



ITIA BULLETIN

December 2004

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Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Teangairí na hÉireann

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■ Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the last issue of the ITIA Bulletin of 2004. This issue is slightly shorter than usual - the result of an excess of Christmas pudding perhaps - but still features an article on the future of translator training in Europe in the light of the harmonisation of European education, a subject which I have a hunch will be of interest to quite a few of our readers. And, of course, there's the usual mixture of tidbits and announcements which we hope will be of interest and bring all you translators out there just a little closer together.

This is now my twelfth issue as editor of the Bulletin and, as I've now equalled the record of my esteemed predecessor Jody Byrne, I think the hour may be approaching for me to move on and make way for some younger blood to fill my shoes. So if you fancy having a go at the job itself, why not let me know. Prerequisites will be some awareness of the translation scene (particularly in Ireland), an addiction to e-mail, the ability to get things done to deadlines, some (albeit limited) knowledge of computers, and a commitment to attend executive committee meetings of the ITIA once a month here in Dublin. Probably the greatest asset will be a willingness to network and find out what's going on out there in the wonderful world of translation. So if you fancy your hand at the job, do let me know. Of course we'll be prepared to take you under our wing and teach you all you'll need to know. In the meantime, I shall be continuing on in this position until my replacement takes over.

In conclusion, I wish you all a (by now somewhat belated) Happy Christmas and every good blessing for 2005.

Best wishes,
John Kearns
Editor ITIA Bulletin
kearns(a)pro.onet.pl

■ Translator Training and the Bologna Process

Many of the Bulletin's readers, in addition to being interested in translation and translation studies, are also involved in third-level education both in Ireland and abroad. For the past few years one of the dominant topics of discussion in European tertiary education has been the 'Bologna Process' - the process whereby European third-level educational structures are to be harmonised in the coming years. This will particularly evident in the growing dominance of the so-called "3+2" structure of degree programmes throughout the European educational area (three-year BAs followed by two-year MAs), the standardisation of which will, it is hoped, increase mobility of students between European countries and enable degrees to be more mutually recognisable. Obviously there will be many implications of this procedure for various stakeholders and there has been much discussion among the

translation community in particular about the implications for translator training. Earlier this month a conference was held at the University of Mainz (Germersheim) in Germany devoted to discussing the future of European translator and interpreter training, with particular reference to the implications of Bologna. One of the outcomes of the conference was the following the declaration which, it is hoped, will stimulate discussion about the future of language mediation training in Europe. The authors of the document have indicated to me that, given that one of the purposes of the Declaration is to initiate discussion, all feedback would be welcome. I would thus be happy to pass on your comments to them.

John Kearns
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The Germersheim Declaration Translation and Interpreting Studies Programmes and the Bologna Process

The Faculty of Applied Linguistics and Cultural Studies of the University of Mainz in Germersheim played host to the "Fifth International Symposium on Teaching Translation and Interpreting" from the 9th to 11th of December 2004. The focus of the symposium was "BA/MA Programmes - An International Perspective". It was attended by members of roughly 50 (mostly European) universities, as well as of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and European Union language services.

Delegates at the symposium discussed the first version of the following declaration. It met with widespread consensus. No formal vote on adoption was taken. The present version incorporates changes suggested in the discussion.

1. Opportunities

Translation and interpreting studies are compatible with a constructive implementation of the Bologna recommendations. One important contributing factor here is the fact that the acquisition of translation and interpreting skills need not necessarily extend over a four- or five-year full degree programme. The acquisition of an MA in conference interpreting or in specialised translation is certainly a worthwhile option

as a follow-up to a BA in philology, or, for that matter, even to a non-language-orientated degree.

The considerable boost to international mobility which the two-cycle BA/MA system encourages is of major significance in the translation and interpreting field. For example, a German native speaker studying English and Polish in Germersheim can, after completing the BA, select an attractive MA programme at a British or Polish university. For German universities the system offers the opportunity to become more efficient in their recruitment of foreign students to MA programmes in translation and interpreting. It will become possible to more accurately estimate the cost, in terms of both time and money, of studying at a foreign university than has thus far been the case.

