

TERMINOLOGY IN THE CHANGING WORLD OF COMMUNICATION



a selection of articles written by

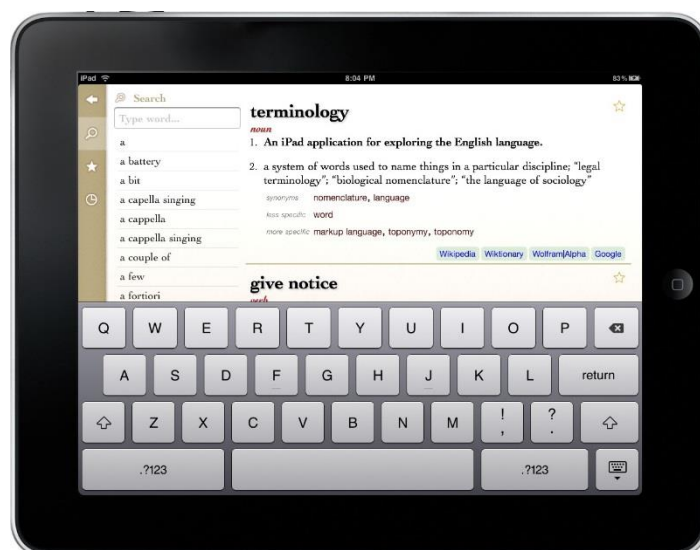
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Terminology Matters Everywhere

Every time you convert an idea or an image in your brain into a phrase, and for every expression of a concept, you instantly and consistently search for the term that will most clearly describe what you think, what you mean. This automatic process is very quick, based on the thesaurus of terminology you have stored in your brain. These concepts are interrelated and the terms you have stored for them are organised in an ontological taxonomy, in domains and sub-domains. The whole process is running in your mother tongue and in other languages you might know. If you know them well enough, the process is monolingual, if not it is bilingual, it passes through a translation and conversion process. If it happens that you speak more languages, you have a multilingual thesaurus in your head, a kind of aligned database or translation memory with aligned relations between the terms in the various languages. Your choice of words and word combinations to communicate precisely what you think, what you wish and what you feel, is a continuous terminology exercise.



We convert concepts into terms every second of the day. Thus, when you think about the process of expression and communication, you find all the main aspects of terminology. From the concept to the term, passing through classification, storage, data, memory, ontology, taxonomy, translation, interrelation, alignment, monolingual, bilingual and multilingual search and expression, clearness and mono-semantic speaking, research and memorisation. And as terminology is created through the mental mechanism of thought and expression, terminology is found in all academic activity and research related to this process. For example, in the in the fields of linguistics, teaching, translation, interpretation, communication, marketing, management, web construction, revision and proofreading, journalism and information. But terminology also matters in specific scientific fields and activities; legal and medical terminology, chemistry and pharmacology, architecture, construction, technical instructions, tenders, the creation of new terms for new products. Have you ever considered how much of your activity requires you to look for or create terminology? And then

you have to manage this terminology, order your findings, enrich your sources, target your searches, interconnect your concepts, define your terms, organise your knowledge and share your findings. Term-mining, term definition, referencing, taxonomy, ontology, lexicography and terminography, neologisms and buzzwords have to be organised in your brain and in your daily life and private and professional activity. These inherent aspects of language and communication have become a very important science in the academic field and an important factor for ensuring quality in international and globalised professional activity in industry and in the public sector.

In **universities**, not only linguistic and translation faculties, but also some scientific departments dedicate courses and workshops to terminology. In this era of big data, we have passed from learning how to search the web, to a stage where we have to combine, merge and network the immense amount of information available. With the globalisation of scientific activity and cooperation, effective and high level multilingual communication is a sine qua non for every successful career. Finding, using and developing correct terminology in each sector is thus essential in modern studies. Terminology is also key to a lot of IT research and development and is an integral feature of almost all translation software and tools. In fact it is key to drafting any text in any field. In computational linguistics, terminological research focuses on the development of terminology browsers, databases and databank add-ons, widgets, term-extractors, alignment tools and terminology toolbars. Terminology is interconnected with CAT-tools and machine translation. The number of specialised terminology curricula in graduate and post-graduate studies, masters and PhD courses is constantly increasing and theoretical theses and studies as well as the results of technical research in this field now offer a rich bibliography.



In **industry**, large corporations constantly move their headquarters, joint ventures and big brands have factories everywhere and production, marketing, promotion and commerce now transcends borders. The furious growth of the on-line market has increased the need for multilingual communication. Precise product descriptions in many languages are needed for worldwide trade. What is more, in consumer rights, an inaccurate description or badly translated instruction is considered as a defect of the product itself that is covered by guarantee and insurance. Therefore, investment in terminology is equally as important for businesses as investment in production quality. For example, imagine the huge amount of terminology that car manufacturers have to use in the

languages of all the countries where they sell their cars. This process applies to millions of products in every field of commerce. As well as the use of pre-existing terminology, the creation of new terminology for new products is also a very interesting process. This can be born of an urgent need to describe a totally new invention or functionality and tough worldwide competition means that the immediate choice and copywriting of the new name can have serious implications. It can also lead to mistakes and inaccurate or misleading descriptions, since technicians are not linguistic experts. Therefore all large international corporations have a terminology service or use terminology software in their translation activities. Most of them compile specialised glossaries, accessible on their websites and through meta-search tools, which constitute a very rich source of accurate and reliable terminology in very specific domain for translators worldwide. There are also multiple trainings available, webinars, certifications, on-line presentations and video guides for the best practice in terminology management. Terminology is of course very present in all social media and the frequency of the use of a term on these platforms even became lately a reliability criterion, a passport for a neologism to enter in a dictionary, confirming the descriptive "democratic" character of the language.

And last but not least, terminology matters for **international institutions, agencies, NGOs and associations**. It is both a tool and a service. It permits the linguistic consistency of legally binding texts, like in the European Union which issues 80% of the laws of its member states. These laws are translated into 24 languages and each one of these texts has the legal value of an original, regardless of whether they were first drafted in a different language and subsequently translated. The EU has the world's largest translation service with some 5,000 translators and interpreters working in 552 linguistic combinations for 10 Institutions and 58 specialised agencies. It goes without saying that using the correct terminology at every stage of the complex intergovernmental legislative procedure is crucial to the efficiency and functionality of the whole system. The first regulation of the guarantees multilingualism and it is regarded as a fundamental right of all EU citizens. The European Parliament provides the most complete information on the terminology management and cooperation in the EU in a [public website](#). The situation is similar in the UN and its wide network of specialised organisations and agencies. All treaties, conventions,



resolutions and reports are translated into 6 languages and each language version constitutes a binding original under international law. The third big international organisation which has a Court to insure the implementation of its rules and also functions in several languages, is the Council of Europe. These three organisations are the clearest examples of the importance of terminology, since any linguistic inconsistency can provoke a judicial dispute which may result in legislative power being transferred to their courts, thus undermining the distinction of powers, a pillar of any democratic structure. But there are also thousands of other international organisations of varying size which rely on terminology services and tools. For example, many sport associations have to enforce their rules and instructions in all countries and in many languages. As do thousands of smaller international and intercultural associations, organisations and movements, because terminology is a glocal activity. Like all tools and mechanisms for human communication, it begins by satisfying monolingual needs and expands to fulfil multilingual comprehension needs; from serving small local specialised joint ventures it expands to huge databases covering a large amount of languages. This vibrant world of terminology, covering academia, industry and institutions, is organised in well-structured organisations and networks. These can be regional, international or take a glocal approach, with a focus on the respective needs of these three fields. The thousands of members and workers of this huge network store, share and create a tremendous amount of multidisciplinary and multilingual terminology entries every day, mostly in on-line dictionaries, glossaries and databases.

This big data asset has to be managed correctly to serve the transformation of the concepts produced by our thoughts to terms, thus enabling us to communicate and cooperate in the most accurate way in the globalised world of today and tomorrow.

Terminology opens a door in the labour market

Worldwide there is a general attempt to adapt the studies to the occupational situation on the markets, more precisely to offer to the students the skills that would allow them to find a job more easily. This seems generally a good idea if you consider the very high numbers of unemployed young and less young people with numerous higher education diplomas.

The problem is that the orientation of the economy towards a philosophy based only on the cost and benefit aspect decreases very much the importance given to humanistic studies, with probably very bad consequences for the way of thinking of the next generations and for the level of general and theoretical knowledge.

Although languages are very important in a more and more globalised economy and communication, all studies related to languages are treated as humanistic and thus less relevant not to say redundant. It is true that due to the globalised multilingual communication and commerce, the offer of highly skilled human resources as regards multilingualism has increased and the competition is very tough in the purely linguistic professions, especially if the only strength of the candidate is the knowledge of languages.

This situation affects very much our linguistic professions. Language studies are suffering important budgetary cuts in all countries, the progress of English as a lingua franca is lowering the translation but even more the interpretation needs, and consequently the price of linguistic services. Moreover the quick evolution of automation makes studies and our profession less and less attractive. Computational linguistics offers in this context a lot of opportunities for jobs or posts in the industrial and academic research. But these are rather jobs for informaticians. They try to introduce linguistic aspects into their development work. A very indicative example is the development of term extractors, software combining a statistical and a linguistic approach. Usually the statistical aspects are very well designed, but the users, the terminology and translation services and companies have big difficulties in explaining the linguistic needs to the developers.

But terminology is a choice for a specialisation that will open more and more doors in the market. For three main reasons: 1) in the evolving automation it will be the one and only guarantee of the quality and consistency of translations; 2) the immensely growing big data environment will need an organisation of the huge and contradictory terminological information searchable through meta search engines; 3) the biggest companies develop huge terminology coordination services to cover the needs of their multilingual clientele.

TermCoord, the Terminology Coordination Service of the European Parliament, has been very proud for having provoked an interest in terminology among 1) some of the hundreds of translation trainees of the European Parliament by having inserted a compulsory terminology project in their traineeship programme, 2) some of the students of the Master in learning and communication in multilingual and multicultural contexts of the University of Luxembourg, who followed a module on terminology taught by us and then did a one-month internship at TermCoord, and 3) among some university lecturers who paid a study visit to TermCoord and then worked with their students on terminology projects the results of which are entered into the EU terminology database IATE.



But what are the possibilities, where can you get information on terminology, where can you consult the databases? And then where can you really specialise in this domain, which universities have such departments and which countries are the strongest in this field? Are there any masters, diplomas, certifications? Commercial or academic ones; any on-line webinars? And what about the job opportunities? Which companies have terminology departments? Or networks in countries where they sell their products, coordinated by central teams? Which technical companies need terminologists to consult them on the linguistic aspects of the software they produce? And how about the international and multilingual institutions? The EU, the UN and many others and also governments of multilingual countries, Canada, Switzerland.... Do they offer posts and where can you apply? And if no well-paid posts for life are available, are there any traineeships or scholarships? Are there any conferences, where you can be informed on the evolution in terminology?

We receive many similar questions from our readers and followers through our social media accounts. Therefore we feel obliged as the terminology unit of a big European Institution elected and serving the citizens, to provide information and resources that can help our young linguist colleagues to find perhaps a new way to the professional success in our profession. We shall soon gather the information we can find in a single page of our website directly related to the labour market opportunities regarding terminology.

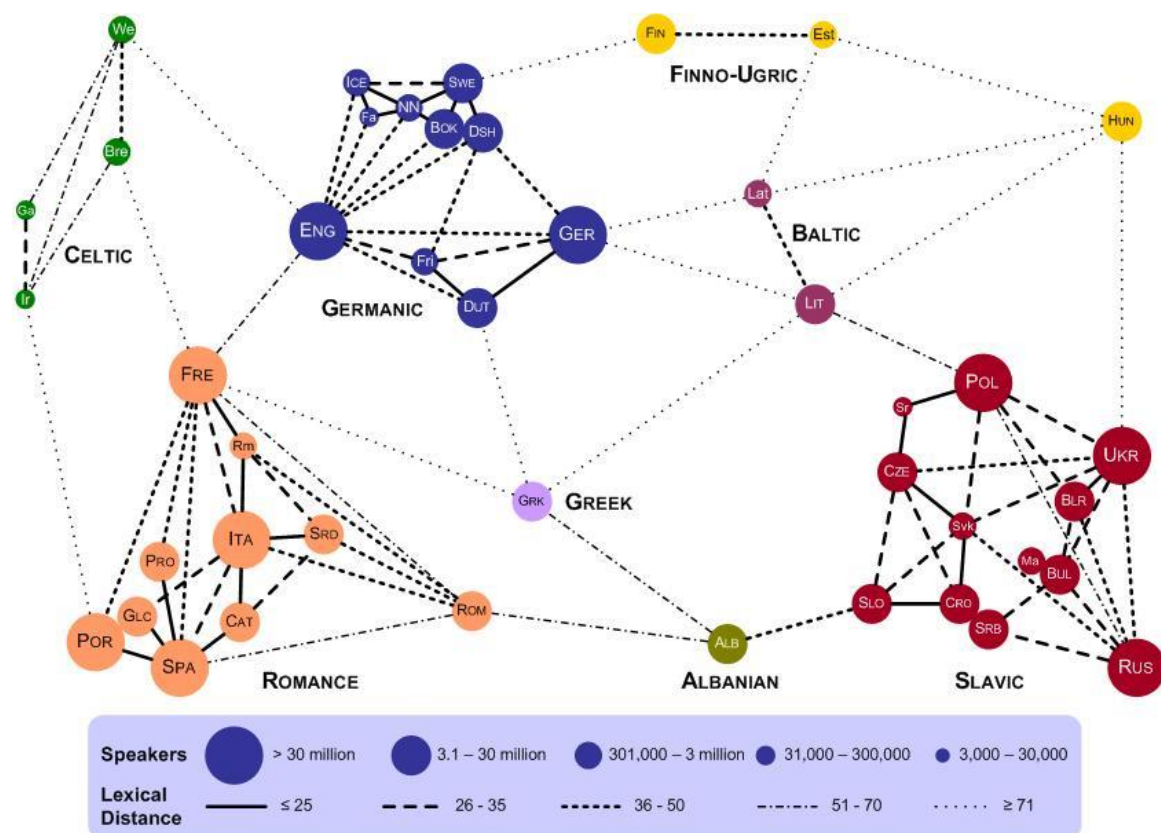


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Based on the evidence that humans have the ability to encode messages in systems of signs and to decode these signs; („faculté du langage“– De Saussure 1916, learning one language from each family and with the adequate linguistic education permitting an understanding of the “language”, should permit basic communication in quite all European countries. Teachers as „managers of learning „ (Gagné, 1975) can provide this education suited for intercomprehension learning and teaching, permitting users to exploit their previously acquired funds of knowledge.

