LIT Search (JUST/2011/JPEN/AG/2975)

Final Conference
Organised by
KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts – Campus Sint-Andries Antwerpen, Belgium (Coordinator)
European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association (EULITA), Belgium
Association of Interpreters and Translators (AIT), Bulgaria
Association of Police and Court Interpreters (APCI), United Kingdom
Asociación Profesional de Traductores e Intérpretes Judiciales y Jurados (APTIJ), Spain
Bundesministerium für Justiz/Federal Ministry of Justice (BMJ), Austria
InterConnect A/S, Denmark
Komora soudních tlumocníků Ceské republiky/Chamber of Court-Appointed Interpreters of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic
Ministry of Justice of Bulgaria, Bulgaria
Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic
Nederlandse Beroepsvereniging Tolken Gebarentaal/Dutch Association of Sign Language Interpreters (NBTG), Netherlands
National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI), United Kingdom
Österreichischer Verband der allgemein beeideten und gerichtlich zertifizierten Dolmetscher (ÖVGD), Austria
Polskie Towarzystwo Tłumaczy Przysięgłych I Specjalistycznych/Polish Society of Sworn and Specialized Translators (TEPIS), Poland
Raad voor Rechtsbijstand, Bureau Wbtv/Bureau Legal Aid Board, Sworn Interpreters and Translators (Wbtv), Netherlands

In co-operation with
Union Nationale des Experts Traducteurs Interprètes près les Cours d'Appel (UNETICA), France
Dirección General de Relaciones con la Administración de Justicia, Spain

The LIT Search consortium is holding its final conference on 9 and 10 November 2015
Venue: KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts – Campus Antwerpen, Sint Andriesstraat 2, 2000 Antwerp

The LIT Search Final Conference is the final activity of the LIT Search project.

With financial support from the Criminal Justice Programme of the European Commission Directorate General Justice
Under the Stockholm Programme 2009 to 2013, which was adopted by the European Council and which is a roadmap for procedural safeguards in EU member states, a database of legal interpreters and translators is to be set up on the e-Justice portal. The “LIT Search” project is a pilot project to explore the modalities and practical features of such a database and eventually link up the countries participating in the pilot project.

Several countries have official registers based on admission examinations (for example Austria, Czech Republic, or Poland). The ministries of justice of these countries were invited to join the project as co-beneficiaries, as they have gathered experience in setting up and managing LIT registers. The professional associations in these countries were also invited to join the project as co-beneficiaries, as they can contribute their experience with the day-to-day operation of the official registers as well as with their own membership lists, and provide ideas about how to further develop the national registers and the EU database “LIT Search”. The independent National Register of Public Service Interpreters, United Kingdom, has also accepted to join the project as a co-beneficiary.

Other countries have less developed registers (if, for example, the registers have not been updated for some time) or regional or specific registers (Bulgaria and Spain, for example) and want to benefit from the opportunity of the pilot project to re-launch or launch national registers so that they will eventually be in compliance with Article 6 of EU Directive 2010/64.

The Dutch register of sign-language interpreters is a special contributor to the pilot project, as this is the first time that sign-language interpreters will be included in a database for legal interpreters and translators. This move is intended as a response to Article 2 (3) of EU Directive 2010/64.

In the course of the pilot project several research sub-projects (= workstreams) such as, for example, a survey on current admission criteria to registers of legal interpreters and translators in EU member states, as well as admission procedures, register management, etc. are being conducted. In particular, the consortium partners describe their respective national systems governing legal interpreting and translation. The outcome of the research and the input from the presentations held at the project’s progress meetings will serve to further develop a model template to assist other countries that may want to link up to the “LIT Search” database at a later stage.

The final conference of the LIT Search project has been scheduled for 9 and 10 November 2015. It will be hosted by the project coordinator, KU Leuven, in Antwerp. On that occasion the pilot database will be demonstrated.

For further information about the project please contact Liese Katschinka (info@eulita.eu) and Veerle Verschakelen (veerle.verschakelen@kuleuven.be).