



4²⁰¹⁵ TRANSLATIO

FIT Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you all enjoyed your scorching summer and have returned to work with spring in your steps. Indeed, spring is what surrounds me as I am writing to you. It is with this renewed energy that members of the EC, members of FIT Europe and members of FIT Legal Translation and Interpreting Task Force (formerly Committee) will be gathering for a series of FIT visibility events over the next fortnight.

Indeed, the FIT calendar has always been full and it will take many more pages to cover all the news around the wider FIT family. What about the Council? Little do people know that the Council works very hard in between the actual annual meetings. For those of you following us at our website, on Facebook and on Twitter, you will have noticed that our Press Releases have a new look. This issue of *Translatio* will feature some of the news taking place over the past few months.

As you read this issue, maybe you are celebrating the theme of International Translators' Day 2015, "The Changing Face of Translation and Interpreting". Work has already begun on the next ITD's theme. We hope you all will put on your thinking caps to find the best way to portray our 2016 theme to the wider public.

FIT is about collaboration, through which we build a stronger profession and a strong Federation. Collaboration also brings concrete benefits to our members. I am particularly pleased to hear from Council Member Ismayil Jabrayilov's report that the Council's trip to Azerbaijan boosted the stature and visibility of our colleague AGTA.

FIT has brought together all our Russian member associations in that big corner of the world to celebrate the Year of Literature and to help bring previously untranslated Russian authors to the notice of the wider world. This in turn introduces the wider publishing world to budding literary translators.

In this issue, you will also find details of the efforts of our colleagues in Catalunya to secure the UNESCO City of Literature title for beautiful Barcelona. And speaking of literary translation, according to BBC's interactive "Will a robot take your job" search engine, this is one field where the public thinks machine translation can never replace us. In this issue, you will find a prelude written by Council Member Alan Melby on FIT's collaboration with DFKI to dispel this myth. We know we are irreplaceable, and FIT will work to prove it.

You will find another exciting development in this issue concerning our sign language counterpart and new partner, World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI). Our collaboration has brought immediate results, as WASLI is now part of the coalition in support of conflict zone interpreters. I hope this will also bring national and regional associations of spoken language interpreters and sign language interpreters closer together. WASLI's President Deb Russell and I have many more exciting projects we will be working on. If you have any bright ideas and suggestions, let me know and stay tuned to our Press Releases.

In connection with conflict zone interpreters, FIT has launched a renewed initiative for the protection of our colleagues working in dangerous situations. The redesigned FIT International Translator's Card will form part of a more comprehensive package for their protection during and after the conflict – a goal shared by our partners Red T, International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC), International Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters (IAPTI), Critical Link and WASLI.

Speaking of partners, two of our Council Members tied the knot this summer. You will find pictures of their special day in this issue. I am sure you will join me in wishing them much happiness in their married life.

Finally, the year of anniversaries continues: BDÜ is celebrating 60 successful years, CONALTI, their 35th, and in the next issue, we will feature ÖVGĐ's 95th anniversary party. And I am off to CBTI's 60th. Cheers!

Henry Liu, president@fit-ift.org



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Translation and Interpreting in Tomorrow's Asia-Pacific Region

Babel Task Force

Back in 1954, at the first General Assembly of the young International Federation of Translators (FIT), the ambitious Council decided to create a scholarly journal, *Babel*. It would be intended primarily for translators, interpreters and terminologists (the T&I-world), yet also be of interest to non-specialists concerned with the continuously changing communication conditions and the more technology-based market challenges. Today, our chipper, 60-year-old journal treats a multitude of disciplines built on the following pillars: T&I theory, practice, pedagogy, technology, history, sociology, and terminology management. Another important segment includes articles on the development and

evolution of the T&I professions: new disciplines, growth, recognition, ethics codes, protection, and prospects. *Babel* continues to be published for FIT and each issue therefore contains a section dedicated to the "Life of FIT".

To date, *Babel* has been administered by its editor-in-chief and former FIT secretary general Frans de Laet. However, as the tasks expand, FIT Council recently decided to form a special Task Force to take over some of that work. In addition to the editor, this group includes María Eugenia Cazenave from Argentina, Jonathan Downie from Great Britain, and Sven Borei from Sweden. One of its primary goals will be to enhance the visibility of *Babel* by integrating special news

on the journal's present, past and future into FIT's website and to collect opinions on its general appreciation from the target audience, while carefully examining the impact on the T&I world through local and international media. At the same time, more effort will be made to emphasize FIT's ownership of the very first journal in the field of T&I. Finally, to conclude the first step of its mission, the Task Force will focus on the digital identification of *Babel* publications in order to facilitate connecting research and search tools (ORCID, KUDOS, SCOPUS etc.). Yes, there is a lot of work ahead, but the Task Force has the wind in its sails.