The article on the website of the Terminology Coordination Unit of the European Parliament concerning lexical distance between the European languages provide a very clear mapping of the connections between our languages and language families:



A few people know how much Europe is supporting research on this linguistic discipline with programmes and subventions. The Council of Europe produced a very detailed report written by Peter Doyé and examining all aspects of this linguistic and educational project. Several European projects initiatives were dedicated to support intercomprehension: EuroComRom , IGLO, Eurocomgerm, InterCompréhension Européenne (ICE), Eurocomslav, Euromania, Eurom5, Itinéraires romains, Inter.Rom, EuroCom Ger, EuroCom Sla, Galatea, Galanet, Galapro , Miriadi.

This discussion is becoming very important in this period where linguistic diversity in Europe is in danger because of real needs of communication, efficiency and resource saving from one side and the practical preservation of multilingualism might be considered a challenge for budget cuts; but also in a period, where Europe is facing at the same time a crisis of solidarity and integration that can be faced with an enhanced accent on its multicultural identity and mutual respect.



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<http://termcoord.eu/2017/07/save-europes-linguistic-diversity/>

Language as a living being

In my article “Terminology matters everywhere”, I examined which domains of science use Terminology databases to cover the needs of enhanced international and multilingual communication.

We can see also the other way round, which sciences Terminology and Linguistics have used to explain the evolution of languages, their interconnection and the phenomena of isomorphism, i.e. of the relation between terms of “parent” or “neighbour” languages.



Today we calculate that there exist some 6000 languages. Eight countries regroup half of them: In Papua-New Guinea we count 832, in Indonesia 731, in India 400... Half of the languages are spoken by less than 10000 people and 25% of them by less than 1000. And... half of the 6000 languages are expected to disappear until the end of the century.

There are many reasons explaining this hecatomb never experienced before, many of these languages have not even a name, they are called “our language” or “the real language” by their speakers and they leave no trace when their native speakers disappear without passing them to the next generation, because they don’t make part of the education. Other languages are given different names by several linguists and it is hard to identify which language corresponds to which name(s).

Some languages like Chinese or Arab regroup several languages and the nuances decrease with the time, because of the need of one common jargon to communicate in these big families of population.

In some cases we encounter even a ban to speak a language or another language is imposed instead, like in the region of the Inuits in Canada where Inuktitut replaced Nuvanut by a legislative decision. In many cases, the existence of several languages is regarded as a threat for a common national identity.

All these considerations lead us inevitably to the question... but are all these languages or just dialects of one and the same language? We define as language any language system with an own structure that serves as communication means among members of a social group. Every language splits during its evolution in several dialects that differentiate among each other and from the initial

language until they become new languages. The question is of course the exact point of changing this status from a dialect to a language. It depends on many aspects; linguistic, socio-cultural and political ones. This confusion is another reason of the decrease of recognised languages.

In former periods of history, languages disappeared together with the physical disappearance of a people because of a war or an epidemical disease. Today people adopt usually voluntarily a dominant language because of the enhanced need of communication.

There is also the theory of linguistic areas defining the habitat of a family of languages that have common characteristics, common origins and they suffer diversifications explained with geopolitical criteria like migrations or different ways of communication between the neighbour social groups speaking them. A typical example are the three big families of languages in Europe (Germanic, Romanic and Slavic) in which with the method of inter-comprehension different groups can communicate using their mother tongue.

Reading all these facts, one cannot avoid to compare the language with a living being. It appears, lives, develops, enters in contact with other ones, has relatives, occupies a space, even conquers another one, gets older and disappears. And yes, biology has often been used to present and explain the birth and evolution of languages, like the theory of “punctuated balance” (Dixon) offering an arborescence created by important changes in the use of the language (punctuations), the theory of waves (Schuchardt), according to which innovations in languages act like a stone that falls into the water and creates circles. We are speaking of phylogenetic criteria in linguistics deriving from evolutionist biology.

Similar to HIV fecundation in biology, there have been also several attempts to create or compose a language like the attempt of Schleicher in the 19th century to “reconstitute” an ancestral common indo-european language and the more known Esperanto launched in 1887 by Zamenhof and also to keep languages or versions of them alive for specific purposes mainly religious like Latin for the (Catholic), a layer of Ancient Greek called Byzantine (Orthodox), Slavonic (Slavic Orthodox) and Aramaic (used in some Monasteries in Syria).

Like ontology and taxonomy are used to interconnect and to create an arborescence for each concept in Terminology, scientific methods serve to organise and to explain the evolution and interrelation in the huge network of languages that enable the communication between humans.

One cloud: All Terminology - All Languages

Working in a big Institution of the European Union and managing and coordinating the creation of terminology in 24 languages needed to cooperate with four layers of partners: the some more than 10 other EU Institutions and more than 60 EU specialized agencies, the big international organizations like the UN and its agencies, the OECD or NATO, the Universities dealing with terminology and maintaining databases in their linguistic or IT departments of in specific disciplines like law, finance or medicine and last but not least big multinational companies needing terminology tools for their multilingual communication.



In such a multiple cooperation and communication, you encounter a real terminology big data space with thousands of databases and glossaries, in hundreds of languages, in hundreds of domains and disciplines. They have a different conception, a different taxonomy and semantic logic, they are developed in different formats and interconnected in different ways, in metasearch tools, via web-service or they are just isolated in some server or webpage and difficult to find or accessible only by a precise group of users.

And there is of course an enormous overlapping of research on the same concepts and terms and often in the same corpora. This is creating millions of duplicates with similar definitions and the same results.



If we calculate that the creation of a complete entry in a multilingual database can take several hours and occupy several terminologists or translators and interpreters, you can imagine how much time is spent worldwide to compile these databases containing some millions of terms.

And most of this time is nowadays wasted. And I say nowadays because we have now the possibility of linked data. There are several technical methods to interconnect these resources in one unique terminology cloud, cleaning the duplicates and giving to the user the one and only normative solution or at least the term chosen by the specialists in the respective domain. Because, why should a translator in a European Institution waste time to create or update an entry of their database let's say on a concept related to agriculture, when you have access to the terminology of FAO, the UN agency specialized in this domain.

There are several research and industrial projects in this direction. One of them is the Lider program of the EU supporting the Multilingual Linked Data. I had the honour to open recently the first Summer School, Datathon 2015, organized in the context of this program in Cerdedilla, in a research center of the Polytechnic University of Madrid, where linguists and engineers worked for one week on these objects, on how to link terminology data in one multilingual cloud covering all domains of institutional, academic and industrial activity.

In my keynote speech, I presented the modern methods and tools that the Terminology Coordination Unit of the DG Translation of the European Parliament is developing and applying in the management of Terminology and in the communication with all EU Institutions.



The needs of the multilingual globalized communication and cooperation have made totally change the trends of the terminology management. The keywords are now: share, connect, interrelate and make accessible all terminology data in all languages and in all domains integrating it also in the fast developing automated translation tools.

Let's IATE from home!

Consult IATE, the European Union's terminology database containing more than 8 million terms in all official EU languages and covering a broad variety of domains: Here are some tools which will enable you and the users of your websites to access and consult IATE more easily.

In the provided page you will always find every tool giving you access to IATE, like widgets which you can upload into the homepages of your websites or blogs and which will allow the visitors of your websites to have direct access to IATE and search for terms directly from your site. To embed the chosen IATE widget into your website or blog, please copy one of the corresponding codes which you can find on the following page and paste it into your HTML page: <http://goo.gl/ct6ME>



Furthermore, we have created some extensions/add-ons giving direct access to IATE through your web browsers. For those who might not know: Extensions and Add-ons are simple little programs that extend the functionality of a browser. Using these little programs, you can power-up your browser to handle a variety of tasks which a browser without these tools wouldn't have been able to perform. Our goal is to make your online life easier and give you a better browsing experience. Our extensions/add-ons will work for Google Chrome, Safari and Mozilla Firefox and you can find them in your browsers extensions/add-ons gallery or under the following links:

1. Mozilla Firefox users: <http://goo.gl/1Hret>
2. Google Chrome users: <http://goo.gl/bt3jh>
3. Safari users: <http://goo.gl/xZaRH>

We would be very glad if you could forward these tools to all your members together with the invitation to spread this information to as many people as possible in order to ensure an even more widespread and more user-friendly use of IATE.

Lithuania and Lithuanian: A Best Practice

The Lithuanian language has a quite short history as a national language. It was spoken freely for about one century in total including the past 20 years of independence of the country.

As for many other languages, it constitutes a pillar of the national identity and for the preservation of the independence as well as for the communication needs of the society. Every new language and every threatened language is a cultural right and asset and it needs protection structures. This is what led the authorities to create a framework for the protection of the quality and correct use of the Lithuanian language.

They created the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language (<http://www.vlkk.lt/eng/2>). It is a State institution, accountable to the Seimas, which appoints and dismisses the members of the Language Commission upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education, Science and Culture. Universities, scientific research institutions and creative unions submit proposals to the Committee on Education, Science and Culture of the Seimas.

The Language Commission is comprised of 17 members. The members of the Language Commission are appointed for a five-year-term. The number of their terms of powers shall be unlimited. A chairman is a head of the Commission. The meetings of the Language Commission are held at least once a month. The decisions are accepted as passed, if at least 2/3 of the Commission's attending members have voted in favour thereof.

The decisions of the Language Commission are obligatory for State and municipal institutions, all of the offices, enterprises and organisations operating in the Republic of Lithuania. The Language Commission decides issues concerning the implementation of the Law on the State Language, establishes the directions of regulating the Lithuanian language, decides the issues of standardisation and codification of Lithuanian language; appraises and approves the most important standardising language works (dictionaries, reference books, guidebooks and textbooks), etc.

The Secretariat of the Language Commission provides for the needs of the Commission and activities of its experts and subcommittees. The decisions of the Language Commission are obligatory for State and municipal institutions, all of the offices, enterprises and organisations operating in the Republic of Lithuania and published in the State Gazette. This is why, there is a Committee on Terminology that is responsible for feeding and administrating the National Termbank and public body at all levels has a terminologist submitting queries for adoption within a fixed deadline.



Although rigid structures governing language issues might scare us linguists and supporters of the natural evolution of languages and despite the fact that under this procedure some tensions are provoked in the country related to the local use of other languages by ethnic and linguistic minorities, I find the law governing this consistency and quality assurance of the use of the language in Lithuania (http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=21941) an example to follow by all countries or at least by the ones with some common characteristics in the use of their languages.

How do you really consider the fact that a fine of is imposed to those entities (like e.g. State hospitals) using a wrong term or having a mistaken shield in their premises?

The Language Commission is representing Lithuania in the Federation of Institutes for National Languages (<http://www.eurfedling.org/>). But even more interesting is the procedure set for the use of Lithuanian by the hundreds of translators in the different European Institutions. Except of the law governing the Termbank, there has been established also by law a “one stop shop” for European terminology in Lithuanian. The terminologists in the translation units of the European Institutions submit a form for problematic terms, like a one page database entry, to the Language Commission which has a two-months-deadline to answer after a standard procedure foreseeing sending of the query to the respective Ministry, discussion of the proposed solution in the terminology subcommittee, decision by the State Committee and entering into the Termbank.

It is interesting that in order to ensure this procedure, one of the posts of translators in the Lithuanian Unit of the European Parliament has been reserved for a contractual full time reviser, proof-reader and terminologist ensuring the contact with the State Language Commission, who also makes part of the terminology team of the Unit and of the “terminology network” coordinated by the Terminology Coordination Unit.

This could be considered as a best practice for terminology management in specific domains and should be examined as a procedure to establish for all official languages, since the European legislation issued by the Council and the European Parliament prevails in the Member States and makes consistency of terminology between EU and national rules essential for the citizens who have the right to clearly understand the laws in their language, since they are obliged to know and to follow them.

Mastering Terminology

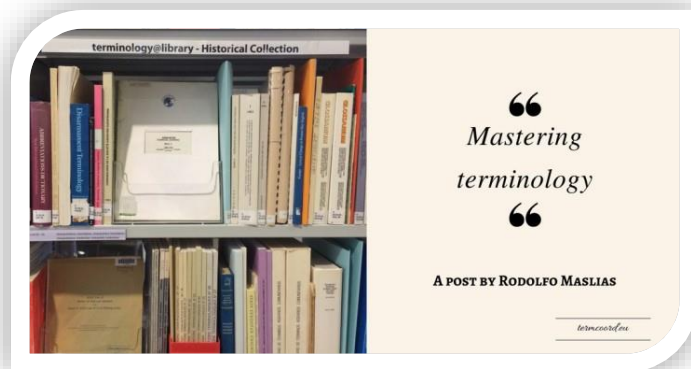
Terminology is constantly increasing its importance in the academic world. In the fields of Linguistics and Computational Linguistics, you find more and more often either autonomous Terminology departments or curricula containing all aspects related to terminology, term-mining, ontologies, database management etc. Terminology is also becoming an interdisciplinary science, since you find terminology courses in all fields of studies: from Law to Medicine, Biology, Computer Science, Engineering etc.



TermCoord works together with Universities giving the chance to lecturers and students to work as if they were part of the Translation Services of the EU Institutions and to provide terminology data that is later inserted in the EU-Terminology Database IATE after the relevant validation process. All these projects are published on termcoord.eu. In the spirit of this collaboration with Academia and together with some colleagues, I am also giving courses on Terminology in a Communication Master of the University of Luxembourg.

In the last two years we have been very happy to witness how students from our partner Universities choose a terminology subject for their thesis, either with a theoretical approach or by creating a bigger terminology database following high quality standards. Some of these Master Theses were

presented last week at the University of Thessaloniki during the celebration of a Conference on Traductology. Specialisation in Terminology opens new horizons for young linguists in the changing world of Translation and in a very competitive context of globalised multilingual communication. You can read more information about these theses and access the terminology data itself via our recently updated page under termcoord.eu.



Published online:

[http://termcoord.eu/2017/06/
mastering-terminology/](http://termcoord.eu/2017/06/mastering-terminology/)

Terminology in one click

In my 10 years of work for TermCoord, the Terminology Coordination Unit of the European Parliament, I have experienced the vertiginous evolution of technical possibilities for sharing and managing this common linguistic treasure: terminology. Some examples are the digitalisation of huge databases, the creation of terminology portals, the optimisation of term extraction and concordance tools, the development of meta-search engines and the cloud, the semantic web and ontologies making it possible to find the exact terms in a multitude of fields.

