

Translating for the European Commission

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- 4) Working in and with DG Translation (slides 65-85)



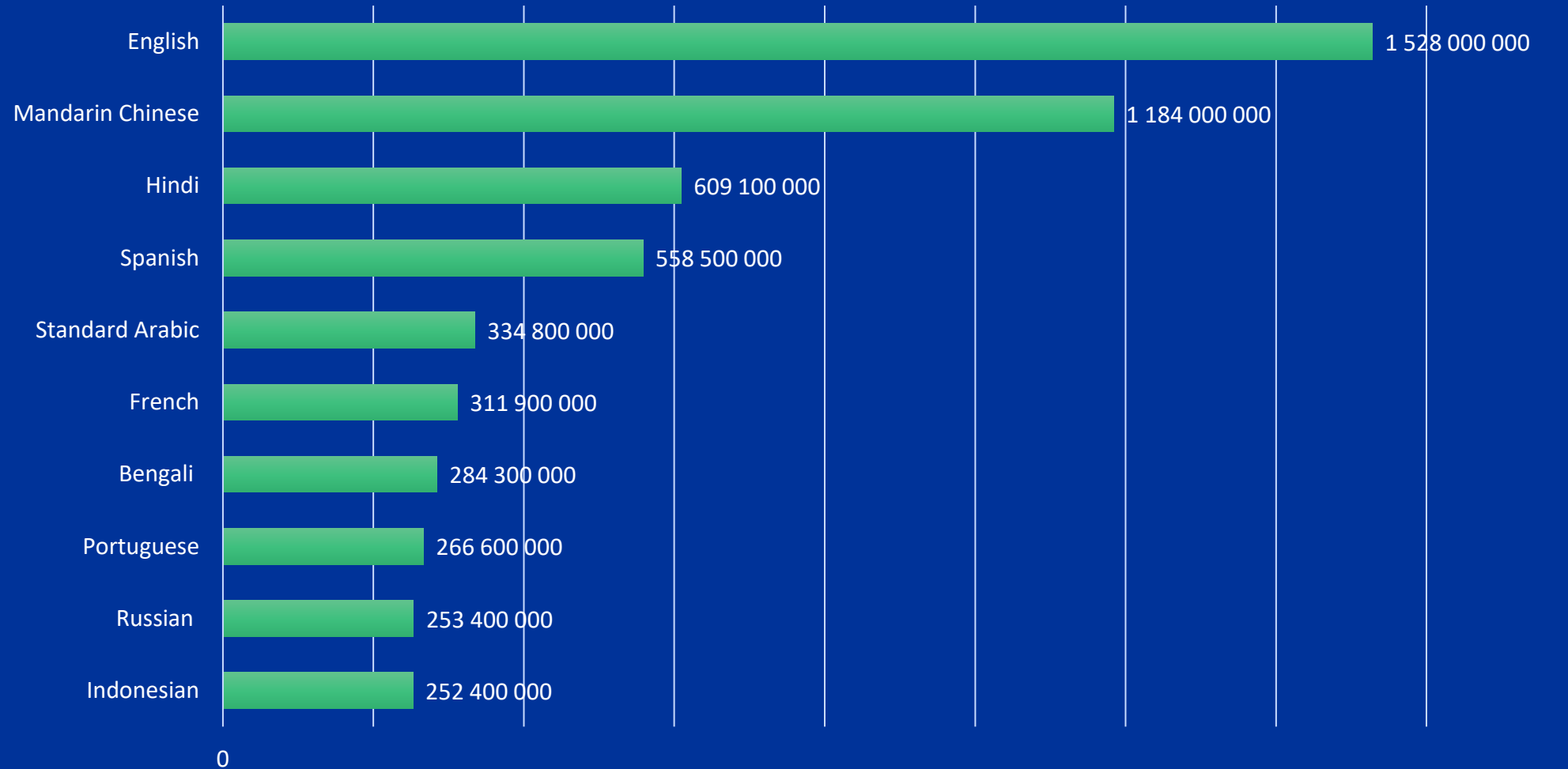
What is multilingualism?

- **several languages spoken** within a geographical area
- a person's ability to **master several languages**
- a policy requiring an organisation/company/institution to **use several languages for communication**

