

EUROPEAN MASTER'S IN TRANSLATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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SUMMARY

In 2021, the “new normal” brought about by the COVID19 pandemic continued to impact the way in which EMT members delivered training and interacted with their peers in the EMT network. However, the experience from the previous year helped the EMT to run its activities like a well-oiled machine. As a result, the network managed to organise its two traditional meetings, once online and once in a new “hybrid” mode; and its various working groups continued their regular meetings and knowledge exchange activities.

The experience of massive digital working and teaching forced the EMT to integrate digitalisation and artificial intelligence into translator training faster than expected. The EMT members benefited from the working group and network meetings to exchange good practices, discuss the related challenges and even to come up with innovative training programmes reflecting the new realities. The rapid technological progress affecting the translation world also provide opportunities, for instance in relation to accessible communication where new profiles for translation professionals emerge.

In the academic world the EMT has since long become an established label for quality training, however work remains to be done to make it better known in the language industry, where according to the language industry survey 2021, not many LSPs are aware of it or take it into account for recruitment.

EMT MILESTONES AND INTERNAL MATTERS

Meetings of the EMT Board

Overall, the EMT Board held seven online meetings in 2021 in which they prepared and coordinated activities of the EMT as follows:

13 January 2021

The EMT Board welcomed Leena Salmi from the University of Turku and Marina Platonova from Riga Technical University as new Board members replacing the two UK Board members following the end of the Brexit related transition period.

The Board adopted the work programme 2021. On top of the ongoing activities of each of the EMT working groups, the work of the EMT network would focus on tools and technology as well as on fostering the cooperation on translation related research. In this context, the EMT Board asked DGT to share its own research desiderata.

17 February 2021

The EMT Board discussed the implications of Brexit on the EMT network. In the context of the Brexit negotiations, the UK government had decided to withdraw from Erasmus+, which removed the legal ground for having UK universities in the EMT network. Concretely that

meant that UK based EMT members would lose their membership status and would not be invited to EMT network meetings anymore. In order to protect the legitimate expectations of their students, they would be entitled to use the EMT label until the end of the current academic year. The Board brainstormed on new cooperation possibilities with the UK universities for the time until a new legal and administrative framework for EU-UK university cooperation would be found. They agreed that UK university representatives can be invited to EMT working groups' meetings as experts in their individual capacity. Also, EMT universities would continue to work bilaterally with their UK counterparts on the development of joint degrees. UK universities could write guest posts on the EMT blog.

The EMT Board also discussed the programme of the network meeting in March and agreed on the timeline for the next Midterm Review.

28 April 2021

Anticipating the composition of the future [Language Industry \(LIND\) expert group](#), the EMT Board reflected on how to foster the cooperation with the language industry experts with a view to increasing the awareness of the EMT and its training standards. The EMT Board was very keen on creating an open regular discussion with the LIND experts for instance by inviting them to EMT meetings or meetings of the EMT working groups, letting them write guest posts on the EMT blog. Revitalising the cooperation on internships and strengthening the research cooperation, ideally by joint field studies.

In relation to the lack of EMT awareness in the language industry, the Board reflected on a more structured cooperation with associations of translation study programmes such as AFFUMT in France. Since there was not enough information available about the existence of other national associations and their activities it was agreed to first consult the EMT network members about the situation in their countries.

The Board also discussed possible EMT contributions to the Translating Europe Forum 2021 and worked on the questionnaire for the next Midterm Review.

14 June 2021

The EMT Board agreed on the questions for the Midterm Review. On this basis, the DGT-EMT team would create an electronic questionnaire on EU Survey.

They discussed possible programme points for the EMT network meeting in Leipzig in October and decided to relaunch a call for contributions among network members.

Other points covered during this meeting were an update on the DGT EMT challenge launched at the EMT meeting in March and the new database "Research in EMT universities" to be tested by the EMT Board before its rollout to the entire network.

8 September 2021

The Board members came together after the summer break to decide on the programme of the Network meeting on [20-21 October in Leipzig](#) and to propose speakers from the EMT network to contribute to the [Translating Europe Forum 2021](#).

8 October 2021

The main agenda item was the finalisation of the programme for the network meeting and the roles of the EMT Board members in relation to that meeting.

The Board also briefly discussed the technical hiccup with the EMT blog, linked to the phasing out of the platform in the European Commission.

