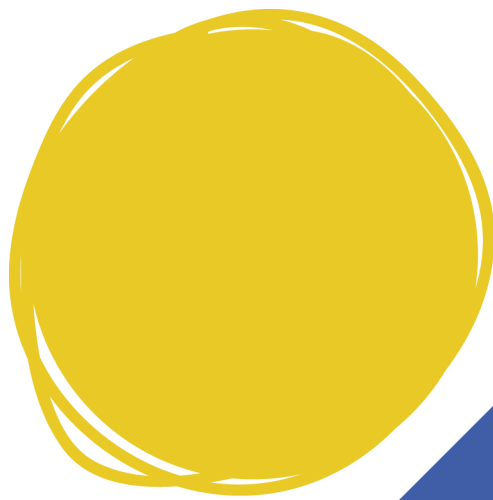


ITIA

Bulletin

2019 / 03

Irish Translators' and Interpreters' Association
Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Ateangairí na hÉireann



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Editorial

Welcome to our new look Bulletin - something that has been in the offing for quite some time and which we believe will make reading it an even more enjoyable experience. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Adam Brozynski, former Executive Committee Member and Bulletin editor, who has been doing the layout of the Bulletin, on a voluntary basis, for more years than we care to remember and without whom we could simply not have published!

Solidarity, networking, volunteering, currently much touted terms - but where's the connection to our profession? This issue of the Bulletin looks at these aspects of translator and interpreter associations and the benefits they can have for members.

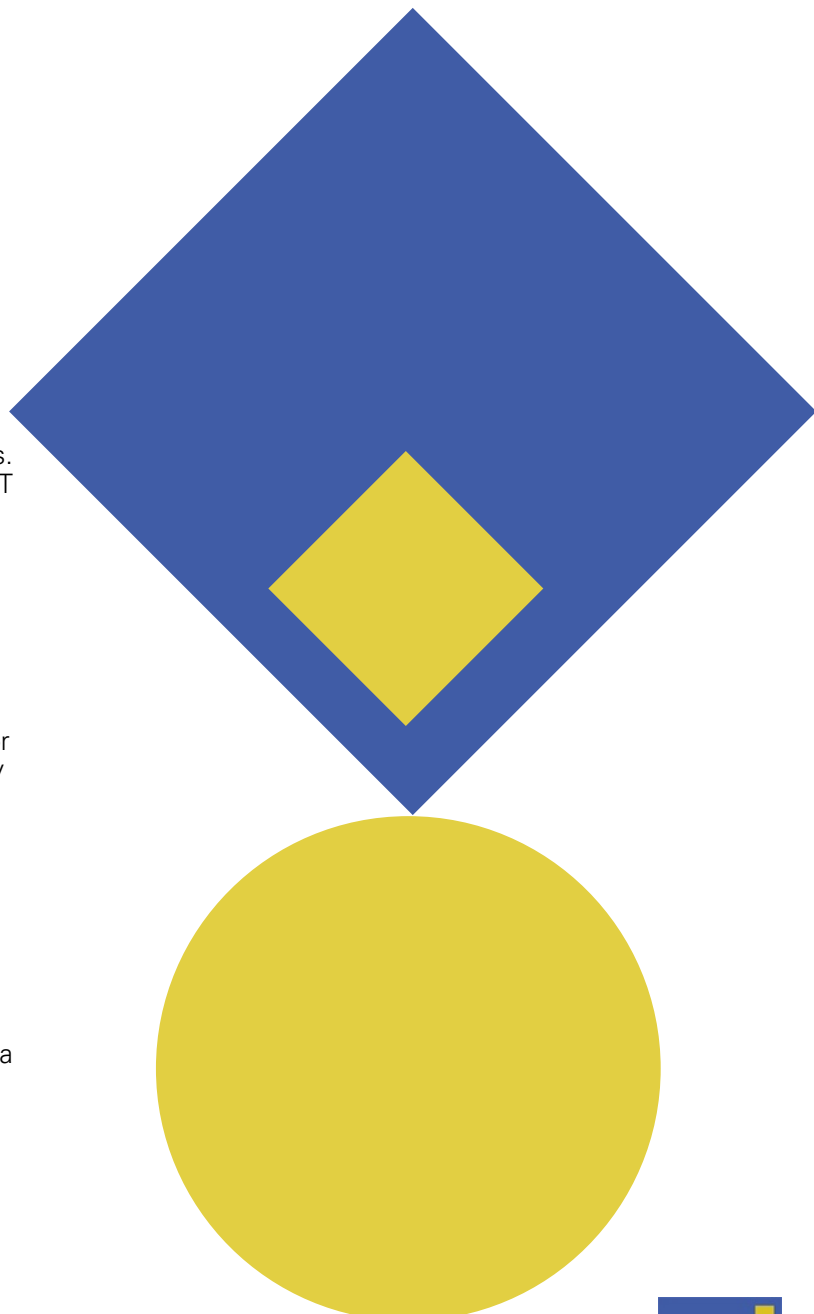
Bulletin readers and ITIA members may know that ITIA is a member of FIT Mundis and indeed that our own Dr. Annette Schiller, PM and former ITIA Chairperson, is Chair of FIT (Fédération Internationale de Traducteurs) Europe, a regional branch of FIT Mundis, representing 74 member associations from 29 European countries. This allows her and, by extension, the ITIA to exchange information, experience and best practices with translator and interpreter associations worldwide as well as to be active participants and contributors to future practices. Annette has written a report for the Bulletin on the FIT Europe conference in Athens this summer on translation and interpretation in crisis settings.