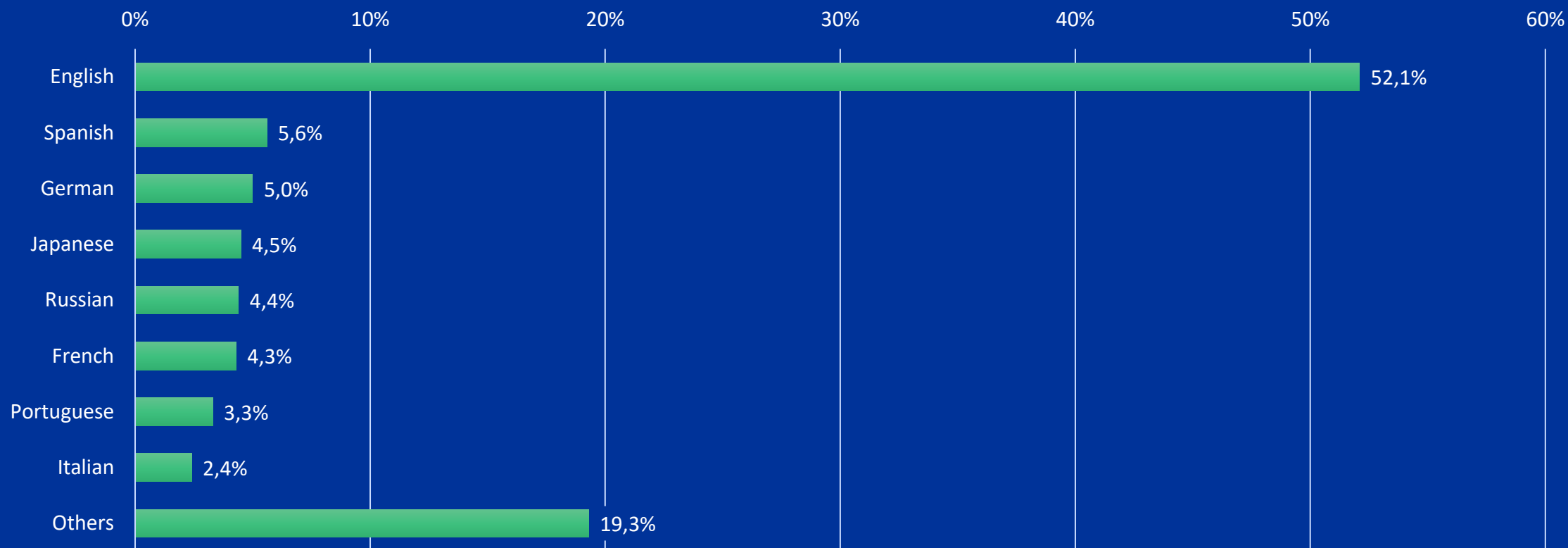
Multilingualism in the world

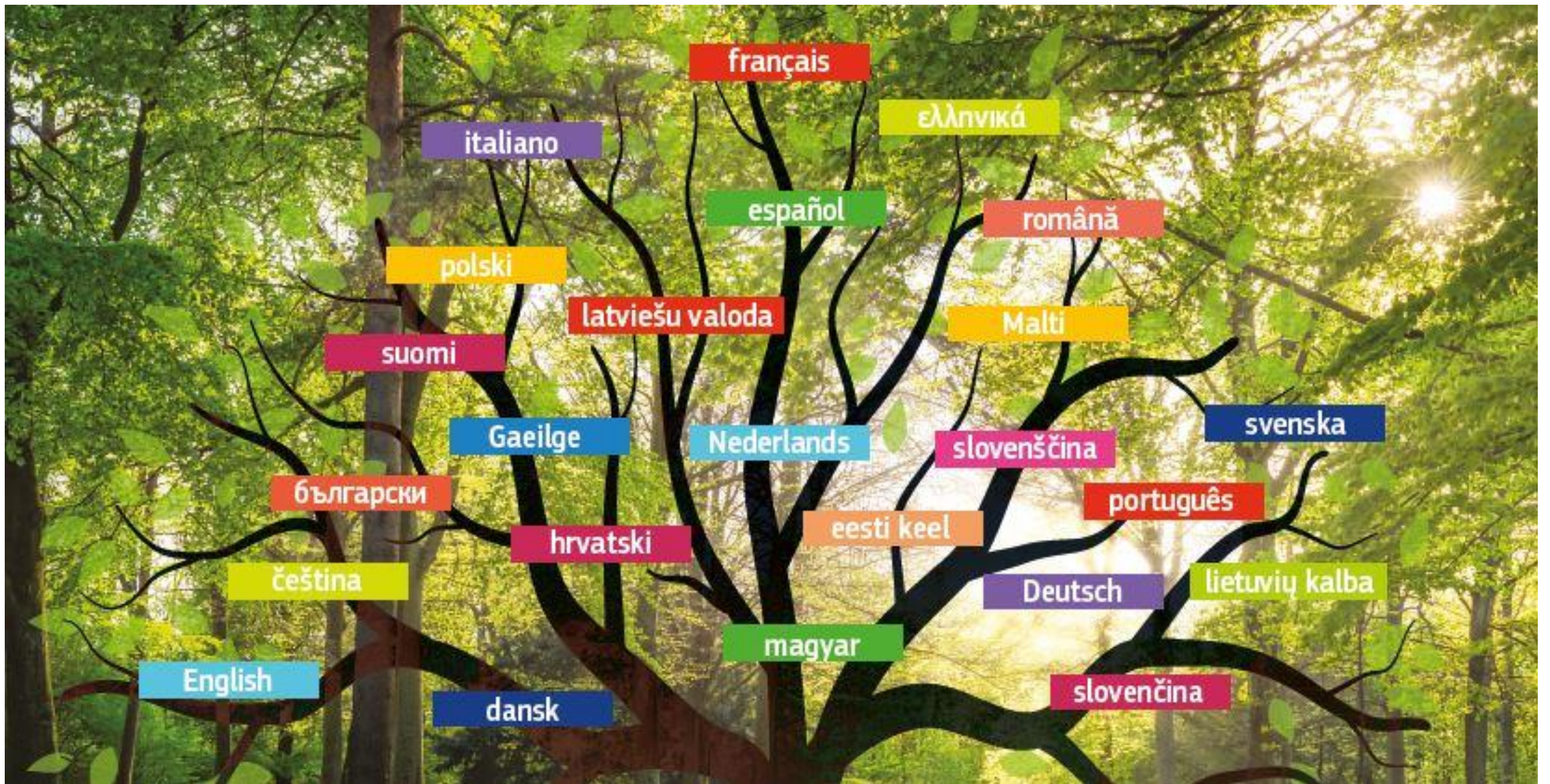


Top 10 most spoken languages in 2024



Top 10 most used languages online

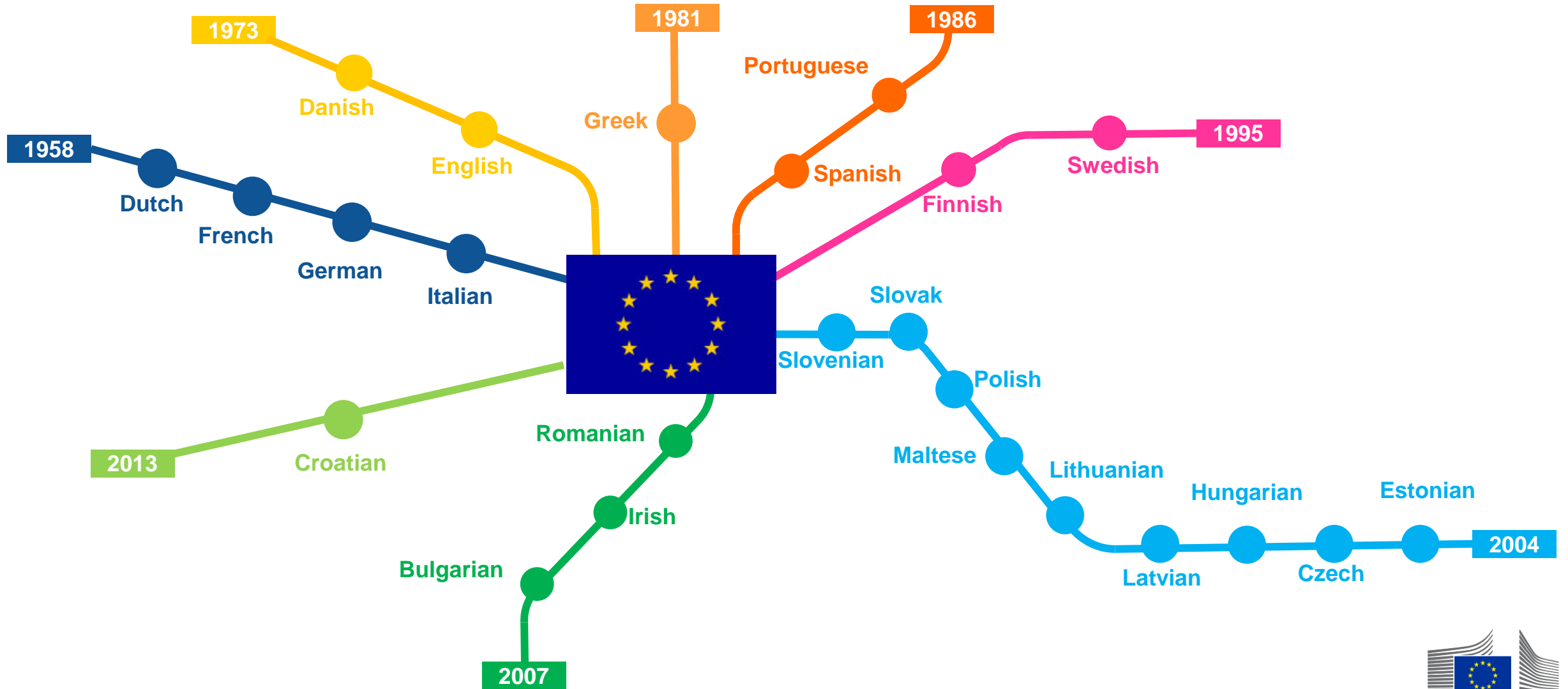




Translating for a multilingual European Union



EU official languages over time



30
together



2025

30 years

since **Swedish** and
Finnish became
official EU languages

Linguists in the EU institutions



europa.eu/translation

A portrait of Maria Korompilia, a woman with long brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark blue blazer over a light-colored top. The background is a bookshelf filled with books.

Translation and democracy

Thanks to translation,
people can help **build the
European Union** and
contribute to its **openness
and legitimacy**.

**By translating EU legislation,
I help make the EU more
democratic**

Maria Korompilia

”



Directorate-General for Translation



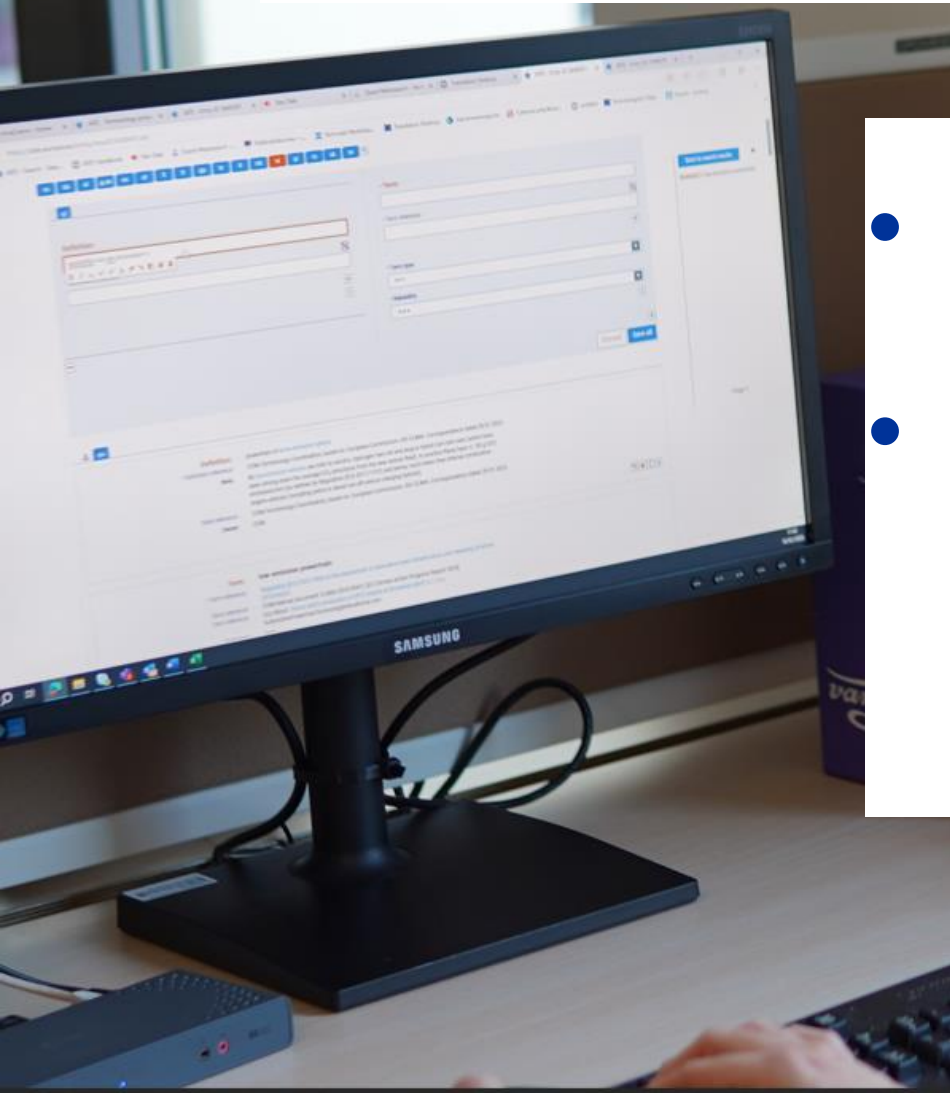
We translate
from and into
**all the EU's
24 official
languages**



Legal basis

- **Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union**
Citizens have a right to address the official EU bodies in any of the EU's official languages and to receive a reply in that language.
- **Council Regulation No 1/58**
Regulations and other documents of general application shall be drafted in the official languages.