15 November 2021

In this last virtual meeting of the year, the EMT Board shared feedback on the EMT meeting in Leipzig and the Translating Europe Forum. Board members commended on the content, structure, and organisation of the first hybrid EMT meeting. They particularly appreciated the diversity of topics. At the same time, they expressed a clear preference for full physical meetings as they provide better networking opportunities. The Board also welcomed the dynamic discussions during the TEF conference, the positive message about the future of translation, and the visibility given to EMT.

The Board members gave input to the programme of the EMT network meeting in March 2022 and commented on the draft concept of the DGT EMT challenge 2022.

Meetings of the EMT Network

Following the steep learning curve in 2020, the EMT network had no difficulty whatsoever to continue with virtual meetings in 2021. It even improved its online meeting mode, adding student interpreters and a hybrid format.

Brussels – 24-25 March 2021

The central topic of the March meeting was *digitalisation*, its impact on the profession and the way study programmes adapt to the newly emerging profiles, market expectations, workflows etc.

The Network largely agreed: Whatever new profiles may appear one day, one thing is certain – future translators need broad Machine Translation literacy so that they do not only know how to use IT-tools but are able to tweak them. The EMT network saw two main panels in which EMT programmes showed how they approach the issue: The universities of Zürich and Bologna involve IT specialists in the translator training, whereas the universities of Barcelona even developed new degrees combining translation studies with IT-engineering.

In the different parallel sessions of the network meeting, the network members tried to demystify some of the buzzwords used nowadays around translation and multilingual

communication and to distil from them what is essential for translator training. And of course, the network members exchanged good practices, first in two ‘train-the-trainers’ sessions proposed by the tools and technology working group, and then via lightning talks on what works well in tech training and what does not.

The meeting ended with a sneak preview on the results of the **2021 European Language industry survey (ELIS)**. Perfectly in line with the topic of this EMT meeting it showed that the translator trainers have an optimistic stance on MT.

Linking some of the EMT competences to questions about the LSPs’ expectations concerning degree holders further contributes to the visibility of the EMT within the language industry.

Encouragingly, the final evaluation of the 2021 ELIS showed that the level of awareness about EMT among LSPs has increased, albeit slightly. The 2022 goal is to increase the participation of academia in the ELIS survey to demonstrate that EMT universities have a strong interest in cooperating with the language industry and to position the EMT quality label more strongly as an asset in the language industry. A joint effort is necessary to achieve this goal.



Mind maps by DGT colleague Saila Kumputie

Leipzig – 20-21 October 2021

Human centred education – human centred translation was the topic in focus of the first hybrid EMT network meeting ever. Almost half of the EMT programme representatives followed the invitation by the hosting university in Leipzig and made it to the prestigious premises of the university library *Albertina*; the other half attended online.

After the official welcome by the university rectorate and DGT, Board member Sonia Vandepitte officially **launched the EMT Midterm Review** reminding the network members that the review is a kind of self-reflection process about the development of the programmes since they joined the network. DGT and the EMT Board would analyse these declarations and report on any changes and improvements to the programmes in June 2022.

DGT Director Klaus Meyer-Koeken as the main DGT representative had the pleasure to reveal the winners of the first DGT EMT challenge *Imagine the perfect CAT environment*. The jury composed of DGT, EMT and LIND members unanimously agreed that the team project submitted by students from the University of Turku was the most innovative and at the same time the most realistic. The project consisted of a new project management tool using elements of deep learning to support the project managers' decisions.

He also gave a brief insight into the challenges faced by the DGT language departments under his direction, ranging from terminological issues linked to the coining of new political or technical terms, over the high number of applications for traineeships for certain languages to the contrary – recruitment problems, due to a very low interest in the translation profession.

DGT traineeship coordinator Libuša Tencerova complemented the *news from DGT* with a presentation of DGT's latest project offering students and university staff a real work experience – the *remote cooperation with universities*.

The morning session ended with the already traditional exchange of good practices, this time on the new realities in teaching. Several parallel sessions touched upon various topics such as the use of a tailor-made server for online teaching and collaboration, the psychological aspects of distance teaching, the benefits of running a blog about a study programme, Service Learning in translator training, project-based learning and last but not least a special translation in crises teaching module.

After a short lunch break, where in person participants enjoyed the personal encounters with their EMT colleagues, most of the afternoon session was dedicated to the exploration of accessibility in translation. The discussions revealed a huge interest in the topic and the participants agreed to continue the debate at the next network meeting. Given the more technical focus of the spring meetings, a closer look into how translation technology can support accessibility would be a good angle to take.