I experienced the gradual incorporation of terminology in computer-assisted translation tools and in machine translation, both as an ex ante repository and as an ex post editing tool to ensure quality standards. At the same time I noticed an increasing need and desire to share resources and working methods, to cooperate on interactive platforms in order to achieve expertise and to avoid the overlapping of research. It is indeed feasible nowadays to let the experts in each field – be it in international organisations, academy or industry – do the terminology research and provide reliable results, which can be made available to everyone through various interlinking possibilities.

Furthermore, the globalisation of all economic, scientific and commercial activities combined with cutbacks in the linguistic sector makes this cooperation and sharing of resources not only desirable, but also essential, since we need to standardise terminology and include it in the new translation tools. In this sense, it is very important to keep in mind that if we do not offer our terminology products on the translator's desktop, termbase consultation will gradually be forgotten and our efforts will be wasted.

So, I have a dream: to make all terminology data searchable through one single query, to be able to click on a button and look for a term in a particular language and domain in all specialised glossaries, i.e. to create a search tool interlinking terminology big data with any database. How would this search work? If the search in our termbase does not provide a result, the same filters would apply for continuing the search in thousands of existing glossaries and huge databases, which are already publicly accessible on the Internet. In the European Parliament we have already contributed to this idea. We have created a tool that filters glossaries per language and field. We constantly update the glossary list by adding new ones that appear every day on the web, after verifying their reliability and relevance. The name of this tool is GlossaryLinks and we offer it for free to all translation professionals via our website termcoord.eu.

We need one more step to make this dream of a search in one worldwide multilingual and multidisciplinary terminology database come true: to transform this tool into a meta search tool allowing us to look for a term in all available glossaries and databases regardless of their format. And we are already preparing for it! All the details about the GlossarySearch project can be found in this presentation.

This can be a challenge for academic research teams in the field of linguistics, and we would really appreciate their advice and feedback. We want to make GlossarySearch available to any translator, by enabling its incorporation in any terminology search engine and in any CAT-tool or machine translation software.



Published online:

<http://termcoord.eu/2017/07/save-europes-linguistic-diversity/>

The International Day of Translation 2014



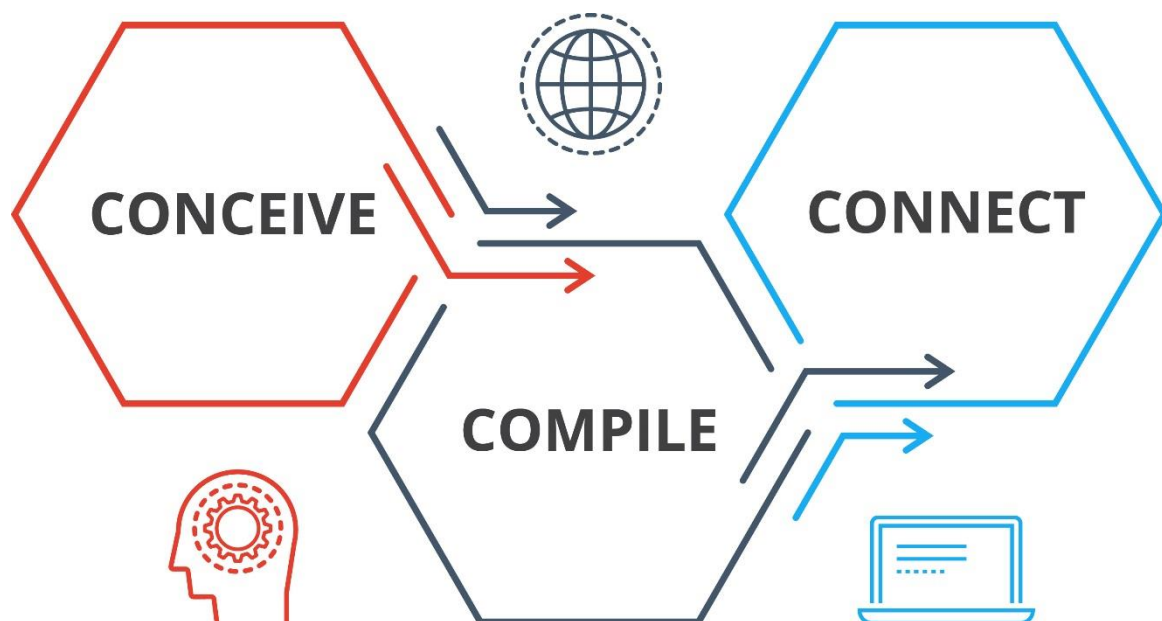
Presentation of the Terminology Management in the European Institutions in the event organised by the Translation School Metafrasis in the National Research Centre in Athens.

It was amazing to see a so full auditorium on a Saturday evening in the vibrant centre of Athens. Plenty of young linguists and wordlovers preferred to celebrate with us the Day of Translation and to hear about the evolution of our professions, about the possibilities offered in the market for young colleagues, the enthusiastic speeches of translators who launched successfully translation companies in this Greece in crisis.

And before this, an interesting presentation on the use of audio-visual translation in teaching foreign languages.

I had the honour to open the event with a presentation (in Greek) on the management of terminology in the European Institutions, the database IATE containing 8.5 million terms of the European legislation in 24 languages and the challenges of EP-TermCoord in the field of communication in its original approach aiming to connect the creation and management of the EU terminology with the academic research and the increasing needs due to the globalisation and expansion of the multilingual communication in all fields. Institutional, Academic and in the Industry worldwide.

Three steps for an efficient terminology management



CONCEIVE

Terminology is a very complete science with a solid theoretical background and history. The first step needed to deal efficiently with terminology is to study and understand how concepts are represented through terms; the onomasiological approach consists in studying the concept, and the semasiological approach studies the context in which the term explains the concept: the time, the place, the purpose, the target audience. Terminology theory is taught in most linguistic departments, it is a frequent subject of postgraduate studies and makes the object of thousands of books and scientific articles.

COMPILE

Terminology is stored in databases and glossaries. They are always related to a specific field or cover several domains. The method of presenting terms obeys very strict rules making for consistency, reliability and disambiguation. All glossaries and databases contain a set of rules or a handbook that has to be scrupulously followed when creating, completing or updating an entry. For more complex databases covering several domains, cross-referencing, a logical and user-friendly taxonomy, rules or tools to avoid duplication and noise are essential. The selection of terms and the corpus of texts from which they are extracted depend on the target audience. For practical reasons it is useful if all this

material is inserted in a well-developed platform; an attractive layout following the latest trends on the web and user-friendly features should permit easy consultation and feeding.

CONNECT

Terminology is linguistic material produced to enable accurate, precise and consistent multilingual communication. It is needed for any institutional, academic, industrial and commercial activity in specific fields or in more than one language. Reliable terminology is created by specialists. By means of disambiguation it is possible to obtain sets of normative terms, thus enabling their use in the latest tools for computer assisted and automatic translation. Tagging and indexing are the most important preconditions to enable a wide and targeted terminology search in the semantic web. Interlinking of terminology data through web services, cloud technologies, metasearch engines, web portals and communication platforms is a must for every actor wishing to contribute to effective communication. Cooperation in terminology through collaborative tools can be beneficial for achieving one unique and fully reliable terminology in each field, thus avoiding a huge waste of time in work overlapping. Connecting these terminology data and making them accessible to all users would be a precious asset for the communication and cooperation in our globalized world.

International Institutions and big companies managing huge multilingual and multidisciplinary terminology databases have to assume the responsibility and initiative for the interlinking of all resources opening their tools, platforms and portals developed with more human and technical resources.

Since its creation in 2008, TermCoord has put a huge effort into making available all terminology data produced in the EU Institutions to the widest range of users. This is done both through its website, and through its cooperation and networking for terminology projects around the biggest multilingual public terminology database IATE, the most relevant termbank for all fields of activities of the European Union.

Terminology: a communicative and academic approach

I. COMMUNICATING FOR TERMINOLOGY

First Level: Internal Communication and Awareness Building

Coordinating Terminology Management in a Multilingual Public Institution

The European Union issues legislation in 24 languages and works with 552 language combinations. Among the tools used for translation on an interinstitutional level, the EU regrouped all separate databases in an interactive database permitting permanent input by the some 5000 translators of the participating Institutions. The management of this database requires a very complex system of rules and guidelines (i.e. a handbook for best terminology practices in referencing and creating definitions, legal notice addressing copyright, ownership and responsibility issues) to ensure linguistic quality and consistency between the legislative texts in all languages. In the European Parliament, which gradually obtained more and more power in the legislative process until it became the final legislator under the Lisbon Treaty, the input of terminology is created mainly from the thousands of amendments of 766 MEPs, pertaining to 7 political groups and 23 committees dealing with all policy fields. The input was organized in each translation unit in a different way and according to different approaches depending on the various usage conventions and cooperation methods of each language community and each country. In 2008, the European Parliament decided to create a horizontal unit to coordinate, harmonize, support and assist the terminology research and storage of the findings into IATE and also to cooperate with the units and the other Institutions in the huge effort of cleaning and updating a database containing millions of terms coming from different databases, massively imported without any filtering, some of them being obsolete and outdated and creating duplicates with newly inserted terms. They also needed completion with the new languages that joined the family of the EU official languages in 2003. To achieve this coordination, the new unit needed to raise awareness on the inherent role of terminology in translation, especially of a legislation governing 28 countries and permitting each citizen to go to court on the basis of the translated version. It needed to organize a group of translators dealing with terminology in the units; today this group is the Terminology Network and numbers more than one hundred translators in the 23 language units with at least two per unit. Special skills and knowledge are needed for the "terminologists", who have to be appointed as such by their superiors among the translators to accomplish the terminology tasks.

These tasks had to be inserted into the workflow and accounting system. Training was needed, tailored for the different target groups, advanced administration of the database for the terminologists, input instructions for the translators, as well as basic training for the newcomers and for the average 60 translation unit trainees who work at the Parliament for a period of 3 months. These trainees dedicate two weeks of their traineeship to field or language specific terminology projects, both for educational and professional experience reasons and to cover needs of lacking human resources because of increasing budgetary constraints combined with an extreme workload in the translation units. Since 2012, TermCoord has been able to offer terminologists the possibility of an on-line ECQA Terminology Management Certification in cooperation with TermNet and covered by the training budget of the EP. TermCoord staff is also invited to provide training to other Directorates in the EP, interpreters and web-editors, as well as to other Institutions like to the translators of the European Investment Bank and the Court of Justice.

Different IT tools were needed such as term extractors, a macro to ease preliminary storage of terms during translation, a search engine to browse the hundreds of links to specialized glossaries imported, a webpage concentrating the links to all reference documents of all EU Institutions. Some of these resources (DocHound and GlossaryLinks) have also been made public on the website of the unit and are used also by the external contractors translating 30% of Parliament's texts.

All these efforts needed a strong communication policy based mainly on an internal website in the intranet, making part of an internal portal of the Directorate General of Translation. Awareness campaigns on different slogans like "Recycle your terms", "In termino qualitas", "tailored training" and "Let's IATE", your database is what you make of it", as well as a series of terminology seminars under the generic title "Terminology in the changing World of Translation" and on topics such as "multilingual legislation process", "terminology and CAT tools", "e-lexicography and terminology in the media" that have been very well attended and evaluated by translators of the European Parliament and other Institutions.

Second Level: Interinstitutional Communication and Information Sharing

Cooperating and Administrating a Common Interactive Database and a Terminology Portal

The internal and interactive part of IATE needs a tight and continuous cooperation between all the participating Institutions. This cooperation concerns:

- a) The content, consolidation, merging, constant updating of methods and guidelines, common or coordinated projects in specific fields; also decisions on import of collections, and referencing criteria to be followed by all EU translators;
- b) Administrational aspects such as rights and roles attributed to different groups of users, transfer of ownership to another Institution for updating or completion and interinstitutional validation;
- c) Technical aspects such as prioritizing improvements to functionalities made by the permanent external developers team established in the Translation Center in Luxembourg, testing and bug management.

All these decisions are taken by the IATE Management Group, accountable to an Interinstitutional Directors' body. With a presence in the Management Group since 2008, TermCoord brought about several changes increasing its efficiency by suggesting the creation of several working groups and task forces dealing with the data entry and interface improvement, with the updating of the handbook and the integration of IATE in the new CAT tools. It also suggested the creation of an interinstitutional platform for the sharing of information and providing common resources to all EU translators, as well as the conversion of IATE in a modern web 2.0 version. Both of these initiatives have been endorsed by the interinstitutional hierarchy and a specific budget was allocated.

The EurTerm Terminology Portal developed by TermCoord in "Confluence" will be fed by an editorial board composed from the Terminology Coordination Departments and will contain access to internal IATE with which it will be connected, a centralized access to all interinstitutional and worldwide terminology resources and databanks and access to communication platforms on a language level (terminology wikis and forums).

Additionally, it will provide access to the intra-EU meta-search terminology tool QUEST searching in the most important national terminology databases in addition to IATE, the translation memory Euramis, and EurLex. Further features will include a blog, a calendar of events, a multimedia section for webinars or web streaming of events, as well as the search tool for the links to glossaries selected and updated by our Unit. TermCoord prepared in 2011 the model of this portal that has been agreed and will be finalized and opened to the translators in 2014 and in the future partly to the wider public.

TermCoord established and regularly hosts videoconferences with the Terminology Coordination Departments in Luxembourg and Brussels on strategy and management issues, deciding on communication issues, training and even an exchange of staff members for a period of two months to increase knowledge transfer and cooperation.

Except IATE, the unit also represents the EP in the management of the interinstitutional text related forum ELISE, in which translators from the three legislative Institutions translating texts related to the same act discuss on-line terminology in their respective language.

3rd Level: Cooperation with International Organizations

On an international level the Joint Inter-Agency Meeting on Computer-Assisted Translation and Terminology (JIAMCATT) regroups all international organizations and deals with all subjects related to CAT tools and Terminology. Within the scope of its main goal, which is the cooperation among all partners and the exchange of knowledge and material also in the field of terminology, these organizations try to gather all terminology resources and grant access to each other and to share their experience with terminology projects.

Third Level: Cooperation with other international organizations

JIAMCATT's newly set up Terminology Working Group (consisting of representatives of EP TermCoord, UN, European Court of Justice and European Commission) contributed substantially to enrich the terminology section of JIAMCATT's website with the EU and other terminology resources. Many of these resources can be found on EU interinstitutional terminology portal EurTerm, which in the near future will be opened to all JIAMCATT members.

