecker

Terminology’s mental process in human understanding

The concept is not a pre-existing content in our minds. It is a constructed representation of an object (object is defined in terminology as any unit of reality which can be perceived or conceived).

The term is the description of the concept which assumes a value depending on the situation (or context) in which it is used.

Terminology, on the one hand, is the study of the concept described by the term (onomasiological approach), on the other hand, it is the study of contexts in which the term is recorded (semasiological approach).



COMPLEMENTARITY OF TRANSLATION AND TERMINOLOGY IN MULTILINGUAL PRACTICES

- ▶ Translators need to have multilingual tools at their disposal, which they can keep feeding themselves.
- ▶ Terminologists must take into account the texting-discursive dimension.



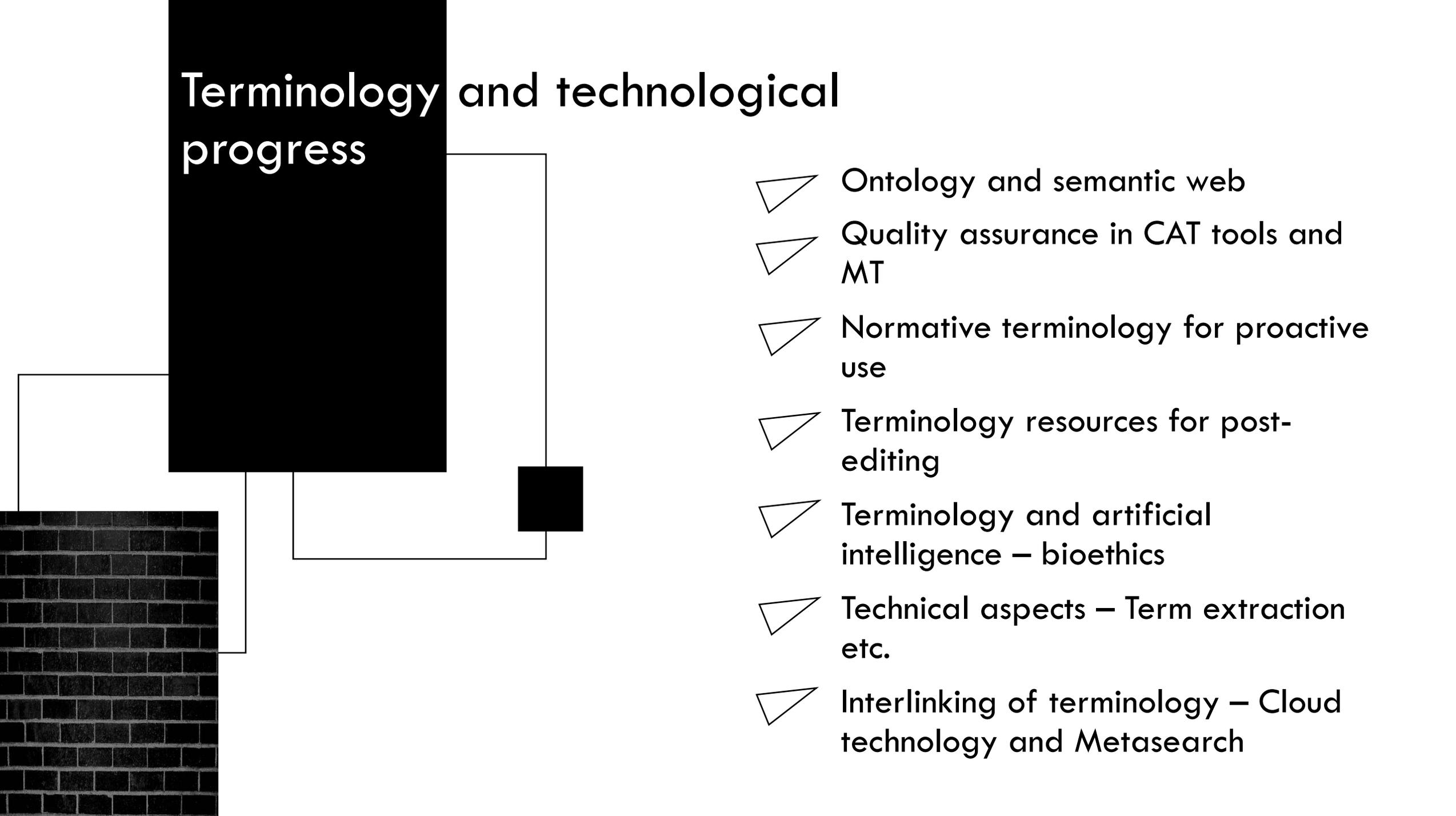
These two disciplines go hand in hand, practice and research in context cannot be separated. Translation and terminology are essential steps in the creation of texts that, once adopted, are only at the beginning of their long life.



