

TRANSLATIO

No. 4, 2022 FIT Newsletter



President's message

Alison Rodriguez

Dear FIT members,

We seem to have become so used to being alone together, our Zoom screens like a thin veil between different times and worlds, that the palpable enthusiasm emanating from a group of people actually in a conference hall together can come as something of a shock. It's not that we had forgotten, exactly, but it's a nice reminder of how the world used to be.

Face-to-face events have crept back into *Translatio* too. It's great to see the way ITD has grown from a one-day celebration to practically a whole month! It's just what we needed. The variety of ways we celebrate ITD underscores the diversity of our community and our different realities, and festivities continued well past the month of September.

While the focus of ITD 2022 was our hopes for a world without barriers and our role in building culture, understanding, and lasting peace, it seems we still can only hope for a world without conflict, crisis, exclusion, and disadvantage. Yet we have a role to play here, too. So often in panels, discussions, and presentations, we see the themes of solidarity, learning, sharing, and community coming through, along with the vital role of professional associations in supporting individuals. It is so

heartening to see these themes appear in the pages of this issue, too.

Also in this issue, a timely reminder of the fundamental role of translators as authors of cultural and social change. Perhaps it's because words are so powerful, and words that transcend barriers are even more charged with seismic energy. August is traditionally the time for celebrating Women in Translation #WiT, but it seems that, too, runs well past the end of the month and into the rest of the year. With a profession that has such a large percentage of women, it's encouraging to read of support and research into women's professional experience and participation in Iran. We are grateful to all our members who contribute to a better experience for all in our community and our profession. As ACOTIP so neatly points out, gratitude and solidarity have a lot in common.

Here's to working together to build a united, sustainable profession that everyone has a place and a part in.

Happy holidays, happy New Year, and happy reading,

Alison Rodriguez, president@fit-ift.org

New members of the *Translatio* Standing Committee for the 2022–2025 mandate

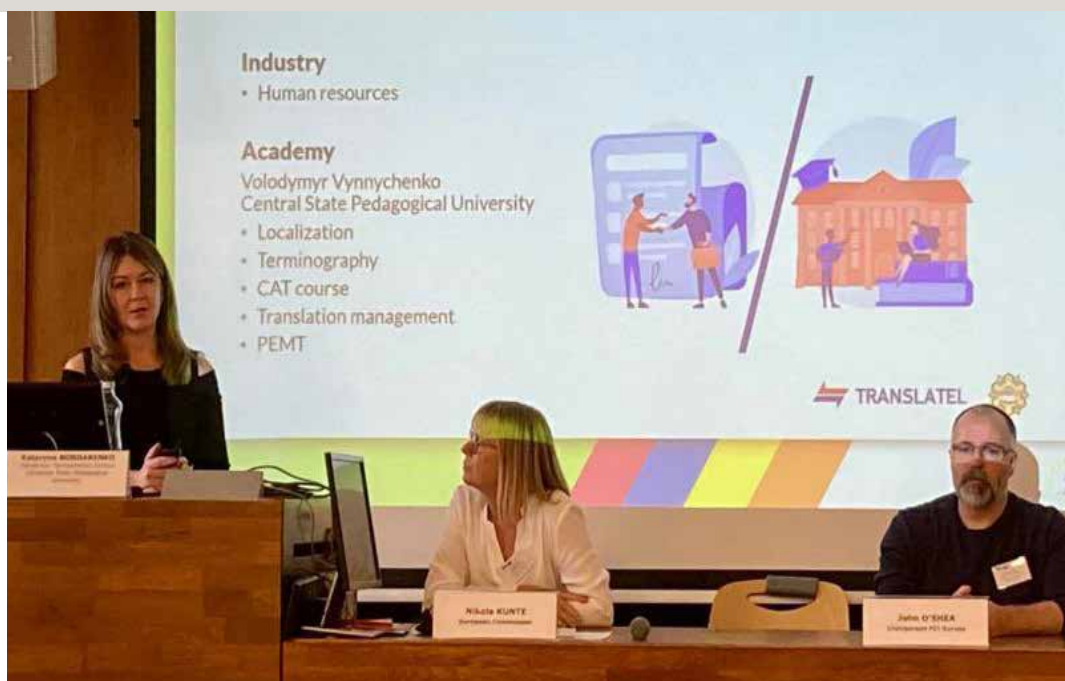


Forging ties with the EMT network

The European Masters in Translation (EMT) competence framework, which sets out the skills students should have acquired by the completion of their studies, was recently updated after wide-ranging consultation. FIT Europe was asked to comment on the framework, and its views were incorporated into the final version.

To mark the launch of the revised framework and celebrate closer ties between FIT Europe and the network of universities offering a master's in translation degree (EMT Network), I was invited to the EMT Networking Meeting in Prague held in October 2022. Key issues discussed at the meeting included the diverse activities of the EMT Network's working groups, studies conducted by the network's members, the state of the translation market in the Czech Republic as the host country, and how the situation in Ukraine is impacting the European translation market (a topic I spoke about during the meeting).

