THE NEW TERMINOLOGIST
AN ALL-ROUND TALENT

Application Scenario for the European Parliament

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CONTENT OVERVIEW

1. organisation of terminology work in the EP

2. interinstitutional cooperation on terminology

3. skills of terminologists in the new translation environment

"Terminology"

the **only error category** present in all systems for translation quality assessment
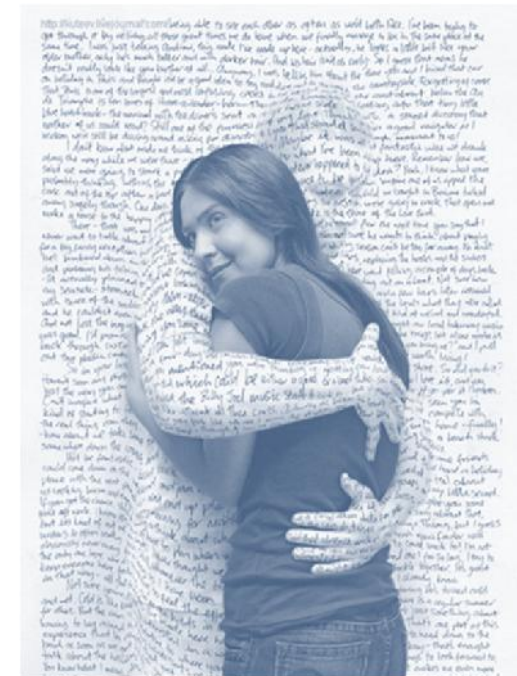
The Terminology Framework

- Responsibilities of LUs and TermCoord

- Profile for terminologists

- Compulsory and recommended training

- Basic organisational aspects

NEW: *Guidelines for Terminology Management in the Language Units*

OUR PARTNERS IN THE LANGUAGE UNITS

Translators

- organised in ' thematic groups:
    - ECON, EMPL, ITRE...
    - AGRI, CULT, TRAN, JURI...
    - BUDG, AFET, DEVE...

- Coordinators for legislative files

- **Terminologists**

- other

Success at work

OUR PARTNERS IN THE LANGUAGE UNITS

- "Part-time" terminologists – translators doing terminology work on the side

- Minimum two terminologists per unit

- Terminology Network – the network of around 100 terminologists of all the language units (meetings twice a year)

- Rotating terminologists – language unit terminologists who spend 3 months in TermCoord

CENTRAL PROJECTS

EP Rules of Procedure

Terms selected by translators with "TermSafe"

Terminology of EP Administrative tools
(Streamline e.a.)

CODICT
(internal database in EP)

TermFolders
(proactive terminology)

Terms collected in thematic groups or terms of unit-internal projects

Trainees' projects
Finance, Disability, Human Rights, Trade and External Policy, IT and Social Media, Neologisms

IATE Cleaning projects

University projects

COOPERATION AND COMMUNICATION - TERMCOORD

Within DGTRAD

- terminologists and central coordination
- other services (e.g. quality, IT, File Coordinators, CLS)

With other relevant DGs in the EP

- lawyer-linguists
- interpreters
- parliamentary committees

With other EU institutions

- language communities
- terminology coordination services

With external contacts

- national language institutes, terminology bodies
- national policy experts
- academia
- terminology networks

On Unit level

- within the terminology group and with central coordination
- unit's quality coordinator
- national experts
- national language institutes

On terminology forum

- comments and discussions on current termjobs
- exchange information with other terminologists of theDGTrad

On EurTerm and Language wikis

- terminologists of the other institutions
- lawyer linguists
- national experts
- shared resources and training material

Training, workshops, seminars

One-day basic IATE and terminology training for translators

One-day advanced IATE and terminology training for terminologists

ECQA Certified Terminology Manager training

Workshops on specific IATE and terminology issues

Seminars on terminology related topics

Introduction to IATE and terminology for all new trainees

Individual training on request

Presentation of terminology and documentation tools and resources for translation units

Learning visits for colleagues of other units

IATE and terminology training in other institutions on request

termcoord.eu

Why?

- translation needs
- change of tools
- changes in the nature of translation as a profession

TerminOrgs (Terminology for large organisations): "A terminology professional in a large organization can have various roles such as terminology project manager, terminologist, computational linguist, translator or localization expert."

"Because terminology work requires skills and daily tasks in the four broad competency areas (linguistics, IT, communication, management) the person chosen to be a terminology professional would ideally have strengths and skills in as many of these areas as possible."

REVIEW OF TERMINOLOGIST SKILLS

- The challenges are huge, and underestimated

- Awareness of terminological working methods more important than ever, for drafters, translators, lawyer-linguists and managers

- Cooperation and collaboration between the different actors more important than ever

- Research needed on the impact of tools, the 'trade mark argument' (''Leave it in English consider it as a trade mark) and on end user perceptions

1. Terminology and language skills

- advanced knowledge in terminology theory and practice

- competence in linguistics and field-specific languages

- competence of management of databases and glossaries research skills, ability to analyse and identify reliable sources with a certain rapidity and accuracy, filtering, prioritising etc.

- ability to collate and/or create terminological resources for specific purposes or target groups

- competence in standardisation

- prescriptive vs. descriptive terminology work

2. Technical skills

- Tools expertise, including the ability to evaluate relevant software, such as:

  - terminology management systems (TMS);

  - computer assisted translation (CAT);

  - TMS interfaces to other applications;

  - Term extraction tools, and related tools such as concordance; software;

- Proficiency in the use, creation and management of terminology databases;

- Competence in information theory and knowledge management (ontologies, data fields and structure, big data, semantic web etc.).

3. Communication and coordination skills

- competence in project management

- ability for teamwork and networking

- Argumentation / negotiation skills

- Flexibility – colleagues, working place, working times etc.

- competence in using media technologies

- competences related to netiquette, confidentiality, data safety

- ability to liaise with experts

- Knowledge and teaching skills (terminology training for different target groups)

THE SKILLS

4. Education and professional experience

- Advanced university degree (or professional training) in the field of languages, terminology, language technology or translation **or**

- specialised terminology training (certification / courses) **or**

- a proven ability to perform the tasks required by the position

Professional experience (optional):

at least two years' professional experience in a relevant field (preferably in the field of terminology, language technology or translation), including practical experience of translation-oriented terminology work preferably with terminology management

CONCLUSION

Food for thought:

Is it not the time to create a common job profile for the European Institutions?

One that could be related to specific competitions for terminologists to cover HR needs in the central terminology coordination departments and for full-time terminologists on language level.