Translation as part of the legislative process



- Translation is central to the **legislative process**
- Translation and editing contribute to **better policy** and **law-making**

TRANSLATION covers all subject areas



A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

A new era for European Defence and Security

Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model

Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Protecting our democracy, upholding our values

A global Europe: leveraging our power and partnerships

Delivering together and preparing our Union for the future



Language categories

- **Official/working/Treaty languages: 24**
- **Procedural languages** (Commission):
English, French, German
- **Additional languages:**
Basque, Catalan, Galician

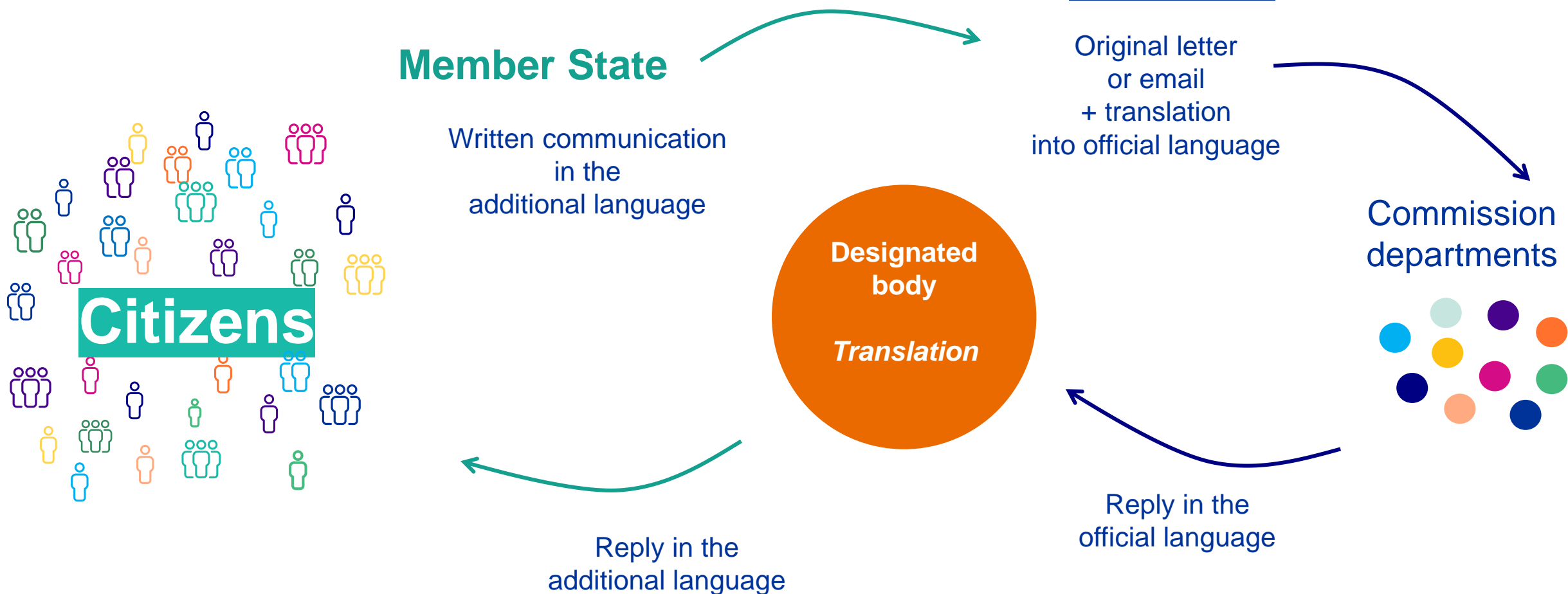


How does a language become an official EU language?

- The language must be a national official language of an EU country.
- In accession negotiations, the candidate country puts forward a request.
- The Council takes a unanimous decision to amend Regulation No 1 to include the language as an official EU language.