ITIA is also a member of CEATL (Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires) which represents 35 associations from 30 countries. CEATL defends the legal, social and economic interests of literary translators in a European context, which includes EU lobbying and reacting publicly to trends or events impacting on our profession and on the quality of literary translation. Included in this issue is an article from Spanish literary translators' association Ace Traductores who took up digital arms in support of their colleagues.

ITIA, like so many of our colleague associations, carries out surveys as frequently as possible, in order to contribute to the overall picture of current aspects of our professions, in this instance, rates we charge. Ken Waide, Executive Committee member, provides a summary of the results.

We hope to catch up with you all at the 33rd ITIA AGM, taking place at the IWC on Saturday, October 19th at 2.15pm and we never lose hope that we might get some feedback - to theitiabulletin@gmail.com - from our readers!

Anne Larchet, Editor



The benefits of volunteering: good for your association, good for you

Guillaume Deneufberg, President of the Belgian Chamber of Translators and Interpreters, CBTI- BKVT, has kindly given the Bulletin permission to reproduce his article on the advantages of being a member of a professional

Several studies have confirmed that getting involved in an association gives individuals a sense of personal achievement as it creates a sense of well-being and may even be good for your health.

Just like any other non-profit organisation, professional or charitable, the CBTI needs a team in order to get work done. I have taken the plunge – head first – into a few of the many jobs and articles relating to volunteering. The aim? To briefly highlight the benefits of providing your time for free in order to, I hope, help people realise their true calling.

Volunteering can be defined as a keen person's commitment to give some of their time, energy and imagination to an "external" cause – an outpouring of generosity that begins with a spur-of-the-moment action and has long-term benefits. Experts have defined six main categories that motivate volunteers:

- 1 Values (solidarity, selflessness, idealism)
- 2 Understanding (of a field of activity or cause)
- 3 Improving self-image (self-esteem, cognitive development, sense of purpose)
- 4 Protection (combating stress, relations)
- 5 Career (entering a sector, networking)
- 6 Social (the need to belong, interacting with others)

If you know anything about psychology, you will have no doubt made the connection to Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs, the five-tier model of human needs: once we have satisfied our needs on a physiological (breathing and eating) and material (resources, housing, health) level, we all want to experience the feeling of being supported first by a circle of close friends, then by a social or professional network that defines our place and our reason for being. This sense of belonging helps us to develop self-confidence and makes us feel like we are respected and appreciated. Moral values are also vital. Volunteering, which makes us feel like we are doing something about the world around us, is an obvious way to satisfy these values. This, in turn, gives us a sense of fulfilment.

Let's be clear: age is not a determining factor here. Young members who think volunteering is an activity reserved for professionals reaching the end of their careers are mistaken. In addition to the aforementioned benefits, volunteering helps individuals to acquire new expertise and learn a new skill set. This is a great benefit to those just stepping foot in the world of work: teamwork and the ability to question, to reason or simply to co-exist are all vital professional skills. With this in mind, volunteering is a great way to continue training and gain experience.

