**MINUTES ENPSIT AGM 26 June 2018, Brussels**

1. **Welcome by president**
2. **REMINDER: GENERAL OBJECTIVES and POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**
   1. Acknowledge public service interpreting and translating as necessary instruments within a European integration policy that incorporates diversity and equal opportunities.
   2. Guarantee one’s right to high quality language support in service provision in a governmental or social context.
   3. Introduce European quality standards for public service interpreting and translation.
   4. Acknowledge and finance public service interpreting and translation services.
   5. Provide support for consultation and partnership structures for public service interpretering and translation, such as ENPSIT.

These objectives are further developed in ENPSIT’s Action Plan 2014-2022: <http://www.enpsit.org/uploads/1/1/3/8/113822115/enpsit_action_plan_2014-2022.pdf>.

1. **NEW:** 
   1. **NEW WEBSITE**: The existing webpage [www.enpsit.eu](http://www.enpsit.eu) – linked the member organisation Agentschap Integratie en Inburgering – will in the course of 2018 be replaced by our own webite [**www.enpsit.org**](http://www.enpsit.org). The website structure is already online. **Now, all of the content will gradually be integrated.**
   2. « **ENPSIT IN DIALOG** »:

ENPSIT has purchased the **InDialog Conference** from its previous owner, the German Professional Conference Organiser company ICWE. Henceforth, ENPSIT will have its own pluriannual (every 2 or 3 years) conference that will be organised **in collaboration with ENPSIT member universities**. The ENPSIT IN DIALOG conference will be **a travelling event**.

The first edition (in fact, the 3rd InDialog edition) will be in Antwerp on 20 and 21 November 2019, in Antwerp-Belgium, organised by ENPSIT member KU Leuven/Antwerp and UAntwerpen.

What did we buy?

* Name, patents, design patents, trademarks, internet domain,
* All relevant documents (past track records, ‘books’, …
* Database (e.g. with all contacts, participants)

**Decision: InDialog will be held every 3 years and is to be a travelling conference throughout the EU EEA each to be organized by ENPSIT members.**

* 1. European Commission (SCIC/DGI) **KNOWLEDGE CENTER FOR INTERPRETING** (KCI): consists of a platform which is meant to be, on the one hand, a space containing information about (conference) interpreting and, on the other hand, a tool allowing for participation and collaboration of anyone interested in matter.

Particularly interesting for ENPSIT is the fact that PSI has been included under the section *Other types of interpreting* inside the Knowledge space. So, for the first time the European Commission’s conference interpreting service, acknowledges PSI by including it in th.e KCI. Apart from this, ENPSIT was explicitly mentioned as a key partner in this project.

**Decision: ENPSIT will fully and actively collaborate with KCI in the interest of PSI.**

* 1. **CALL ‘CIVIL RIGHTS AND PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S MULTILINGUAL EUROPE**: In its quest to fulfil its second general objective (and political recommendation) - **Guarantee one’s right to high quality language support in service provision in a governmental or social context** –, ENPSIT has developed a number of concrete actions :
* Guest edit *FITISPos International Journal Special Issue, Vol 6 (2019)* on Civil rights and Participating in today’s multilingual Europe.
* Another ENPSIT driven Call : Call for proposals for a conference panel on Migration, Multilingualism and Language Rights (16th ISSE Conference).
* Collaboration with the European Language Council in the SIGLAR group (Special Interest Group on Language and Rights). The European Commission (SCIC/DGI and DGT have delegates that participate). The Group organises a conference in Warsaw on 20 and 21 September 2018.

**The objective is to raise awareness.**

1. **Approval of agenda: the agenda is approved.**
2. **Approval of minutes GA 7 March, 2017 (=> in attachment)**

**The minutes are approved.**

1. **President’s report**
   1. **Organisational information**

* **Vacancy : ENPSIT Secretary** => The members are called ond to present themselves for the function – now or at a later date. **There was no show of interest.**
* Resignation board member : Maria Rosaria Buri is formalised and finalised.
* Invitation to members to join board and/or Committees.
* **AGM 2020 : Elections president and board.**
  1. **Committees**and committee related work:
     1. **Training and Accreditation Committee** (Aline Remael, Heidi Salaets, Ulrike Fuehrer)
* Two « rooms » : T&A PSI and T&A PST
* Product: compentencies PSI Competences of a generic nature, to be adapted to regional interpreting contexts, traditions and legislations.