DIFFERENT USES OF TERMINOLOGY

- ▼ **Sentimental analysis:** the terms used in a text regarding capital markets can have an influence on the behavior of investors. Example: the translation of "hedge funds" in several languages using or choosing not to use the word "risk" as part of the term
- ▼ **Terminology in journalism and communication:** the language used to communicate news and to pass messages is different than administrative language
- ▼ **Adaptability of terminology according to the audience:** for some target groups a different level of language – example: medical terminology database of the "medecins sans frontières"

Terminology and technological progress



The diagram features a central black rectangular box containing the text 'Terminology and technological progress'. From the bottom-left corner of this box, a white line extends to the left and then down to a black brick wall. From the bottom-right corner, a white line extends to the right and then down to a small black square. From the top-right corner, a white line extends to the right and then down to a list of seven topics, each preceded by a white triangle pointing to the right.

- △ Ontology and semantic web
- △ Quality assurance in CAT tools and MT
- △ Normative terminology for proactive use
- △ Terminology resources for post-editing
- △ Terminology and artificial intelligence – bioethics
- △ Technical aspects – Term extraction etc.
- △ Interlinking of terminology – Cloud technology and Metasearch

Interactive
internal IATE
Public IATE

IATE InterActive Terminology
for Europe

English (en)

[My search preferences](#) [Remove my search preferences](#) [Help](#)

Search criteria

Search term*

Source language*

Target languages* bg cs da de el en es et fi fr ga hu it la lt lv mt nl pl pt ro sk sl sv Any

IATE content

concepts/entries

1,5 million

terms

8,7 million

languages

24

new terms per year

100,000

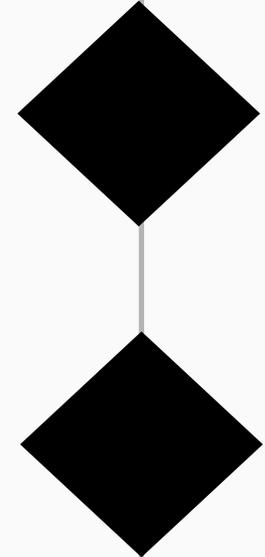
terms updates per year

170,000

IATE

Main aim: to support the multilingual drafting of EU texts, legal texts in particular

Specific function of the terminology database: to provide relevant, reliable, verified, easily accessible data which represents a distinct added value by comparison with other lexical information (e.g. translation memories, mass of information on internet)