Very well, you say, but in specific terms? The Belgian Chamber of Translators and Interpreters offers a multitude of opportunities to achieve these aims. Let's take two examples (of many): further training and representation. The first enables us to learn more about the gaps in and the aspirations of the professional market. You can get involved in further training, meet experts in various domains and gain an insight into electronic tools for organising webinars. You can also learn how to organise workshops, manage time, put practical contingencies in place... I could go on. Representative activities, which centre around our presence within interprofessional bodies, provide the opportunity to exchange with many of our counterparts in other liberal professions (lawyers, architects, accountants, etc.), to address other professions publicly during meetings and to develop a stance and defend the interests of our profession. In short, the experience is as enriching as it is rewarding.

And yet we struggle to find volunteers to help us do what we do. Do you want to show your support to sworn translators? Do you like to write? Do you have organisational skills? Do you have a passion for IT? Join the association in your country. They will find a way to utilise your strengths. On one condition: you need to enjoy working in a constructive team and have some spare time to help the association, and thus the profession, to develop.

*Guillaume Deneufberg,
President CBTI-BKVT*

Spanish translators join forces against non-paying publishing house: avalanche of solidarity on Twitter

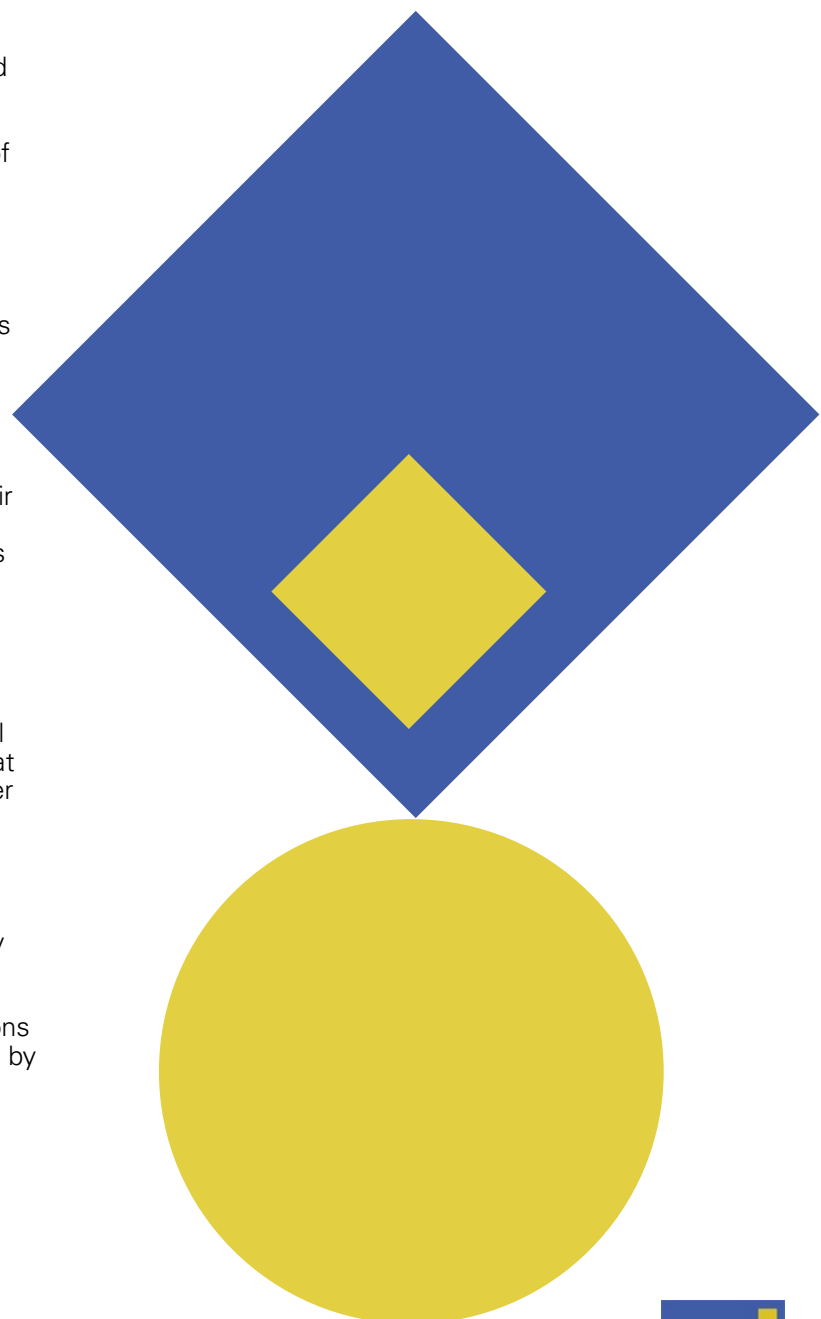
And a tale of solidarity ... from Spain

A spontaneous campaign started on Twitter in June with the hashtag #MalpasoPagaYa (Malpaso, pay now) in support of translators affected by the non-payment of the Spanish publishing house Malpaso Ediciones. The spark was a series of messages tweeted by the president of Malpaso in which he insulted and discredited one of those translators – who had turned to social media in order to raise awareness of her situation. An unprecedented avalanche of support followed, both from other translators and a number of publishers, urging Malpaso to apologise and pay up. The case was picked up by several major media outlets.

It all started around three years ago when Malpaso Ediciones decided not to pay many of their translators and simply ignore their claims. Quite a number of those translators decided to take legal action against the publishing house in order to get paid, but with no success yet. The Spanish literary translators' association ACE Traductores issued a public statement in December 2016 condemning their bad practices and warning other translators. Malpaso was also expelled from their list of "good" publishers (those using the model contract). Unfortunately, the situation didn't improve.