Sven Borei, chair, sven@heskonsult.com

XII International Forum on Legal Translation and Interpreting Challenges, New Roles and Ethics – October 7 to 9, 2015

For the first time in the Americas, the city of Lima will host the XII International Forum on Challenges, New Roles and Ethics on Legal Translation and Interpreting organized by the Legal Translation and Interpretation Committee of the International Federation of Translators (FIT) and the Colegio de Traductores del Perú (CTP).

This important academic and professional event is sponsored by Universidad Femenina del Sagrado Corazón, Universidad Ricardo Palma, Universidad César Vallejo and Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas.

We invite you to take part in this Forum, which will enable discussion and feedback on areas of professional interest within a continuous training framework among experts and for experts. Additionally, it will allow you to share and learn, and generate new academic and professional networking.

This Forum addresses to :

- Translators and interpreters specialized in the legal field.



- Professionals related to legal translation and interpreting.
- Public servants and experts in intercultural and multilingualism issues.
- Translators and interpreters in-training interested in specializing in legal translation and interpreting.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To set development prospects for legal translation and interpreting based on best practices and academic and professional initiatives from local and international translators and interpreters.

SPECIFIC OBJETIVES

- To promote the professional status of legal translation and interpreting, as well as that of its actors through the Forum's public exposure to other professional groups in Peru and abroad.
- To gather international and local translators and interpreters specialized in the legal field.
- To streamline debate and academic production by means of institutional contact among the universities involved in the development of translation and interpreting.
- To understand the legal, academic and professional status of translation and interpretation.
- To establish the best options for basic and further training and development of legal translators and interpreters.
- To get familiar with new trends and future perspectives on legal translation and interpretation.

More information on : http://www.forofit-peru.com/index_en.html

Permanent committees and task forces – what's new?

The mandates for FIT committees active between 2013 and 2014 ended in June 2015. Their modus operandi turned out to be ill-suited to the needs of a worldwide organisation and the internet era.

At its last meeting in March 2015, FIT Council had addressed this issue, suggesting the creation of a number of task forces or committees. In the July 2015 issue of *Translatio*, there was a call for candidates and names of colleagues who had already spontaneously indicated willingness to take part.

Today, twelve task forces and three committees have started work and are establishing their work plans. Some of these groups already have a leader. In future, each task force will elect its own leader in accordance with the new directives (available on the FIT web site in the "About us" menu). For most, work started with a virtual meeting to become better acquainted, discuss project ideas and agree on common objectives; others have preferred to operate solely via their allotted discussion list. They will have six weeks to submit their work plans and a potential budget, as well as the name of the leader elected with Council approval. When this edition of *Translatio* appears, we hope all will have completed this process and posted the information on the FIT web site. Each task force and each permanent committee will have a page there to keep you informed of work progress.

For some of the task forces suggested by Council, the required number of three participants has not been reached. Sadly, this is the case for Audio-Visual Translation (one candidate) and Medical Interpreting (two candidates). However, it is never too late, as a new task force can be set up at any time.

By contrast, some task forces have had a particularly high number of requests. The Council directives have not limited the number of participants in a task force, even though a large number could slow the joint effort. It is always possible to create sub-tasks or to share the work within the group. The Secretariat has received some very late applications, after Council approval of the task forces. Such applications will be presented to the task force, as set out in Article 71 of the Bylaw (71). The task force has the right to nominate other members with the approval of the Council and of the as-

Composition of permanent committees and task forces

- **2017 FIT prize:** Sandra Bertonlini, Verónica Ortiz, Wang Gangyi
- **Babel:** Frans de Laet, Maria Eugenia Cazenave, Sven Borei, Jonathan Downie
- **International Database of Complaints and Disciplinary Decisions:** Henry Liu, Ana M. Paonessa, Catherine Greensmith
- **Development (Support for associations):** Eleanor Cornelius, Ismayil Jabrayilov, Wolf Baur, Leticia Martinez, Marion Boers
- **Electronic Communication (Website, Facebook & Twitter):** Eva Malkki, Kevin Quirk, Jørgen Christian Nielsen, Damian Santilli
- **Education and Professional Development:** Olga Egorova, Vadim Sdobnikov, Hannelore Lee-Jahnke, Thelma Ferry, Analia Bogdan, Emma Garcia, Jozef Stefcik, Marian S. Greenfield, Dorota Staniszevska-Kowalak
- **Legal Translation and Interpreting:** Jane Rollet, Christine Springer, Zofia Rybinska, Mary Ann Monteagudo, Aurie Escobar Ramsey, Lidia Jeansalle, Sha Lijin, Ge Yajun, Emma Garcia, Raquel Atencio, Peter Kopecky, Cromson Mvwala
- **Literary Translation and Copyright:** Werner Richter, Ika Kaminka, Brigitte Rapp, Lucila Cordone, Ella Pankratova, Clelia Chamatropulos, Lois Feuerle, Kevin Quirk, Nathalie Rouanet-Herlt, Estela Consigli, Anna Lukinanova, Lidia Jeansalle
- **Research (Fundamental issues):** Reiner Heard, Reina De Bettendorf, Alan Melby, Edith Vanghelof, Lidia Jeansalle, Norma Keßler, Joanna Miler-Cassino
- **Survey on National Regulations and Codes of Conduct:** Alan Melby, Marcelo Ingratta, Michaela Strick, Li Xu, Wang Zheng, Carmen Roberge
- **Translatio:** Sabine Colombe, Catherine Hodot, Marita Propato, Maria S. Gracia, Jane Rollet, Marita Propato