**Knowledge, skills and attitudes.**

**The PSI Competences document is approved by the AGM.** **(=> in attachment)**

* T&A Committee work **continuation (1): ENPSIT IN DIALOG**:

ENPSIT is happy to announce it is organizing the third InDialog conference to be held in Antwerp on 21-22 November 2019.

InDialog 3 will be hosted by the University of Antwerp and KU Leuven Campus Antwerp.

Theme: The influence of **contex**t on interpreter practice, research and training.

“Context” is to be understood in a broad sense. It does not only refer to the contexts of Dialogue Interpreting that may be too lightly perceived to be the “usual” ones, such as institutional health care, legal interpreting and the diverse contexts of Public Service Interpreting more generally. It also aims to discuss more “unusual” contexts such as conflict situations, refugee camps, or various ad hoc interpreting situations, as well as the way in which “unusual” circumstances may impact the so-called “usual” working contexts and conditions in today’s globalized society.

* T&A Committee work **continuation (2): DEVELOPING GUIDELINES**

Developing evidence-based guidelines on interpreter training and accreditation through a project, so that A set of guidelines could serve as a solid basis for the development of harmonized set of PSIT training programmes, by means of trans-/interdisciplinary work (e.g. educationalists, interpreter trainers, researchers, practitioners and stakeholders).

**Decision : this concept is further developed into a project proposal. Note : only if members are committed to join this subcommittee, the committee will be installed.**

* + 1. **Research and Data Collection Committee** (Hildegard Vermeiren, Raquel Lázaro Guttiérrez, Sofie Van de Geuchte)
* Product **ENPSIT Repository** Content Structure (skeleton and keywords).

**(=> in attachment)**

* PSI in SCIC **Knowledge Centre on Interpretation)** (KCI)

It is built on two main pillars which were described as a ‘static part’ and a ‘dynamic part’. Simply put, the static part is a repository that will host information about legislation, research, and training and practical materials amongst other topics. The dynamic part is an open space in which, after logging in, users can create communities, contribute with own contents, and get in touch with other users.

The basic architecture of the platform includes six spaces: Knowledge, Innovation and Partners (inside the static part), and Collaborative spaces, Networking and News and events (inside the dynamic part

Particularly interesting for ENPSIT is the fact that PSI and Legal interpreting have been included under the section Other types of interpreting inside the Knowledge space. No other modes of interpreting have been included.

**ENPSIT aims to:**

* 1. ENPSIT remains closely involved in KCI.
  2. We propose a “repository” tree structure for PSI to SCIC as structure within KCI.
  3. We negotiate a final tree structure for the SCIC KCI.
  4. Depending on what the final tree structure is, we decide whether we still need our own or solely work with SCIC’s.
  5. We provide content that fits the tree structure

**Decision : AGM agrees with this line of action.**

* New **website**.
* **Technology in PSIT survey :**

ENPSIT, In collaboration with its members the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Universidad de Alcalá (UAH) action.

Target: Public/social/medical/legal services, public service interpreters and translators and institutions providing PSIT training.

link to the survey in Dutch, English, French and Spanish provided.

The aim of our study is to gain a deeper understanding of how technologies are used in the context of service provision, PSIT practices and training by focusing on the possibilities, challenges and concerns related to technology

Through the survey, we intend to collect and compare data on the use of these technologies and resources. These research results will be used in ENPSIT's quest to further the case of communication or language support in public/social/medical service provision.