The event revealed various areas where professional translators and interpreters can and should be working more closely with universities. Firstly, in the coming months, FIT Europe will work with the Competence Awareness in TranslatiOn (CATO) working group to explore how the interesting findings of the CATO survey could be extended to working professionals. The aim is to gather their views on the competences included in the framework and their relevance to professional life. Secondly, the Public Service Interpreting and Translation (PSIT) working group has been very active. Its activities have a lot of overlap with FIT Europe's "crisis settings" activities. Synergies and partnerships could be developed, especially



L to R: Kateryna Bondarenko, Nikola Kunte (moderator), and John O'Shea discuss the impact of the Ukrainian crisis on the translation sector in Europe

in light of the recent survey on crisis settings our Regional Centre conducted. In relation to machine translation (MT), with human parity claims now widely debunked, the focus needs to be increasingly on developing methodologies for evaluating MT output, and the EMT Network and European Commission will be working in the coming months on how to do that. Related questions that arise are how and when to integrate MT(PE) into university curricula, the extent to which students of translation should be encouraged to use MT, and whether it can be used as a tool in translation exams.

Many of the speakers and attendees see cooperation between the worlds of academia and practice as vital. This can take the form of jointly organised conferences, presentations to students on the benefits

of professional association membership, discounted student membership plans, university courses taught by association professionals, and competitions for best theses (an essential requirement being that thesis topics address professional/career aspects). From the university side, members of the network reported that students are also very grateful to have less translation theory and more practical/real-world insight. Such interactions with students are also vital in showing that membership in a strong association has real benefits – that the association has their back and is working to defend the interests of professionals.

Watch this space in 2023 as FIT Europe develops closer ties with the EMT Network.

John O'Shea, FIT Europe Chair

The Czech translation tradition – a little-known tie to FIT

As reported above, FIT Europe Chair John O'Shea attended the EMT Networking Meeting held in Prague this past October. On the second day of the event, the Institute of Translation Studies in Prague and the Directorate-General for Translation of the European Commission

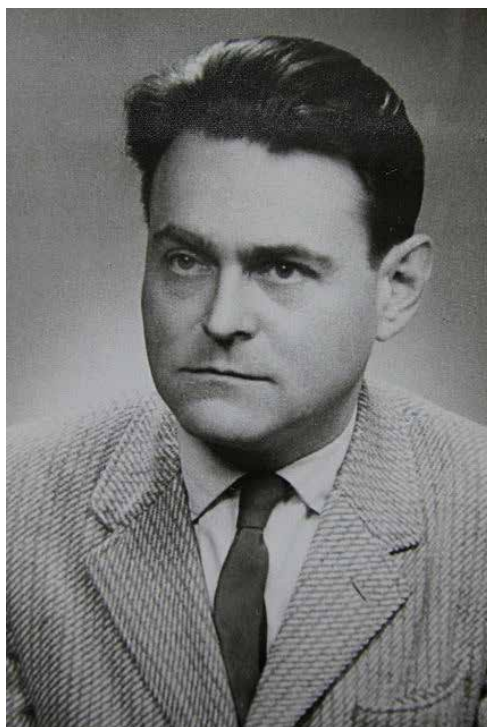
co-organised a meeting of translation scholars, trainers, and practitioners. One of the key themes explored was the past and present of the Czech translation and interpreting market. FIT members the Czech Union of Interpreters and Translators (JTP) and the Association of

Conference Interpreters in the Czech Republic (ASKOT) were heavily involved in this part of the event.

In fact, there are strong historical ties between the Czech translation community and FIT that few readers may be aware of. To highlight them, the Institute organised

an exhibition remembering Jiří Levý, a renowned 20th-century Czech translation scholar, to coincide with the meeting. The exhibition, entitled *Jiří Levý – innovative theorist and, above all, a wonderful man*, was meant to bring his life and work to the attention of all who attended the meeting.

Jiří Levý (1926–1967) was a Czech scholar, practitioner, teacher, and author of *The Art of Translation*, a timeless classic in Translation Studies. Levý was heavily involved with FIT in the 1960s and his activities culminated in proposing Prague as the venue for a future FIT world congress. A Czechoslovak delegation made a corresponding bid at the 1966 Lahti congress. FIT Council arrived in Prague in May 1968 for a preparatory meeting. Unfortunately, it needed to be held without Levý, who had sadly passed away in 1967. Subsequently, Council members travelled to Bratislava to a conference where the dates for the Prague congress were officially announced (19–27 August 1969). Large-scale preparations got underway, including drafting the programme with



Jiří Levý (1926–1967)

three thematic tracks – literary translation involving presentations on the likes of Kafka or Hašek, non-literary translation,

and translation theory. The theme, “Translation – A bond between nations” was chosen for the event and 500 delegates were expected to arrive.