An MA programme that can be completed in one or two years also makes possible a much more flexible and rapid adaptation to altered requirements or opportunities. Fixed-term MA offers could be developed for “modime languages”¹ or for specialist translation skills such as court interpreting, for example.

¹ Fr. langues modimes (= “les moins diffusées et les moins enseignées”); Eng., so far, cumbersome less widely used languages.

2. Problems

In one important sense, however, the Bologna Process seems to be falling short of the mark. It is intended as a European process, but current implementation practices at the national level leave something to be desired as far as international cooperation (not standardisation!) within the field of translation and interpreting studies is concerned. Implementation tends to follow national and university-internal regulations that are equally applicable to all disciplines rather than being carried out by means of a European coordination of the establishments involved in the training of translators and interpreters. The national accreditation system also weakens the European dimension of the reform process. International translation and interpreting federations are insufficiently integrated in the reform. The result is new national structures that preserve the diversity, but all too rarely merge to form a coherent European unity.

A break with the formal principle of national implementation of the Bologna Process and with the associated emphasis on formal aspects such as examination regulations rather than academic content is not to be expected. An alternative route to re-Europeanisation must therefore be sought.

3. Desideratum: Transparency

A fundamental desideratum for the European reorientation of the Bologna Process is the creation of transparency. By achieving this transparency with regard to programme structures, objectives, contents and requirements, comparability and compatibility will become more readily discernible and assessable. In this context, aspects of translation and interpreting studies such as the following seem to be relevant:

- The bare essentials: the percentage of hours or credit points dedicated to translation and interpreting studies in programmes (primarily) designated “Translation/Interpreting”;
- Study objectives, contents and requirements: the comparability of courses with the same title (e.g. “Consecutive Interpreting”, “Specialised Translation”) and of programmes of study with the same designation (e.g. “MA in Translation”) at different institutions;
- Credit points: the criteria according to which credit points are assigned for comparable courses within a programme of studies and in different programmes of study.

Transparency for these and other aspects can be achieved descriptively, analytically or normatively.

DESCRIPTIVE TRANSPARENCY WITHIN AN INSTITUTION:

- a) Statement on the “bare essentials” principle for translation/interpreting in each programme of study; detailed description of the individual courses supported by specific examples (e.g. examination with correction and evaluation); disclosure of the principles of credit point allocation (in place of mere allocation of credit points to courses).
- b) Availability of all relevant information on the Internet, and in each case in at least one of the established European *lingue franche*.

DESCRIPTIVE TRANSPARENCY AT EUROPEAN LEVEL:

- a) Development of a common European framework of reference for competence in translation and interpreting (similar to the Framework of Reference for Languages).
- b) Development of a model for a European translation and interpreting portfolio (with translation/interpreting passport, biography and dossier, similar to the European Language Portfolio).

ANALYTICAL TRANSPARENCY AT EUROPEAN LEVEL:

Formation of groups of three to five institutions in different countries, to bring a critical, external perspective to bear in regular discussion of the specific details of reform implementation within the respective partner institutions so making possible at European level, and rationalising, what has been the preserve at national level of the bureaucratically top-heavy accreditation procedure).

- NORMATIVE TRANSPARENCY AT EUROPEAN LEVEL:

a) Specification of desirable reference levels as well as desirable elements of the translation and interpreting portfolio for programmes of study with different profiles.

b) Development of European recommendations and accompanying predicate for translation and interpreting studies programmes, including, for example, the following points: proof of language skills before the beginning of each translation and interpreting study programme; are translation and interpreting studies to be located only at MA, or also at BA level?; degree of specialisation of the MA and difference from the BA; open access to MA (assessment of abilities and aptitude) or admission by means of a "relevant" BA; or fully convalidated stays abroad and work placements.

Appropriate steps would need to be taken to ensure the coordination of these and other measures.

4. In conclusion

The success of the Bologna reform will depend substantially on its being re-Europeanised by a strengthening of the information and coordination structures within the discipline, as well as by the creation of a functioning transfer at the interface between BA and MA programmes to facilitate movement between study programmes and countries. A discipline such as translation and interpreting studies can only profit from such Europeanising and internationalising initiatives.