After the events described above, ACE Traductores published a new public statement condemning Malpaso's position and its president's insults, as well as urging them to pay all the affected translators what they are owed. ACE Traductores also exhorts all other players in the publishing sector to condemn the existence of such practices in order to avoid similar situations in the future.

ACE Traductores is extremely pleased with the many declarations of solidarity from within the translation sector in particular and the book sector in general, as well as from the other Spanish translators' associations and CEATL. It shows how, by working together, little by little we can achieve some very necessary improvements in our profession.



The results are in for the ITIA rates survey

Mary Phelan, ITIA Chairperson and Rosemary Kratchmar, ITIA Administrator worked together on the recent ITIA rates survey with Ken Waide, Executive Committee member, who has written up the results for us

One of the most common yet perplexing issues for translators and interpreters, especially those starting out, is the question of rates. Because there is no such thing as standardised rates for freelancers, it can be difficult to get an idea of what others in the profession are charging. Under competition laws, the ITIA is not permitted to recommend rates. However, we can share information about the rates translators and interpreters charged in the recent past for their language combinations. To this end, in 2018 we carried out a rates survey among both members and non-members in order to find out how much freelance translators and interpreters charged for their services in 2017.

In total, there were 139 responses to the survey – 91 translators, 23 interpreters, and 25 who worked as both translators and interpreters. The largest number of respondents, 103 (74%), were based in Ireland, while 8 were in the UK, 6 in Germany, 6 in Spain, 5 in Italy, 3 in France, and others in Czech Republic, Canada, Austria, Argentina, Uzbekistan and the Netherlands. 105 respondents (76%) were female and 34 (24%) were male. The comparatively small size of the market in Ireland means that the results, especially for the less popular language combinations, cannot be taken as representative. Nevertheless, some patterns did emerge.

Translators

So no surprise, English was by far the most common working language for translators, followed by the major European languages. The most popular source languages were English 47 (41%), German 22 (19%), French 14 (12%), Spanish 10 (8%), Italian 7 (6%), and Portuguese (Portugal) 6 (5.2%), while the main target languages were English 67 (58%), French and German 10 each (8%), Irish 7 (6%), Italian 6 (5.2%), and Spanish and Swedish 5 each (4.3%).

The most common unit of payment was per source word (quoted by 70% of translators), followed by per hour (46%) and per target word (29%). The highest, lowest, and median rates across all language combinations for each type of client are shown in Table 1 (right).

Unit	Rate
€ per day	Highest: 765 Lowest: 100 Median: 321
€ per half-day	Highest: 250 Lowest: 80 Median: 145
€ per hour	Highest: 80 Lowest: 15 Median: 30