JIAMCATT partners' have access to online terminology databases from different international organizations

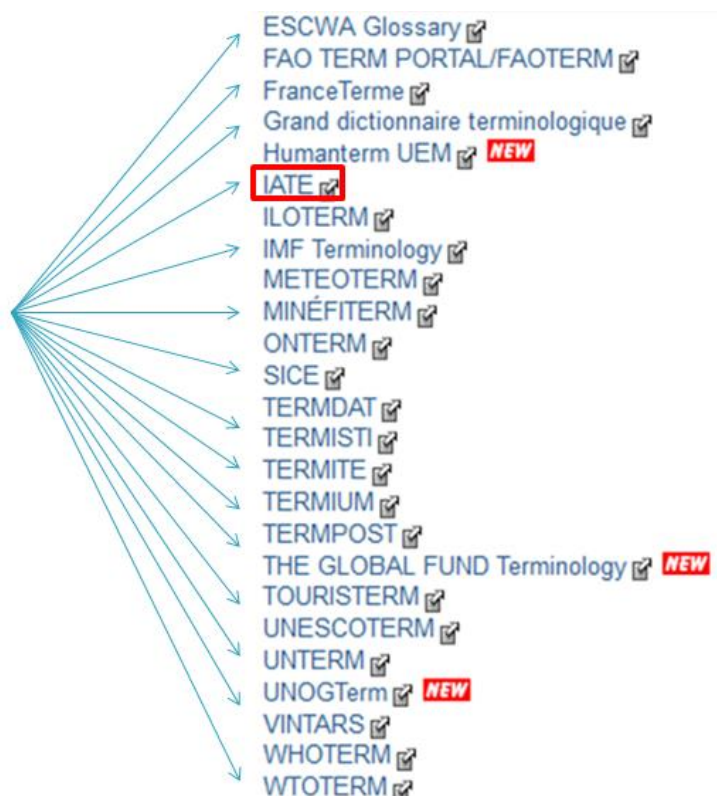


Figure 1: Exchanging know-how and material in the field of terminology

In the (most recent) 27th JIAMCATT meeting (April 2014), EP TermCoord proposed to create an interinstitutional access page to the members' databases and portals. The idea behind this is to offer

all members of JIAMCATT a common meta-search tool (restricting access to pages containing sensitive information) that will enable searches in all databases including IATE, UNterm, FAOterm, AGORA (OECD), etc.

Sharing of terminology resources and tools among international organizations was recognized as a very beneficial exercise for the quality of translation and the need for enhanced communication and networking has been stressed in order to face the spectacular rise of the importance of terminology in a globalised context.

The common platform will provide a single central access to terminology resources, tools and databases; efficient and user-friendly interinstitutional communication, linguistic knowledge and skills sharing as well as enabling communication on language level and on specific topics.

Fourth Level: External Communication, Promotion and Coining of Resources

Connecting with the External World of Terminology

Terminology has evolved in the last years, thanks to and because of the inherent need for multilingual communication for every public, private and academic sphere of activity in a globalised world.

Important companies worldwide possess huge terminology departments and databases; private providers or non-profit organizations offer databanks and terminology support. Also, very large professional forums on terminology have been created, each international activity includes a glossary on the relevant website, there are yearly hundreds of conferences on terminology and connected activities, very large organizations regroup hundreds of public, private and academic actors dealing with terminology.

Terminology has also become a separate discipline in the linguistic sector and the humanities.

Hundreds of Universities worldwide have created terminology departments or integrated terminology courses and practice into their programs in translation and linguistics faculties.

Terminology in several fields is very frequently the subject of academic theses of all levels and the Terminology Coordination Unit of the European Parliament has to select every three months among more than 1500 applications from all over the EU to cover the 6 posts for a specialized traineeship in terminology. While in the recent future, terminology specialists tried to enrich the web with terminology resources, today in the era of web 3.0 and big data, the main task is to regroup in an easily accessible way all the huge and multiple resources in all languages of the world and all fields of activity.

The European Union has the largest and most multilingual human translation production in the world and cannot stay isolated in this wonderful evolution of terminology and its adaption to the current needs of our localized and globalized world. TermCoord has started an intensive campaign and could include IATE in some of the biggest terminology search tools and webpages.

TermCoord has contributed a module on Terminology to the University of Luxembourg Master's program "Multilingual Learning in a Multicultural Environment". This consists of courses on multilingualism, terminology management, and digital terminology coining as well as practical exercises, accompanied by theoretical courses given by Prof. Rute Costa in the next semester. The students of this module are offered internships in TermCoord. Staff members of the Unit are invited to several universities for seminars and to initiate IATE based terminology projects.

As from its creation, TermCoord has developed a wide network of external contacts mainly in the other international institutions and the academic world. Even in the first months of its existence it invited 10 prominent terminology professors and cooperated with them for the development of an original approach of terminology management in a public institution. A very important asset for the unit has been the knowledge and enthusiasm of the by now some 100 trainees from all countries with studies or specific interest in terminology, who offered an important input from the most recent developments and keep cooperating with the unit in several projects through specific accounts and discussions in the social media.

In April 2011, the unit went public with a website that attracted up until December 2013 300.000 visitors and became an important reference in the world of terminology offering EU specific resources and interesting posts on translation and terminology prepared by our staff in cooperation with trainees specializing in communication. In 2012, this external presence was extended with accounts and pages in the most important professional social media networks.

The biggest interest was shown for our pages containing the IATE term of the week, related and linking to an article on an important current event, the interviews with prominent terminologists conducted by our trainees, and the specific EU terminology resources and the different possibilities offered by the European Parliament for traineeships and study visits in our unit.

In 2012, TermCoord launched IATE projects with Universities: Interested translation and terminology departments receive a template to make exercises with their students simulating input into the database and compile lists of entries in their languages in cooperation with our unit, which after validation are inserted in IATE. These projects are intended to become in the future, projects conducted by the Terminology Coordination Departments of all Institutions cooperating in IATE and

to be inserted in the in the European Master of Translation offered by the European Commission to a network of some 25 universities.

As from the first semester of 2013, the University of Luxembourg inserted in the syllabus of its Master of "Learning and Communication in Multilingual and Multicultural Contexts" a series of courses and workshops on terminology management, multilingualism, terminology coining and web monitoring, given in three languages by members of TermCoord staff with the agreement of the European Parliament. Several universities invited the lecturers to give a part of these courses combined with a terminology project (Saarbrücken, Vienna, Thessaloniki, Bologna, Paris, Sofia, Salerno, Malaga, Vigo, etc.).

Our unit was the subject of a master thesis at the University of Vienna and provides the possibility to students and researchers to publish on its website their theses and studies on terminology or containing a chapter on terminology. Students working on terminology in their universities are allowed to apply for an unpaid traineeship in TermCoord, where they are familiarized with practical terminology work.

Several university professors were invited to our big seminars as speakers or were invited to run specific workshops for the translators and terminologists. The next seminar will take place on the 5th of June under the title "Terminology in Academy", focusing on this cooperation and ontologies.

TermCoord is working in cooperation with four universities (Luxembourg, Cologne, Rome-Sapienza and Salerno) on a research project to insert ontologies in IATE aiming to convert it from simple termbase to a large-scale terminological relational database.

TermCoord is member of EAFT (European Association for Terminology) and member of the Executive Committee of TermNet and participates in international terminology conferences frequently representing all EU Institutions. Presentations are also given in Universities upon request or organized in the European Parliament in Luxembourg for groups of professors and students.

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Any additional information can be found at www.termcoord.eu

Presentation by Rodolfo Maslias (Head of the Terminology Coordination Unit of the European Parliament)

27/11/2014

Article written for the University Paris Nanterre

Extending Terminology to New Horizons: TermCoord Experiments with the Semantic Web Technologies

The discipline of Terminology is in constant evolution. It is widely considered as a stand-alone science and has been put into the spotlight by universities, companies, state bodies and international institutions worldwide. In the era of open linked data, big data and web 3.0, a highly specific subject like terminology cannot ignore neither new technology inputs from these fields nor the mutual benefits to be obtained.

In this sense, IATE Public has recently undergone several reviews and improvements. The most interesting ones include entry-to-entry links and cross-references as active hyperlinks. Moreover, a web service that permits queries has also been implemented. In particular, these changes will soon make it possible to download IATE data exports in TBX format after updating its restrictive "legal notice".

In addition, LTAC Global (www.ltacglobal.org), the host organization of the TBX Steering Committee, will cooperate with IATE in the design of a term base template that matches the content of document-specific glossaries that could then be imported into different CAT tools. With this goal in mind, the Committee will define a dialect of TBX that supports the selected fields and will provide working software in Perl or some other programming language that automatically converts between TBX and the term base format. Together with the IATE software developers, the Committee will then create an application that formats information from IATE in the selected TBX dialect.

On top of that, TermCoord has also suggested transforming IATE (linguistic resource in form of a terminological relational database) into a knowledge management resource in the form of linked data, in order to produce multilingual solutions for different working domains that are homogeneous and responsive.

The main difference between a terminological database and a knowledge base is that the former presents concepts, terms and their multilingual equivalents in isolation with no semantic interconnectivity. The latter, on the other hand, presents concepts as 3D networks with several different aspects from which you can request and obtain linguistic and cognitive information in a well-structured, logical manner.

For this reason, the IATE Management Group is looking to achieve the amelioration of IATE with the semantic web technologies. By developing a model of linguistic-terminological knowledge

management, the Group wishes to define new typology for a terminologist profile within the EU Institutions. This profile is set to deal not only with concepts and terms, but also with knowledge management, multilingual webpage content indexing, and website content management.

In this context, the IATE Management Group, represented by 3 of its members (EP TermCoord, the Translation Centre and the Publications Office of the EU) will launch a project concerning the development of an ontological structure in 2 sub-domains of IATE. This will be done in cooperation with the University of Luxembourg (philosophy and linguistics), the University of Salerno (communication) and the University La Sapienza of Rome (computational linguistics). This project should refer to the initiatives related to the ISA Program, such as a common metadata vocabulary or Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS).

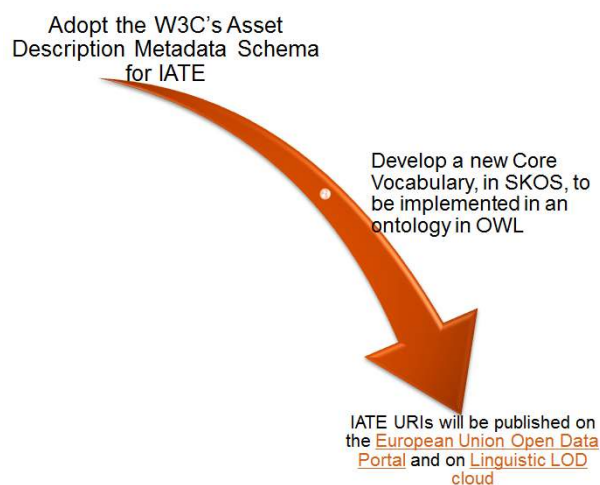


Figure 2 Interoperability solution for IATE

The first step will be to find an interoperability solution for IATE in order to overcome the semantic heterogeneity within the Institutions of the EU, i.e. Council of the EU, European Commission, European Parliament, Court of Justice of the EU, European Court of Auditors, European Central Bank, European Investment Bank, European Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Region and Translation Centre.

On the one hand, this common project aims at enhancing stakeholders' access to EU policies, as well as supporting EU citizens in understanding institutional terminology. Yet on the other hand, it should improve the management of institutional terminology and communication and, above all, it should help translators in their daily tasks with non-ambiguous terms by providing direct links to reference texts.

The domain study will be conducted taking into account sociolinguistic, economic, organisational and translation aspects. This is intended to narrow the initial conceptualization of the field of expertise and to establish an initial conceptual structure prototype.

As a second step, a specialised corpus will be compiled to develop the database, i.e. linguistic (terms, contexts), semantic (semantic relations, concepts) and pragmatic information (frequency of use, communicative situation).

Since an extraction from a corpus unicum can lead to ambiguity due to the varying concepts a single expression can refer to in different contexts, a text classification will be implemented to avoid this situation.

Moreover, this facilitates linking a term to the text where it was extracted from in the ontology and in turn will improve the references and quality of the extracted terminology.

Terminology extraction (with a special focus on multi-word expressions) will be carried out following this corpus-based approach by a classification on text types for different pragmatic finalities.

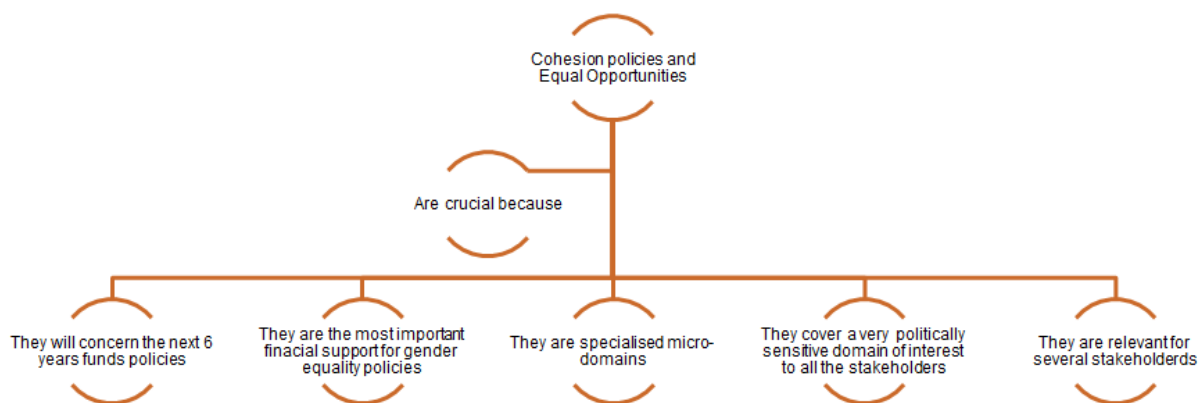


Figure 3: Domain Analysis

The focus of this project lies on multi-word expressions since they are rarely, and often poorly, recognized by statistical extraction tools. Most terminology extraction tools that focus on frequency do not recognize multi word expressions, because they are based on mathematical-statistical algorithms. For this reason, TermCoord will continue testing different extraction tools -from statistical, linguistic to hybrid ones- to approach this project in the most appropriate way.

To acquire knowledge from corpora, the most widely used method is based on knowledge patterns. These are logical hierarchical relationships, ontological hierarchical relationships and non-hierarchical or associative relationships. This data will be extracted from the compiled corpora in order to gain vertical, as well as horizontal relationships that will then be converted into computational linguistic resources to be used in ontologies.