Permanent Committees

- **Human Rights Committee:** Maria Cristina Magee, Margarite Heintz- Montez, Maha El Metwally
- **ISO Standards:** Ilya Mishchenko, Lidia Jeansalle, Zhang Xuetao, Alan Melby, Gladys Martell Hurtado, Claudia Koch-McQuillan. Special delegate: Izabel Souza
- **Solidarity Fund:** Reiner Heard, Silvana Marchetti, Lorena Roque, Changqi Huang

sociations to which the new members belong. Before requesting Council approval, each task force accepts or refuses the admission of new participants.

Further, the close relationship between Literary Translation and Copyright has prompted these two task forces to merge. You will hear more about this in the next edition of *Translatio*.

Sabine Colombe
secretarygeneral@fit-ift.org

Do you want FIT to be at your next visibility event?

As you can tell from this issue of *Translatio*, the travelling schedules for your FIT officeholders are booked out way in advance. Do you want FIT to be at your next visibility event? Write to me or the Secretary General as soon as you have some preliminary details. We are here to help boost your visibility.

Conflict Zone ID Card

Protecting Colleagues in Conflict Zones

Previous attempts at issuing a FIT ID card were not effective in achieving the primary objectives and turned out to be labour and cost intensive, making the project unsustainable.

A recent request from the Iraqi Association highlights the need to re-establish FIT's role in representing our colleagues in difficult working conditions.

This follows on from the Berlin Statutory Congress Resolution which calls upon national governments and the international community to:

- protect local translators and interpreters in conflict zones
- ensure their security during and after their work in the conflict zone
- respect the impartiality of the work of translators and interpreters
- work for a UN Convention and/or an international safety document for the protection of translators and interpreters in conflict zones during and after their service.

FIT is proud to announce the launch of the International Translator's Card (sample opposite) specially designed for:

- FIT member associations who lack the resources to produce and issue their own ID card
- Members of FIT member associations (which may or may not issue their own ID cards) who are planning to work in conflict zones
- Translators and Interpreters working in conflict zones with specific accredited agencies who themselves are not and cannot be members of FIT member associations

The launch of this ID card supports and further strengthens the publication of the Conflict Zone Field Guide for Civilian Translators/Interpreters and Users of Their Services, published in 2013 and other ongoing projects on which FIT partners Red T, a non-profit advocacy for translators and interpreters in high-risk settings, and three other major international language associations – the International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC), the International Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters (IAPTI, an observer member of FIT), and Critical Link International.

Together, we can make a difference to the lives of conflict-zone interpreters and enhance the visibility of our profession and awareness of good professional practices.



Estonian Army, Captain Georgi Kokoshinski

Translator • Interpreter • Terminologist • Conflict Zone Linguist



International Translator's Card

Carte de Traducteur

Card Number: 1-001-001 *Valid until: September 2018*

Liu **Henry**

Family Name / Nom *Given names / Prénoms*

New Zealand

Country · Territory · Area / Pays · Territoire · Région

1 January 2000 **M**

Date of birth / Date de naissance *Gender / Sexe*

English, Chinese

Working Languages / Langues de travail

NZSTI

Member of · Accredited by / Membre de · Accrédité par

Translator / Interpreter





FIT President meeting with Afghan interpreters (Asadullah Rezaie, left; Askar Habibi, right) now settled in New Zealand (Photo Credit: Sarah Wilson, NZSTI)

International Translation Day Poster Competition

Closing date for submitting a poster for ITD 2016 is **29 February 2016**.

The theme for ITD 2016 is **Translation and Interpreting: Connecting Worlds**.

WHAT:

In 2012, the International Federation of Translators introduced a poster competition to promote International Translation Day (ITD), which is celebrated annually on the 30th of September. Each year member associations and other interested persons around the world will be encouraged to submit posters that promote ITD.

