

# ENPSIT NEWSLETTER

EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR PUBLIC SERVICE INTERPRETING & TRANSLATION

## Dear ENPSIT member and sympathiser

The past two years have taught us not to take anything for granted and to expect the unexpected. Yet, the new year comes with cautious signs of optimism for our societies to gradually turn off their sanitary crisis modes. We all hope that we will indeed be able to resume our lives as before, albeit somewhat wiser and perhaps somewhat keener on integrating more digital solutions into some of our professional activities.

At the same time, however, we will also come to realise that many of the problems we were faced with before the pandemic are still around and should be addressed, perhaps more than ever. As crises tend to hit the most vulnerable the hardest, the needs for PSIT are likely to remain persistently high in months and years to come. We are, therefore, very pleased to be able to contribute to EU-WEBPSI, an AMIF-funded project that could well turn out to be a gamechanger in PSIT thanks to its integration of PSI training, attention to languages of lesser diffusion, resource pooling across Europe, and a web-based platform. ENPSIT is confident that – thanks to this project as well as to MHealth4All, the AMIF-project introduced in our previous newsletter – we will be able to take huge steps towards high-quality PSIT provision for incrementally large numbers of people in Europe.

As this newsletter testifies, there are already many activities to look forward to. In the coming months the ENPSIT Board will take some further initiatives to continue to raise awareness of PSIT issues and to enhance knowledge-sharing within the PSIT community. In this respect, we are also still looking for candidates to host the InDialog 4 conference, an event that is ideally suited to bring together insights and experiences from academia, PSIT professionals and public service providers.

On behalf of the ENPSIT Board, I wish you all the best for 2022.  
Take care,

Lieven Buysse  
ENPSIT President

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## ENPSIT achievements

### ENPSIT as a partner in a second AMIF project

In our previous newsletter we informed you on ENPSIT's involvement as a partner in the consortium of *MHEALTH4ALL*, an AMIF-funded project that will start in January 2022. We are now proud to inform you that ENPSIT is also involved in a second AMIF project, *EU-WEBPSI*, which will start in September 2022.

*EU-WEBPSI* aims to develop, test and disseminate an EU-wide webportal for information exchange and online collaboration between stakeholders involved in providing and using Webcam Public Service Interpreting. The project has three objectives:

- 1.harmonising minimal standards for public service interpreting to guarantee high-quality language support and equal access to basic services across the EU;
- 2.facilitating more flexible use of WEBPSI services at national and EU levels by means of remote solutions that are more adapted to contemporary needs and opportunities;
- 3.increasing the interpreting capacity for languages of lesser diffusion to reduce the current imbalance between interpreter supply/demand for these languages across the EU and safeguard better language support for and empowerment of speakers of these languages.

## PSIT in the news

### BDÜ Position Paper on Child Language Brokering

In order to reinforce its strong international demands for abolition of child language brokering, Germany's Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators (Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer, BDÜ) used the occasion of UN Children's Day on 20 November 2021 to supplement the position paper it published in February with an English version, thus addressing competent actors across the world.

In the paper, the BDÜ takes a stand on the – legally as well as ethically questionable – use of child interpreters. Since there are no structures for appointing qualified, appropriately remunerated interpreters, children and adolescents are often called upon to interpret for relatives or people in their communities in a variety of conversations, including legally and/or medically relevant ones. This usually overburdens them in terms of content, language and situation and thus contravenes the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in various respects. [Download here \(DE/EN\)](#).

## **Certification of the profession of a community interpreter for Albanian in Slovenia**

After two years of preparation, in 2020 we managed to officially certify the profession of community interpreter for the Albanian language in the Republic of Slovenia. The National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) was approved by the Ministry of Labour of the Republic of Slovenia and is available online on the webpages of the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Vocational Education and Training, while English translations are available in the TRAMIG monograph. We have also prepared two additional NVQs for community interpreters for Persian and Arabic, which will be certified in the following months.