Although there are different ways to develop domain ontology, either by using a linear approach or by means of graphics or semantic frameworks, if the latter is applied to terminology, it allows a clear and orderly structuring of concepts; thus, it allows observing the context in which different concepts and terms appear. Therefore, semantic frameworks will be implemented in our project and every ontology entry will be linked to a specific type of text.

Apart from the above described goals, the project also intends to examine the following aspects:

- 1) The integration of IATE with EuroVoc and VocBench (SKOS) and its use in document and website indexing:

- a) EuroVoc is a multilingual thesaurus which was originally built up specifically for processing

the documentary information of the EU institutions and now it is a controlled set of vocabulary which can be also used outside the EU institutions. The aim of the thesaurus is to provide the information management and dissemination services with a coherent indexing tool for the effective management of their documentary resources and to enable users to carry out documentary searches using controlled vocabulary;

- b) VocBench is a common platform offered by the Publications Office to the EU Institutions and agencies for the maintenance/dissemination of controlled vocabularies as well as indexing/annotation of their documents;

- 2) How to reduce redundancy and overlapping in EU terminology in order to foster a more coherent and standardised use of terminology in the European Union;

- 3) The use of the European Open Data Portal to share the resources (in TBX or TBXmin).

COOPERATION OF TERMCOORD WITH THE LABORATORY OF TERMINOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA

In the recent seminar, Terminology in Academia (termcoord.eu/terminology-academia/) organised at the European Parliament, Prof. Franco Bertaccini presented the difference between term databases and knowledge bases to the translators and terminologists of the EU Institutions.

In the context of this cooperation, a student of this University will dedicate her thesis to a sample IATE database including ontologies.

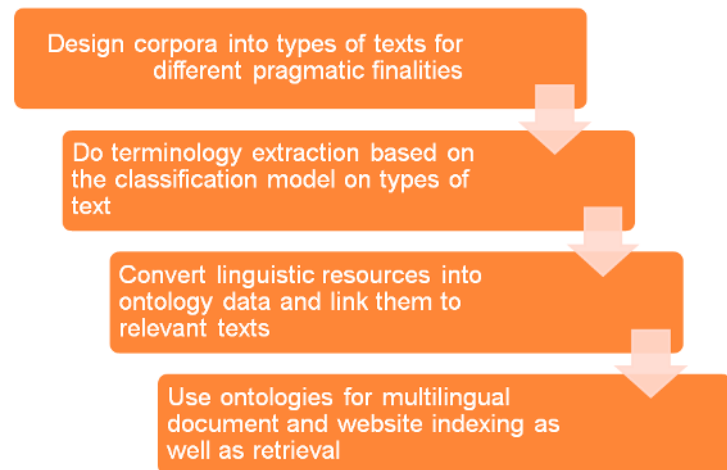


Figure 4: The different phases of the project

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Any additional information can be found at www.termcoord.eu

Presentation by Rodolfo Maslias (Head of the Terminology Coordination Unit of the European Parliament)

In collaboration with: Carolina Dunaevsky (University of Cologne) and Marie-José Palos Caravina (Translation Centre of the EU)

6.6.2014

Article published for the 2014 TKE Conference in Berlin, with the cooperation of Carolina Dunaevsky.

Have you ever thought of using Greek and Latin for Marketing?

Dealing with terminology also means dealing with neology and its etymology every day. This is because globalised communication and international multilingual cooperation in the industrial field require giving new names to new products daily. Today, we invite you to read about Rodolfo Maslias' thoughts on this subject.

Have you ever thought of Greek and Latin for Marketing?

Giving new names in the context of the industry also means creating new brands. Therefore, such names have to be catchy, easily recognisable, descriptive and original. All these adjectives conform a set of marketing -rather than linguistic- criteria that products should comply with. One of these marketing criteria is the international use of the same name to avoid complicated and costly translation and terminology work, and to make products and brands recognisable under the same name in all countries where such product or brand is used or sold.

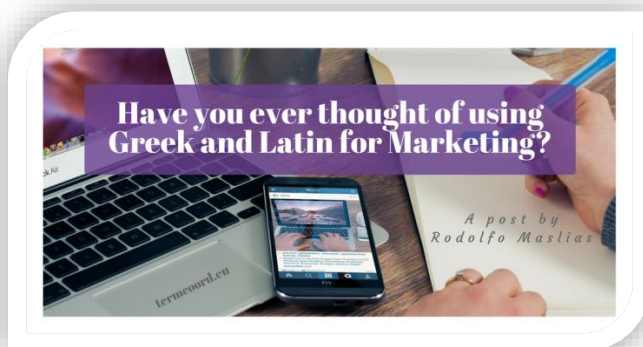
Most companies don't have linguistic or terminology services and the new terms are created by technicians on the spot, usually in a hurry, to respond to the urgent need of copyrighting.

The easiest way to find an international name for a new product or feature is to use a root from an Ancient language, such as Greek or Latin. Medicine, which was the first science to use an international "onomatology", has more than 85% of terms of an Ancient Greek or Latin origin.

It is interesting to note that these languages continue to be used as a creative source for branding and naming, despite them not been used anymore. And this is even more surprising in the case of Ancient Greek, whose roots survive only in Modern Greek, as opposed to Latin, which feeds the vocabulary of a whole family of languages.

I recently found some fascinating examples in a publicity magazine of the "Post of Luxembourg", which listed denominations coming from the Greek word φίλος (friend). We are all familiar with the common practice of adding "-phile" as a suffix, like in the case of "bibliophile" or "discophile", but I wonder who first dived into Greek to find a Greek root to describe the action of somebody who collects tickets in public transportation "esitériophile", from the Greek word «εισιτήριο», meaning ticket. Other neologisms in this collection include "copocléphile", somebody who collects key rings [co(llecteur)po(rte)clé+... phile] and "fiscophile", somebody who collects fiscal stamps.

When trying to respond to the vertiginous increase of communication needs from a Terminology service as TermCoord, it is impossible to follow and to track down all the neologisms that are also daily created by social media users in all languages. Neology is undoubtedly an important field of terminology, since it constantly feeds databases with new terms and it has gradually become a separate specialisation field for academic departments within linguistic faculties and it is now the object of several and very well documented websites. For this reason, TermCoord has created a repository of such websites and monitors their new entries in order to feed the European Terminology Database IATE with the neologisms that will most probably appear very soon in some of the texts to be translated into all the EU languages.



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<http://termcoord.eu/2017/07/have-you-ever-thought-of-using-greek-and-latin-for-marketing/>

Terminology from the Past to the Future

A BOX OF CARDS

At a very young age I had the good luck and privilege of joining the **translation service** of an **international organisation**. I was fascinated by the **multilingual environment** which allowed me to use and practice all the languages I had studied, and also by the extremely interesting texts I had to translate in the European Parliament – for instance, the first Treaty of the European Union, high quality political speeches, reports in every field of the European legislation. It was easy to fall in love with my job, to fall in love with every single text that I was creating as my own new original in the target language. To always try to find the exact equivalent of the initial idea of the author, of the concept, and to transmit it to my reader with the **best terms** available. Because translating is a permanent exercise in **terminology**, and producing **quality translation** depends on the success of this exercise.

To achieve this, in the early eighties, like all conscientious translators, I had my **boxes** where I stored alphabetically the **cards** with the terms I found in dictionaries and specialised glossaries. I used to underline them with different colours, writing down the source and the field, drafting or copying a definition, and thus constantly enriching my collection in the languages I used for my daily work. Every translator had to be a terminologist as well, and the basic skill of a good terminologist was to be a good translator.

At the time I preferred to record my translations on the so-called **Dictaphone**, to highlight sentences or terms that I needed to check, and to use my terminology cards for further research when I received the typed text for revision, proofreading or finalising.

FROM PAPER TO SCREEN

In the late eighties we received our first **computers**. Essentially, they were typewriters with a screen instead of paper, and corrections were easy to make, but, most importantly, they had a memory. We could store and retrieve our previous translations. Gradually we were also able to **organise** and **digitalise** our terminology cards, and to create tables with equivalents in many languages. We could update our entries when a term was approved by the terminology groups formed jointly with the other Institutions.

Cooperation in terminology became crucial because of the constantly increasing number of texts not only in the European Institutions, but also worldwide due to **globalisation** that called for enhanced

multilingual cooperation. Thus, sharing terminology became very important for ensuring linguistic consistency, and it was made feasible by the development of information technology. Besides sharing the stored resources that we started to call 'data', and creating digital databases instead of printed glossaries (e.g. Eurodicautom of the European Commission), another service of the digital era contributed to the evolution of terminology management: **interactive collaboration**.

INTERACTIVE COOPERATION AND RESOURCE SHARING

At the very beginning of the new century, the EU decided to merge all its **digital databases** into an interactive one, accessible to all participating Institutions and enabling interactive contributions by all their translators. We called it **IATE**, which stands for **Inter-Active Terminology for Europe**.

At the same time, the gradual creation of a **common multilingual space** for **international cooperation** in science and industry made **consistent terminology** an essential tool for the global strategies of big companies, or for any other international project in every institutional, academic, commercial or industrial field of cooperation. Every international organisation created a **multilingual database** with the terminology used in and for its decisions and rules, every company compiled a multilingual **digital glossary** with the terms used in product information and company internal communication. Every university produced terminology databases, either as a linguistic research exercise, or to support multilingual international academic cooperation in all fields, be it scientific, legal, medical, financial, technical or any other domain.

This development created a new need – the need for **interoperability**, which helps to avoid the overlapping of terminology research, to prevent the use of discrepant terms for the same concepts, and to give access to the terminology offered by the specialists in each field. Every year the **evolution**

of technology offered new possibilities for common terminology repositories and platforms: from metasearch to communication and collaborative platforms, to the cloud and the interactive social media services.

THE HUMAN AND THE MACHINE, A NEW RELATIONSHIP

In parallel, the vertiginous increase of translation needs created software such as **computer-assisted translation** incorporating the use of translation memories and terminology data, automatic term extraction based on both statistical and linguistic criteria, the extraction of terminology in formats allowing the creation of personalised, field-focused and text-related databases by each translator in today's market.

Good translators still need to be good terminologists, but at the same time they have to apply new methods to be sure of finding and using the most reliable terminology. Today we need less linguistic research, and much more electronic research. We have to use our linguistic knowledge more as a filter to



choose the reliable term among the existing data rather than to coin ourselves the right term while translating. And this human linguistic knowledge will always serve to guarantee the **quality** of the translation, not only for the drafting style, but also for filtering and making the right choice of available terminology.

THE NEW PROFILE OF THE TERMINOLOGIST

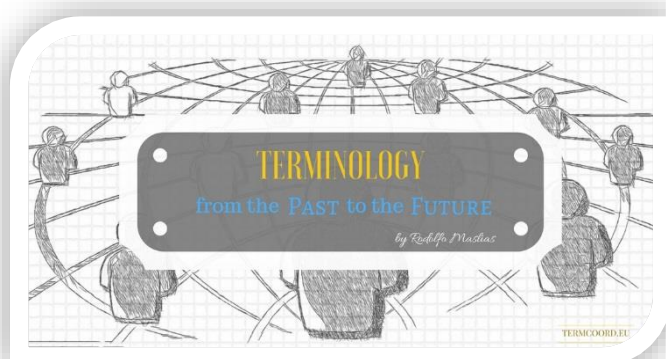
Nowadays a good terminologist doesn't need to be a good translator. The evolution of terminology created some **new jobs**: the computational linguist, the localiser, the terminologist. The required skills do not necessarily include the aptitude for translating; instead, one must be able to monitor the web using all the relevant **tools** such as alerts, subscribing to specialised sites, mastering social media management, joining specialised groups, lists and discussions on Facebook, twitter and Linked-in, as well as using other media channels like electronic newspapers (e.g. paper.li) or web-monitoring programs (e.g.scoop.it). It is essential to **follow** and **actively use** a variety of linguistic tools, portals and search engines related to terminology, ontology, localisation, neology, translation and interpretation. The **up-to-date terminologist** has to know how to stay informed about the new

features of term extractors, CAT-tools and machine translation, and to use all this information to create technically perfect and linguistically reliable entries in electronic termbases or glossaries following **established standards**, such as the terminology ISO, IATE handbook and other style guides published by international organisations and university departments dealing with terminology.

This advanced use of terminology has promoted it to the status of a **separate scientific discipline**. It is present in the curricula of most universities worldwide, not only in linguistic faculties but also in every domain of studies. Terminology is a frequent choice for targeted **postgraduate studies and theses**, and it also provides the **methodology** for analysing and organising the semantic web, structuring big data, and streamlining philosophical thinking through the **ontologies** that connect related concepts. Thus we can say that terminology studies provide a new way of thinking and dealing with the semantic web. At the same time multilingual terminology repositories make it possible search for any activity, offer, or job opportunity, since tagging links you with every web page related to your research in all countries where the languages of your query are spoken.

In order to provide **high quality translation**, a translator needs to know how to make efficient use of terminology and CAT-tools, how to extract and download terminology to create termbases related to the text, how to filter it according to the target audience while taking into account different types of language used in legislation, administration, journalism, finance etc., using methods of sentiment analysis, and dealing with a variety of fields, for instance, specialised medical literature intended for doctors, or texts on public health for the common user.

When I remember my boxes with my hand-written terminology cards...



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<http://termcoord.eu/2017/04/terminology-from-the-past-to-the-future/>

EU legislation – a multicultural challenge

Note to the reader: This article was originally written in German for the German Terminology-Day Symposium held in March 2016 in Mannheim, Germany. For the original German version of this article read the next article entitled “EU-Recht – eine multikulturelle Herausforderung” on page 52.

When I was asked some years ago to create a new terminology service for the European Parliament, the related tasks and objectives were considered to be of a highly technical nature. In fact, the management, and coordination among translation units, of terminology matters had until then merely been an auxiliary task of the IT service of the Directorate-General for Translation.

Moreover, all other EU institutions – which had recently begun to collaborate in the management of the Inter-Active Terminology for Europe (IATE), a new, interactive terminology database containing multilingual entries for all European terms available in the ten official languages current at the time – regarded terminology as simply the task of maintaining the IATE tool in order to improve the consistency of translations and ease the work of the numerous translators, thereby saving time and money, just as the use of the Euramis translation memory permitted the reuse of already translated sentences.

As I saw it, however, coordinating terminology among the languages of the European Union was not just a technical issue, nor simply a means of contributing to the quality of translations, but something much more. It posed a real challenge, of great political impact, of addressing what is at heart a cultural issue: the very inspiring adventure of seeking to bridge, by means of the languages used in EU legislation, the very disparity in culture that accounts for the diversity of our European family.