WHY:

FIT's mission is to promote and be the voice of interpreters, translators and terminologists. This competition is one means of accomplishing our mission. The winning poster will be made freely available via the website and member associations and others can then print it out and use it for their ITD events. The copyright will belong to FIT.

WHO:

Any individual or organisation – whether they are related to a FIT member or not – may participate in the competition. Individual members of any FIT member

association or institution may submit a poster through their association or directly, and member associations or institutions may also commission an artist or an individual member with other special talents to produce an entry on their behalf.

WHEN:

Submissions must be received by February 29, 2016. The submissions will relate to ITD in the current year (in this case, 2016). Entries must be submitted to the FIT Secretariat (secretariat@fit-ift.org).

The FIT Council will vote on the best submission. The winners will be notified directly and the result published no later than May 1, 2016. (NOTE: Council members will excuse themselves from the vote if their association or a member from their association submits a poster.)

SPECIFICATIONS for the poster:

- The design must be related to the ITD theme for the year in question.
- The ITD theme for the year in question must be included, either in English and French, or with the option of combining one of the FIT official languages with a local language(s).
- The FIT logo and, if appropriate, the logo of the member association or in-

stitution, as well as a copyright indication must be included. The FIT logo to be used for the poster can be downloaded here.

- The poster must be submitted as a high-resolution pdf file that can be published online or printed, as well as in jpg format at 300 dpi and 100 dpi. The dimensions must be suitable for printing in A2 or A3 format.
- The poster must be localisable, i.e. it must either include no text that requires translation or must have all fonts embedded in the file so that the text can be changed as required. This is so that associations can produce the poster with a local language, if desired.
- Designs must accommodate two languages.
- Designs from preceding years can be found online at www.fit-ift.org.

PRIZE:

Poster competition winners will receive the FIT ITD Prize, which will be a certificate and/or plaque, and where appropriate, will have their association logo together with the FIT logo on the poster. Winners will be listed in the ITD section of the FIT website.

Jeannette Ørsted, secretariat@fit-ift.org

Working with WASLI

FIT and WASLI sign Memorandum of Understanding

Sign Language has long been recognized in FIT, through those FIT member associations who have active sign language interpreting constituencies or actively collaborate with their local, national, regional professional sign language interpreters.

2015 marks the beginning of a global approach to collaboration between professional sign language interpreters, translators and terminologists and spoken language interpreters, translators and terminologists as FIT President Henry Liu was invited to participate in the 4th WASLI Congress in Istanbul.

Founded in 2005, WASLI brings together national associations of sign language



interpreters and now has members around the world.

During this Congress held at the confluence of the Bosphorus and the Sea of Marmara, President Liu held talks with the WASLI President Prof Debra Russell and her Executive, identifying areas of common interests and projects for collaboration. The FIT President also met with the President of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), Colin Allen.

Demonstrating the commitment of the two International Organisations to work together, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the World Association of Sign Language



WASLI President Prof Debra Russell and FIT President Dr Henry Liu signed the Memorandum of Understanding

Interpreters (WASLI) and FIT, to the applause of the entire Congress.

This marks an important step as FIT continues to reach out and connect with other International Organisations who share common interests. The Memorandum of Understanding with our Sign Language Interpreting colleagues further affirms our mission as the united voice of professional associations of Translators, Interpreters and Terminologists around the world. It is hoped that this MoU will stimulate new and ongoing collaboration between professional associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists with our sign language counterparts at local, national and regional levels.

FIT President in Moscow Celebrating History, Collaborating for the Future

As a guest of Professors Nikolai Garbovskiy and Olga Kostikova of Russia's prestigious Lomonosov Moscow State University (MGU), President Dr Henry Liu attended the School of Translation and Interpretation's 10th anniversary celebrations.

The visit was followed by the General Assembly of our strategic partner *Conférence Internationale Permanente d'Instituts Universitaires de Traducteurs et Interprètes* (CIUTI).

Reaffirming a commitment to collaboration in the spirit of our Memorandum of Understanding, FIT President congratulated the new CIUTI President-elect Prof Maurizio Viezzi of Università di Trieste and his Council.



MSU 10th anniversary gala celebration

During the 5-day official visit, the President met with:

- Rector Professor Victor Sadovnichy of Moscow State University
- Rector Professor Irina Khaleeva of Moscow State Linguistics University confirming MSLU's return to the FIT family
- Students and faculties of both universities at a "Meet the President" Forum and toured the facilities
- All delegates of the CIUTI General Assembly including many associate members of FIT
- Leonid Gurevich, President of Union of Translators of Russia (UTR) who interviewed him for a delayed broadcast

At the official launch of "A Translator's Moscow" held at the ornate Oval Hall of the All-State Library for Foreign Literature, Dr Liu also launched the FIT Prize for Translation of Russian Literature in collaboration with all of our Russian members in celebration of the 2015 Year of Literature in Russia.