Additional languages



European Commission



Commission's role

**1. Proposes
new legislation**

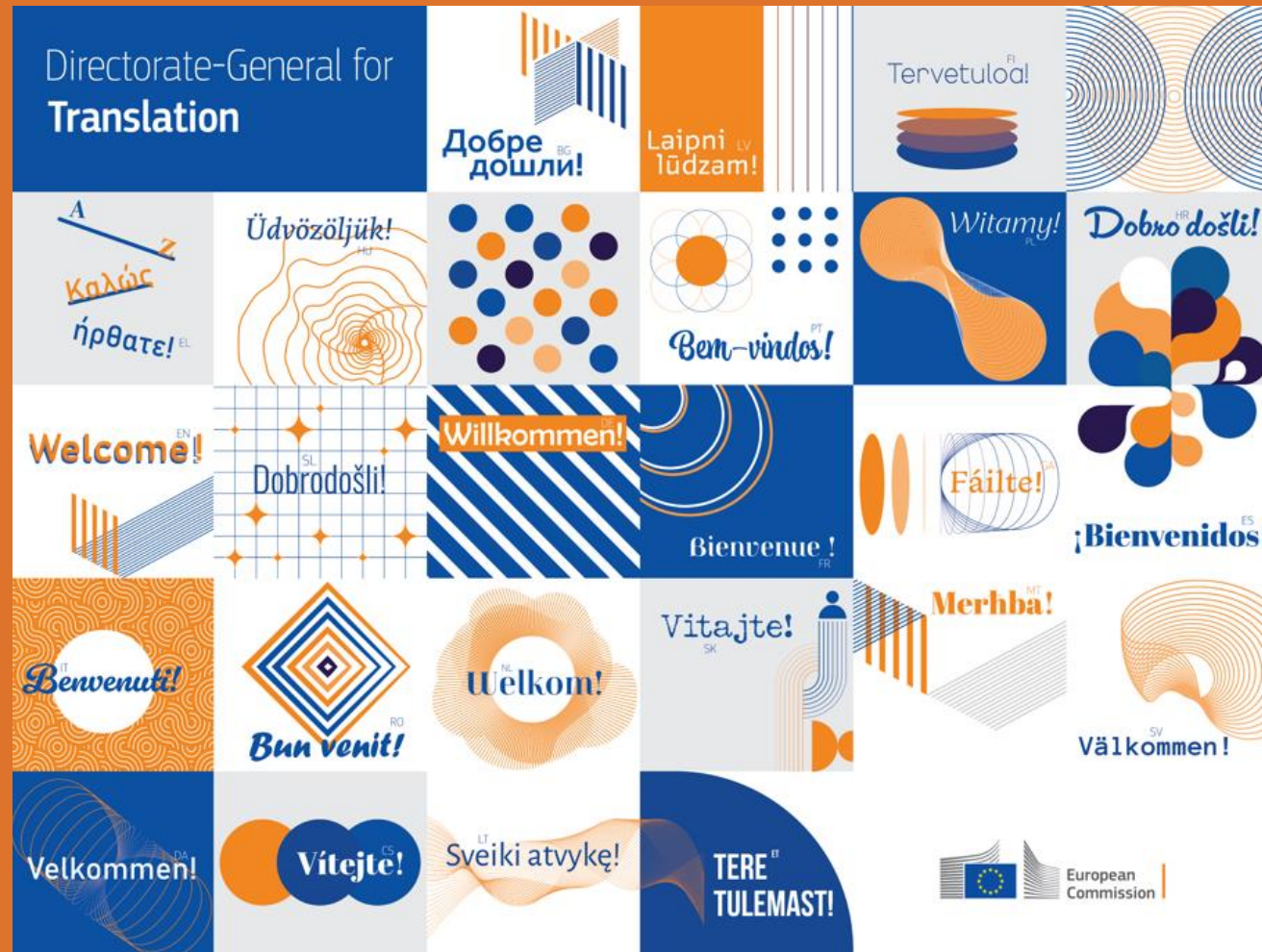
**2. Implements
the budget**

**3. Guardian of
the treaties**

**4. Represents
the EU
internationally**



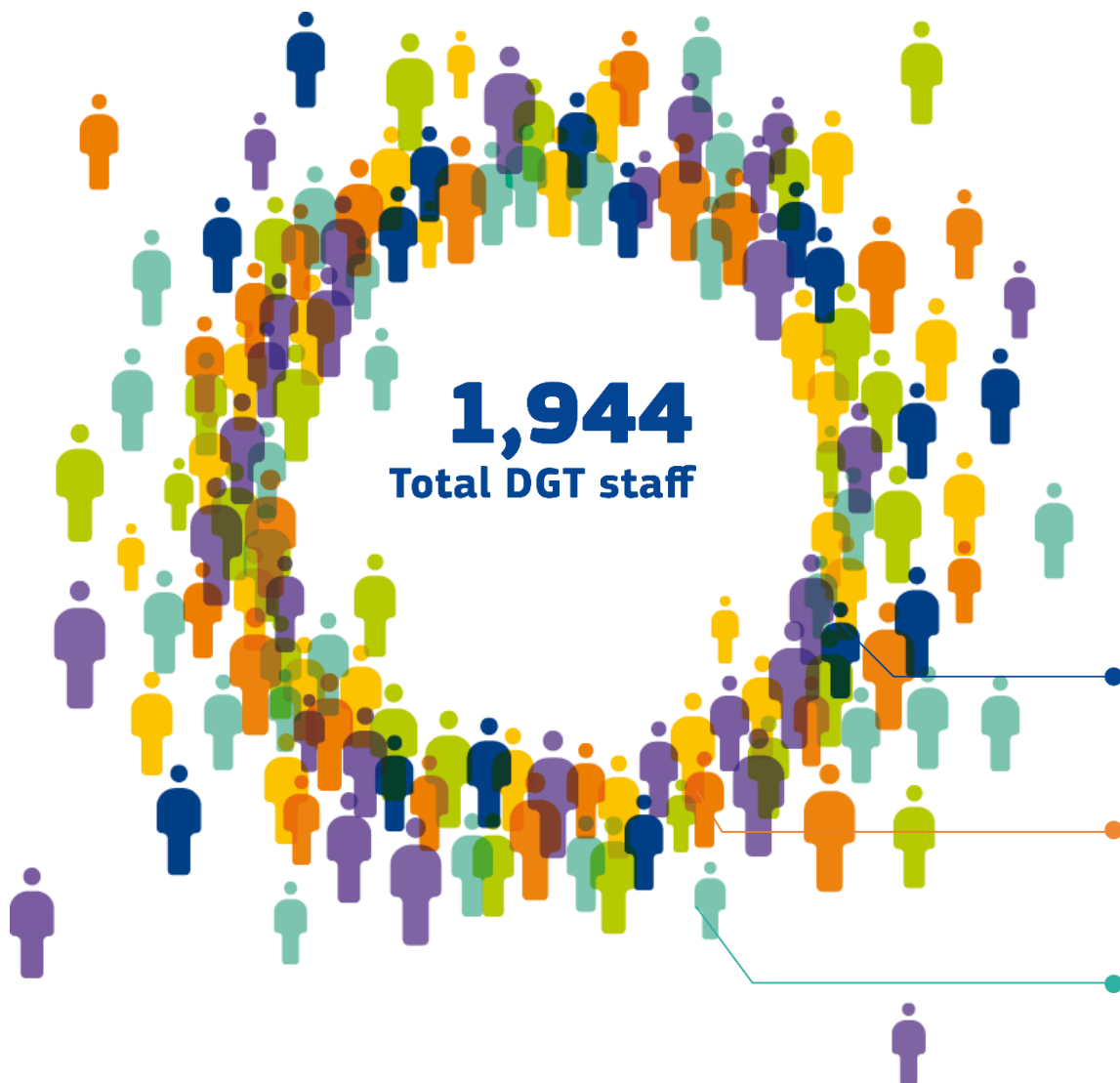
DG Translation in the European Commission





BXL 'Transaerdenaise' unit management in Brussels

DG Translation staff in 2024



70%

Translators, language technology experts, quality officers, terminologists, revisers



30%

Management, assistants, IT, HR and finance, outsourcing, training, communication, etc.

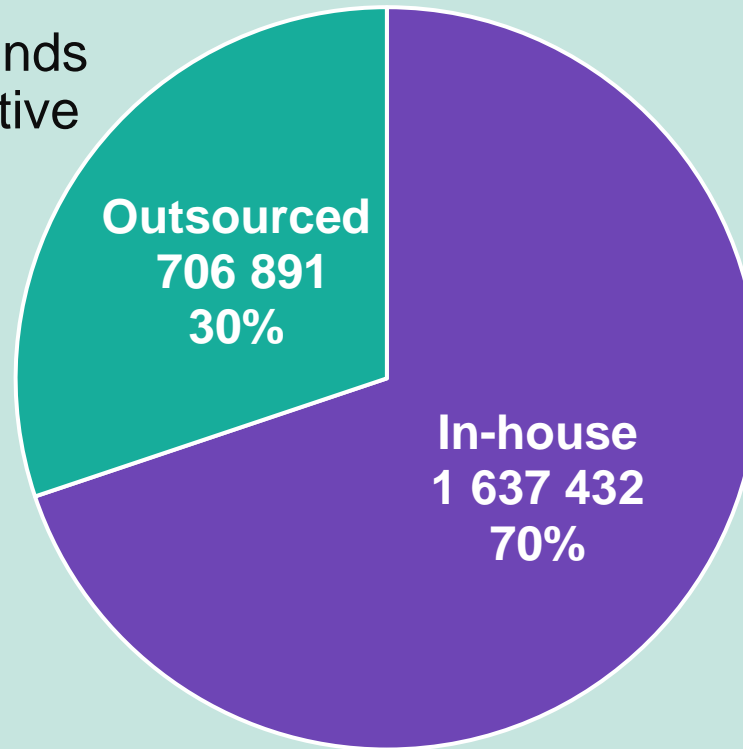


Translation in 2024

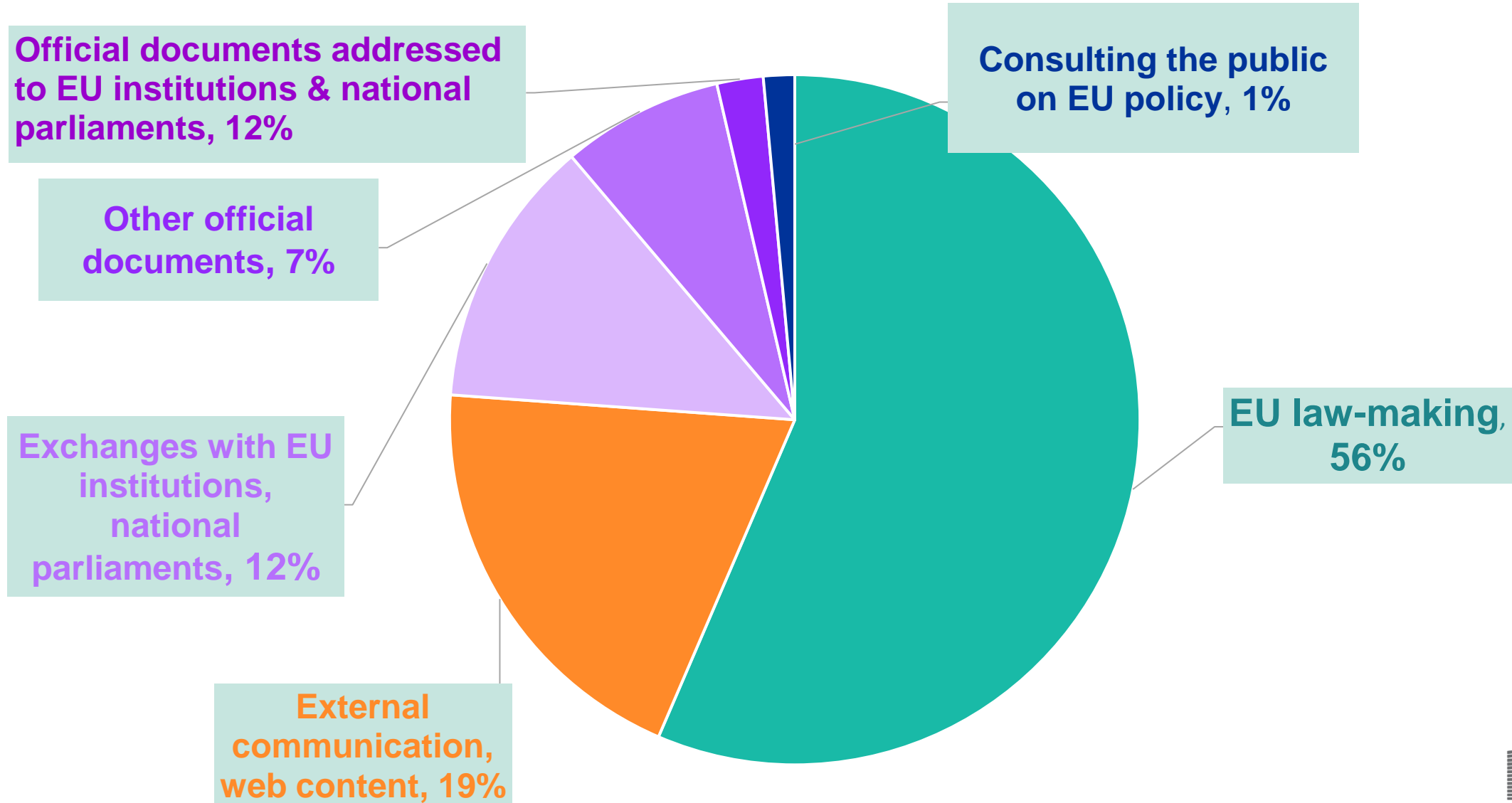
Total translated pages: 2 344 323

Outsourced: documents of all kinds
EXCEPT urgent, politically sensitive
or confidential documents

