

FROM THE EDITOR

INTRODUCTION

LANGUAGE RIGHTS AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN TODAY'S MULTILINGUAL EUROPE. / DERECHOS LINGÜÍSTICOS Y PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA EN LA EUROPA MULTILINGÜE ACTUAL.

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Volume 6 of the *FITISPos International Journal* aims to draw attention and join to those voices fighting for the recognition of human rights from the area of specialisation of the journal: Public Service Interpreting and Translation (PSIT). PSIT offers everybody the opportunity to participate in society, promotes equal access, and helps to overcome or reduce discrimination.

Migratory movements are a universal phenomenon and the reasons that encourage people to move around are numerous, as well as the chosen places of destination. Some of the reasons for this need to be found in living difficulties in their places of origin, poor development prospects, armed conflicts or persecution for several reasons, as well as environmental deterioration and disaster. Article 2 of the *Declaration of Human Rights* is clear in this respect:

Everyone has the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or any other opinion, national or social origin, economic position, birth or any other status.

Language rights are among the fundamental human values and are subject to the most important international legislation. However, at the political level, issues relating to such rights are often not recognised as an integral part of migratory movements or social inclusion. Policy makers do not seem to be aware of the risks and costs of the lack of effective mechanisms to ensure quality interpretation and translation as a tool to achieve the safeguarding of civil rights and the participation of all citizens in the consolidation of a democratic and multilingual society.

This lack of commitment means that integration programmes and processes that overlook these superdiversity and multilingualism factors are currently doomed to failure. The media often provide evidence of the lack of participation and respect for access to civil rights and public services by individuals in their environment.

In the face of this situation, it is important to ask who is responsible for ensuring such access and participation and through which 'tools' that access should be guaranteed. It is necessary to reflect on whether the lack of such linguistic support in communication between immigrants and public service institutions creates inequality and discrimination, and whether, on the contrary, their support would serve to ensure

fair and equal situations.

This special edition of *FITISPos-IJ* (Vol. 6) includes experiences and studies dedicated to defending the right to communication and the participation of all people in society. The articles, in alphabetical order of authors, add more information on the role of communication in the application of civil rights, in the middle of this escalating technology in all spheres of our life and in the area of Studies of Translation and Interpreting, and in PSIT.

The section *Articles* begins with the article entitled “Civil Rights and Participating in Today's Multilingual Europe”, by the guest editors of this volume 6 of *FITISPos-IJ*, Lieven Buysse and Pascal Rillof, on the basis of their experience and international recognition in multilingual environments. The authors demonstrate that the key to the integration of the EU's diverse population lies in gaining access to public services as the only way to provide people's basic needs and guarantee the exercise of their civil rights.

This article is followed by eleven articles on diverse but interconnected subjects. The authors, titles and a brief note on their content follows.

Bruwier, Delizée and Michaux, in their article entitled “Évolution du service de traduction et interprétariat en milieu social Bruxellois (seTIS Bruxelles): de la reconnaissance à la valorisation des compétences chez l'interprète” (in English, “Evolution of the Translation and Interpreting Service in the Social Field in Brussels (seTIS Bruxelles): From Recognition to the Enhancement of the Interpreter's Competences”, analyze the evolution of the SeTIS Bruxelles service with special emphasis on legislative changes and current practices in the mental health sector.

Burdeus Domingo, in her article entitled “Structuring Public Service Interpreting: The Interpreters Bank Model as an Organized Response to Communication Needs”, carries out a comparative study of medical interpreting services in Barcelona and Montreal, and suggests the development of a bank of interpreters in Barcelona, following the Canadian model.

Delizée, Milcent and Michaux, in their article entitled “Avantages et couts du recours a un interprète professionnel en milieu médical: méta-analyse de 35 études menées aux États-Unis”, (in English, “Benefits and Costs of Using a Professional Medical Interpreter: Meta-Analysis of 35 Studies Conducted in the United States”, analyze 35 scientific studies conducted in the United States that address the impact of the provision of interpreting services and their costs on the health of non-English speaking patients. The most outstanding conclusion is that the medical management of the allophone is significantly improved and that the costs are minimal in comparison with the benefits obtained.