Rates charged by translators

As could be expected, there was some variation between different language pairs. The highest paid language combination covered by the survey was Dutch → English, with a median rate per source word of €0.15 for direct clients (DCs) and €0.10 for translation companies (TCs). Combinations between English and the most popular European languages (German, French, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese) all had median rates per source word of between €0.09–€0.13 for DCs and €0.08–€0.12 for TCs, with English → German (€0.12 for DCs, €0.10 for TCs) and German → English (€0.13 for DCs, €0.12 for TCs) being the best paid. English → Irish and Irish → English were also relatively well paid, with both

having a median rate per source word of €0.12 for DCs and €0.10 for TCs. At the lower end of the scale were combinations such as Czech → English and Slovak → English, both with €0.07 per source word for DCs and TCs alike. Language combinations with only one respondent were included in the general results but excluded from the language-specific results as they do not allow for meaningful comparison. These combinations were: Chinese (Mandarin), Danish, Esperanto, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazil), Swedish, and Turkish → English; English → Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese

Interpreters

All but one of the 48 interpreters listed English as one of their main working languages, while the next most popular languages were Irish Sign Language 9 (19%), French 7 (15%), Polish 7 (15%), Italian 6 (13%), Spanish 5 (10%), and German 3 (6%). There were also smaller numbers working with Czech, Irish, Portuguese (Brazil), Arabic, Bengali, Dutch, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, and Romanian, reflecting the significant diversity in the comparatively small pool of interpreters in Ireland.

There were three methods of charging for interpreters – per day, per half-day, and per hour. 32 respondents (67%) provided a daily rate, while 26 (54%) provided an hourly rate and 20 (42%) a half-day rate. The highest,

In terms of the settings in which the interpreters worked, 19 (40%) said that at least part of their work was in conferences, while 20 (42%) worked at least partly in business meetings and 23 (48%) in public service settings (i.e. in courts and police stations, hospitals/GPs, refugee settings, social welfare, or education). There was a clear gap between the rates charged by these groups, with the median daily rate being €475 for conferences, compared to €275 for business meetings and €250 for public service interpreting.

There was also a marked divide in terms of language combinations, with the median daily rate for English → Irish Sign Language (€240) – the lowest paid combination – being only slightly more than half that of the next combination – English → Polish (€440). The highest median daily rate was for English → French at €615. Meanwhile, the highest median hourly rate was for English → Polish at €43 and the lowest was for Czech → English at €28, with all other language combinations having a median hourly rate between €30 and €40. None of the interpreters working between English → Irish Sign Language quoted an hourly rate.

Overall, the survey results suggest that there is significant variation in the rates charged by translators and interpreters – even for the same language combination and type of client – with the highest rates often being three or more times more expensive than the lowest rates. There are undoubtedly many factors at play in determining rates, including the language combination, field of translation/interpreting, level of experience etc. While the relatively small scale of the market here makes it difficult to engage fully with all these factors, it is hoped that this survey will shed some light on general expectations for rates charged by freelance translators and interpreters in Ireland.

We would like to extend a big thank you to all respondents for taking the time to provide us with their information, without which the survey would not have been possible. The full results of the survey, along with further analysis of the responses, are available for download on the ITIA website at:

www.translatorsassociation.ie/articles-reports/.

Ken Waide



Unit	Direct Client	Translation Company
€ source word	Highest: 0.25	Highest: 0.20
	Lowest: 0.04	Lowest: 0.05
	Median: 0.12	Median: 0.09
€ target word	Highest: 0.21	Highest: 0.20
	Lowest: 0.06	Lowest: 0.06
	Median: 0.11	Median: 0.09
€ per hour	Highest: 75	Highest: 60
	Lowest: 15	Lowest: 20
	Median: 35	Median: 30

Rates charged by interpreters

Translating and Interpreting in Crisis Settings

Annette Schiller tells us about the recent conference in FIT Europe DGT in Athens

“Translating and Interpreting in Crisis Settings”, a Translating Europe Workshop, was hosted by FIT Europe, the Regional Centre Europe of the International Federation of Translators (FIT) with the kind support of the European Commission. The event was held on 21 June 2019 in Athens. The venue was generously made available by the School of Public Administration and Local Government.

The event aimed to articulate and promote an understanding of the challenges inherent in crisis communication, to identify supporting technologies, to address the cultural and ethical questions pertaining to translation and interpreting in crisis situations and to propose solutions relating to the training and qualification of translators and interpreters for best practice on the ground.

The overall objective was to provide a multi-disciplinary platform for discussion by people working in a crisis setting - in different contexts, with varying objectives but towards a common purpose within that same setting - and always with communication, translation and interpreting as the common thread.