These great hopes, however, were dashed by the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. The congress was initially postponed to 1970, but then eventually cancelled completely by the Communist authorities in late 1969. Thanks to the Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators (BDÜ) in Germany,, a substitute congress was held in Stuttgart in 1970. The then FIT President, Pierre-François Caillé, mentioned in his opening speech in Stuttgart that he hoped that a FIT congress would be held in Prague one day. Perhaps one day one will be!

Jiří Levý’s legacy, including his *Art*, still provide ample inspiration for translation theory and practice and the ways translators and interpreters can make a difference, enabling translation to become an even stronger bond between nations.

Tomáš Svoboda (JTP)

Director, Institute of Translation Studies,
Charles University, Prague

Brand-new FIT Regional Fund now available

In a piece of very good news, on 19 January 2022, FIT Council approved the creation of a Regional Development Fund to finance projects with a regional impact.

Alejandra Jorge, former FIT LatAm Chair, and John O’Shea, current FIT Europe Chair, were tasked with drafting the guidelines for using the Regional Development Fund. The team also included Bill Rivers, former FIT NA Chair, so the voice of the regional centres has been well and truly heard. In September, at its meeting in Dublin, FIT’s Executive Committee (EC) signed off on the guidelines.

The biggest advantage of the Regional Fund is that it can be used even if an association is not currently a member of a Regional Centre. If there is a Regional Centre in your part of the world, another great feature is that if the project is approved, the funds will be in addition to the monies budgeted for each Regional Centre. This is part of a new approach at FIT to promote project-driven activities that add value for the Federation as a whole, Regional Centres, and the individual members of the

translation, interpreting, and terminology community FIT represents.

Associations can work together to develop projects that will benefit a wider region or can work with an existing Regional Centre.

Projects must fall within the Federation’s objectives as outlined in Article 4 of the Bylaws, and for ease of reference, those objectives are included in the guidelines.

The guidelines also give some practical examples of what might likely constitute a project with regional impact. For instance, the Fund could be used to finance workshops with guest speakers to help TTI organisations develop leadership skills, providing an opportunity to share best practices and learn more about how Regional Centres and FIT Mundus function, especially for new Boards.

So, what is in the guidelines?

- A statement of the objectives and aims of the Fund
- Examples of what might be covered
- Detailed guidance on the process to

be followed to apply, reporting obligations, and how the Fund will work

• An annexe with the application form

FIT President Alison Rodriguez, commenting on the guidelines, said, “FIT is so pleased to see the Regional Development Fund ready to accept applications. We’re all working together towards a united, sustainable profession at an international level, but sometimes the impact of that work is best seen in response to local and regional issues. There has always been a wellspring of creative energy and ideas at the regional level, supporting the broader FIT aims and objectives. This new fund is designed to mobilise that energy and channel it into specific projects that best respond to regional challenges and realities, as part of the broader FIT strategy. If you have an idea for a project that delivers impact at a regional level, please consult the guidelines and submit an application for the first round.”

John O’Shea, FIT Europe Chair

Alejandra Jorge, former FIT LatAm Chair
and current EC member

Meet the next *Translatio* SC

In addition to Council, FIT counts a number of task forces, standing committees, working groups, and ad hoc committees run by generous volunteers who ensure FIT can fulfil its mission of being the voice of associations of translators, interpreters, and terminologists around the world. The standing committee that is responsible for this publication is the *Translatio* Standing Committee, and it has some new (and old) members for the 2022–2025 mandate we would like to introduce you to (presented in alphabetical order):



María Galán Barrera is a sworn translator and interpreter based in Madrid, Spain. She also teaches English<>Spanish legal translation at the postgraduate level at University of Alcalá. A staunch defender of associationism, she was the president of the Asociación Española de Traductores, Correctores e Intérpretes (ASETRAD) for six years and is currently the treasurer of FIT Europe. She also serves on the FIT Legal Translation Standing Committee, the FIT Awards Management Standing Committee, and the FIT Solidarity Fund Standing Committee. A tireless traveller, María can often be found at the airport, always carrying her yoga mat and a book under her arm.