Additionally, aiming to foster professionalisation of community interpreting practice, four professional associations of interpreters (STRIDON – the Slovene Association of Translation Studies, the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Slovenia, the Association of Slovene Sign Language Interpreters, the Slovene Association of Conference interpreters) created the Slovene Code of Ethics for Community Interpreters, and the Slovene Standards of Practice for Community Interpreters.

For more, see Mikolič Južnič Tamara and Nike K. Pokorn. Occupational standards and vocational qualifications for the national certification of the profession of community interpreter in Slovenia.

## **The Netherlands: Funding of interpreters in mental healthcare settings**

From 1st January 2022 funding of interpreters in mental health care in the Netherlands will be paid for by the general health insurance. This is the result of an intensive lobby led by the Johannes Wier Foundation JWS, which we reported on also in our previous Newsletter. JWS will continue its lobbying efforts until interpreters are funded in all sections of the healthcare system. Accompanying this happy event an online module for health providers to teach them the ins and outs of cooperating with an interpreter is being developed by KTV-Kennisnet in close cooperation with experts from the field. Thanks to a subsidy, the idea is to make this module available at no or low cost. For more information, please contact:

- Hanneke Bot : [hanneke.bot@outlook.com](mailto:hanneke.bot@outlook.com)
- Marijke Roelofsen: [m.i.roelofsen@ktv-kennisnet.nl](mailto:m.i.roelofsen@ktv-kennisnet.nl)

# News on PSIT research

## Justisigns

JUSTISIGNS 2 Empowering victims of gender-based violence through VET for multiagency actors is a project funded by the Erasmus+ Key Action 2 Strategic Partnerships (KA2) and developed by a consortium of European experts from Ireland, Spain, United Kingdom and Belgium.

Deaf and migrant people are twice as much likely to suffer from gender-based violence than the rest of women and, moreover, are more vulnerable due to the communication barriers they face. In order to improve communication between these women and the different public service professionals that assist them, JUSTISIGNS 2 aims to create training resources and tool kits for interpreters and those services who serve as the first point-of-contact when dealing with migrant or deaf users who are victims of gender-based violence.



## Upcoming events

### EYLBID conference on Child Language Brokering

University of Bologna, 18 March 2022 - 19 March 2022

The EYLBID conference on Child Language Brokering represents a unique forum to exchange ideas, broaden the scope of CLB studies and create new academic networks, hence we aim to hold the conference as a mainly in-presence event.

Important dates:

- Submission of abstracts ends: 31 January 2022
- Notification of acceptance on: 10 February 2022

[Details and Call for Abstracts here](#)

### 1st International Conference on the Right to Languages

The Chair for Linguistic Rights at the University of València and the TRAP lab (Translation and Postmonolingualism) are happy to announce that the 1st International Conference on the Right to Languages will be held in València next June. We invite both scholars and practitioners to join us in discussing the right to languages and the role of translation and interpreting in realizing the right to languages. Proposals will be accepted until February 1st, 2022.

[More details here.](#)

## Opportunities

### Travel grants for EST congress

The 10th EST congress is taking place in Oslo, 22-24 June 2022. The EST Board is awarding 20 Travel Grants, at 500 EUR each, to make it possible for early-stage TIS researchers to attend the EST Congress. Deadline for application is 31 January.

[Details here.](#)