The day ended with a debrief on the working groups' achievements by the EMT Board members. But this did not mean the end of the meeting as the network meetings hosted by EMT member universities are traditionally complemented by an additional event on a language or translation related topic.

The University of Leipzig decided to highlight the need for translation in our multilingual societies and organised a Colloquium called *The Language of Europe*. The event started with a series of testimonies from representatives of the language industry, the associative and the cultural sectors about their successful cooperation with the University of Leipzig's Institute for Applied Linguistics and Translation (IALT) of the University of Leipzig. They are all involved in various aspects of the academic translator training and in return, the student's contributions helped them to achieve their various goals. These presentations were a wonderful opening to deepen the debate on the multilingual challenges of our societies in the framework of a panel

discussion entitled *Languages on the Move*. Considering the increasing mobility of people, the new ways of communicating and the necessity to make information available to all members of our society, the representatives from academia, the language industry and public bodies saw an increasing need for translation. Against this backdrop, they made a strong plea for qualified language and translator training and strategic foresight regarding the language coverage in translation study programmes.



Activities of the working groups

In 2021, the six EMT working groups continued their activities:

The **PSIT WG** held four meetings throughout 2021. Meetings took place in January, March, June and October, the December meeting was postponed to January 2022 and contacts were made by email. The general objectives of the PSIT WG are to build a local network of experts to identify good practices, main languages and priority sectors, training in PSIT and the use of technology in order to catalogue and classify the results obtained by WG PSIT participants and create a repository where we can share information.

In 2021, the main goal was to develop a network, in coordination with experts from EU and international institutions and organizations, to create a framework for training in PSIT and future accreditation of the profession. Throughout the year, invited experts expressed their willingness to collaborate and shared ideas with the members in the meetings. Presentations and reflections were shared by University of Alcalá, University of Salamanca, University of Nitra, Slovakia; University in Krakow, Poland; Université Paris VII-Denis Diderot (now Université de Paris), France, and Université de Strasbourg, France. There were also presentations by external experts from the NGOs CRETA; Fundación Abrazando and 'CENTRE PRIMO LEVI - Vivre après la torture'.

A survey was carried out to find out the state of PSIT all over the EU and create awareness of the profession. The preliminary results indicated that in all countries there are very active NGOs or associations that care for the migrant population and that their actions generally include translation and interpreting as an activity, although not always as one of their main activities. Interesting questions on ethics were considered and the survey was redesigned taking into account suggestions by members. So a new survey was developed to gather data regarding the language competences of our students in languages of lesser diffusion (LLD). We are interested in knowing what languages they can use, however they may have acquired those skills, be it because them or their families have a migratory background, because they are international students or because of other reasons. The survey was distributed in October 2021 and the preliminary results will be analysed in the next meeting, January 2022.

A panel on PSIT, coordinated by members of the group was sent and accepted in the 2022 EST Conference that will be held in Oslo, Norway, in June 2022. Some proposals by members of the group will be presented.

The **Technology WG** also held four meetings in 2021, in April, June, September, and December. The main focus for the year was on information sharing and training. The WG ran a number of Train the Trainer events, including two at the March Network meeting, chaired panels on novel programmes, shared information on technology licencing, and hosted invited talks from several external experts. The group also ran some small reading group meetings, where we discussed a specific recent piece of published research. The first DGT EMT Challenge (see section below) was run under the aegis of the group, led by Nikola Kunte from the DGT, with input and assistance from the WG.

The plan for 2022 is to continue facilitating information sharing, to run the second DGT EMT Challenge, to map research projects within the group, and to begin some in-group research projects. In addition, and along with the larger network, we intend to review the current range of technology competences and to consider possible changes in advance of the next application period for EMT membership. The WG will also take a leading role in the March 2022 network meeting, which will again focus on translation technology.

The **CATO (Competence Awareness in TranslatiOn)** working group also met several times over the past 12 months. Its two main objectives are the continuation of survey rounds and making use of the data thus accumulated for research and outreach purposes.

The survey on competences was officially launched in September 2020, and is composed of three stages (entry, graduation and, optionally for longer programs, at mid-point). As of October 18, 2021, 1291 responses had been obtained, from 39 different programs. This is both very satisfying (by the sheer number of responses) and somehow disappointing, quite a few programs having yet to be convinced of its pedagogical usefulness, apparently. The survey launch being quite recent, there are more answers at entry (844) than further on. The overall score at entry is 5.9/10, and it reaches 7.76 at graduation, which is in line with previous exercises. Among more detailed information (available on the CATO Teams page), the percentage of “I don't know” drops from 12.6% to 6.35% over the same course of time: another case of half-full or half-empty bottle.