Meeting with MSLU Rector Prof Khaleeva



The CIUTI annual general meeting

FIT Takes On Leadership Role in Evaluating Translation Quality

As promised in the May issue of *Translatio*, here is an update concerning the collaboration between FIT and DFKI (a German research institution). It is now time for FIT to collect feedback on DFKI's translation quality evaluation framework. Does it really support evaluation of both human and machine translation? Can it be used to provide hard evidence for what professional translators know, namely, that machine translation is not suitable for docu-

ments designed to reflect an organisation's image? This is an opportunity for translators to assume a power position in the debate on machine translation. Instead of being expected to accept the claims from developers about the quality of raw machine translation output, translators will be telling these developers how good or



**German
Research Centre
for Artificial
Intelligence**

bad their output is and why. Watch for an announcement on the FIT website about a webpage that will both provide information about the DFKI translation quality framework and allow translators to post comments.

COUNCIL NEWS

Playing an active role in the FIT Council does not prevent our members having a private life. Two Council members, Eva Malkeki and Ismayil Jabrayilov, were married this summer. All our best wishes for a long and happy marriage go to the newlyweds!



What happened this summer?

Summer is the holiday season, at least in the Northern Hemisphere, and so it was for most of you and most of the Council members. But how many translators and interpreters do you know who are on holiday all summer long without opening their computers?

So there was no such relief for the Council. Summer or not, they had to deal with many issues: the request for membership

from the Albanian association to be approved; FIT support for the ASLING Congress and the SSPOL conference; themes for the next World Translation Day; a financial agreement with AUSIT for the organisation of the Brisbane Congress; participation methods for member discussion groups; and most importantly, setting up the fifteen new task forces and committees, including finalising the

guidelines concerning them. This all demanded much effort in communication and numerous votes. From 25 June to 12 September, more than 400 messages were exchanged within the Council Discussion Group, and 18 subjects were voted on. The present edition of *Translatio* reflects the results of all this.

Sabine Colombe
secretarygeneral@fit-ift.org

BDÜ celebrates its 60th anniversary

At an inaugural meeting which took place on 30th September and 1st October 1955, the German Interpreters' Association (*Deutscher Dolmetscherbund* – "DDB") merged with three regional professional associations to form the German Association of Interpreters and Translators (*Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer* – "BDÜ"). From the start, an active participation in legislation relevant to the professions, providing information about them, and public relations work were key items on BDÜ's agenda. A detailed description of the association's milestones is provided in this year's Jubilee issue of the MDÜ, the renowned trade journal for interpreters and translators.

Until the 1990s, BDÜ representatives served as FIT Vice-Presidents and Council members, and Dr Julius Wünsche even served as FIT President from 1959 to 1963. Today, the BDÜ has close to 8,000 individual members organised in 13 member associations comprising 12 regional associations, plus the Association of Con-

ference Interpreters (VKD). BDÜ Weiterbildungs- und Fachverlagsgesellschaft mbH – the BDÜ's publishing house – produces specialist and reference books, and organises seminars and conferences for the T&I industry.

Membership is governed by strict admission criteria: only practitioners who have provided evidence of their professional qualifications qualify as members. BDÜ membership is thus regarded as a seal of quality.

Membership numbers have risen by more than 50% over the past ten years.

Besides two BDÜ Conferences (in 2009 and 2012), the recent FIT Congress (2014) and the "*Gerichtsdolmetschertag*", a specialist event for legal translators and interpreters, membership growth has also been driven by a more professional approach to public and press relations, for which BDÜ has retained an external advisor. This has resulted in an enhanced public profile for the association. Moreover, BDÜ offers an extensive continuous professional development

programme that comprises more than 200 training events each year, as well as the option for members to be included in the online search function on the BDÜ website. New entrants are supported through low-cost student membership, along with special advice on how to start a business and the opportunity to network, both at a regional level and via "*MeinBDÜ*", the association's online platform for members.

Representing members' professional interests vis-à-vis politicians and other stakeholders at both Federal and State levels is another key element of BDÜ's work. At present, the focus of BDÜ's activities in this respect is on interpreting in the healthcare sector.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my very special thanks to all the volunteers who have made a significant contribution over recent years, both for BDÜ at a federal level and its member associations.