De Wilde, Van Praet, Van Bosstraeten, and Rillof, in their article entitled “Equal Access to Health Information: Evaluating the Use of a Multilingual Website in Face-to-Face Consultations”, evaluate the use and efficiency of a website through the analysis of 11 HIV/STD consultations in order to know what effects the website has on communication and the interaction routines.

Havnen, in her article entitled “Multimodal and Interactional Aspects of Sight Translation: A Critical Review”, presents a critical review of the literature on sight translation, analyses the main difficulties and comments on the main consequences of malpractice of this skill for civil rights and citizen participation in today's multilingual Europe.

Kerremans, Lázaro Gutiérrez, Stengers and Rillof, in their article entitled “Technology Use by Public Service Interpreters and Translators: The Link between Frequency of Use and Forms of Prior Training”, present the preliminary results of a

large-scale study on the use of technological tools used in public services in order to ascertain the influence of the type of training translators and interpreters have received about their use.

Maniar, in her article entitled “Behind a Wall of Silence: Interpreting Services within Immigration Detention in the United Kingdom”, based on the limited literature available, analyzes the interpreting services in the immigrant detention center and the changes made in the period of 2016-2018. At the end, she provides suggestions for improvement.

Radanović Felberg and Sagli, in their article entitled “Training Public Service Employees in how to Communicate via Interpreters in Norway: Achievements and Challenges”, the authors, first, describe the interpreting training and accreditation system as well as the National Registry of Interpreters of Norway; then they present the analysis of training proposals for employees of public services and the attitude of users of interpretation in the sector public.

Sánchez Pérez, in her article entitled “Public Service Interpreting and Cultural Mediation in the Region of Valencia: Strengths, Weaknesses and Recommendations for Improvement in the Healthcare Setting”, offers an overview of the state of Intercultural Mediation (MI) and Public Services Interpreting (PSI) in the health area in the Spanish Valencian Region, followed by recommendations for improvement of the healthcare system to guarantee equal access of the patient's cultural origin and language.

Štefková and Bossaert, in their article entitled “Learning from Good Examples: A Comparative Analysis of the Practices of Public Service Translation and Interpreting in Slovakia and Flanders”, compare the provision of translation and interpreting services in the legal, institutional and public contexts in two countries with a very different tradition, such as Slovakia and Flanders, to propose the development of an effective model in Slovakia, based on the Belgian example.

Vermeiren, in her article entitled “What Starting Public Service Interpreters in the EU Should Know about Legislation: The Case of Belgium and the Netherlands”, draws attention to the increase in freelance translators and interpreters working in the public sphere, as well as the growing professionalization of the sector. In view of this, she offers a series of recommendations for young interpreters to work in the public sector in Belgium and the Netherlands.

In the *Interview* section, we found the passionate words of Maya Hess, Founder and Chair of the *Red T Network* and a first-hand witness of the extreme vulnerability of professions related to languages in conflict. Hess talks to us about *Red T*, the non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting translators and interpreters working in high-risk world environments, and encourages us to join *Red T* in defense of these professionals.

The *Review Book* section includes comments to various books or collections of recent articles of different subjects and different fields, giving account of the complex circle in which PSIT is integrated. The texts analyzed are in alphabetical order:

- *Panorama de la traducción y la interpretación en los servicios públicos españoles: una década de cambios, retos y oportunidades* (Foulquié-Rubio eds., 2018), reviewed by Abdallah Jamal Albeetar, is a collective work of articles written by members of the COMUNICA group. The main objective is to update the description of the situation of PSIT in Spain after a turbulent decade represented mainly by the economic crisis.
- *Handbook on Remote Interpreting* (Amato, Spinolo and González Rodríguez eds., 2018), reviewed by Elena Bautista Pérez, is a collective work that presents the compilation of targeted research work, such as its title, remote

interpretation and carried out within *Shift in Orality — Shaping the Interpretation and Today*, a three-year project funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus + programme.