Regarding research and outreach, a first full-fledged paper has been drafted by Alexandra Krause, Leena Salmi and Nicolas Froeliger, on this very issue. Its main thrust is a comparison of results obtained earlier on with the CATO survey, and with another survey aimed at translators working in and for institutions (425 answers) and asking them about the perceived importance of the said competences in their field. Other papers using this wealth of data will be most welcome, and members of the working group are reflecting on organizing a fully-fledged conference on that very topic somewhere in 2022 or 2023, to tie in with the updating of the competence framework. Meanwhile, it would be worthwhile to improve intake of the survey, especially with outgoing students. A useful tip in that direction: take advantage of the last week of courses (especially for programs ending with an internship) and use it as a debriefing tool regarding the whole program. Finally, there will have to be some coordination with other working groups and instances regarding the update of the competence framework.

Visibility and outreach is more a cross-cutting activity, rather than a working group. This year the focus was on the EMT involvement in the yearly survey of the [European language industry \(ELIS\)](#) and the visibility of [EMT on social media](#). For more details about the cooperation with the language industry, please see the section about [Cooperation with the language industry below](#).

In 2021, the **Audiovisual Translation and Media Accessibility Training WG** focused on several activities. Firstly, several meetings were dedicated to evaluation of the results of the 2020 Audiovisual Translation and Media Accessibility Training Survey conducted among members of the EMT Network. The most significant findings were presented in October 2021 during the EMT Network Meeting in Leipzig, however the complex report will be shared in a form of a study in 2022 and at the 2022 EST Congress in Oslo by members of the WG who participated in the survey design and evaluation of the results.

Secondly, the survey revealed eminent interest in activities focused on AVT and Media Accessibility training across the whole network, which inspired the WG to create a series of train-the-trainer events entitled *From Translation to Accessibility: EMT Train the Trainer Summer School*. Its first year was co-organised by 6 EMT universities (Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakia; Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania; Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, Portugal; Università degli studi Internazionali di Roma, Italy; University of Vienna, Austria and University of Antwerp, Belgium) in cooperation with the Directorate-General for Translation and it was hosted by the Department of Translation Studies, CPU Nitra, Slovakia. The first summer school focused on technologies and practices in AVT and media accessibility training. It took place on 4 June 2021 and was attended by almost 400 participants from 54 countries. At the end of the year, several meetings of the WG took place in order to design the second year of the event that should be hosted in summer 2022 by Università degli studi Internazionali di Roma, Italy.

Thirdly, the WG initiated its first discussion for training and research activities in the area of specialised AVT translation. Although some information regarding the training landscape in this area was gathered from the 2020 Audiovisual Translation and Media Accessibility Training Survey, a more focused approach is needed in researching the current market needs and training practices regarding AVT of specialized translations. More activities in this aspect are planned for 2022.

The objectives of the **Translation into a Second Language** Working Group (L2) are twofold: on the one hand the group has in view to map the L2 realities in the professional world and on the other it aims at identifying current practices of L2 translation teaching in the EMT network universities. In 2021 the group tackled the latter. The findings of a first general survey revealed that at least 25 programmes include L2 translation training, either as an optional or a compulsory course, mainly because the local job market requires translators to work into L2. Depending on the capacities of trainers in individual language combinations, the L2 training is, however, not systematically offered in all language combinations.

To gain a better insight into the concrete teaching practices in the EMT network, the group developed a more detailed survey to be launched in early 2022, focusing this time on the competences of the L2 teaching staff, their specialisations and assessment issues including the suggestion of setting up a pool of L2 native speakers who could be involved in the assessment. The survey also looks into the possibilities of knowledge and resource sharing and will certainly lead to concrete results fostering cooperation and improving the offer of L2 training in the EMT.

EMT-DGT COOPERATION

Translating Europe

The main objective of Translating Europe is to engage with various stakeholders in the translation sector and to create a community of interest, with a view to giving visibility to the world of translation, sharing good practice, developing common projects, and promoting a diversified and sustainable market for professional translators in Europe. To this end, DGT organises every year an event in Brussels – the Translating Europe Forum – and various Translating Europe Workshops in the EU Member States. EMT network members have been among the most active partners of the initiative since the beginning.

Translating Europe Forum

As in the previous year, the 2021 edition of the [Translating Europe Forum \(TEF\)](#) was held online to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. This year, TEF investigated the various aspects of collaboration in times of automation in the translation sector.