The invited speakers were drawn from the public and private sectors, from Greece and the rest of Europe, and included representatives of the Greek Ministry for Migration and Policy, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the UN Migration Agency (IOM), the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), the Universities of Crete and Maastricht, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Dublin City University, the Athens Bar Association, the Turin Bar Association, and professional associations of translators and interpreters across Europe.

In his keynote address, Boris Cheshirkov, UNHCR spokesperson in Athens, described how the approach to handling the crisis in Greece has evolved over the past few years.

This was followed by four panels, each of which dealt with one important arena in a crisis setting: health, education, reception centres and the judicial setting, and concluded in each case with a very lively and at times heated Q&A session.

The health panel explored the challenges interpreters and translators face in health settings, looking at best practices that have been developed in recent years.

Our education panel discussed how the translation and interpreting professions and academia have been responding to the training challenges posed by crisis settings, presented European projects on crisis communication in the area and brought together experts from the two edges of the EU, Greece and Ireland.

The reception centres panel placed public sector representatives (Ministry of Migration Policy, and the European Asylum Support Organisation) and practitioners side by side to explore the response to language needs in this specific arena and to make proposals for best practice going forward.

Finally, the judicial panel looked at the use of lesser languages in a judicial context in crisis settings, comparing the situation in Greece with that in other European countries, in Italy in particular.



John O'Shea Annette Schiller Dimitra Stafilia - FIT Europe Athens 2019

Interpretation from and into Greek and English was provided and the event was live streamed to audiences around Europe and beyond. The video will be available in the near future on the FIT Europe website.

We hope that the event, Translation and Interpreting in Crisis Settings, will be the first step in a multi-disciplinary approach to addressing the matter of communication and language in crisis settings.

The significance of this topic and of the multi-disciplinary approach taken in addressing it, is evidenced by the fact that a panel on “Translation in the context of crisis and disaster relief” has been included in the draft programme for this year’s Translating Europe Forum in Brussels in November.

Details: www.fit-europe-rc.org

What's HOT

American rapper Twista's recent concert had an American Sign Language interpreter who was able to keep apace with his alleged 280 words per minute. Amber Galloway Gallego stole the show at the New York concert using the occasion to highlight the needs of the deaf community. Keep going Amber!

What's NOT

Freelance interpreters and translators considering boycotting latest tender winner for Danish state language services, EasyTranslate, have been informed that such a boycott may be a potential breach of Danish competition laws and even if it were supported by a union, freelance linguists could be personally liable. Something is definitely rotten in the State of Denmark!

Worth-a-click

Do check out the translator organisations' websites mentioned in the articles above:

<http://fit-europe-rc.org/en/home/>

<https://www.fit-ift.org/>

<https://www.ceatl.eu/about-us/who-we-are>

<https://www.cbt-bkvt.org/en>

Translation and interpreting can be very profitable - but not for the translators and interpreters!

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/profits-at-word-perfect-translation-company-rise-to-2-3m-1.3897625>

https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/books/the-importance-of-being-earnest-in-translation-1.3923291?fbclid=IwAR3ltyX_BeEx-EAA5pSmqMq4EHQql5Js6AvInvwoy0DZXWcDi_8cKJMdl#.XQd1PV99jMA.facebook

New Members

New Associate Members

May to August:

Lisa Cavanagh

French to English
Spanish to English

Stephanie Culson

English to French

Muhammid Rahim

English to Pashto
English to Persian

Mariana Ciocca Alves Passos

English to Portuguese (Brazil)

Lydia McCartney

French to English
Spanish to English

Maxime Galopin

English to French
Spanish to French

Padraig Creed

Spanish to English
French to English

New Student Members

Hannah Quinn

Africa Jennings

Joining the ITIA

The Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association is pleased to welcome new members to the association. We currently have the following categories of membership:

- Professional
- Associate
- Student
- Honorary

Professional Membership is awarded to translators or interpreters who meet the strict criteria of the ITIA based on qualification and level of experience.

Applicants must also achieve a PASS in the annual Professional Membership Examination (translator or interpreter) set by the ITIA.

Associate Membership may be granted to holders of a third-level qualification in translation and/or interpreting and/or languages or to holders of a third-level qualification with relevant experience.

Student Membership is available to persons undertaking undergraduate studies in any discipline or those undertaking postgraduate studies in translation or interpreting.

Honorary Membership is awarded by the ITIA Executive Committee to persons in Ireland or abroad who have distinguished themselves in the field of translation or interpreting.

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