- *Lingüística forense: contextos, teoría y práctica* (Valero Garcés, 2018), reviewed by Cámara Arroyo, is a book that proposes a holistic and pedagogical approach to the subject with an original methodology that helps to understand and assimilate the content. Its great value is, in Cámara Arroyo's words, the breakthrough of the author in the face of the existing ignorance of forensic linguistics in academic studies and, above all, in the legal practice.
- *Manual de traducción jurada de documentos notariales en materia de sucesiones entre los sistemas jurídicos francés y español* (Cayron, 2018), reviewed by Paula Lozano de Lemus, contains the analyses and translation of deeds in inheritances from a functionalist approach. The study is a reference book for both professionals in the sector and for teachers and translators.

The *Research Corner* includes several doctoral theses recently read on diverse topics, thus confirming the growing interest in PSIT in the academia. These are:

- *La traducción médica (español-árabe): aspectos lingüísticos, formativos y profesionales / Medical Translation (Spanish-Arabic): Linguistic, Training and Professional Aspects* by Mohana Sultan (2019).
- *La traducción de las ciencias farmacéuticas (francés-español): el prospecto de medicamentos para uso humano / The Translation of Pharmaceutical Sciences (French-Spanish): The Package Leaflet for Human Use* by Manuel Cristóbal Rodríguez Martínez (2018).
- *La traducción de los conceptos jurídicos del derecho de sucesiones en la UE. Análisis del Reglamento 650/2012 en inglés y español / The Translation of Legal Concepts of the Inheritance Law in the EU. Analysis of the Reglamento 650/2012 in English and Spanish* by Marta Rubio Ortega (2017).
- *El currículum en Traducción e Interpretación: análisis comparativo entre los currículos de los programas de Grado en Traducción e Interpretación entre China y España / The Curriculum in Translation and Interpreting: Comparative Analysis between the Curriculum of Translation and Interpreting Degree Programs in China and Spain* by María Lucía Villalta Muñoz (2017).

Reference is also made to projects such as CORPUTEL, a project dedicated to the development of teaching materials and the practice of telephone interpretation service. Some other new tools related to PSIT mentioned are: *Jocomunico*, free Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) application using pictograms intended for people with severe speech disorders; *Oyusei*, an application that allows to listen to the simultaneous translation of the event without having to be physically in it; *Bridge*, an application that provides information on how to get help with food, housing, and transportation for new immigrants to the United States; or *Universal Pharmacist Speaker2.0*, an application to improve multilingual communication between pharmacists and patients or customers who do not share the same language.

At the end of this section, we found a long list of events related to PSIT, one more proof of the dynamism and growing interest for PSIT in the field of Translation and Interpreting Studies.

The *Working Papers* section includes young researchers' papers based on their Master's Theses or Doctoral Dissertations and deserves a special mention in this volume

for its unity regarding topic and because of the linguistic and cultural diversity that it features. The titles and authors are:

- *Formación en traducción e interpretación en los servicios públicos en los programas oficiales de grado impartidos en España / Training in Public Service Translation and Interpreting in BA Degree Programmes Taught in Spain* by Fátima Camacho Sánchez.
- *La traducción médica (español-árabe): aspectos lingüísticos, formativos y profesionales / Medical Translation (Spanish-Arabic): Linguistic, Educational and Professional Aspects* by Mohana Sultan.
- *Dilemas éticos en la interpretación sanitaria en contextos de violencia de género / Ethical Dilemmas in Healthcare Interpreting in the Context of Gender-Based Violence* by Manuel Jesús Rueda Rodríguez.
- *Programas formativos de traducción jurídica español - chino en másteres oficiales en España y en China / Training Programs for Spanish - Chinese Legal Translation in Official Masters in Spain and China* by Qin Ma.

References

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