Translating Europe Forum Collaboration in Times of Automation



<https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/2021TEF>



Five speakers from the EMT added the perspective of academic training in the 12 roundtables and discussions, giving great visibility to the network.

The online format allowed a higher number of participants than in the traditional conference setting. Students were particularly encouraged to attend the event and many EMT professors even watched certain sessions with their students.

The organisation team thanks the EMT Board for the good cooperation as consulting experts upfront was key in developing a high-quality and attractive conference programme.

Translating Europe Workshops

[Translating Europe Workshops](#) contribute at national level to the general aim of exploring and facilitating synergies among translation stakeholders. Out of the 34 approved workshops the following 18 were organised with involvement of EMT universities. The light orange marking in the table below indicates workshops that were organised by and on the initiative of the respective EMT programme. The remaining ones were workshops in which EMT universities cooperated or sent speakers.

Country	Location	Date	Title
Estonia	Tallinn	29.04.2021	Hands-on workshop on MT post-editing
Slovakia	Nitra	04.06.2021	From Translation to Accessibility: EMT Train the Trainer Summer School, Subtitle: Technologies and practices in AVT and media accessibility training
Ireland	online	29.06.2021	Online workshop for Irish language translators – translation tools and machine translation
Slovakia	Banská Bystrica	22.09.2021	Translation, Interpreting, Culture 2: Human Factor in Translation Technologies (22-24 Sept)
Estonia	Tallinn	30.09.2021	Part 1: Language technology and human – how to find balance?
Estonia	Tallinn	30.09.2021	Part 2: Estonian Translators' Survey 2021
France	Strasbourg	30.09.2021	'Towards a robotics of translation?'
Lithuania	online	08.10.2021	Online conference 'At the cutting edge of translation and beyond'
Slovenia	Ljubljana	08.10.2021	Diversity of Translation
Latvia	Riga	11.11.2021	Translation and Business
Czech republic	Prague	12.11.2021	St Jerome's Days - The future is now. How do we make the translation profession future-proof? (working title)
Netherlands	Utrecht	12.11.2021	Language & Technology; A winning combination
Netherlands	online	17.11.2021	Speed college for businesses / speed college voor bedrijven
Italy	online	19.11.2021	Collaborative work in translation: from training to platforms and publishing
Malta	Valetta	27.11.2021	Skill set for the aspiring translator
France	online	01.12.2021	eTranslation: a translation tool with European added value
Italy	online	03.12.2021	Artificial intelligence and translation: towards new teaching objectives?
Lithuania	online	15.12.2021	Teaching materials for Secondary schools

Recordings of Translating Europe Workshops can be found here: [#TranslatingEurope Workshops 2021 - YouTube](#)

EMT trainees in DGT

As in the past years, DGT hosted two types of trainees in 2021: trainees on (short-term) training placements and the trainees that fall within the standard [Commission traineeship scheme](#) of 5 months. The number of trainees in the latter category depends on the quota allocated to DGT each year, which in 2021 reached the total of 88 trainees.

The (short-term) training placements for students and staff of public institutions are agreed directly between the sending university/institution and the DGT language departments. They can take place in the DGT premises or in the Field Offices in the EU Member States. The number of trainees in this category depends on the hosting capacity of the departments. In 2021, the number of training placements decreased substantially due to the restrictions related to the Covid 19 pandemic. In total, 43 training placements were offered and included 23 students from EMT Universities¹. Depending on the restrictions in place, the placements were either physical or virtual or a combination of both.

