



Directorate-General for Translation

# Language tools and technologies at the European Commission

**TRALOGY International Conference**  
**Paris, 3-4 March 2011**



# SUMMARY

## I. Translation services of the European institutions

## II. DGT tools

- Workflow tools
- Translation tools

## III. Machine translation from past to future

- Old ECMT system
- Development of the new MT@EC system
- The future: new system in 2013



# Translation services in the EU institutions

## Number of translating staff in the EU institutions

(interpreters and lawyer-linguists are not included)



**European Parliament**

760



**European Commission**

1750



**Council of the EU**

650



**Translation Centre**

110

Cooperate within the  
Interinstitutional  
Committee  
on  
Translation  
and  
Interpretation  
(ICTI-CITI)



**Committee of the Regions and  
European Economic and  
Social Committee**

350



**Court of Auditors**

100



**Court of Justice**

620



**European  
Investment Bank**

30



**European Central Bank**

70



# DGT: a giant laboratory for technology

## Workflow tools:

- **POETRY** ('client portal' to introduce translation requests and retrieve translations)
- **SUIVI** (follow-up of translation requests by planners, managers and translators)
- **TRANSLATOR'S DESKTOP** (used by translators to create and edit translations and to gain access to translation dossiers)



# DGT: a giant laboratory for technology

## Translation tools:

- Terminology:
  - IATE
  - QUEST
- Translation memories:
  - Euramis
  - Trados Translator's Workbench
- Machine translation



# QUEST (terminology) --> IATE, EURLEX...

Quest Metasearch

Search:  Search

Source:  Target(s):  #

Option:  Exact string  All words

KOWALSKA Aleksandra (DGT.D.1) @ Commission

Responses: 6

- IATE
- Euramis
- Eur-Lex
- DGTVista
- France Terme
- In-house Vocab.

Other

Not selected in profile: 19

- Council
- EuroParl
- ECTermpad
- EvroKorpus
- EvroTerm
- FAO
- Focal
- IATE Public
- IER
- Indexer
- Int. Orgs.
- ITU
- Logos
- MultiTerm
- Tapa
- Terminus Bankas
- Termium
- Lithos
- Valter Termbank

Results

Your search returned 17 Hits. [Search criteria](#) - [Last queries](#)

1

956044	★	1006003 - EU institution		1
en - English		Commission of the European Communities ( <b>OBSOLETE</b> )	3	COM
		European Commission	3	COM
		Commission	3	COM
fr - French		CCE ( <b>DEPRECATED</b> )	2	Council
		Cion ( <b>ADMITTED</b> )	3	Council
		COM	3	Council
		Commission européenne	3	COM
		Commission	3	COM
67365		12 - LAW		2
en - English		commission	3	CdT
fr - French		commission	3	CdT
		commission rogatoire	3	CdT
773018		12 - LAW		3
en - English		commission	2	Council
		mandate	2	Council
fr - French		mission	3	Council
		mandat	3	Council
1132043		12 - LAW		4
en - English		commission	3	COM
fr - French		lettre de service	3	COM
1132356		12 - LAW		5
		commission	3	COM



# Euramis

Euramis - Concordance (simple) - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by European Commission

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help



Address <http://applicationsservers.cc.cec.eu.int/euramis/search/concordance/index.do> Go Links >>

## Euramis Concordance (simple)



Current user: Maria DE AZAOLA

Alignment

Translation Memory

Search

Manager

Other

Help

**Search Text:**   
(expression or sentence)

precompetitive development activities

### Search language

- |                          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> BG | <input type="radio"/> EL            | <input type="radio"/> FI | <input type="radio"/> LT | <input type="radio"/> PL | <input type="radio"/> SL |
| <input type="radio"/> CS | <input checked="" type="radio"/> EN | <input type="radio"/> FR | <input type="radio"/> LV | <input type="radio"/> PT | <input type="radio"/> SV |
| <input type="radio"/> DA | <input type="radio"/> ES            | <input type="radio"/> HU | <input type="radio"/> MT | <input type="radio"/> RO | <input type="radio"/> TR |
| <input type="radio"/> DE | <input type="radio"/> ET            | <input type="radio"/> IT | <input type="radio"/> NL | <input type="radio"/> SK |                          |

### Database(s)

- \* ExternRelations
- Policies
- Services
- Archive
- OtherDoc
- Undef

### Target language

- |                          |                                     |                                     |                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> BG | <input type="radio"/> EL            | <input type="radio"/> FI            | <input type="radio"/> LT | <input type="radio"/> PL | <input type="radio"/> SL |
| <input type="radio"/> CS | <input checked="" type="radio"/> EN | <input checked="" type="radio"/> FR | <input type="radio"/> LV | <input type="radio"/> PT | <input type="radio"/> SV |
| <input type="radio"/> DA | <input type="radio"/> ES            | <input type="radio"/> HU            | <input type="radio"/> MT | <input type="radio"/> RO | <input type="radio"/> TR |
| <input type="radio"/> DE | <input type="radio"/> ET            | <input type="radio"/> IT            | <input type="radio"/> NL | <input type="radio"/> SK |                          |

Created: 14 May 2004 - Modified: 15 September 2004 - Contacts: [DGT-SUPPORT-EURAMIS-TWB](mailto:DGT-SUPPORT-EURAMIS-TWB) - Copyright © 2003-2004 EC.



# Translator's Workbench

SDL Trados Translator's Workbench - ECFIN-2007-00154-00-00-EN-ES

File Settings View Options Tools Help

Doc. No.: 000890100, 52006DC0320  
Stored by: . Legis-Juris, hernams, Master  
TM Database: Policies, Legis-Juris, High-Frequency

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM  
EXPOSICIÓN DE MOTIVOS

Exact Match Project: . ECFIN, . 2007, Translator: azaolma Doc. No.: 001540000 Match 1 of 1

ECFIN-2007-00154-00-00-EN-ORI-00.DOC - Microsoft Word

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Eurolook LegisWrite DGT Window Help Trados

Section Break (Next Page)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

EXPOSICIÓN DE MOTIVOS

1. → CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

On 16 May 2007, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Decision in accordance with Article 122(2) of the Treaty, proposing that Cyprus fulfils the necessary conditions for the adoption of the single currency and that the derogation of Cyprus is abrogated with effect from 1 January 2008.

In case of a positive decision, the Council will subsequently have to adopt the

Page 2 Sec 3 3/6 At 3,5cm Ln 4 Col 1 REC TRK EXT OVR Spanish (Sp)



# Machine translation for the EU

- **ECMT (European Commission Machine Translation): a rule-based system used since 1976; development and maintenance activities stopped in 2006; service discontinued as a result of a ruling from the EU court**
- **EU interests are many and manifold:**
  - internal market information system, including patents;
  - research and technology;
  - e-EU, for example e-Justice;
  - multilingualism policy.



- ***statistics-(data-)based system (SMT)***
- **at least all EU languages**
- **basic general MT service with the possibility of customised MT engines for ‘clients’:**
  - EU institutions and bodies;
  - public bodies in MS;
  - online services and information systems for raw translation
- **full control of the system, making maximum use of internal resources and ensuring confidentiality**



# Conclusions

- Translation is a human activity!
- Translation should be approached in a holistic way
- Language technologies are indispensable for promoting multilingualism in Europe
- The European Commission is open to cooperation



# Thank you for your attention