Germersheim, December 2004

Andreas F. Kellertat / Susanne Hagemann (translated by Ron Walker)

■ Second DCU Postgraduate Translation Studies Conference

The website for the *Second Dublin City University Postgraduate Translation Studies Conference* is now up and running, and can be accessed at <http://www.ctts.dcu.ie/pg-conference.htm>

For those of you thinking of submitting abstracts, we'd suggest that you first take a look at the 'Guidelines for Submitting Abstracts' page on the site. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is January 22nd 2005, and applicants will be informed of whether their abstracts have been accepted by February 5th.

More news regarding the conference is that we have now confirmed another guest speaker for the event: Jin Di, the renowned translation theorist and translator of the first Chinese edition of James Joyce's *Ulysses*. Prof. Jin will be in Dublin to be conferred with honorary membership of the Irish Translators' and Interpreters' Association, and all conference delegates are also invited to attend his conferment (and free wine reception!) at the Irish Writers' Centre, 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 on the evening of March 31st (the day before the start of the conference). Again, more details are available on the website.

Best wishes on behalf of the organising committee and looking forward to seeing you in Dublin.

John Kearns
[kearns\(a\)pro.onet.pl](mailto:kearns(a)pro.onet.pl)

■ Next Issue of the ITIA Bulletin

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out at the end of January 2005. So if you have any contributions, news, suggestions, or something you'd like to share, send them to me, John Kearns, at [kearns\(a\)pro.onet.pl](mailto:kearns(a)pro.onet.pl).

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To unsubscribe, simply send an Email to [itia-ezine-unsubscribe\(a\)yahooogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-unsubscribe(a)yahooogroups.com)

■ CEN BTTF 138 Translation Services

Committee BTTF 138 of CEN, the European Standardisation Body, of which the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) is a member, is now inviting comments on its draft standard for translators. The deadline for comments is February 2nd 2005. To view the standard, please click on http://www.nsaie.ie/News_and_Events/Latest_News/Translation_Service.html

The site is password protected and the password may be obtained from Miriam Lee [[translation\(a\)eircom.net](mailto:translation(a)eircom.net)], to whom comments may also be sent.

Miriam Lee
[translation\(a\)eircom.net](mailto:translation(a)eircom.net)

■ ITIA New Members

The Irish Translators' and Interpreters' Association welcomes the following translators who have recently become members:

MAUREEN BRENNAN

Lintown Gardens, Lintown Hall, Johnswell Rd., Kilkenny

Tel: 087 218 2263

E-mail: [maurbrennan\(a\)eircom.net](mailto:maurbrennan(a)eircom.net)

Spanish, Irish, French into English, English into Irish – legal, medical, technical, marketing, literature, agricultural, government, commercial
Interpreting: bilateral

AISLING MAIRÉAD O'CALLAGHAN BA

Adrigole, Beara, Co Cork

Tel: 027 600 76

E-mail: [gurthnarea\(a\)yahoo.com](mailto:gurthnarea(a)yahoo.com)

German, French, Irish into English – technical, economics, human rights

CHRISTOPHER CRONIN

Eschenstr 5, 18057 Rostock, Germany

Tel: +49 381 3644 165 Mobile: +49 162 369 4462

E-mail: [chriscro\(a\)gmx.de](mailto:chriscro(a)gmx.de)

German to and from English – technical, commercial, arts, literature, legal, environment, finance, construction

Interpreting: conference

For details of how to join the ITIA, please see the Association's website: www.translatorsassociation.ie.

■ Joining the ITIA

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* is always delighted to welcome new members to the Association.

There are five categories of membership:

- ◆ Ordinary
- ◆ Professional
- ◆ Corporate
- ◆ Student
- ◆ Honorary

Ordinary membership is open to anyone with an interest in translating or interpreting. *Professional membership* is for those who meet strict criteria set by the professional membership committee of the ITIA and which is part of the drive to raise the status of the profession in the European market.

Corporate membership is for firms and agencies associated with the profession while *student membership* is for undergraduates engaged in third level language and/or translation studies. Finally, *honorary membership* is intended for national and international persons who have distinguished themselves in our professional field.