Primarily from/into
the 24 EU official languages

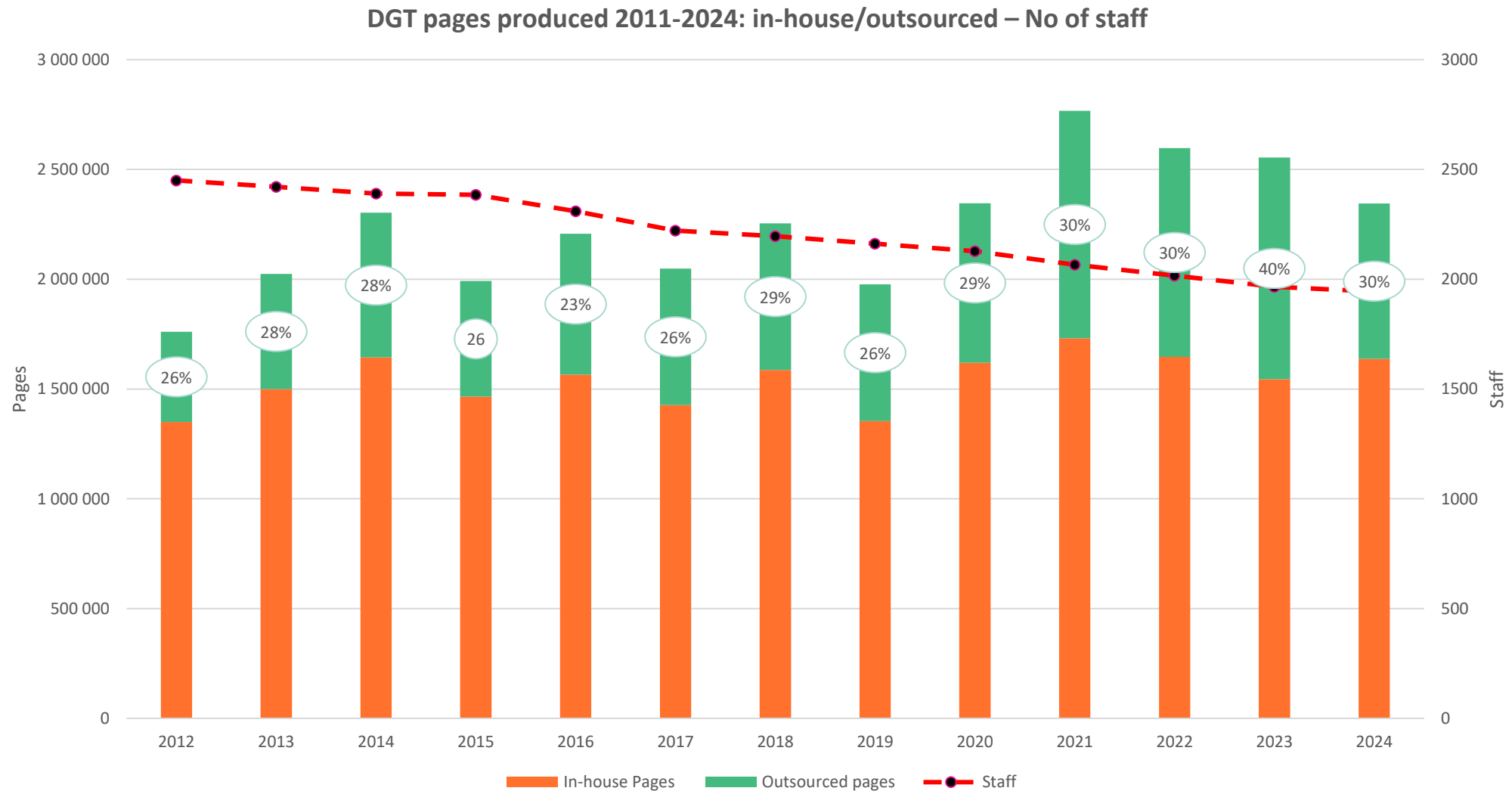


What we translated in 2024

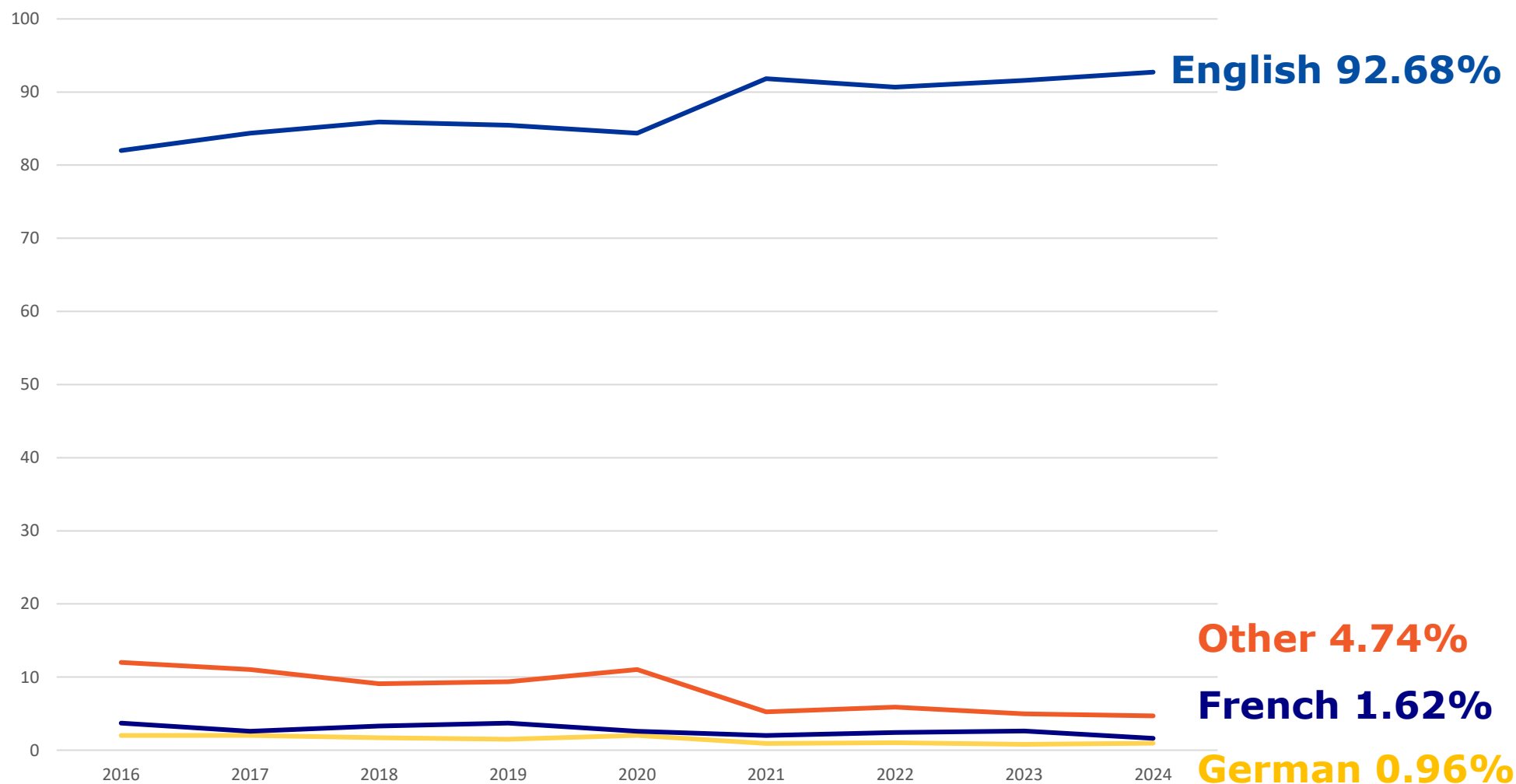


DG Translation output in 2024

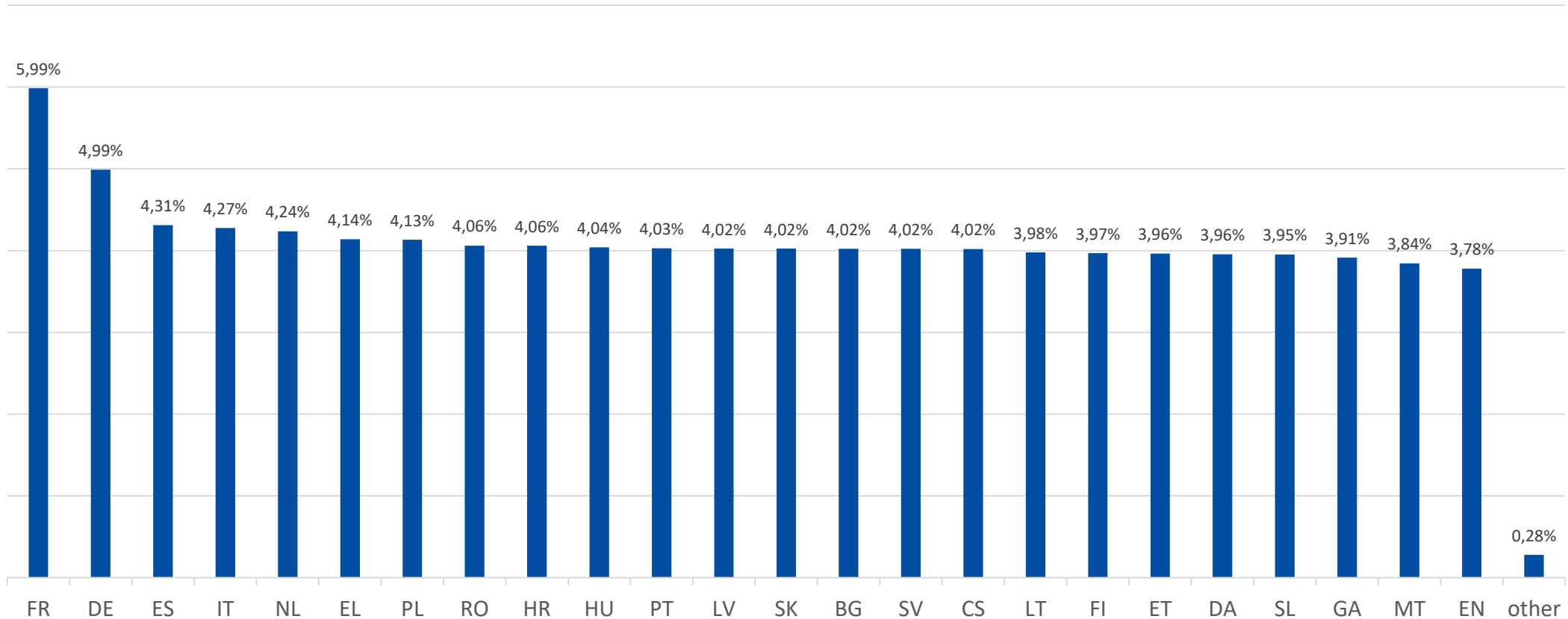
2.35 million translated pages



Language of original documents 2024



Language of translated documents 2024



Linguistic products and services

- Full-length translation
- Web translation
- eTranslation
- Other AI-based services: eBriefing, eSummary, eReply
- Translation hotline
- Summary (written, oral)
- Translation of confidential texts
- Linguistic advice
- Editing of originals
- Web editing and drafting
- Corrigenda
- Service-level agreements
- Lead translator
- Stand-by
- IATE

Linguistic products and services



Translation tools

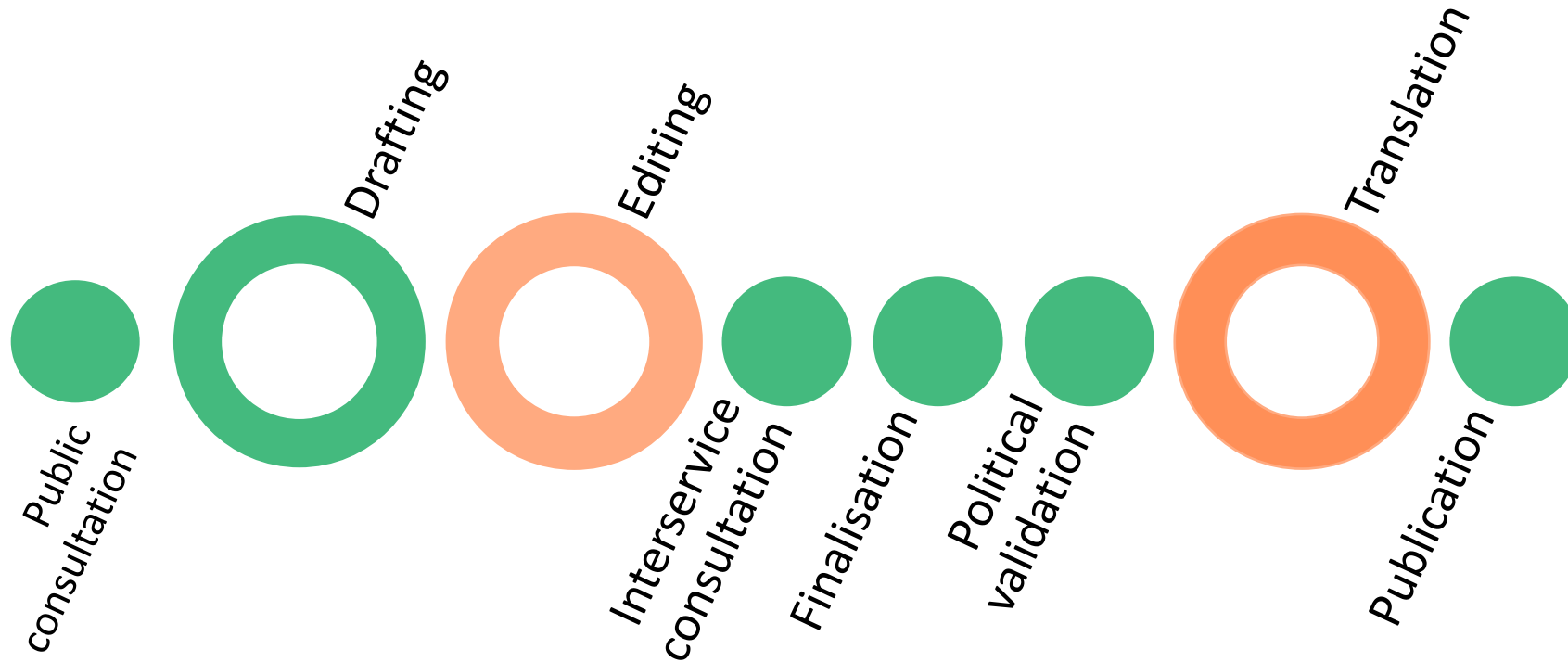
- IATE (public)
- EUR-Lex (public)
- CAT & SDL Trados Studio
- eTranslation
- Euramis
- Quest Metasearch
- DGT Vista IDOL
- DocFinder
- Speech recognition
- Dictionaries, glossaries

Translation tools



Document workflow in the Commission

Editing and translation are central to the legislative process