One of the first issues that this family had to face when it came together was multilingualism. The use of all the languages of the Member States was the first concern of the European Union, and the objective of its very first legislative act. Regulation No 1 of 15 April 1958 recognises the languages of the Member States as official languages of the whole European Community, stipulating that they are of equal standing in all activities. One can see a symbolic meaning in the fact that Regulation No 1 remains in force after more than 50 years, its list of officially recognised languages gradually extended each time one or more countries joined the European family. Multilingualism in the European Union, now numbering 28 Member States and 24 official languages, has become a very complex issue, with many aspects. It presents a daily challenge in all activities of the European Union, where a constant effort needs to be made to strike the right balance between, on the one hand, the wish to respect, and profit from, the cultural asset of linguistic diversity and, on the other hand, the need to ease communication in a common entity.

Multilingualism in the European Union raises many questions. Each language represents a different culture. The European Union allows its citizens to interact by guaranteeing, as a cultural right, the use of the 24 officially recognised languages of the Member States. However, more than 24 languages are spoken in the Member

States, and some of these have official status in the countries in which they are spoken. This creates a second dilemma: how many cultures are represented by how many languages within the borders of the European Union? How can administrative and political criteria determine the importance of a language? By what standard can one language be considered more



important than another, thereby negating the linguistic and cultural criteria that characterise a distinct language? Should not the European Union provide for the protection of all languages spoken by its citizens, in recognition of their worth – on equal terms – as cultural assets, in order to preserve the rich cultural diversity underpinning its primary claim to be something more than just a political or financial association of national and regional entities?

There is indeed great cultural diversity in the 28 Member States. Reflecting Europe's long history, each presents a wealth of different cultures, often expressed in different languages. We need to speak about languages here, not dialects, though the distinction is subject to uncertain criteria reflecting regional and political interests evolving over time. In addition to the 24 official languages of the EU, there are other European languages that, it can convincingly be argued, are no less deserving of recognition as milestones of European culture. The most commonly cited example is Catalan, in reflection of the very important Catalan independence movement in Spain. Spoken by some 11 million European citizens, taught in schools to more than seven million pupils, used as main language in universities and spoken in the regions of four countries, it has a rich literature and is even the official language of a European state, Andorra. There are several European languages listed on UNESCO's map of endangered languages where no distinction is made between language and dialect. Another interesting example is Luxembourgish, which in 1984 became the official language of one of the six founding members of the European Union, but which did not become an official language of

the EU for the simple reason that the Government of Luxembourg did not ask for it. In linguistic terms, Luxemburgish can be regarded a variant of German, spoken as well in some German regions. Interestingly, it is also spoken in regions of Belgium and of France. Having become the official language of Luxembourg, it is the main language of instruction in the first years of primary school in that country and one of the languages used in the University of Luxembourg. The EU even allows that proficiency in Luxemburgish serve as a criterion for access to certain faculties at that university and to certain professions in Luxembourg.

There are several other important languages in Member States that represent very old cultures with sometimes very distinct identities. These include Breton and Greek-Cypriot, languages that partly have an origin in, or that have a relation to, another European language, but which are the means of communication of a totally separate cultural group.

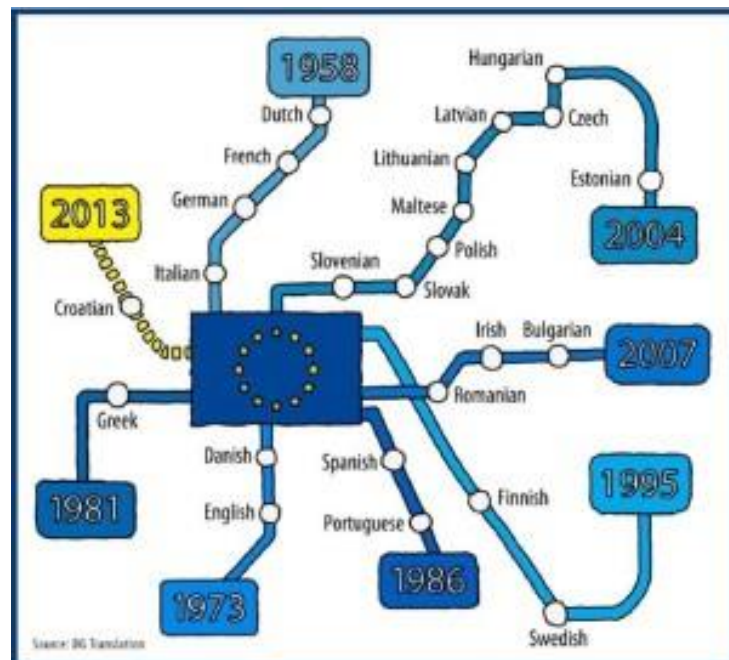
Of course, the European Union was not conceived as a cultural organisation, but as a community of states aiming to create common legislation in most fields of everyday life. This legislation becomes national legislation in all Member State and, in keeping with Regulation No 1, in all official languages of the Union. When you take in consideration the fact that 80 % of the Member States' national legislation consists of EU legislation translated into each respective language, you grasp the challenge and difficulty of the terminology undertaking.

In this context, the cultural right to protect and preserve the languages spoken by the citizens translates into their civic or democratic right to plead in their own language when they appear before national or European courts.

In order to ensure this right, the European Union operates the world's largest translation service, with some 5000 translators and interpreters working in more than ten EU institutions. Since the Lisbon Treaty came into force, which conferred to it the role of final legislator, some 1.8 million pages are translated every year at the European Parliament. This activity is coupled to a huge effort in the fields of computer-assisted translation and machine translation. The EU translation services have created the biggest multilingual legislation repository (EurLex), an enormous translation memory (Euramis), and the largest terminology database, containing some 11 million terms (IATE).

With the 24 current official EU languages, the number of linguistic combinations for translation and interpretation is 552. Every additional language would add a considerable number of combinations. This may happen soon if the referendum for the reunification of Cyprus to be held in the spring of 2016 opens the way for Turkish EU membership. It could also happen if Luxembourg decided to make Luxemburgish an official EU language, or if Spain acknowledges Galician, Basque and Catalan as official languages.

So many combinations cannot always be covered, especially if very tight deadlines are to be respected, as is most often the case. This means that it would be inconceivable that all languages spoken in Europe could become official EU languages. It would simply be impossible to implement the rules of multilingualism. Even now the system is under strain, such that – to ensure timely translation of all documents – English, French and



German are used as ‘pivot’ languages, whereby translations first made into these languages are then used for translations into all other languages. In some situations Spanish, Polish and Italian are also used. Such a multilingual community, with staff from 28 different countries working closely together, also needs a common lingua franca. This is most often English, especially since 2003 when ten new countries joined the EU.

However, even though the European Union is not the ideal structure for ensuring, as a matter of cultural rights, the survival of each and every language and culture of its Member States, it nevertheless needs to provide common legislation that encompasses all the cultures sustaining the 24 official languages. The cultural aspect, and the diversity of our European family, has to be taken into account. This is a challenge that makes any administrative or political task, such as the production of legislation, a unique field of cooperation, a meeting point, a syncretism between so many approaches, traditions and sensibilities.

In order to be able to implement this common legislation, in all its territory and in all areas of its exclusive and subsidiary competence, one of the main tasks of the European Union is to provide a common terminology that ensures that every citizen has the same understanding of the concepts used, independently of what language the document is in. This is because regardless of the official language it is presented in, each legislative act is considered and recognised as an original act in the international legal and judicial system. This makes the coherence of the terminology used one of the most important means of bringing all these cultures together.

Following the same rules, and having the same rights and obligations, is a way of living together that allows for cooperation in every field of activity. For communicating basic needs a common lingua franca can be used, but for cooperation to be possible in every activity, and in such a wide range of specific fields, the participants need to be able use their native languages, and the possibility of doing so is the unique gift that multilingualism offers all citizens of the European Union.

Today technology offers many means of online collaboration and communication. There are many types of collaborative platforms for interactive teamwork that allow actors in institutions, academia and industry to collaborate in the collection and discussion of terminology. Using these possibilities to enhance the interoperability of resources saves time and avoids duplication of work, and leads to more consolidated results that ensure the quality of the translations. This can be combined with specialised software permitting term extraction, as well as metasearch functions encompassing several databases. Cloud technology allows for easy storage and consultation of term data. All this data, together with huge translation memories, are uploaded into the memories of computer-assisted translation tools and, gradually, machine translation programmes, step by step transforming the terminology used in all languages into a much more easily usable linguistic element, ensuring the consistency and quality of translated legislation.

Terminology is now everywhere. In today's globalised and multilingual world, every company, every academic research centre and, of course, every international institution needs a glossary, or a larger database, to enable understanding and cooperation without the obstacle that the use of more than one language poses. This is why universities are increasingly treating terminology as a separate discipline, of interest not only to linguistic departments but also to other faculties, in recognition of the range of intellectual and technical issue it raises. Now that tagging and indexing of terminology data, and its interrelation in the different fields through ontologies in the semantic web, make of it not just a lexical collection of terms but a real source of knowledge, covering all fields of activity, a targeted search in a database allows the users to find any information they are looking for, such as job offers or other kinds of services.

In collecting, storing and managing the multilingual terminology in IATE, the translators working in different languages to feed this huge database are confronted every day with a range of issues pertaining to the cultural diversity of such a multicultural and multilingual community of nations.

It is obvious that for a database containing the terminology of EU legislation, the ideal would be a normative tool that provides a translator seeking a specific term with one and only one solution. This can be very difficult, especially for languages that are spoken in more than one country, where the respective national administrations concerned sometimes use different terms for the same concept.

The best example for this is German, used in five Member States (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg and Italy) as well as in Switzerland and Liechtenstein which, since they are in close cooperation with the EU, apply EU legislation in many areas. For a given concept, the term used in one country may be different from the one used in another, and since both appear in national legal texts – that is, in reliable sources for the European terminology database – they must both be listed as variants in the same IATE entry. This means that translators must make a choice, with implications for the wording of future legislative acts. Another interesting example is Greek, in which terminology usage in Greece and Cyprus sometimes differ. Here we have the factor of time: Cyprus joined the EU 20 years after Greece, during which time Cypriot Greek terminology in certain fields has evolved independently of usage in Greek-language versions of EU legislative acts. When these acts are transposed into national law, they introduce wording that on occasion differs from that of pre-existing laws, resulting in two equally valid variants of the same term that both have to be listed in the corresponding database entry.

Such differences in terms used by administrations in different countries, whether throughout their respective territories or in specific regions sharing the same language with other countries or regions, depend very much on cultural differences among their populations.

This raises another question. Should the terminology of the European Union be regarded as prescriptive or descriptive? In other words, should the European institutions impose on the citizens of the 28 Member States a terminology determined by their translation services – a European jargon – or should these services collect the terms used in national administrations and enter them in the terminology database as valid terms for use in European legislative acts? A prescriptive approach would very much ease the work of the translation services, but it would also create a linguistic gap between the language used by EU technocrats, which often is not clearly understood by the citizens, and the everyday language used in each country.

Not all European institutions managing the database IATE adopted the same attitude on this issue. While the Commission and the Council – the two institutions producing most of the terminology used in drafts of European legislation acts – mostly create their own terminology, other institutions, such as the Court of Justice and the European Central Bank (as well as the Translation Centre that manages the terminology for the numerous EU agencies), work more on a bilingual basis for each concept and collect the terminology used by the respective national authorities. For example, the Court of Justice collects terminology from national case law, while the European Central Bank cooperates with Member States' central banks and compiles very reliable bilingual glossaries of banking and financial terminology used by companies and citizens in daily commercial and financial activities in the Member States.

As in every terminology database, you have in IATE the option marking any one variant as 'preferred', but here a problem arises. What criterion should be used for making the selection? You can say that the term used in the European act must be the one marked as 'preferred', but then you don't follow the descriptive approach, and you can hardly oblige the national Cypriot administration to abandon a term used for years in national legal texts in favour of a term used by the Greek administration and therefore present in IATE and EurLex.

Unity in diversity has always been, and will always remain, the main challenge for the European Union. The effort to stick to the principle of multilingualism, notwithstanding the administrative difficulties and cultural challenges, is the best proof of this. Consistency in terminology is the tool to achieve the implementation of the rules and principles governing our common European society.

Published online: <http://termcoord.eu/2016/03/eu-legislation-a-multicultural-challenge-2/>

EU-Recht – eine multikulturelle Herausforderung

Hinweis für den Leser: Dieser Artikel wurde ursprünglich für das Symposium des Deutschen Terminologie-Tags (DTT) im März 2016 in Mannheim in deutscher Sprache verfasst. Für eine englische Version dieses Artikels lesen Sie bitte den vorherigen Artikel mit dem Titel „EU legislation – a multicultural challenge“ auf Seite 45.



DTT-Symposium 2016

3.-5. März, Dorint Kongresshotel, Mannheim

Als ich vor einigen Jahren aufgefordert wurde, einen neuen Terminologiedienst für das Europäische Parlament aufzubauen, ging man davon aus, dass die damit verbundenen Aufgaben und Ziele hochtechnischer Art seien. Tatsächlich wurden Terminologiefragen und die Koordinierung zwischen den Übersetzungsreferaten bis dahin von dem für die Informationstechnologie zuständigen Dienst der Generaldirektion Übersetzung nebenbei erledigt.

Alle anderen EU-Organe hatten kurz zuvor begonnen, bei der Verwaltung der neuen Datenbank „InterAktive Terminologie für Europa“ (IATE), die mehrsprachige Einträge für alle in den damaligen zehn Amtssprachen verfügbaren europäischen Termini enthielt, zusammenzuarbeiten. Sie betrachteten jedoch die Terminologie bloß als die Aufgabe, das Tool IATE am Laufen zu halten, um die Kohärenz der Übersetzungen zu verbessern und den zahlreichen Übersetzern die Arbeit zu erleichtern. Dadurch ließ sich Zeit und Geld einsparen, ebenso wie durch die Verwendung des Übersetzungsspeichers Euramis, der es ermöglichte, bereits übersetzte Sätze wiederzuverwenden.

Ich sah aber die Koordinierung der Terminologie unter den Sprachen der Europäischen Union nicht einfach als technische Aufgabe und genauso wenig bloß als ein Mittel, um zur Qualität der Übersetzungen beizutragen, sondern als viel mehr. Sie bedeutete eine echte Herausforderung von großer politischer Wirkung. Es galt, etwas zu bewältigen, was im Kern eine kulturelle Frage ist: das

sehr inspirierende Abenteuer, mittels der im EU-Recht verwendeten Sprachen die kulturelle Disparität, die die Vielfalt unserer europäischen Familie ausmacht, zu überbrücken.