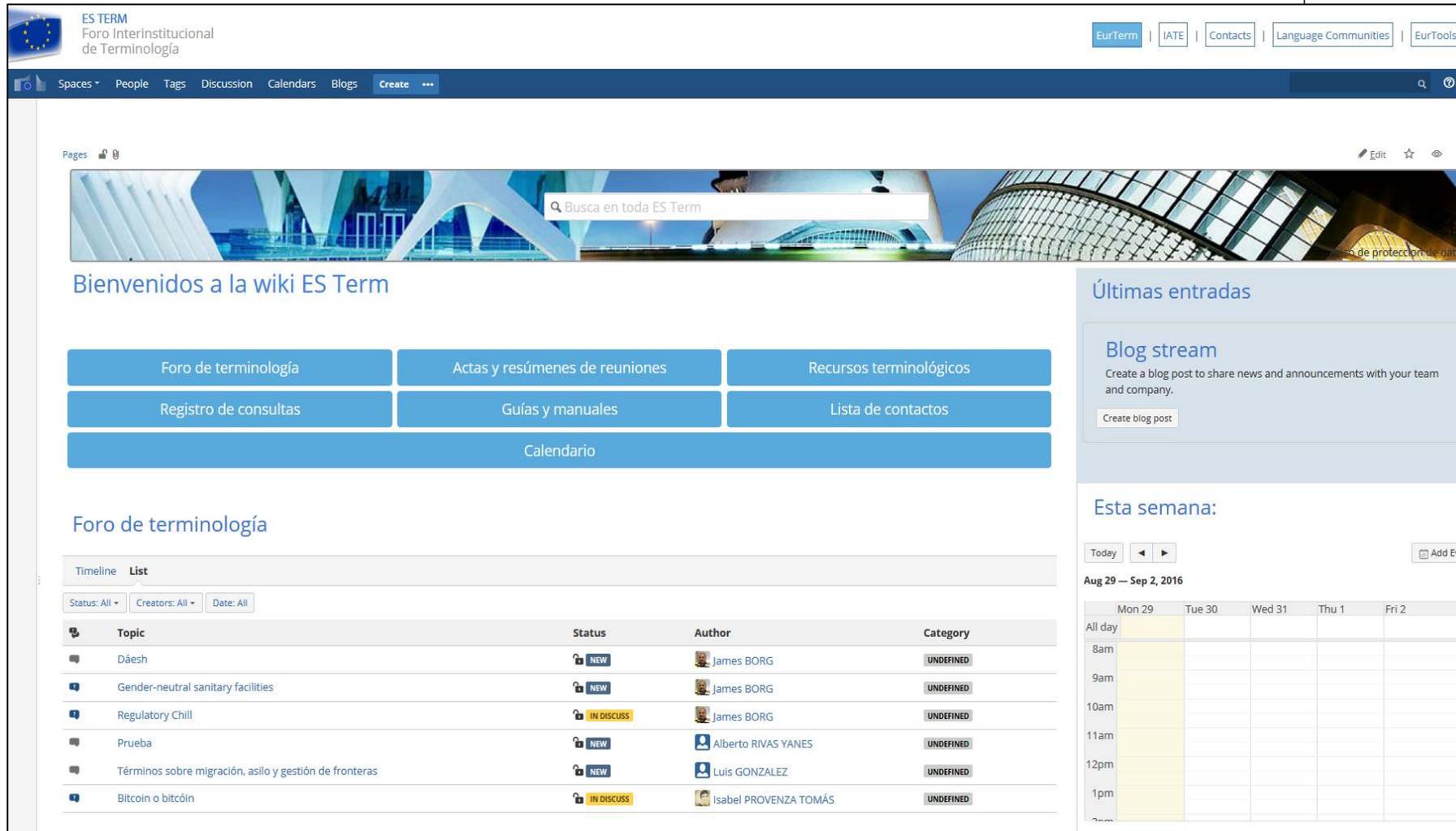
Terminology Cooperation in the EU

The screenshot displays the EurTerm website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation tabs for 'Spaces', 'People', 'Tags', 'Discussion', 'Calendars', 'Blogs', and 'Create'. Below this is a main navigation menu with categories: 'EU Terminology Material', 'EU Terminology Administration', 'EU Terminology Projects', 'Technical Aspects', 'Training Resources', and 'External Material'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'What's on' featuring a featured article about BabelNet; 'Recently Updated' listing recent updates and changes; 'Calendar' showing upcoming events; and 'EurTerm News' with a featured article. A right-hand sidebar contains sections for 'About EurTerm', 'Contacts', 'Discuss', and 'Language Wikis'. The website is designed to be interactive and collaborative.