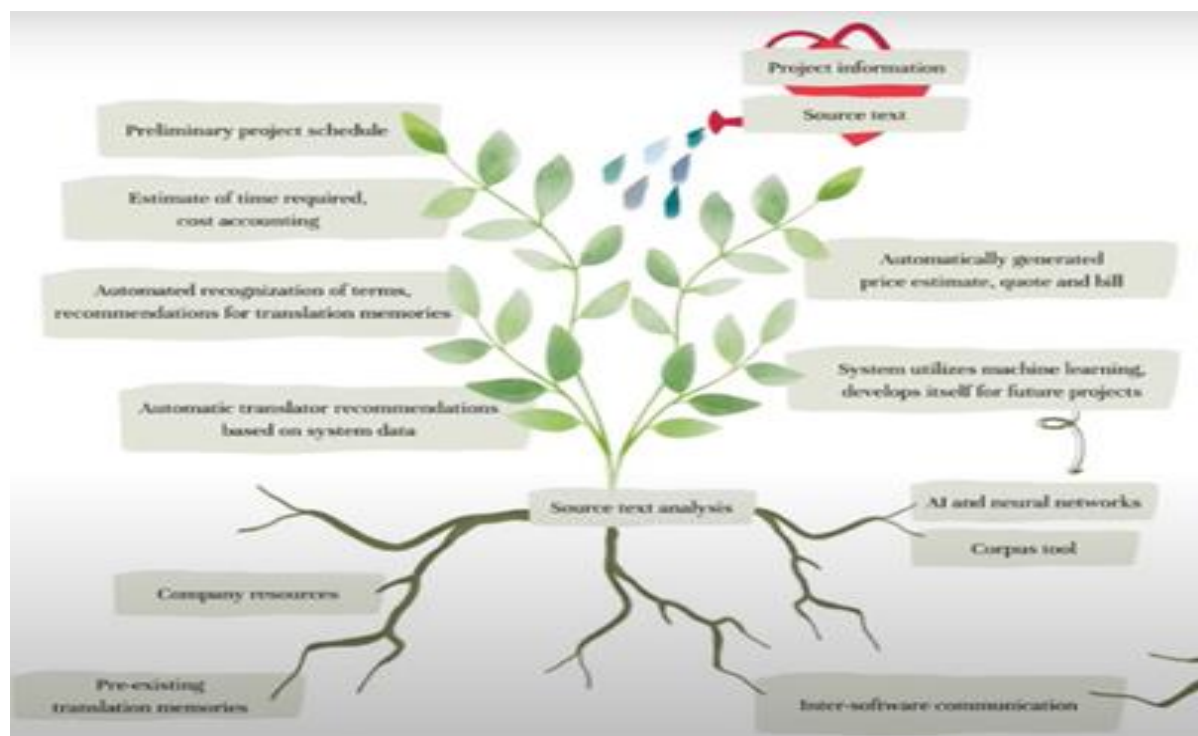
In July 2021, a **new scheme for remote cooperation** with universities was launched. It offers DGT and academic partners the possibility to collaborate remotely on projects related to terminology, technology or in any other field of common interest. EMT universities and their students or academic staff benefit from priority within the scheme.

The DGT EMT challenge

Looking at the tremendous impact technological progress has on the translation profession, DGT's Director-General came up with the idea of a challenge for students, enabling them to demonstrate in a playful way that they embrace machine translation and translation tools. After several months of reflection within the EMT and DGT, the first edition for such a competition was finally launched in spring 2021. Students were challenged to imagine the perfect computer-assisted translation (CAT) environment. Entries could cover the whole package or a single aspect, in a format left to the students' imagination and creativity. A panel of DGT staff, EMT professors and industry representatives then looked for a project that showed a deep understanding of the CAT environment (including machine translation), and how AI could best serve translators' needs.

¹ DGT language departments give a priority to EMT students when deciding about the training placements.

The winning entry is the brainchild of a team of students from the University of Turku and the University of Helsinki. *Verso* (meaning 'sprout' in Finnish) draws on artificial intelligence and machine learning to help project managers improve future projects and workflow.



The winning team was invited to present their project at the Translating Europe Forum 2021 where they also had the opportunity to network and exchange with participants from the language industry. Moreover, DGT's Director-General held a special surprise for them, announcing that in addition they would receive a tablet as a prize! The DGT EMT challenge will become a regular event, and DGT counts on the EMT professors to publicize it among their students.

Research

One of the [priorities of the current EMT](#) network is to foster cooperation on translation-related research with the aim to make EMT a practice-oriented research hub. DGT continues to be a partner in this endeavour.

To pursue this goal, the EMT Board has decided to encourage the EMT network members to exchange more actively about their ongoing research projects. They set up a special [research page](#) on the EMT network Teams channel, where EMT members can indicate their current funded projects, showcasing specific areas of research and/or their Institute's general lines of research.

The page also aims at compiling the research interests of EMT members in view of a potential matchmaking in case a university is looking for cooperation partners. It therefore includes a second table where EMT members can indicate topics or areas that they would be prepared to get involved in, including research topics proposed by DGT.

DGT is open to receiving researchers in the context of their research projects and to helping disseminate their results.

Visiting Translator Scheme (VTS)

The ongoing pandemic slowed down the VTS considerably again. Although the selection committee was very careful and only selected 10 projects for 2021, in the end only four of them were carried out. None of those involved EMT universities; however, one colleague paid a virtual visit to a Greek university with the aim of running a terminology project with DGT's Greek language department and raising the university's interest in an EMT membership.