**ENPSIT could more frequently support research ‘in collaboration’: in this case two ENPSIT member universities are in charge of the project. ENPSIT helps by distributing/spreading the news and by using the results in the context of policy. The AGM concurs.**

* + 1. **Strategy work**(Pascal Rillof and all) : Content + networking + visibility = policy

*Stimulating slow systems toward change by raising awareness.*

* **Red T Letter Campaign :**

Translators and interpreters have been increasingly subject to unjust persecution, prosecution, and imprisonment in countries across the world. To publicize and combat this critical state of affairs, Red T, together with the International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC) and the International Federation of Translators (FIT), launched the Open Letter Project in 2012. The objective of the OL Project is to advocate on behalf of these embattled linguists by researching representative cases as well as policies and sending letters of appeal to the appropriate authorities. This effort was joined in 2013 by the International Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters (IAPTI). In 2015, the coalition grew even stronger with the addition of Critical Link International, the International Council for the Development of Community Interpreting (CLI), and the World Association for Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI).

**ENSPIT is a ‘regional’ co-signatory.**

* **Webinar and/or video policy proposal :**

1. Members can send in a webinar/’tedtalk’ proposal on the basis of a call.
2. A committee of ENPSIT-members decides (on criteria (content and form) yet to be established) to allot a financial grant/contribution to member.
3. A set budget per year.
4. Execution to be supported by professional camera professional or film students.
5. Perhaps extend the idea : not only video but also articles on basis of call … ?

**Decision : Trategy Committee develops a policy proposal by the next AGM.**

* **Setting up a awareness-raising campaign on PSIT:**

1. Send letter (e-mail) to Members of the European Parliament (MEP’s)
2. To ask for support to PSIT
3. Start dialoque with them
4. And them to speak to/liase with Commissioners
5. Attach ENPSIT Political Recommendations (available in English, French, Dutch)
   * + <http://www.agii.be/sites/default/files/bestanden/documenten/recommendations_social_interpreting_and_translation_engl.pdf>
     + <http://www.agii.be/sites/default/files/bestanden/documenten/recommandations_tis_version_fr.pdf>
     + <http://www.agii.be/sites/default/files/bestanden/documenten/aanbevelingen_stv_nl.pdf>
6. Do this all of us to our national MEP’s or (outside EU) relevant national Members of Parliament
7. Do this in September 2018
8. Do this again after the May 2019 European elections

**Decision : AGM concurs. Best to launch this action after the 2019 EU elections and the inauguration of the EU Parliament and the new Commission.**

**Elements for draft model for letter/e-mail:**

Why go European with PSIT?

* + - Real life cases of what happens to real people when an interpreter is needed but absent.
    - PSIT training, certification and provision are vulnerable in times of austerity. In many European member states or regions there is no structural funding for PSIT service provision nor clear policy. Vulnerable precisely at a time when bridging the communication gap is more necessary than ever. Europeans are increasingly free to move to and work in other member states then their own. And they lack access to public and social service provision because they do not (yet) speak the language of their new home. Service providers working with immigrants with the right to settle in the EU, encounter language problems frequently.
    - PSIT is a transversal activity, appearing in public and social service settings as youth, education, health, social work, welfare, employment.
    - Health, education, civil protection are *supporting EU-competencies* and social policy and cohesion, public health matters, security and justice and the coordination of employment and social policies are *shared competencies* with the member states.
    - Vulnerable in times of austerity. In many European member states or regions there is no structural funding for PSIT service provision nor clear policy.
    - Almost 2/3 of member state legislation has its roots in EU-regulation.
    - EU has increasingly far stretching influence on *all* national policy via budget control.

Context and focus:

* + - Organize to influence EU policy. In many European (member) states or regions there is no structural funding for PSIT service provision nor clear policy. Stability is only possible through legislation/regulation and funding.
    - The network agrees on 5 **political recommendations** (see attachment for full text):
* recognize social translation and interpreting as necessary tools for a EU integration policy that stands for diversity and equal opportunities;
* guarantee the right to qualitative language assistance in a social context, including public service provision. This right must evolve from a right in principle to a legally enforceable right;
* implement a European quality standard for social translation and interpreting;
* recognize and fund social translation and interpreting services;
* support consultation and partnership structures at various levels: European, national, regional.

1. **Treasurer’s report** (attachment to invitation AGM)
2. **Appointment of an auditor:** Simon De Brouwer is appointed.
3. **Auditor’s report:** The books are in order.
4. **Discharge of the board:** The president and board are discharged.
5. **Budget** (attachment to invitation AGM): The budget is approved with the note that InDialog must receive a clear-cut budget as well.
6. **Any other business:** none.

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