Workflow tools

ePoetry

for translation
or editing
requests

ManDesk

workflow
management
system

TraDesk

for managing
documents &
tasks,
and electronic
archiving of
documents

TRèFLe

for outsourcing
translation
services reports

DGTSTAT

for DGT users
to access
statistical
reports

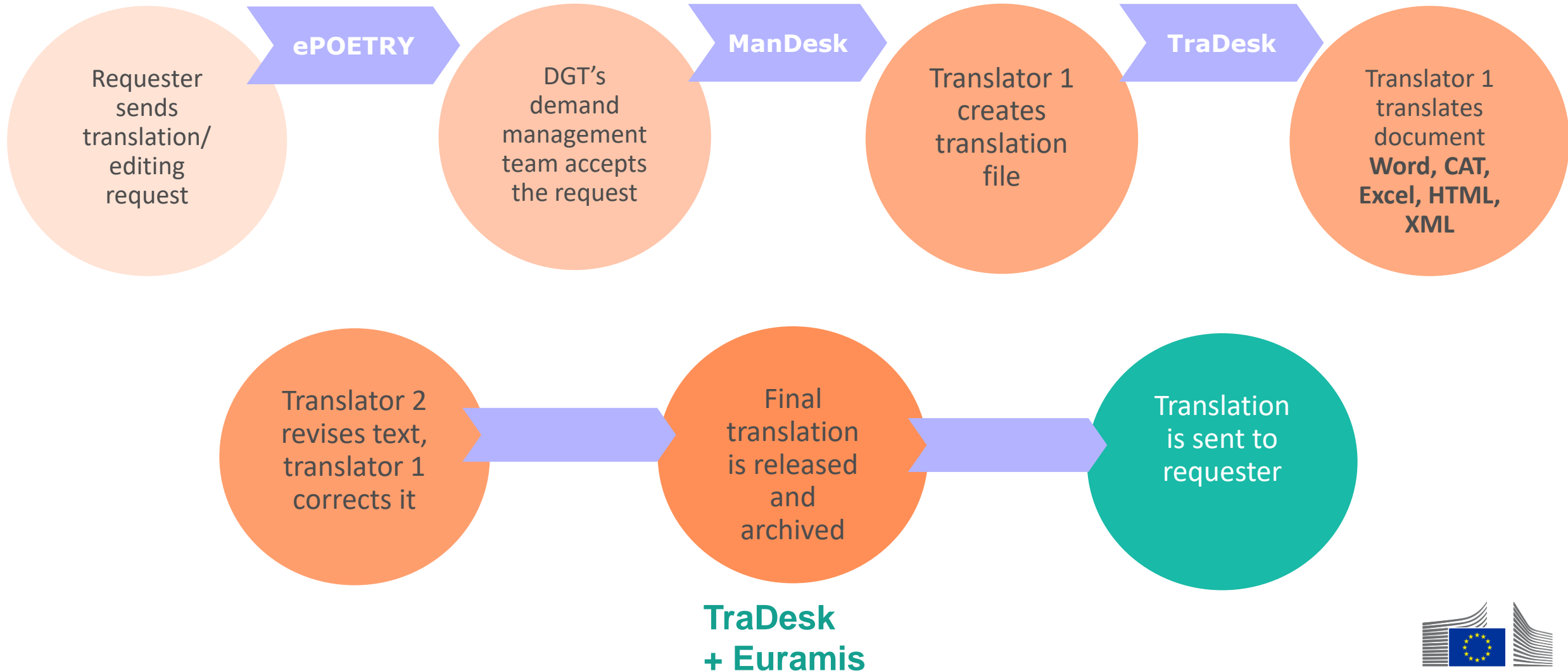
In the pipeline

eDGT

*an end-to-end workflow
platform covering all steps and
tasks in DGT's core business*



Translation workflow in the Commission



AI-based multilingual services

eTranslation and more

Digital Europe AI-based multilingual services

- **eTranslation, eSummary, eBriefing, eReply** (with more to come)
- All 24 EU official languages + Norwegian, Icelandic, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Turkish, Arabic, Ukrainian and more (Digital Europe Programme)
- Based on neural technology, EU data and open-source data (eTranslation) and GPT technology (eBriefing and eReply)
- Guaranteed security and confidentiality
- **2024:** 763 million pages translated by eTranslation

Who can use eTranslation and other AI-based services?