Interactive, online communication and collaborative platforms and tools



Language specific wikis



The screenshot shows the homepage of the ES TERM wiki. At the top left is the ES TERM logo and name. The top right contains navigation links for EurTerm, IATE, Contacts, Language Communities, and EurTools. Below the header is a navigation bar with options like Spaces, People, Tags, Discussion, Calendars, Blogs, and Create. A search bar is prominently displayed in the center, with the text 'Busca en toda ES Term'. Below the search bar, a welcome message reads 'Bienvenidos a la wiki ES Term'. A grid of six blue buttons provides quick access to various sections: 'Foro de terminología', 'Actas y resúmenes de reuniones', 'Recursos terminológicos', 'Registro de consultas', 'Guías y manuales', and 'Lista de contactos'. A 'Calendario' button is also present. The main content area is titled 'Foro de terminología' and features a 'List' view of a timeline. The timeline includes filters for Status, Creators, and Date. The list contains several entries with columns for Topic, Status, Author, and Category. On the right side, there are sections for 'Últimas entradas' (Latest entries) with a 'Blog stream' and a 'Create blog post' button, and 'Esta semana:' (This week) with a calendar view for the week of August 29 to September 2, 2016.

ES TERM
Foro Interinstitucional
de Terminología

EurTerm | IATE | Contacts | Language Communities | EurTools

Spaces - People Tags Discussion Calendars Blogs Create ...

Pages    Edit   

Busca en toda ES Term

Bienvenidos a la wiki ES Term

Foro de terminología Actas y resúmenes de reuniones Recursos terminológicos

Registro de consultas Guías y manuales Lista de contactos

Calendario

Foro de terminología

Timeline List

Status: All - Creators: All - Date: All

Topic	Status	Author	Category
Dãesh	NEW	James BORG	UNDEFINED
Gender-neutral sanitary facilities	NEW	James BORG	UNDEFINED
Regulatory Chill	IN DISCUSS	James BORG	UNDEFINED
Prueba	NEW	Alberto RIVAS YANES	UNDEFINED
Términos sobre migración, asilo y gestión de fronteras	NEW	Luis GONZALEZ	UNDEFINED
Bitcoin o bitcóin	IN DISCUSS	Isabel PROVENZA TOMÁS	UNDEFINED

Últimas entradas

Blog stream

Create a blog post to share news and announcements with your team and company.

Create blog post

Esta semana:

Today   Add Event

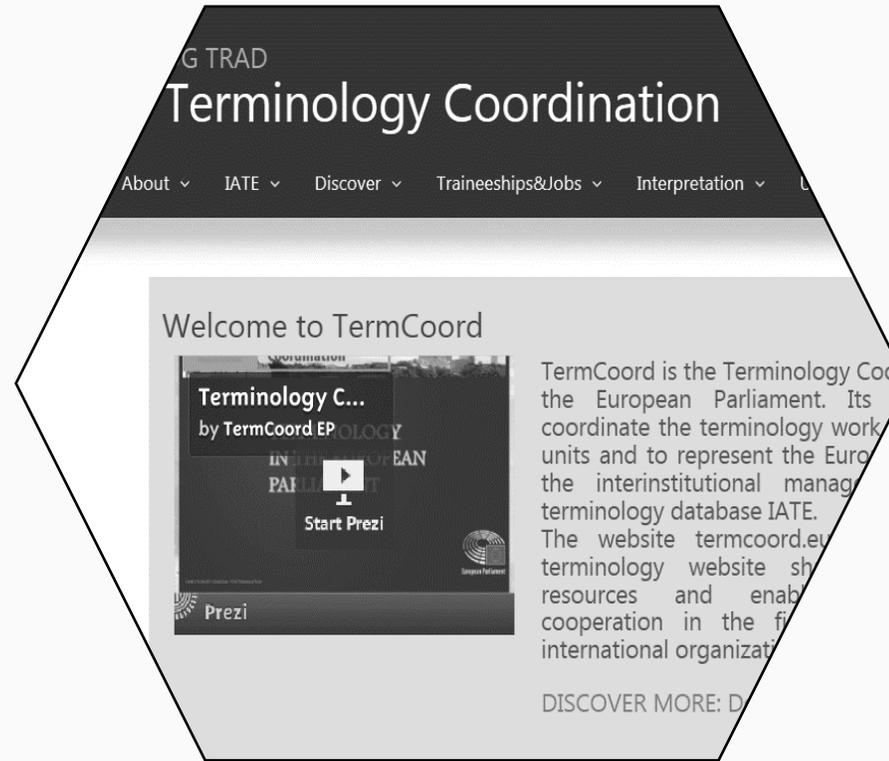
Aug 29 — Sep 2, 2016

	Mon 29	Tue 30	Wed 31	Thu 1	Fri 2
All day					
8am					
9am					
10am					
11am					
12pm					
1pm					

EU terminology training
material and presentations

The toolbox for translators

Terminology by and for
interpreters



The database IATE and its content in
TBX is free for everyone

The ability to search in all EU
glossaries

The terminology of the EU Agencies

DocHound: all EU public documents in
all languages

Access the EU terminology
through termcoord.eu



IATE terminology projects with universities

- Professors from the terminology or translation departments of various universities prepare lists of terms in specific fields in close cooperation with TermCoord.
- Their students complete and enter the data in a template.
- Our terminologists check and validate the data.
- The data is imported into IATE.

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki for IATE: Migration



ARISTOTLE
UNIVERSITY OF
THESSALONIKI

Short presentation of the project

The aim of this project was to both initiate MA students to terminology work and to contribute to the IATE term-base with well-documented and reliable terms. For this purpose, a number of textual resources and access to internal IATE were offered to us by TermCoord. For each term, members of the team had to provide a solid definition and context in both English and Greek language. Our final results were also discussed with experts in the field of migration laws and social anthropology.

[Go to the project](#)

Participants

The Aristotle University's IATE project on migration was carried out by MA students of the Postgraduate Program in Translation. This program is offered jointly by the Schools of Philology and Foreign Languages of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. This MA Program is actually the only one with the IATE Label.