Eines der ersten Probleme, denen sich diese Familie zu stellen hatte, als sie zusammenkam, war die Mehrsprachigkeit. Die Verwendung aller Sprachen der Mitgliedstaaten war das erste Anliegen der Europäischen Union und das Ziel ihres allerersten Rechtsakts. In der Verordnung Nr. 1 vom 15. April 1958 werden die Sprachen der Mitgliedstaaten als Amtssprachen der gesamten Europäischen Gemeinschaft anerkannt, wobei festgestellt wird, dass sie bei allen Tätigkeiten gleichrangig sind. Man kann eine symbolische Bedeutung darin sehen, dass die Verordnung Nr. 1 nach über 50 Jahren immer noch gilt, während ihre Liste der amtlich anerkannten Sprachen schrittweise jedes Mal, wenn eines oder mehrere Länder zur europäischen Familie hinzustießen, erweitert wurde. Die Mehrsprachigkeit in der Europäischen Union, die inzwischen 28 Mitgliedstaaten und 24 Amtssprachen zählt, ist zu einer sehr komplexen Angelegenheit mit vielen Aspekten geworden. Sie stellt eine tägliche Herausforderung in allen Tätigkeiten der Europäischen Union dar, wo eine ständige Anstrengung unternommen werden muss, um das richtige Gleichgewicht zu finden zwischen dem Wunsch, das Kulturgut der sprachlichen Vielfalt zu achten und zu nutzen, und der Notwendigkeit, die Kommunikation in einer gemeinsamen Behörde zu erleichtern.

Die Mehrsprachigkeit in der Europäischen Union wirft viele Fragen auf. Jede Sprache steht für eine andere Kultur. Die Europäische Union erlaubt es ihren Bürgern, miteinander zu kommunizieren, indem sie die Verwendung der 24 amtlich anerkannten Sprachen der Mitgliedstaaten als kulturelles Recht garantiert. In den Mitgliedstaaten werden jedoch mehr als 24 Sprachen gesprochen, und einige davon besitzen in den Ländern, in denen sie gesprochen werden, einen offiziellen Status. Dies führt zu einem zweiten Dilemma: Wie viele Kulturen werden innerhalb der Grenzen der Europäischen Union von wie vielen Sprachen repräsentiert? Wie können administrative und politische Kriterien die Bedeutung einer Sprache bestimmen? Nach welcher Norm kann eine Sprache als wichtiger gelten als eine andere? Damit verneint man doch die sprachlichen und kulturellen Kriterien, die eine andere Sprache als solche kennzeichnen! Sollte die Europäische Union nicht für den Schutz aller von ihren Bürgern gesprochenen Sprachen sorgen und so ihren Wert als gleichrangige Kulturgüter anerkennen, um so die reichhaltige kulturelle Vielfalt zu erhalten? Schließlich würde sie damit ihren Anspruch untermauern, etwas mehr zu sein als nur ein politischer oder finanzieller Verbund nationaler und regionaler Behörden.

In der Tat gibt es in den 28 Mitgliedstaaten eine große kulturelle Vielfalt. Jeder von ihnen weist als Spiegelbild der langen Geschichte Europas einen Reichtum an unterschiedlichen Kulturen auf, die sich oft in verschiedenen Sprachen äußern. Wir müssen hier von Sprachen sprechen und nicht von Dialekten, obwohl die Unterscheidung ungewissen Kriterien unterliegt, die regionale und politische

Interessen widerspiegeln, die sich im Laufe der Zeit entwickeln. Zusätzlich zu den 24 Amtssprachen der EU gibt es weitere europäische Sprachen, die, wie man überzeugend argumentieren kann, als Meilensteine europäischer Kultur nicht weniger Anerkennung verdienen. Das am häufigsten genannte Beispiel ist das Katalanische, in dem das sehr starke Unabhängigkeitsbestreben von Spanien zum Ausdruck kommt. Es wird von rund 11 Millionen EU-Bürgern gesprochen, über sieben Millionen Schülern an Schulen unterrichtet, als Hauptsprache an Universitäten verwendet und in den Regionen von vier Ländern gesprochen. Es besitzt eine reichhaltige Literatur und ist sogar in einem europäischen Staat Amtssprache, nämlich in Andorra. Mehrere europäische Sprachen stehen im Atlas der gefährdeten Sprachen der Unesco, in dem zwischen Sprache und Dialekt nicht unterschieden wird. Ein weiteres interessantes Beispiel ist das Luxemburgische, das 1984 zur Amtssprache eines der sechs Gründungsmitglieder der Europäischen Union wurde, aber nicht zur Amtssprache der EU, weil die Regierung Luxemburgs das schlicht und einfach nicht beantragte. Aus sprachwissenschaftlicher Sicht kann Luxemburgisch als Variante des Deutschen gelten, die auch in einigen deutschen Gebieten gesprochen wird. Interessanterweise wird es auch in Gebieten Belgiens und Frankreichs gesprochen. Nachdem es zur Amtssprache Luxemburgs geworden ist, ist es in diesem Land die Hauptunterrichtssprache in den ersten Grundschuljahren und eine der an der Universität Luxemburg verwendeten Sprachen. Die EU lässt es sogar zu, dass die Kenntnis des Luxemburgischen als Kriterium für den Zugang zu bestimmten Fakultäten an dieser Universität und zu bestimmten Berufen in Luxemburg herangezogen wird.

Es gibt mehrere weitere wichtige Sprachen in Mitgliedstaaten, die für sehr alte Kulturen mit teilweise sehr unterschiedlichen Identitäten stehen. Hierzu gehören das Bretonische und das zyprische Griechisch, Sprachen, die zum Teil ihren Ursprung in einer anderen europäischen Sprache haben oder eine Beziehung dazu aufweisen, die aber das Kommunikationsmittel einer völlig getrennten kulturellen Gruppe sind.

Natürlich wurde die Europäische Union nicht als kulturelle Organisation geplant, sondern als Gemeinschaft von Staaten, die bestrebt waren, in den meisten Bereichen des alltäglichen Lebens gemeinsame Rechtsvorschriften zu schaffen. Diese Rechtsvorschriften werden zu nationalem Recht in allen Mitgliedstaaten und – im Einklang mit der Verordnung Nr. 1 – in allen Amtssprachen der Union. Wenn Sie berücksichtigen, dass 80% der innerstaatlichen Rechtsvorschriften der Mitgliedstaaten aus EU-Rechtsvorschriften bestehen, die in die jeweilige Sprache übersetzt worden sind, begreifen Sie die Herausforderung und die Schwierigkeit des Unterfangens der Terminologie.

In diesem Zusammenhang schlägt sich das kulturelle Recht, die von den Bürgern gesprochenen Sprachen zu schützen und zu erhalten, in ihrem staatsbürgerlichen oder demokratischen Recht

nieder, sich in ihrer eigenen Sprache zu verteidigen, wenn sie vor innerstaatliche oder europäische Gerichte geladen werden.

Um dieses Recht zu sichern, betreibt die Europäische Union den größten Übersetzungsdienst der Welt mit etwa 5000 Übersetzern und Dolmetschern, die bei über zehn Organen und Einrichtungen der EU arbeiten. Seit der Vertrag von Lissabon in Kraft getreten ist, durch den das Europäische Parlament nun bei der Gesetzgebung das letzte Wort hat, werden beim Parlament jährlich etwa 1,8 Millionen Seiten übersetzt. Diese Tätigkeit geht mit ungeheuren Anstrengungen im Bereich der computerunterstützten Übersetzung und der maschinellen Übersetzung einher. Die Übersetzungsdienste der EU haben das größte mehrsprachige Rechtsinformationssystem (EurLex), einen riesigen Übersetzungsspeicher (Euramis) und die mit rund 11 Millionen Termini umfangreichste Terminologiedatenbank (IATE) geschaffen.

Bei derzeit 24 EU-Amtssprachen gibt es für die Übersetzung und Verdolmetschung 552 Sprachkombinationen. Mit jeder weiteren Sprache käme eine beträchtliche Zahl an Kombinationen hinzu. Bald kann es wieder so weit sein, wenn das Referendum zur Wiedervereinigung Zyperns, das im Frühjahr 2016 stattfinden soll, den Weg für eine türkische EU-Mitgliedschaft ebnet. Es könnte auch geschehen, wenn Luxemburg beschließt, Luxemburgisch zu einer EU-Amtssprache zu machen oder wenn Spanien Galicisch, Baskisch und Katalanisch als Amtssprachen anerkennt.

So viele Kombinationen können nicht immer abgedeckt werden, vor allem wenn sehr kurze Fristen für die Übersetzung eingehalten werden müssen, was meistens der Fall ist. Es wäre also unvorstellbar, dass alle in Europa gesprochenen Sprachen EU-Amtssprachen werden könnten. Es wäre schlicht unmöglich, die Regeln der Mehrsprachigkeit anzuwenden. Selbst jetzt steht das System unter Druck, sodass, um zu gewährleisten, dass alle Dokumente rechtzeitig übersetzt werden, Englisch, Französisch und Deutsch als Relaisprachen eingesetzt werden, wobei die Texte zuerst in diese Sprachen übersetzt werden und diese dann für Übersetzungen in alle anderen Sprachen zugrunde gelegt werden. In manchen Situationen werden auch Spanisch, Polnisch und Italienisch verwendet. Eine solche mehrsprachige Gemeinschaft, in der Mitarbeiter aus 28 verschiedenen Ländern eng zusammenarbeiten, benötigt auch eine gemeinsame lingua franca. Das ist meistens Englisch, besonders seit 2003, als zehn neue Staaten der EU beitraten.

Die Europäische Union ist zwar nicht das ideale Gebilde, um im Zusammenhang mit der Gewährleistung der kulturellen Rechte das Überleben jeder einzelnen Sprache und Kultur ihrer Mitgliedstaaten sicherzustellen, sie muss aber dennoch gemeinsame Rechtsvorschriften bereitstellen, die alle Kulturen umfassen, die die 24 Amtssprachen tragen. Dem kulturellen Aspekt und der Vielfalt unserer europäischen Familie muss Rechnung getragen werden. Dies ist eine

Herausforderung, die jede administrative oder politische Aufgabe wie etwa die Erstellung von Rechtsvorschriften zu einem einzigartigen Feld der Zusammenarbeit, einem Treffpunkt, einem Synkretismus zwischen so vielen Ansätzen, Traditionen und Empfindsamkeiten macht.

Um in der Lage zu sein, diese gemeinsamen Rechtsvorschriften in ihrem gesamten Gebiet und in allen Bereichen der ausschließlichen bzw. subsidiären Zuständigkeit anzuwenden, muss die Europäische Union als eine ihrer Hauptaufgaben eine gemeinsame Terminologie bereitstellen, die gewährleistet, dass jeder Bürger die verwendeten Begriffe gleich versteht. Denn ungeachtet der Amtssprache, in der er vorgelegt wird, wird jeder Gesetzgebungsakt im internationalen Rechts- und Justizsystem als originaler Rechtsakt betrachtet und anerkannt. Deshalb ist die Kohärenz der verwendeten Terminologie eines der wichtigsten Mittel, um alle diese Kulturen zusammenzubringen.

Dieselben Regeln zu befolgen und dieselben Rechte und Pflichten zu besitzen ist eine Art des Zusammenlebens, die Zusammenarbeit in jedem Tätigkeitsbereich möglich macht. Um Grundbedürfnisse zu kommunizieren, kann eine gemeinsame lingua franca verwendet werden, aber damit Zusammenarbeit bei jeder Tätigkeit und in einem so breiten Spektrum von Fachbereichen möglich ist, müssen die Teilnehmer in der Lage sein, ihre Muttersprachen zu verwenden, und diese Möglichkeit ist das einzigartige Geschenk, das die Mehrsprachigkeit allen Bürgern der Europäischen Union bietet.

Heute bietet die Technologie viele Mittel, um online zusammenzuarbeiten und zu kommunizieren. Es gibt viele Arten von Kooperationsplattformen für interaktive Teamarbeit, die es den Akteuren in den Institutionen, der akademischen Welt und der Wirtschaft ermöglichen, bei der Erfassung und Erörterung von Terminologie zusammenzuarbeiten. Wenn diese Möglichkeiten genutzt werden, um die Interoperabilität der Ressourcen zu verstärken, spart dies Zeit, Überschneidungen werden vermieden, und letztlich gelangt man zu fundierteren Ergebnissen, die die Qualität der Übersetzungen sicherstellen. Dies lässt sich mit spezialisierter Software, die es ermöglicht, Termini zu extrahieren, sowie mit Metasuchfunktionen, die mehrere Datenbanken umfassen, kombinieren. Mittels der Cloud-Technologie lassen sich die Daten zu den Termini leicht speichern und abfragen. Alle diese Daten werden zusammen mit riesigen Übersetzungsspeichern in die Speicher von computerunterstützten Übersetzungstools und schrittweise in Programme für maschinelle Übersetzung hochgeladen und machen so die verwendete Terminologie in allen Sprachen zu einem viel leichter nutzbaren sprachlichen Element, das die Kohärenz und Qualität der übersetzten Rechtsvorschriften gewährleistet.

Die Terminologie ist jetzt allgegenwärtig. In der heutigen globalisierten und vielsprachigen Welt braucht jedes Unternehmen, jede akademische Forschungsstelle und natürlich jedes internationale

Organ ein Glossar oder eine umfangreiche Datenbank, damit die Verständigung und Zusammenarbeit ohne die Erschwernis, die die Verwendung mehrerer Sprachen aufwirft, funktioniert. Darum behandeln die Universitäten zunehmend die Terminologie als gesonderte Disziplin, die nicht nur für sprachliche Fachbereiche, sondern in Anerkennung des Spektrums an intellektuellen und technischen Fragen, die sie aufwirft, auch für andere Fakultäten von Belang ist. Nun, wo die Markierung und Indexierung terminologischer Daten und ihre Wechselbeziehung in den verschiedenen Bereichen durch Ontologien im Semantischen Web über eine bloße lexikalische Sammlung von Termini hinaus zu einer echten Wissensquelle wird, die alle Tätigkeitsbereiche umfasst, können die Nutzer mittels einer gezielten Suche jede Information finden, die sie suchen, beispielsweise Arbeitsangebote oder andere Arten von Diensten.