For more information on how to join as well as for the relevant application forms, visit the ITIA website at: www.translatorsassociation.ie

■ Residences for Authors & Translators

RESIDENCES D'AUTEURS DRAMATIQUES ET DE TRADUCTEURS
A LA CHARTREUSE DE VILLENEUVE-LEZ-AVIGNON
APPEL DE CANDIDATURES POUR 2005

En vertu de la nouvelle Convention, signée en juillet 2002 par le Ministre des Arts et des Lettres et la Chartreuse de Villeneuve-lez-Avignon, Centre National des Ecritures du Spectacle, un appel de candidatures pour l'année 2005 est lancé.

Pour l'année 2005, la Convention prévoit l'attribution de bourses de résidence d'une durée de deux à trois mois à la Chartreuse de Villeneuve-lez-Avignon en faveur d'auteurs dramatiques et de traducteurs.

Ces candidatures seront examinées par la Commission Mixte France/Communauté Wallonie-Bruxelles.

Les dossiers de candidature doivent comporter les éléments suivants:

- une lettre de motivation circonstanciée;
- un CV;
- un projet d'œuvre dramaturgique (descriptif + quelques scènes déjà écrites) ou de traduction en langue étrangère d'une œuvre théâtrale d'un auteur belge francophone;
- ainsi que le texte d'une œuvre antérieure, publiée ou non, choisie par l'auteur comme particulièrement représentative.

Ces résidences d'une durée de deux à trois mois ont pour objectif de permettre aux auteurs d'achever un projet d'écriture théâtrale et de bénéficier également des différentes initiatives proposées par la Chartreuse telles que les rencontres avec d'autres dramaturges boursiers, les opérations de lecture, etc.

La durée de 2 mois au maximum, prévue pour les résidences des traducteurs, vise à assurer la traduction complète ou partielle de plusieurs œuvres d'un même dramaturge et à leur offrir, en outre, une immersion dans l'écriture théâtrale contemporaine.

Conditions pour les auteurs:

- Œuvrer et/ou résider en Belgique;
- Avoir déjà été publié et/ou avoir été porté à la scène professionnellement.
- Disposer d'une expérience spécifique en matière de traduction théâtrale;
- Développer un projet qui concerne préférentiellement des dramaturges belges francophones contemporains.
- Avoir des relations dans le milieu de l'édition et/ou du théâtre de leur pays d'origine.

Il y a lieu pour les candidats, de mentionner, le cas échéant, les gages d'intérêt et les engagements de la part de structures théâtrales et culturelles par rapport à leur projet d'œuvre dramatique ou de structures d'édition par rapport aux traductions issues de la résidence.

Les bourses de résidence octroyées par le Ministère de la Communauté française, Service de la Promotion des Lettres, sont d'un montant de 1.500 Euros par mois.

Date limite de dépôt des candidatures: le 31 janvier 2005

Les candidatures sont à envoyer à:

Madame Claudine LISON,
Secrétaire de la Commission Mixte
c/o Wallonie-Bruxelles Théâtre
Le Flagey - 18, Place Flagey - Boîte 13
B-1050 Bruxelles

Tél. 0032 2/219.39.08
Fax. 0032 2/219.45.74
E-mail: [wbt\(a\)online.be](mailto:wbt(a)online.be)
Site: www.wbtheatre.be

■ UNESCO Translation Initiatives

INDEX TRANSLATIONUM

The second yearly update of the Index Translationum, world translation bibliography, is now on line (www.unesco.org/culture/translationum) featuring 45,000 new items from the following countries: Belarus, Brazil, Cuba, Denmark, Kuwait, Spain, Moldavia, Nigeria, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Rumania and Thailand. Available free of charge on line and updated three times yearly, the Index Translationum, created in 1932, will contain soon more than 1,500,000 references on all subjects: literature, social sciences, science, biology, art and history.
Information: [index\(a\)unesco.org](mailto:index(a)unesco.org)

THE UNESCO ON-LINE LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION JOURNAL

The new *UNESCO Literature and Translation (L&T) Journal*, is now available on-line. The journal includes contributions from different institutions connected to UNESCO's literary translation site and the present update contains an article by the Croatian publisher Hrvoje Bozicevic and information on the Libreville Book Fair in Gabon. The L&T Journal is a free service offered to the UNESCO Clearing House for Literary Translation's partners. If you wish to contribute, just contact us by e mail.