Dörte Stielow, Executive Secretary
Stielow@bdue.de

FIT Prize for Translation of Russian Literature Celebrate Year of Literature

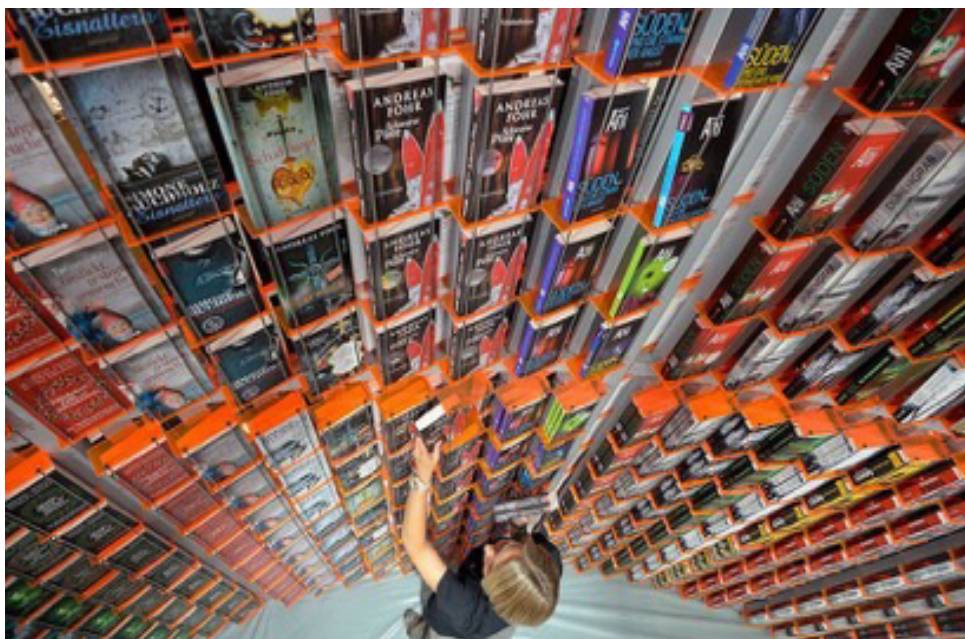
The toughest hurdle for a budding literary translator is visibility. The same holds true for writers.

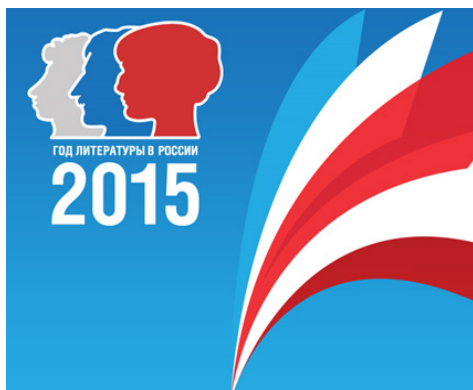
In celebration of the 2015 Year of Literature in Russia, FIT presents the 2015 FIT Translation of Russian Literature Competition and Prize to help young translators jump this hurdle.

In collaboration with FIT member and associate members in Russia

1. Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU)
2. Union of Translators of Russia (UTR)
3. Moscow State Linguistic University

FIT President Dr Henry Liu launched the Competition at a ceremony in the M.I.Rudomino All-Russia State Library for Foreign Literature on 29 May.





10 works of different genres from contemporary Russian authors not previously translated and therefore unknown to non-Russian speaking readership are to be selected by a 5-member jury composed of local and international experts of Russian literature.

Selected passages of up to 5000 words will be posted on a dedicated website and made available to contestants. Rights will be secured for the extracts.

Contestants must be members or student members of a FIT member, or someone studying at FIT associate member institutions.

Translation of the extracts can be into any official language.

The translated extracts are to be posted on a dedicated blog with a short description of issues faced by the contestant (no more than 1000 words).

All translations will be assessed by a 5-member jury panel nominated by competition partners.

Should the languages involved be beyond the scope of the jury, consult external advisor(s) must be consulted.

Online voting will be opened to the general public.

Winners will be selected based on a 50-50 combined score from the professional jury and online public voting.

A ceremony will be held in Russia in December 2015 announcing the winners.

Key dates:

15 July

Announcement of the 10 original Russian contemporary works of literature and the selected extracts

15 July

Announcement of the Members of the Jury

1 August

Posting of translation & online voting begins

31 October

Closing date

December

Announcement of winner and presentation of FIT Prize for Translation of Russian Literature

APTIC Supports Barcelona for UNESCO's City of Literature

APTIC, the Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters of Catalonia, was founded in 2009 and includes 650 language professionals. It is the leading association for translators and interpreters in the area where the Catalan language is spoken and has been a member of FIT since 2013.

As well as the 50+ activities, courses and talks it organises every year with more than 8,000 participants in 2014, APTIC runs a series of activities connected with the publishing world in Catalonia. Every year, it celebrates the Sant Jordi (Saint George's Day) literary festival on 23 April, coinciding with International Book Day. It also organises various talks during Catalan Book Week, is present at the Món Llibre Literary Festival and celebrates International Translation Day. APTIC is also paving the way for future initiatives, such as a literary translation competition with secondary schools and a campaign



Marta Morros, Xavier Trias, Ferran Mascarell. Official photo



Image of APTIC's Saint George's Day poster for 2013. "How many translators have you been to bed with?", design by Ada Arbós and Ariadna Goberna.

in the Barcelona library network to raise awareness of the literary translator as a figure.