- European institutions and bodies
- Public administrations in the EU and countries in the [Digital Europe Programme](#) (DEP)
- Universities in the EU and in countries affiliated with the DEP
- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the EU and DEP countries
- Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the EU and DEP countries
- EPSO candidates during the recruitment process
- Projects financed by the DEP

From Translations to AI gold

DGT's role in AI & language data

Machine
translation &
AI



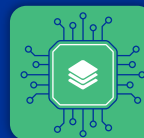
European AI
development

DGT's translations
throughout the years



25+ years of data

→ Translation archives



AI & machine translation

→ Evolution of data usage



Multilingual dataset

→ Includes low-resource languages



EU collaboration on AI

→ European sovereignty & wealth
of languages



A background image of a library with tall bookshelves. Overlaid on the image are vertical streams of glowing blue and white dots, resembling digital data or a stylized rain effect. In the foreground, a laptop sits on a surface, its screen displaying a digital interface with a perspective view of a road or data stream.

Euramis and DGT-TM

Our own data



2 BILLION sentences

> 300 000 a day



1500 translators

→ high-quality multilingual data



DGT-TM

→ 15% of data made public for research & AI





IATE

Our own data

- Largest multilingual terminology management system
in the world
- European Commission contributes ~70% of data
→ interinstitutional collaboration
- DGT terminologists: research, verify, validate
→ enrich repository with terms & metadata from translations





Our crown jewel - Euramis



Euramis data enabled
eTranslation



Now → powering

MeluXina & Leonardo
supercomputers (EuroHPC)

→ European LLM – Mixtral 8 × 7B

Successful first tests in Croatian & Slovenian



Commitment to a European AI

Mixtral, a European LLM

→ demonstrates support for European players

→ (Mixtral-based EU Institutional LLM) to be made available via **Language Data Space**

→ fosters multilingual AI innovation



AI@EC Network – 4700+ members



New AI use cases



Experiment, develop
new services



Build and share
knowledge



EC-AI-NETWORK@ec.europa.eu



What is GPT@EC? EC access only

- Securely exploring the use of pre-trained large language models (LLMs) to generate texts using artificial intelligence.
- You write a prompt describing the task to be completed, adding a document if helpful. The tool then generates an output.

IATE: public multilingual term base

IATE – Interactive Terminology for Europe

- Nearly 7 million terms in 24 official EU languages (plus Latin and several non-EU languages)
- Largest multilingual terminology resource in the world
- Definitions, subject areas and real-world examples to help our translators pick the right term for the specific context

iate.europa.eu



EUR-Lex: free public access to EU law

EUR-Lex is your online gateway to EU law

- Official and most comprehensive access to EU legal documents
- Offered in all of the EU's 24 official languages and updated daily

eur-lex.europa.eu



Quality management at DGT

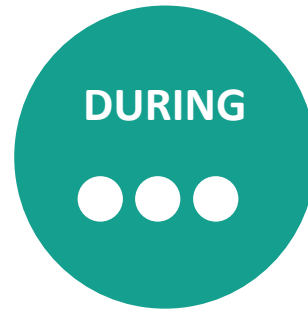
DGT's mission: high-quality translation



Quality management at DGT



- Planning work processes
- Editing originals
- Clear Writing campaign
- Pre-processing
- Risk assessment
- Terminology work



- Translators with the right competences
- Tools & aids
- Information sharing
- Lead translators
- Terminologists
- Quality officers
- Language technology coordinators
- Quality control



- Post-production evaluations
- Feedback from customers
- Satisfaction surveys

Quality management at DGT

Managing translation quality through quality requirements

Quality aspect ⁵	Quality requirements
Accuracy	The meaning of the source text should be accurately conveyed in the light of the purpose of the text, without unjustified omissions or additions, and without parts left untranslated.
Terminology	Terms should be appropriate to the subject field or application area and used consistently within the document (and related documents) and with regard to external references. Names of agencies, bodies or courts, nomenclatures, product names, names of action plans, initiatives or schemes, or joint undertakings should be accurately rendered.
Style	The translation should comply with the institutional text-type specific drafting rules and style guides, formalised formulations and templates. It should also comply with general language style imperatives in terms of clarity, idiomaticity and register.
Linguistic norm	The target language should comply with established norms and conventions, as regards grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
Design	Design should meet the presentation requirements, such as formatting, physical layout, correct reproduction of graphical elements, or mark-up.



Editing services



Editing

- Email [DGT EDIT](#)
- Use [ePoetry](#)
- In [Decide](#) add DGT-EDIT as consulted DG



Resources & tips

- [Commission Clear Writing Guide](#)
- [Commission Style Guide](#)
- [Clear Writing checklist](#)
- [Writer's Toolbox](#)



Training & events

- Clear Writing learning path
- Clear Writing conference every 2 years

Clear Writing

Aim

Encourage and help everyone in the European Commission and other EU institutions **to write shorter, simpler, jargon-free texts**

How?

Offer drafters training, practical advice and online resources:

- [How to write clearly](#) booklet in 24 official languages
- Regular [training courses](#) including video tutorial
- [Weekly clear writing tip](#)



[Clear Writing video](#)



- **Clear Writing video tutorial** (2 hours)
- Clear Writing training courses on **EU Learn**
 - Introduction to clear writing
 - Writing effective emails
 - Web writing
 - Commission Style Guide refresh
- Targeted training for individual DGs



What else do we do?



Translating Europe project

Translating Europe

Translating Europe project

Brings together translation stakeholders in Europe

FORUM

WORKSHOPS



Translating Europe project

Translating Europe Workshops

- Small-scale events in EU countries for specialised audiences
- 2024: 50 workshops (in person, online or hybrid) in 24 countries

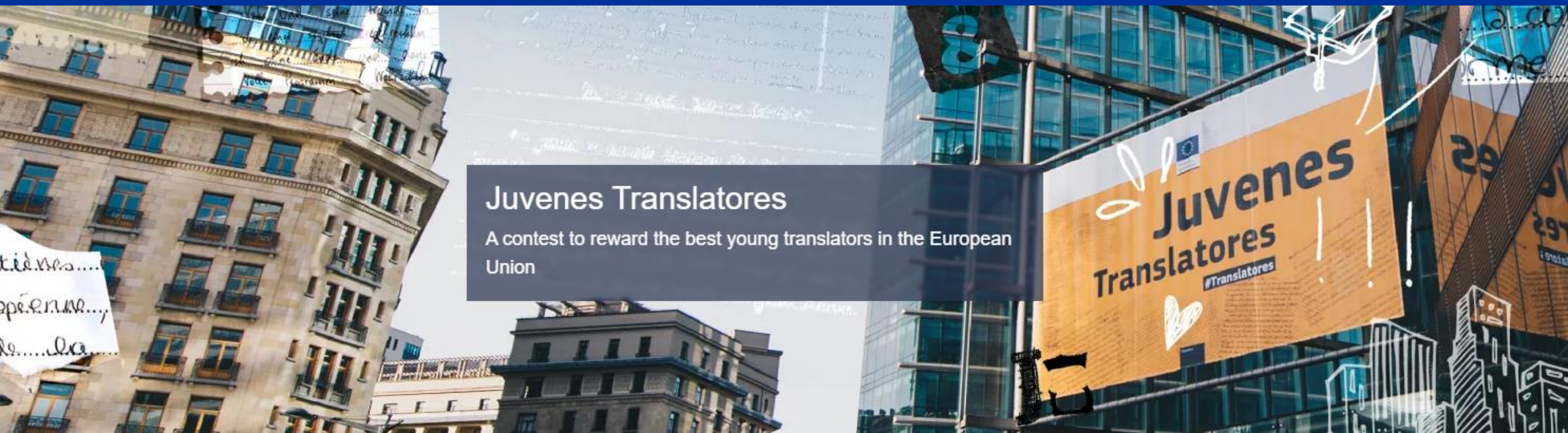
Translating Europe Forum

- Yearly conference for translation stakeholders – in Brussels and online
- 2024: 400 in-person and 3 000 online participants