Read the L&T Journal:

http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=23845&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Mauro Rosi - Clearing House for Literary Translation
Centre d'échange d'informations sur la traduction littéraire
UNESCO
Division of Arts and Cultural Enterprise
Division des arts et de l'entreprise culturelle
Email: [m.rosi\(a\)unesco.org](mailto:m.rosi(a)unesco.org)
www.unesco.org/culture/lit
www.unesco.org/culture/translationum

■ Jobs in Hong Kong

Jobs in Hong Kong

Wai Kee Kau Chair Professor of Translation

Department of Translation, Lingnan University (Ref.: 04/120/CAT)

The Translation Programme aims to develop students' oral, written and social skills to a stage where they will be able to serve as effective and responsible intermediaries between texts and speakers in English and Chinese. One of its central features is the equal emphasis on translation as a profession and as an academic discipline. Another feature is the importance attached to the socio-cultural environment of the Chinese and English languages.

Applicants must be eminent and internationally recognized scholars in Translation, especially Chinese-English and English-Chinese translation, with an outstanding research record in both translation studies and translation in practice. They should have extensive knowledge in one or more of the following areas: translation, interpreting, literary studies, and language studies.

- ◆ Monthly salary will be in the Chair Professor range, minimum HK\$89,000.
- ◆ Fringe benefits include annual leave, medical benefits, mandatory provident fund, gratuity, housing benefits and passage and baggage allowance.

Applicants are invited to submit their dossier as soon as possible, together with Form R1 which is obtainable from the University's website, to the Human Resources Office, Lingnan University, Tuen Mun, Hong Kong by post, by fax: (852)2891-5782, or by email: [recruit\(a\)LN.edu.hk](mailto:recruit(a)LN.edu.hk) (as attachment in MS Word format). Review of applications will begin around mid-January 2005, but applications will continue to be received until the position is filled. Please quote the reference number in all correspondence. Further information on the University can be found on <http://www.LN.edu.hk>.

Associate Professor / Assistant Professor / Teaching Fellow

Department of Translation (Ref.: 04/108/CAT)

The appointee will be required to teach courses in one or more of the following areas: translation, interpreting, linguistics, translation and culture. Excellent command of Chinese and English is a must, and experience of teaching translation (both theory and practice), interpreting, or comparative literature/linguistics will be advantageous.

Applicants for Associate Professorship should normally have five years' relevant experience and a sound record of teaching and research; for Assistant Professorship, applicants should have a relevant Ph.D. degree with relevant teaching experience and research records. For the Teaching Fellow post, applicants should normally have a relevant Master's degree with at least four years' relevant experience.

Monthly Salary and Fringe Benefits:

- ◆ Associate Professor: Around HK\$55,200 - HK\$72,700
- ◆ Assistant Professor: Around HK\$40,600 - HK\$64,000
- ◆ Teaching Fellow: Around HK\$26,500 - HK\$38,200
- ◆ Fringe benefits, where applicable, include annual leave, medical benefits, mandatory provident fund, gratuity, housing benefits and passage and baggage allowance.

Applicants are invited to submit their dossier by 31 January 2005, together with a Personal Data Sheet (Form R1) which is obtainable from the University's website, to the Human Resources Office, Lingnan University, Tuen Mun, Hong Kong by post, by fax: (852)2891-5782, or by email: [recruit\(a\)LN.edu.hk](mailto:recruit(a)LN.edu.hk) (as attachment in MS Word format). Please specify the position you are applying for and quote the reference number in all correspondence. Further information on the University can be found on the University's website: <http://www.LN.edu.hk>.

Joint LTAC/ALTA Conference in Montreal in 2005

LTAC and the *American Literary Translators Association* (ALTA) of the United States are planning on holding a joint conference in Montreal in 2005. The conference will run from Wednesday night, November 2, through Saturday night, November 5. The last time the two organizations held their annual conferences together was also in Montreal, in 1986, and was a great success. Some 250 literary translators from the United States are expected to attend; LTAC members who register will be able to organize their own events and will also have access to all the workshops, panels, bilingual readings, and special events organized by ALTA.