## Good reading

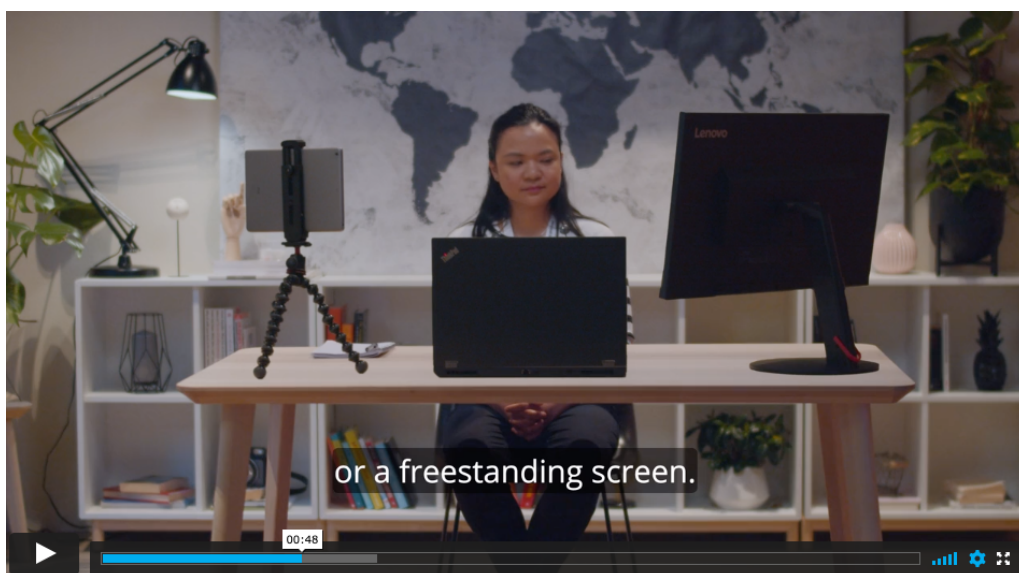
The latest volume of *Linguistica Antverpiensia - New Series in Translation studies*, “The impact of context on community interpreting research, practice & training”, is now online! Many of the contributions result from papers presented at the 2019 InDialog 3 conference (hosted by the University of Antwerp & KU Leuven Antwerp, under the auspices of ENPSIT). They discuss the impact of the varied contexts in which community interpreters work, especially in underresearched areas such as interpreting for refugees or for vulnerable groups, sensitive contexts and other socially and emotionally challenging settings. [More details here.](#)

## Useful resources - Concrete tips and advice for a better video remote interpreting (VRI) experience

VRI is a good alternative to other forms of interpretation but it is important that equipment and surroundings are utilized in the best possible way. IMDi, the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity, has made two instructional videos which, based on the interpreter's work situation, show how small and simple improvements can contribute to a better VRI experience. The instructional videos are based on a profound insight into specific working conditions and have been made in collaboration with interpreters, physiotherapists and psychologists. They can be useful both for interpreters and the users of interpreting services.

Watch the video on [VRI - interpreter's equipment and surroundings](#)

Watch the video on [VRI - interpreter's mental and physical health](#)



## Contribute to the ENPSIT repository

ENPSIT, as a European network, is continuously gathering PSIT-relevant information for every European country. This repository contains documents issued by agencies and governments about interpreting and translation in legal settings, healthcare, welfare, employment, migration, etc. You are welcome to share documents about your country. We hope to include documents from all countries, and specifically welcome documents in less shared languages, about countries such as Hungary, Poland, Latvia, Greece, etc. The website has a contact sheet through which you can obtain a free login. Do not hesitate to contact the webmaster: [hivermeir@gmail.com](mailto:hivermeir@gmail.com)

## Will you host the next InDialog Conference?

We are still looking for a partner to host InDialog 4, after the successful previous edition of InDialog 3 in Antwerp (Belgium) in 2019. The InDialog Conference series is a travelling event that can be hosted by ENPSIT member organisations throughout Europe. The next edition is planned in the autumn of 2022. Expressions of interest can be sent to [Lieven.Buysse@kuleuven.be](mailto:Lieven.Buysse@kuleuven.be)

## News for us?

Any PSIT-related initiatives, activities, conference announcements, collaboration opportunities, or other relevant information you would like to share with us? Do not hesitate to send in your contributions for the next quarterly newsletter:

[lds@imdi.no](mailto:lds@imdi.no) | [july.dewilde@ugent.be](mailto:july.dewilde@ugent.be)