The proportion of VTS missions to EMT universities could be higher if interested EMT members communicated the purpose and type of interaction envisaged with visiting DGT translators more clearly to the DGT².

EMT universities and eTranslation

The EMT universities continue to have free access to DGT's machine translation system [eTranslation](#) for teaching and research purposes. Here is a short reminder on [how to access the tool](#).

DGT – EMT joint training activities

The following training activities were organised in 2021, either with lecturers from EMT programmes or with speakers from other faculties of their universities with whom the EMT programme cooperates.

² As a reminder: DGT colleagues have to propose a project on which they intend to cooperate with the visited institution (administration or university). The project can meet an individual learning need of the translator or a need of his/her language department (better knowledge of a particular domain, language, terminology issues, better use of CAT tools and other translation related applications, computational linguistics...). If you are interested in hosting a visiting translator, please let us know what kind of training or other collaboration activity you can propose in return.

Title of the event	Date	Speaker
Has machine translation really reached parity with professional human translation? The impact of document-level context on quality evaluation and translator performance	22.01.2021	Samuel Läubli, University of Zurich (CH)
Finanza Per Traduttori - Approfondimenti	01.02.2021	Claudio La Rosa, University of Geneva (CH)
Slogany, headliny, komunikační kampaně. Úvod do tématu	04.03.2021	Tereza Klabíková Rábová, Charles University, Prague (CS)
Terminology Mining and Data-Driven Knowledge Modelling	07.06.2021	Spela Vintar, University of Ljubljana (SL)
Corpus linguistics for quality management	26.10.2021	Mikhail Mikhailov, Tampere University (FI)
Language resource management	15.09.2021	Damjan Popič, University of Ljubljana (SL)
Introduction to terminology and knowledge mining	22.09.2021	Spela Vintar, University of Ljubljana (SL)
What is neural machine translation and how does it work?	06.07.2021	Samuel Läubli, University of Zurich (CH)
Multilingualism and its different aspects	21.04.2021	Ms Anna Verschik, Professor of General Linguistics at Tallinn University (ET)
Which skills are needed on the future labour market and in which direction is our economy going?	18.11.2021	Mr Raul Eamets, Professor of Macroeconomics, University of Tartu (ET)
1) The history of Estonian legal language: milestones and publications;	25.11.2021	Ms Marju Luts-Sootak, University of Tartu (ET)
2) Deutsches Recht in Estland - Geschichte und Gegenwart		
Understanding and governing a Circular Economy	09.06.2021	Prof. Harri Kalimo, VUB (BE)
Theoretical and practical introduction into translation revision	02.06.2021	Dr Edina ROBIN, Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest (HU)
Dealing with terminology: Finance & Commerce	10.06.2021	George Cassola, lecturer UoM (MT)
Prosty język w dokumentach Komisji Europejskiej (Plain language in the documents of the European Commission)	25.11.2021	Tomasz Piekot, University of Wrocław (PL)
Sciences et technologie:	18.05.2021	UHA, Mulhouse (FR)
1) Éléments de chimie et la nomenclature IUPAC;		
2) Épidémiologie		
Sciences et technologie: Épidémiologie	08.10.2021	UHA, Mulhouse (FR)

Moreover, two DGT translators participated in an upskilling pilot project and completed an advanced Master on Artificial Intelligence at KU Leuven. 30 more DGT colleagues were trained in the field of computational linguistics thanks to an online training cycle delivered in collaboration with the University of Ljubljana.

The EMT secretariat in DGT

The EMT team in DGT provides the EMT project management and ensures the proper functioning of the EMT Network from an administrative point of view. The team organises the Board and Network meetings and serves as the EMT secretariat.

In 2021, it organised one online network meeting and cooperated with the University of Leipzig in the organisation of the first hybrid network meeting.

Moreover, it gives technical support to EMT network members in the use of the [EMT network channel](#). on Teams, the online communication tool for the EMT network. EMT members are advised to adjust the settings such a way that they receive notifications for new posts on the channel. Otherwise, they run the risk of missing important information from the DGT EMT team who will use e-mail messages only in exceptional cases and their EMT partners.

EMT – OUTREACH

Cooperation with the language industry

The LIND Expert Group was set up in 2014 to assist DGT by providing expertise on the language industry in relation to translation, language data and language technologies. The group raises awareness of language industry matters and gives expert opinions on issues connected with academic and working life in the translation sector and the changes necessitated by increasing digitalisation. The group was renewed in 2021, following a call for expression of interest. The names and profiles of the LIND expert members can be found on the [dedicated LIND page on Europa](#).