The conference will be a unique opportunity for LTAC members to find out more about literary translation in the United States, as well as to show their American counterparts what is happening in Canada. ALTA is the only organization in the United States dedicated solely to literary translation. It currently has some 700 members, who translate from dozens of languages into English. Since its founding in 1978, it has emerged as a broad-based association dedicated to the promotion of literary translation through services to literary translators, forums and publications on the theory and practice of translation, collaboration with the international literary community, and advocacy on behalf of the literary translator. A highlight of the Montreal conference will be a number of events focusing on Canadian culture, specifically on literature and publishing in both official languages. These will include panel discussions, workshops, speakers, and readings and performances. They will cover a wide range of topics, but there will be a special emphasis on the translation of Canadian literature. The keynote speaker for the event will be a person involved in Canadian writing and translation, and there will also be a special *Blue Metropolis* literary festival event which will be open to participating LTAC and ALTA members, as well as to the general public. An on-site bookstore will sell translations and books by members of both organizations.

Canadian panels that have been suggested to date include Canadian literature and publishing in English, which would include the participation of Canadian publishers; Quebec literature from a world perspective, with discussion among Quebec writers and publishers; Hispanic writing in the US and Canada and the challenges involved in its translation; the translation of Canadian and American dialects; and a discussion of what has been happening at the *Banff International Literary Translation Centre* (BILTC). Workshops have also been suggested in the translation of Acadian, Cajun, and Quebec literature, and there have been proposals for a special series of bilingual readings involving both writers and translators, as well for a virtual tour of literary Montreal. Panels and workshops may be held in either French or English. In addition to these activities focusing on Canadian writing, publishing, and translation, which are intended to interest all translators in attendance, there will be, as at every ALTA conference, dozens of panels, talks, and workshops and a full series of readings, including a yearly event on Saturday night known as “¡Declamación!” in which translators recite translations or works of poetry from memory. Canadian translators will of course be able to participate in these with their U.S. colleagues, bringing to them their own concerns, practices, and points of view. Any members who would be interested in participating in the proposed panels, or who have ideas for other panels, workshops, readings, or special events are welcome to submit them to either Hugh Hazelton, at hhazelton@earthlink.net or to Jerry Chapple at chapple@univmail.cis.mcmaster.ca before April 1, 2005. We look forward to your participation and to making the joint conference an unforgettable event!

Hugh Hazelton
hhazelton@earthlink.net

THE CIRIN BULLETIN

Conference Interpreting Research Information Network: An independent network for the dissemination of information on conference interpreting research (CIR)

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Website: <http://perso.wanadoo.fr/daniel.gile/>

The twenty-eighth edition of the CIRIN Bulletin is now out and available at the CIRIN website (address above). It aims contribute to the dissemination of information on conference interpreting research (CIR) and to provide useful information to members of the CIR community worldwide. It is intended to achieve maximum coverage of research into this sub-field of interpreting, and only occasionally refers to research and publications in other sub-fields. The Bulletin is published twice a year, in December and June. For further information and electronic or paper copies of early issues (the last issue is available on the Web site at any time), please contact Daniel Gile [daniel.gile\(a\)laposte.net](mailto:daniel.gile(a)laposte.net).

To become a CIRIN Member, please write to Daniel Gile and ask for your name or the name of your organization to be added to the list. Membership entails no financial or administrative commitments, but indicates willingness to share CIR information, in particular through the Bulletin. Please report any relevant IR information (bibliographical items, research activities, etc.) to your Regional Node or directly to Paris. The Bulletin is a speedy and flexible information vehicle, but its value depends on members' contributions.

Daniel Gile

[daniel.gile\(a\)laposte.net](mailto:daniel.gile(a)laposte.net)

■ Contacting The ITIA

Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
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ITIA BULLETIN

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■ ITIA Resources for Translators

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* has compiled a series of useful information leaflets for translators and interpreters - both members and non-members alike. These leaflets are available from the ITIA website at www.translatorsassociation.ie.

- ◆ *The Translation Profession*
- ◆ *Joining the ITIA*
- ◆ *Ordinary Membership Application*
- ◆ *Professional Membership Application*
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