#TranslatingEurope



Juvenes Translatores



Juvenes Translatores

A contest to reward the best young translators in the European Union

Juvenes Translatores

Translation contest

- To inspire and encourage young people to learn languages
- Annual EU-wide translation contest
- For 17-year-old secondary school students
- 720 schools across the EU, more than 3 000 students

#JuvenesTranslatores



European Day of Languages

European Day of Languages
26 September



EN Many languages, one Europe



European Day of Languages

26 September

- Raises awareness of the wide variety of languages in Europe
- Promotes cultural heritage & linguistic diversity
- Encourage people of all ages to learn languages
- Promotes translation, interpreting & other language-related professions

#EDLangs





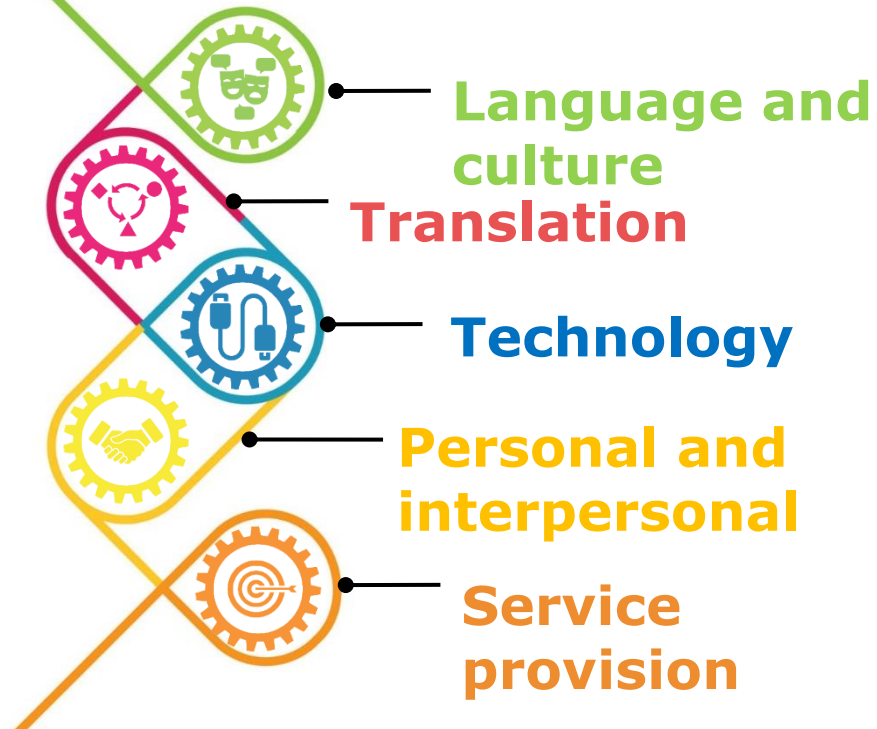
European Master's in Translation

- Network of MA study programmes in translation
- Quality label granted to universities in the European Master's in Translation network

#EMTnet



European Master's in Translation



Objectives

- improve the quality of translator training through joint standards: **EMT competence framework**
- enhance the status of the translation profession
- coordinate a network of knowledge sharing, exchange of practices and state-of-the art developments



European Master's
in Translation

The EMT network brings together many university programmes in the EU and beyond

Members cooperate in working groups, following scientific, technology, research and industry trends along with the common EU objectives

EMT members meet in dedicated network meetings, engage in synergies, cooperate with the industry and organise joint training activities

Visiting Translator Scheme (VTS)

AIM	Knowledge-sharing with the outside world and within DGT
WHAT	(Re-)present DGT, network and collaborate with experts
WHERE	Universities, public institutions, international organisations, private companies
HOW LONG	1 week (2 weeks exceptionally)
WHY	Mutual interest and exchange of good practices



DG Translation in EU countries

- Language officers at Commission Representations
- Translation and localisation
- Contacts with DGT's stakeholders, communication and public relations
- Organise and promote events and projects

#TranslatingEurope #JuvenesTranslatores
#EMTnet #EDLangs



Training, knowledge-sharing and professional development

- Domain-specific
- Digital confidence
- Languages
- Visiting Translator Scheme



Translators & interpreters sharing knowledge



Knowledge Centre on
Translation and
Interpretation

knowledge-centre-translation-
interpretation.ec.europa.eu



Working for and with DG Translation



Job opportunities

Translator or linguistic assistant

- Permanent (Commission official)
- Temporary (temporary agent or contract agent)
- External contractor
- Trainee

“The greatest challenge in legal translation is to strike a balance between precision and readability.”

Andreea Bulgaru

DG TRANSLATION



Alex Jund, linguistic assistant for Latvian translation

‘I help translators get their job done by supporting them with everything that is not translation. I love being part of big dossiers and contributing to the important work of the EU. We deal with all different EU policy areas that the public needs access to in the EU languages.’



Careers in the EU institutions



European Personnel
Selection Office



EU civil servants

Temporary agents

Contract agents

Competitions:

- ☐ Reasoning skills test
- ☐ Field-related tests (translation)

→ Reserve list

Permanent position

Selection procedure:

- ☐ Pre-selection test on language comprehension
- ☐ Selection test on revision and translation

→ List of aptitude

Fixed-term contract:
6 years maximum

Selection procedure:

- ☐ CAST-P profiles (translation)
- ☐ Pre-selection by a recruiting service
- ☐ Reasoning skills test
- ☐ Interview

Fixed-term contract:
6 years maximum

Permanent official?

EU civil servants: open competition process

Create an **EPSO**
account and apply
online



EPSO competitions

[Competition model for
permanent officials | EU Careers
\(europa.eu\)](#)



eu-careers.europa.eu



Eligibility criteria for translators

(all contract types)

- EU nationality
- Knowledge of 3 official EU languages
- Full university degree in languages or another field (minimum Bachelor's)
- No professional experience required
- Military service obligations fulfilled

eu-careers.europa.eu



Eligibility criteria for linguistic assistants

(all contract types)

- EU nationality
- Knowledge of 2 official EU languages
- Post-secondary education or
secondary education + 3 years relevant experience
- Military service obligations fulfilled

eu-careers.europa.eu



Other required skills (all contract types)

Translator profile & skills needed

- commission.europa.eu/jobs-european-commission/working-eu/translator-profile
- eu-careers.europa.eu/en/domain/languages

DGT welcomes people with a degree in
languages/translation or other fields (law, economics, etc.)



What can the Commission offer you?

Starting salaries per month (at 1/7/2024)

- €5 805.36
(temporary agents & officials AD level)
- €4 270.49
(contract agents FG IV)
- €4 613.00
(temporary agents & officials AST level)
- €3 159.63
(temporary agents & officials AST-SC level)
- €2 605.62
(contract agents FG II)

We offer

- Varied and challenging work
- Multicultural and multilingual environment
- Scope to shape your own career
- Flexible working time



How to become an external contractor

- We look for high quality
- Respond to a call for tenders and have your bid accepted
- Calls are published on:
 - TED – Tenders Electronic Daily (Supplement to the Official Journal)
 - EUROPA



Traineeships (Blue Book)

Words shape Europe
and build bridges.

Get inspired,
get involved and leave your
mark at DG Translation!

Gabrielė Pocevičiūtė
Lithuanian Unit,
Luxembourg

Do my words
matter?

- 5 months
- 2 rounds/year, March and October
- Translation, terminology, AI, editing, communication, demand management, etc.
- University graduates
- Choose translation traineeship strand

#EUTraineeships



Traineeships (Blue Book)

“As a trainee, you will work together with people you can really reach out to and who are really eager to help you.”

Daniel González Hacha

- Competence: able to translate from 2 EU languages into your main language
- Monthly grant

traineeships.ec.europa.eu



Training placements

- Duration: 4 weeks to 5 months
- University students, teaching staff and experts from national administrations
- Brussels and DGT field offices in EU countries (in Luxembourg only 4 week-placements)
- No grant
- Selection by language departments



Remote cooperation with universities

- Projects of common interest between DGT and universities
- Students and academic staff
- Remote working and learning (terminology, technology, etc.)
- Priority for European Master's in Translation members
- Universities are free to treat this cooperation as a work experience and grant credit points for it



Web and social media – Translating for Europe



[Translation | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)



[Translating for Europe | Facebook](#)



[Juvenes Translatores | Facebook](#) #JuvenesTranslatores



[Translating for Europe \(@translatores\) / X](#)



[DG TRANSLATION \(@translatingforeurope\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)



[Translating for Europe – YouTube](#)

#EDLangs #TranslatingEurope #2025TEF #eTranslation #xl8



Muito obrigado! Go raibh maith agaibh! Mockrát děkujeme! Σας ευχαριστούμε πολύ! Multumesc! Vielen Dank! Najlepša hvala! Köszönjük szépen! Grazie mille! Hartelijk dank! Nuoširdžiai dėkojame! Благодаря! **Thank you!** Merci beaucoup ! Ďakujeme vám veľmi pekne! Liels paldies! Kiitos! Nirringrazzjawk ħafna! Muchas gracias! Tack så mycket! Hvala lijepa! Dziękujemy za uwagę! Mange tak!



Thank you



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