This year, APTIC has worked alongside the council to promote Barcelona's candidature for UNESCO's Creative Cities Network. For example, it has helped to draw up the dossier for this candidature. The President of APTIC, Marta Morros, also worked on the official presentation of the dossier in the historic Barcelona City Hall with political authorities such as the Mayor, Xavier Trias, the Catalan Culture Minister, Ferran Mascarell, and representatives of authors writing in Catalan, the guild of publishers and the Catalan guild of booksellers.

On 2 June, APTIC and the council promoting the candidature had the opportunity to present it to the President of FIT, Henry Liu, when he visited the association's headquarters in Barcelona together with the president of the Spanish general association of translators, ASETRAD. This visit led to various meetings which, among other issues, served to identify possible areas where the association could work with the Federation.

APTIC's relationship with literature is a long-standing one, producing all kinds of results, such as the campaign and poster for Sant Jordi (Saint George's Day) 2013, "Amb quants traductors te n'has anat al llit?" (How many translators have you been to bed with?), which was a great success. APTIC is confident that Barcelona will win the UNESCO candidature, which will open the door to organising many more activities and campaigns related to literary translation.

<http://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/ciutatdelaliteratura/ca/el-sector-del-llibre-es-reuneix-donar-suport-la-candidatura>

Lluís Cavallé, comunicacio@aptic.cat
Translation: Simon Berrill

CONALTI: 35 years as a standard-bearer for Venezuelan translators and interpreters

Caracas, July 18, 2015. This month marks the 35th anniversary of the foundation of CONALTI (Colegio Nacional de Licenciados en Traducción e Interpretación).

On this occasion, we would like to thank all those who, in one way or another, have helped to make CONALTI a benchmark in the community of translators and interpreters in Venezuela and to continue to uphold our organization for more than three decades.

Established on July 29, 1980 by a group of recent graduates of the School of Modern Languages at Universidad Central de Venezuela, the association has

broadened its scope in recent years and welcomed graduates from other universities, both national and foreign, as well as professionals with long and renowned professional careers.

The new generation that now heads the association has continued to tackle the many ever-necessary activities, and invites all our colleagues to join them in working for our profession and our country with unchanged commitment.



A.C. Colegio Nacional
de Licenciados en Traducción
e Interpretación

Our Mission:

To uphold the professional practice of translation and interpretation and the proper use of language; to contribute to the professional development of our members and foster the advancement of translation and interpretation as professional activities.

Our Vision:

To provide a platform for translators and interpreters to share ideas and experiences while building awareness among individuals of the importance of the work done by these professionals and their role in society.

Isabel Sacco, President A.C. Conalti
presidencia@conalti.org

FIT Council Meeting Raises Awareness

Early this year, on March 29-30, 2015, Azerbaijan Youth Translators Association (AGTA) hosted the annual meeting of the Council of the International Federation of Translators. It was the first international event hosted by AGTA since its establishment in 2011. As the first ever translators' association founded in Azerbaijan, AGTA has always aimed to expand and bring together most of the translators operating in Azerbaijan with a view to representing and protecting the rights and interests of translators and raising esteem for the value of translation in the public eye.

With support from the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan, AGTA made all necessary arrangements for the 2-day FIT Council Meeting that was followed by a cultural evening for the Council members where various cultural traditions of the Azerbaijani people were demonstrated. Following the Council meeting, the FIT Executive Committee, accompanied by AGTA Chairman Ismayil Jabrayilov, held meetings with the Translation Center under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijan Languages University and the Baku Slavic University.

The FIT Council meeting drew widespread attention from local media outlets. In parallel, all these developments had a positive impact on AGTA's profile in the country. A few weeks after the Council meeting, the state television channel (AzTV) visited AGTA's office and broadcast a video report on the organisation and its work. AGTA also signed memoranda of cooperation with the two leading universities of Azerbaijan offering translation courses mentioned above.

Ismayil Jabrayilov, AGTA President
ism.jab@gmail.com

3rd International Conference

Translation from/into Languages of Limited Diffusion

The Slovak Society of Translators of Scientific and Technical Literature is pleased to invite you to this conference, held on 27 – 28 November 2015 in Bratislava, Slovakia.

The conference, held in the year of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Ludovit Stur, an outstanding Slovak linguist and politician, offers a unique opportunity for presenting the Slovak language and culture shortly before the upcoming Presidency of the Council of the European Union which the Slovak Republic is to hold during the second half of 2016.