Along the years, EMT and LIND have collaborated successfully in many fields, such as traineeships, competences, and industry trends. The emphasis has been on concrete initiatives that can yield real results and bring change to the visibility and professionalization of the industry, such as the yearly language industry survey (ELIS), in which EMT has been involved for a couple of years, and again in 2021. Board Member Alexandra Krause coordinated the EMT participation and presented a first sneak preview of the results at the EMT network meeting in March 2021. The detailed results can be found [here](#).

In the very first meeting between the EMT Board and the newly selected LIND experts in July, some additional concrete steps were proposed as joint future activities, namely:

- Making the translation profession more attractive to young people
- Industry mentoring for university trainers
- Promoting EMT standards to universities not (yet) members
- Raising awareness on newest industry trends and needs
- Joining forces to position translation as crucial asset for both business and society
- Structural collaboration in EMT working groups, where LIND members can be invited as external experts
- Seeking for a solution regarding students' accesses to customised MT engines.

As a concrete follow-up to these suggestions, LIND experts volunteered to participate as evaluators in the first DGT EMT challenge and to participate in the panel of the Colloquium following the EMT network meeting in Leipzig.

Social media

EMT has a stable presence on social media. Over the years, the [EMT Facebook](#) page has amassed 2659 regular followers. Main content shared are conferences organised at various EMT universities, Translating Europe workshops, traineeship opportunities in the language industry, including DGT, and other EU activities related to training and young people as well as the result of the EMT challenge. Increasingly EMT members now post announcements on the FB page themselves, especially when something is published on the EMT blog, but the page is not yet used to its full potential. However, more and more EMT network members (individuals and institutions) use the hashtag #EMTnet on Twitter.

The [EMT blog](#) has now established a regular rhythm of publicizing articles on a bi-weekly basis (except during the summer break). All in all, EMT members posted 19 blogs in 2021, bringing the total number of articles published to 31. Most of them are published in English only, but half of the authors present a bilingual version, and some professors use the blog for a translation exercise with their students, so that the blog posts are increasingly multilingual with Dutch, French, Finnish, Italian and Greek versions.

So far, the calendar shows that universities have volunteered to contribute until May 2022. The blog was accessed by 7310 visitors in 2021, and thus contributes clearly to the visibility of the EMT.

A link is established with social media accounts (the EMT Network's Facebook page and also the DGT's Twitter account, although less systematically). EMT representatives also post the contributions on their own social media accounts, institutional or personal.

CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

2021 was clearly marked by the Covid-19 crisis again, but EMT members coped quite well after they had to follow a steep learning curve in the previous year. The network consolidated further, steadily pursuing the network objectives and collaborating, mainly online in the working groups.

However, the network members feel that the move to a full online operation of the EMT network is not desirable and they do not consider the past situation a 'new normal'. As in other areas of corporate/academia operations, it was felt that in-person meetings came with added value of enhanced networking and team spirit as well as the feeling of ownership. Therefore, the network will work towards full in-person meetings as soon as possible again, although some distance participation component (i.e., partially hybrid format) will be an option as well.

In the next year, the network members will focus their activities on the three priority areas identified in the [EMT priorities 2019-2024](#) document. These are:

Core competences: In view of the next EMT selection, they will carefully review the EMT competence framework to update it, if necessary, with new skills not considered in the current document.

Knowledge sharing: The exchange of good practices will continue in the EMT network and working group meetings, including train-the-trainer activities. A knowledge sharing space accessible for all network members to store and share their resources would help improving knowledge sharing within the network. The EMT Board will look into this together with the DGT EMT team.

Outreach and Visibility: On top of the established activities on social media and cooperation with the language industry, the EMT Board proposes to organise an online conference to promote the updated EMT competence framework. If accompanied with scientific publications, such a conference could meet several objectives at the same time: 1. Spread the EMT standards beyond the network and in particular to potential new members. 2. Raise the visibility of the network and the quality training it provides. 3. Increase the academic value of the framework.

Important links

EMT in Europa:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/resources-partners/european-masters-translation-emt_en

EMT blog:

<https://blogs.ec.europa.eu/emt>

EMT Competence Framework:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/emt_competence_fw_k_2017_en_web.pdf

EMT Functional Mailbox:

DGT-EMT@ec.europa.eu