Indem sie die mehrsprachige Terminologie in IATE erfassen, speichern und verwalten, sind die Übersetzer, die in den einzelnen Sprachen daran arbeiten, diese riesige Datenbank zu füllen, täglich mit einer Reihe von Problemen konfrontiert, die der kulturellen Vielfalt einer solchen multikulturellen und mehrsprachigen Staatengemeinschaft eigen sind.

Selbstverständlich wäre für eine Datenbank, die die Terminologie des EU-Rechts enthält, das Ideal ein normatives Tool, das einem Übersetzer, der einen bestimmten Terminus sucht, genau eine Lösung anbietet. Das kann sich als sehr schwierig erweisen, besonders bei Sprachen, die in mehr als einem Land gesprochen werden, wo die jeweiligen nationalen Verwaltungen manchmal für denselben Begriff verschiedene Termini verwenden. Das beste Beispiel hierfür ist das Deutsche, das in fünf Mitgliedstaaten (Deutschland, Österreich, Belgien, Luxemburg und Italien) sowie in der Schweiz und in Liechtenstein gesprochen wird, die wegen ihrer engen Zusammenarbeit mit der EU in vielen Bereichen EU-Recht anwenden. Für einen bestimmten Begriff kann der in einem Land verwendete Terminus anders sein als der, der in einem anderen Land gängig ist, und da beide in innerstaatlichen Rechtstexten vorkommen – d. h. verlässlichen Quellen für die europäische Terminologiedatenbank –, müssen beide als Varianten in demselben IATE-Eintrag aufgeführt werden. Die Übersetzer müssen also eine Entscheidung treffen, die sich auf die Formulierung künftiger Gesetzgebungsakte auswirkt. Ein weiteres Beispiel ist das Griechische, worin in Griechenland und Zypern manchmal unterschiedliche Terminologie verwendet wird. Hier spielt der Zeitfaktor eine Rolle: Zypern trat der EU 20 Jahre nach Griechenland bei, und in dieser Zeit hat sich die zyprisch-griechische Terminologie in bestimmten Bereichen unabhängig von den Gepflogenheiten in griechischsprachigen Fassungen von Gesetzgebungsakten der EU weiterentwickelt. Bei der Umsetzung dieser Rechtsakte in innerstaatliches Recht werden Formulierungen eingeführt, die gelegentlich von denen vorheriger Gesetze abweichen, was zu zwei gleichermaßen gültigen Varianten desselben Terminus führt, die beide in dem entsprechenden Datenbankeintrag aufgeführt werden müssen. Solche Unterschiede in

den Termini, die von den Verwaltungen in verschiedenen Ländern – sei es in ihrem gesamten Hoheitsgebiet oder in bestimmten Regionen, in denen dieselbe Sprache wie in anderen Ländern oder Regionen gesprochen wird – verwendet werden, hängen sehr stark von kulturellen Unterschieden zwischen ihren Bevölkerungen ab.

Dies wirft eine weitere Frage auf: Soll die Terminologie der Europäischen Union als präskriptiv oder deskriptiv betrachtet werden? Mit anderen Worten: Sollten die europäischen Organe den Bürgern der 28 Mitgliedstaaten eine von ihren Übersetzungsdiensten bestimmte Terminologie – einen europäischen Jargon – auferlegen, oder sollten diese Dienste die Termini, die in den nationalen Verwaltungen verwendet werden, erfassen und als gültige Termini, die in europäischen Gesetzgebungsakten zu verwenden sind, in die Terminologiedatenbank eintragen? Ein präskriptiver Ansatz würde die Arbeit der Übersetzungsdienste erheblich erleichtern, aber auch eine sprachliche Kluft zwischen dem von den EU-Technokraten verwendeten Sprachgebrauch, der von den Bürgern oft nicht deutlich verstanden wird, und der in jedem Land gängigen Alltagssprache hervorrufen.

Hierzu haben nicht alle europäischen Organe und Einrichtungen, die die Datenbank IATE verwalten, dieselbe Haltung eingenommen. Während die Kommission und der Rat – die beiden Organe, die die meiste Terminologie produzieren, die in Entwürfen europäischer Gesetzgebungsakte verwendet wird – hauptsächlich ihre eigene Terminologie erstellen, arbeiten andere Stellen wie etwa der Gerichtshof und die Europäische Zentralbank (sowie das Übersetzungszentrum, das die Terminologie für die zahlreichen dezentralen Einrichtungen und sonstigen Stellen der EU verwaltet) eher auf bilingualer Basis für jeden Begriff und erfassen die von den jeweiligen nationalen Behörden verwendete Terminologie. So erfasst beispielsweise der Gerichtshof Terminologie aus der innersprachlichen Rechtsprechung, während die Europäische Zentralbank mit den Zentralbanken der Mitgliedstaaten zusammenarbeitet und sehr zuverlässige zweisprachige Glossare der Banken- und Finanzterminologie zusammenstellt, die von Unternehmen und Bürgern bei ihren täglichen Handels- und Finanztätigkeiten in den Mitgliedstaaten eingesetzt werden.

Wie bei jeder Terminologiedatenbank verfügen Sie in IATE über die Option, eine beliebige Variante als bevorzugt zu markieren, aber das stellt uns vor ein Problem: Welches Kriterium soll für die Auswahl herangezogen werden? Man kann sagen, der im europäischen Rechtsakt verwendete Terminus muss als bevorzugt gekennzeichnet werden, aber dann folgt man nicht dem deskriptiven Ansatz, und man kann die zyprische innerstaatliche Verwaltung kaum verpflichten, einen in innerstaatlichen Rechtstexten seit Jahren verwendeten Terminus zugunsten eines Terminus, der von der griechischen Verwaltung verwendet wird und daher in IATE und EurLex verzeichnet ist, fallen zu lassen.

Die Einheit in Vielfalt war stets die größte Herausforderung für die Europäische Union und wird das auch immer bleiben. Die Bemühung, trotz der administrativen Schwierigkeiten und kulturellen Herausforderungen den Grundsatz der Mehrsprachigkeit zu wahren, ist der beste Beweis dafür. Kohärenz ist Terminologie, und Terminologie ist das Hilfsmittel, damit die Vorschriften und Grundsätze, nach denen sich unsere gemeinsame europäische Gesellschaft richtet, zur Anwendung gelangen.

SYMPOSIUM DES DEUTSCHEN TERMINOLOGIE-TAGS MANNHEIM 2016

Interview: Why is Terminology your Passion?

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAREER AND YOUR CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

I joined the European Parliament in March 1981 as a translator in the Greek Unit, immediately after my postgraduate studies in languages. I worked in the Greek Unit until 2008, with two interruptions for two-year secondments to public posts in the cultural field in Greece and a parallel position as Professor of Translation and Terminology at the Ionian University of Corfu. In 2008 I was asked to set up a new unit to coordinate the terminology work done in the 23 translation units and to represent the European Parliament in the context of interinstitutional cooperation on the management of the European terminology database IATE.

OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HAS MADE A HUGE INVESTMENT IN LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGIES. DO YOU THINK THIS TENDENCY WILL CONTINUE UNDER THE EUROPEAN CRISIS CONDITIONS?

Especially in this period of crisis, language technologies need to be more widely used and developed. The European Union institutions possess the largest linguistic structure in the world, with some 5 000 translators dealing with 506 official language combinations, who translate thousands of pages using a huge translation memory in 24 languages and an interactive multilingual terminology database containing more than 10 million terms. It would be a terrible waste of resources not to use the best technology available in order to respond to changing needs in this era of communication and globalisation.

WHAT IS YOUR VISION OF LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGIES IN EUROPE? DO YOU THINK THAT

RODOLFO MASLIAS

interviewed by

**KONSTANTINOS
CHATZITHEODOROU**

for the website [*NLP People*](#)



Chatzitheodorou worked as Machine Translation Expert at the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Translation (DG TRAD) in Luxembourg. He holds a BA in Italian Language and Literature and MSc in Informatics. His Master's Thesis focused on optimization and evaluation of Machine Translation. Currently he is pursuing his PhD in Computational Linguistics. In the last years, Konstantinos has been also involved as researcher in several EU projects on Computational Lexicography and Terminology.

THE MULTILINGUALISM WILL CONTINUE TO BE ONE OF THE PRIMARY TARGETS FOR EUROPEAN UNION?

Multilingualism is one of the cornerstones of European integration. It is one of the democratic rights of the representatives of the 27 – soon to be 28 – peoples of the European Union, and to me it is also a cultural right of EU citizens and an integral part of the diversity of European culture, which I consider to be the soul of Europe. Although, of course, we use a common language of communication – and pivot languages for translation – in order to make the European legislative process more efficient, citizens will always have the right to use their own language, since European legislation becomes the national legislation of each of the Member States. I would even add that regional languages will become an increasingly important issue, since protecting them as a cultural asset is also one of the EU's primary objectives.

HOW CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE INTERCONNECTION BETWEEN ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND THE NEEDS OF EUROPEAN UNION? IN OTHER WORDS, DO YOU THINK THAT EUROPEAN GRADUATES HAVE THE SAME SET OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO BE HAVE?

New academic topics in the field of linguistics and translation, such as computational linguistics, terminology and e-lexicography, provide European graduates with very advanced skills. Cooperation between universities (through programmes such as Erasmus), multilingual curricula and enhanced global communication also offer the young generation excellent skills. One of the biggest advantages of our unit is that it can add to the knowledge of the numerous trainees and young researchers who come to the Terminology Coordination Unit on traineeships or study visits.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE TO THE RECENT GRADUATES (MASTERS AND PHDS) LOOKING FOR A JOB AT GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS? WHAT THE GRADUATES SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR AND WHAT CAN THEY EXPECT?

Rather than governmental organisations, I would prefer to talk about intergovernmental or international institutions such as the United Nations and the European Union. The young people who come into contact with us and our work are fascinated by the opportunities for international teamwork, the huge size of these organisations and the high importance of their work. As an illustration, suffice it to say that every three months we have to select six trainees from among more than 1 500 candidates from all the Member States for traineeships in terminology. If these young people subsequently secure a job in such an organisation, they will have to follow the slow and cumbersome procedures of public administration and cope with the constraints imposed by the complicated and strict rules needed for such huge structures, while at the same time making the most of their own knowledge and creativity.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THE NEAR FUTURE OF MACHINE TRANSLATION AND NLP IN GENERAL? WHICH RESEARCH DIRECTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS WILL GROW IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS?

All the European institutions are already using CAT tools and cooperating in using the best machine translation systems and adapting them to the very specific needs of the EU, which possesses the world's biggest linguistic machine. Such cooperation is a wonderful challenge, involving testers from all languages, with different specialisations, who intervene at different stages of the European legislative process. We are also cooperating in the area of terminology, giving very careful consideration to ways of providing translators with reliable solutions via the integrated workflow and translation tools they use. It is very important that the solutions should be flexible and capable of adapting to the vertiginous development of language technologies.

COULD YOU GIVE US SOME EXAMPLES OF TERMINOLOGY TOOLS AND SERVICES THAT ARE PROVIDED TO THE TRANSLATORS VIA THE EUROPEAN PROJECTS AND OTHER MEANS?

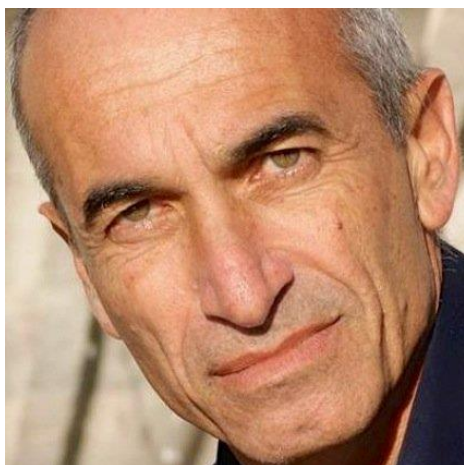
The greatest service we provide is of course the IATE database, which covers more than a hundred domains and subdomains and is constructed – often with the use of macros to facilitate data entry – by the thousands of translators as they translate, and managed by the terminology coordination units of ten institutions via an exemplary cooperation arrangement that allows consolidation, completion of languages, definitions and references, elimination of duplicates, and communication and feedback, along with a validation process enabling most of the entries to be added to the public version of the database, which receives an average of 3 600 hits per hour from all over the world. We also provide a collection of links to highly specialised glossaries compiled by the various EU institutions and relating to the topics translated, as well as pre-processed terminology folders created on the basis of cooperation with Parliament's political bodies. Thanks to this cooperation we receive advance warning of the texts to be sent for translation, enabling us to carry out term extraction in advance and to provide translators with terminology tables in parallel with the text for translation allocated through the workflow system.

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE WORLD?

The Terminology Coordination Unit has launched terminology projects in conjunction with specialised university departments. Students receive a template enabling them to create IATE entries under the supervision of their terminology lecturers, which are then validated by our terminologists. This project is still in a pilot phase, having started with five universities (in Bulgaria, Belgium, Italy, Latvia and Luxembourg). Our relations with the academic world are supported by our website, which

has attracted more than 150 000 users since it was launched in mid-2011. This semester we also instituted cooperation with the University of Luxembourg, which has included a module on terminology management in the curriculum for its masters programme 'Learning in a Multilingual and Multicultural Environment'. Lastly, since our unit's inception it has organised very successful and much appreciated seminars on 'Terminology in the Changing World of Translation', inviting university lecturers and other prominent speakers from the world of linguistics. In early 2014, the next seminar in this series will focus on 'Terminology in Academia'.

About the author



RODOLFO MASLIAS (www.maslias.eu) was born in Thessaloniki (Greece) in 1957. Studied languages, translation and law at the universities of Thessaloniki, Madrid and Luxembourg and post graduated in the German classical theatre in Giessen (Germany). He works at the European Parliament in Luxembourg since 1981 as translator for French, German, Spanish, English, Italian and Dutch and as from 2008 he heads the Terminology Coordination Unit (<http://termcoord.eu>) and represents the European Parliament in the management of the EU

Terminology Database IATE (www.IATE.eu). He was seconded to cultural posts a.o. as Head of Cabinet of the Greek Minister of Culture, Cultural Advisor to the Mayor of Athens, Coordinator of the Network of European Capitals of Culture and of the European Prize for Literary Translation. He is certified terminology manager (ECQA-Termnet) and member of several international terminology boards and bodies. He has taught translation and terminology at the Ionian University of Corfu and is since 2013 lecturer for Terminology at the Master "Multilingual Learning in Multicultural Contexts" of the University of Luxembourg. He published several articles on terminology and books on cultural management, essays and poems.