The conference will be aimed at analysing the current situation of communication in the global space dominated mainly by English and other major languages. Nevertheless, national languages have to be further developed as well, with the aim to preserve the future existence of communities with languages of limited diffusion and their cultural values.

The conference will address the following topics:

- Language diversity as a socio-cultural challenge;

- The “minor” languages as source / target languages of translations;
- Strategies for minor language application;
- English as a lingua franca vs “medium” and “minor” European languages;
- Terminological problems: Unification vs Creation of terms in minor languages.

SSPOL website: www.sspol.sk

Registration e-mail:
conference.sspol@gmail.com

Behind the Scenes: Translation and Interpreting in Tomorrow's Asia-Pacific Region

Call for Papers for the Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum, June 17-18, 2016 – Xi'an, China

The twenty-first century has seen increasing communication and collaboration among countries in the Asia-Pacific region, making it a new engine of economic growth in today's world. The Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum seeks to highlight the important roles played by translators, interpreters, and other language professionals in regional growth and to promote the sustainable development of the translation/interpreting industry

in the information age. Co-hosted by the International Federation of Translators (FIT) and the Translators Association of China (TAC), this forum is organized by Xi'an International Studies University (XISU), and will take place on June 17-18, 2016 in Xi'an, China.

Formerly known as the Asian Translators Forum, it was officially changed into the “Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF)” by FIT Council resolution at the initiative of the TAC in March 2015. While focusing primarily on the development of translation and interpreting in the Asia-Pacific region, the forum wel-

comes attendees from other parts of the world to share ideas on issues of general concern to our profession. The forum will be honored by the presence of the FIT Executive Council.

Whether or not you have attended the previous forums in Beijing (1995), Seoul (1998), Hong Kong (2001), Beijing (2004), Bogor (2007), Macau (2010) or Penang (2013), this forum will prove to be an excellent opportunity to share, to learn and to build new connections within the translation and interpreting community in addition to visiting the fascinating city of Xi'an, a city loaded with history!

Working Languages: Chinese and English.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided for keynote speeches.

Theme and Topics

The theme of the forum is "Behind the Scenes: Translation and Interpreting in Tomorrow's Asia-Pacific Region". The forum aims to address mainly, but not exclusively, the following issues:

1. Language Services in the Asia-Pacific Region

- Language services in Asia-Pacific regional organizations
- Going global or staying local: The development of professional communication throughout the Asia-Pacific region
- The Land and Maritime Silk Road Initiative and new opportunities for language services
- Globalization and language services

2. Professional Training and Evaluation of Translators and Interpreters

- Program development and professional education in translation and interpreting
- Training of trainers for translation and interpreting
- Training in languages of limited diffusion
- Evaluation and accreditation of translators and interpreters

- Industry-university cooperation: Models and effects

3. New Technologies and the Future of the Language Industry

- Innovations in T&I education in the information age
- Applications of cloud computing and Big Data in the language service industry
- CAT, MT, and Big Data
- Applications of the corpus in translation/interpreting teaching
- Standards and specifications for language services

4. Translation Research and Practice

- Translation and knowledge transfer
- Translation of tourism texts and city images
- Translating into B languages: A dilemma for languages of limited diffusion
- Teaching methodologies and professional development for interpreters

Practical Information and Deadlines to Remember:

- Abstract submission deadline is October 30, 2015. Abstracts should be 300 words or less, written in English or Chinese.
- Letters of acceptance will be sent on December 1, 2015 via email, together with detailed instructions on the submission of full papers.

- Registration deadline for presenters is March 30, 2016. Failure to do so will be considered as a withdrawal from presentation at the forum.

- Full paper submission deadline for accepted papers is April 30, 2016. Presented papers have a chance to be selected for publication in Babel (the journal of FIT) and Chinese Translators' Journal (the journal of TAC), as well as a scholarly publication of selected papers from this forum.

- Papers should be the original work of the author and not have been published previously.

- Abstracts and full papers can be submitted online via the official website of the forum (www.8aptif.org) or via email (aptif2016@yahoo.com).

Forum registration will be open from September 30, 2015. Please visit the official website of the forum (www.8aptif.org) for updates.

Contact Us:

For submission of proposals: aptif2016@yahoo.com

Official website of the forum: www.8aptif.org (to be launched in Sept. 2015)

Official website of the TAC: www.tac-online.org.cn

Committee of the Eighth Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum



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Copy editors: Sabine Colombe, Catherine Hodot, Jane Rollet, Marion Dislaire, Françoise Fourault-Sicars, Carolyn Nafziger

Translation: Yves Drolet, Diane Walton, Max de Montaigne, Alanna Wilson-Duff

Art director: Jaroslav Soltys

Contact : secretariat@fit-ift.org

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Registered office : c/o Regus, 57 rue d'Amsterdam, 75008 Paris, France

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