IATE project on Migration (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

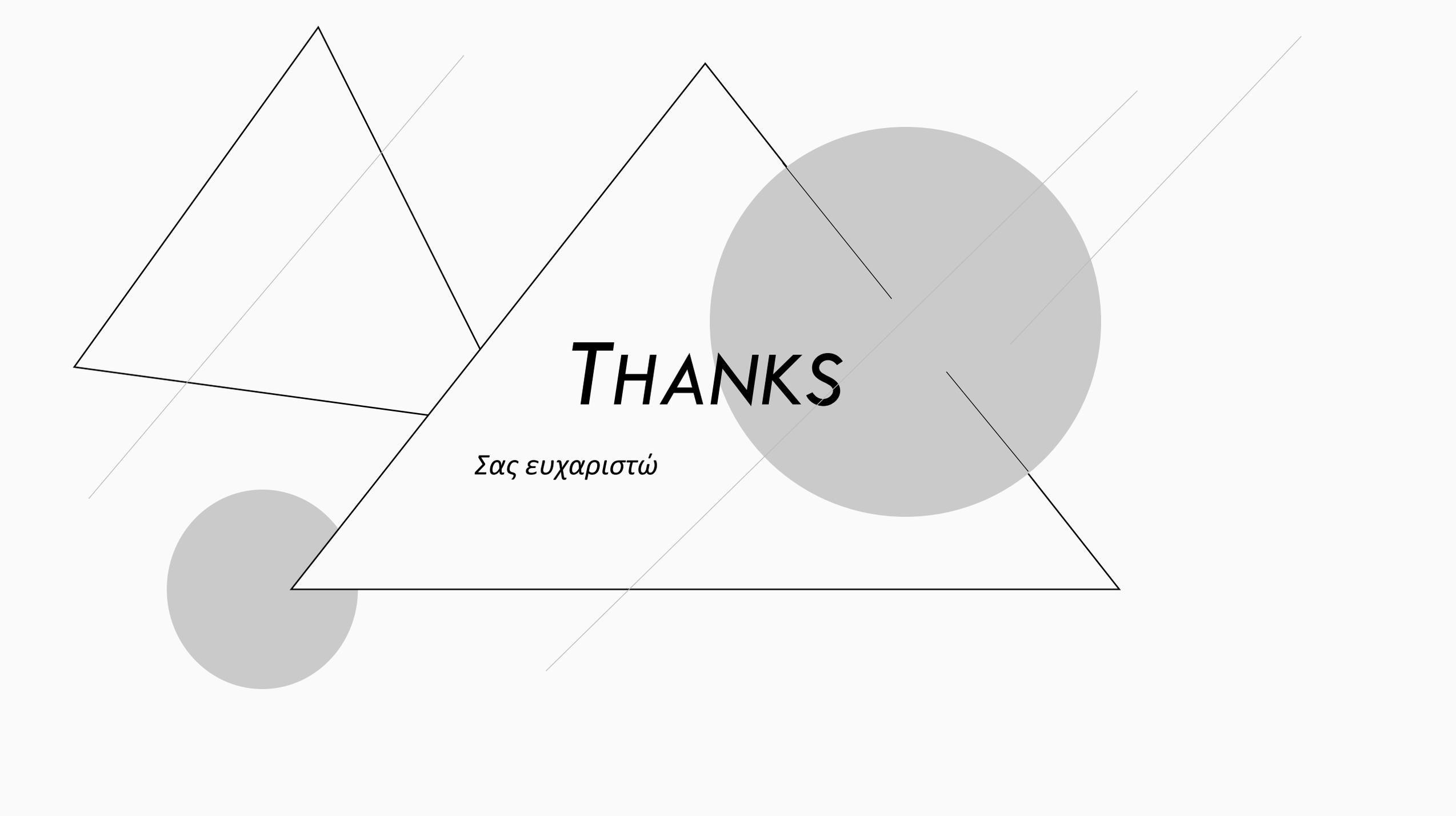


Download a more detailed table in Ms Excel format.

Show entries

Search:

LANGUAGE	TERM	DEFINITION
en	1.5 generation	young people who arrived in the country of destination during their secondary school career
el	γενιά 1,5	[...]παιδιά που μετανάστευσαν σε πολύ μικρή ηλικία, πήγαν σχολείο και κοινωνικοποιήθηκαν [σε χώρα διαφορετική από την πατρίδα τους] [...]
en	acculturation	the processes of change in artifacts, customs, and beliefs that result from the contact of two or more cultures

An abstract geometric composition featuring two large triangles and two circles. The triangles are defined by thin black outlines. One triangle is on the left, and another is on the right, with their bases aligned horizontally. A large, solid gray circle is positioned on the right side, partially overlapping the right triangle. A smaller, solid gray circle is on the left side, partially overlapping the left triangle. Several thin, light gray diagonal lines cross the scene, adding a sense of movement and depth.

THANKS

Σας ευχαριστώ

Terminology's mental process in the legal system

- We find the same process of composition in legal terminology
- The mental representation of a legal object is expressed in a loaded term, whose particular signification can lead to legal consequences.
- Example: the term « desprendimiento » in Spanish law refers to the particular moment when the umbilical cord of a newborn child is cut. El « desprendimiento » represents the instant at which the child is considered to be a human being in the light of law. The terms used in specialised discourse can be indicative of the attitude to birth in a given country.