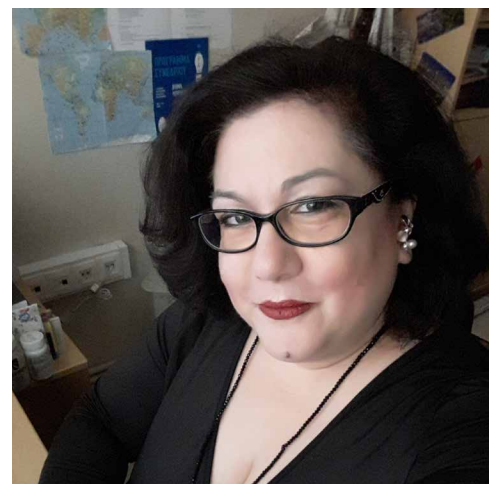
Alejandra Jorge is a freelance technical translator, interpreter, and translator trainer specialising in oil & gas, insurance, and marketing based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She was the Head of the English–Spanish Translation Department at IES en Lenguas Vivas “J. R. Fernández” for



two consecutive periods and is the coordinator of English–Spanish interpreting services for UNESCO–APCEIU meetings. Alejandra was the president of the Asociación Argentina de Traductores e Intérpretes (AATI) from 2010 to 2014. She is the outgoing FIT LatAm Chair and a current vice president of FIT Mundus.



Liu Junhuan (Kelly) graduated from Beijing Foreign Studies University with a master’s degree in English linguistics and translation. Currently based in Beijing, China, she works with the Translators Association of China (TAC) and is responsible for international exchange. She also serves in the Secretariat of the Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF) as an editor and chief translator of the APTIF *Bulletin*. A certified translator and interpreter, she coordinated and provided language services for China’s foreign aid training programs for 10 years and is an experienced project manager and



language professional.

Valentini Kalfadopoulou resides in Athens, Greece and has been in the field of translation, editing, LQA, and terminology since 1997. She has worked as a senior language specialist for Oracle since 2004. She serves on the board of the Panhellenic Association of Translators (PEM), where she leads PEM’s CPD programme and coordinates the Terminology and Localisation workgroups. Currently, she is completing a PhD on the translation of the political discourse of the far right in Ionian University’s Department of Foreign Languages, Translation, and Interpreting. She holds an MSc in language technology and is a member of ASTM’s Committee F43 and ELOT’s TE21 Committee on ISO standards.



Ben Karl (Chair) is a French>English and Mandarin>English translator and English copywriter based in Long Beach, California, USA. He specialises in corporate

and marketing communications and user experience. He is certified by the American Translators Association (ATA) in French>English translation and holds a BA in translation from McGill University and an MBA from University of Nevada, Reno. He currently serves as a director on the ATA board and chairs the ATA Advocacy Committee. He served as chair of the *Translatio* Standing Committee from 2018 to 2022 and is excited to continue to lead the committee for the coming mandate.



Anne Marais is a freelance translator, editor, journalist, and communications consultant from South Africa. She specialises in marketing, media, and tourism translations from English to Afrikaans and Afrikaans to English. She graduated from the North-West University with a BA and also earned a Postgraduate Diploma in Translation through Unisa. She is a member of the South African Translators' Institute (SATI) and lives in Mossel Bay, South Africa.

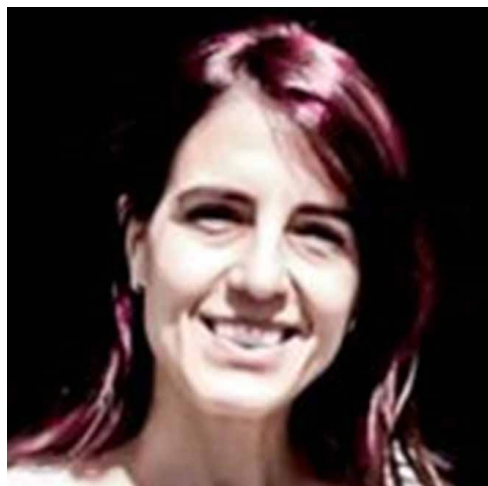


Sandra Mouton is a French translator, working with English, Russian and Latin, based in Bristol, United Kingdom.

She specialises in marketing, web, boats, games, and history translations. Sandra is a member of the Société française des traducteurs (SFT), and of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (ITI). She is Secretary General of FIT Europe and has served on the *Translatio* editorial team as a French editor since 2016, joining the FIT *Translatio* SC in 2018.



Marita Propato is an English<>Spanish conference interpreter, technical, literary, and legal translator, and college professor from Buenos Aires, Argentina. She's certified by the ATA and accredited by the Colegio de Traductores Públicos de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires (CTPCBA), a former president of AATI, and a current vice-chair of FIT LatAm. With more than 30 years of experience in a variety of T&I fields, her passions are transcreation, facilitating inclusion through communication, and contributing to build a sustainable and relevant profession. This is her third term on the *Translatio* Standing Committee and she's happy to continue supporting FIT's newsletter and visibility efforts.



Isabel Sacco is an English<>Spanish and French>Spanish freelance translator,

proofreader, transcreator, and content creator. She specialises in legal, IP, financial, marketing, communications, and food and beverage. She is a current member of the Colegio Nacional de Licenciados en Traducción e Interpretación (CONALTI©) in Venezuela. She served as president for two terms from 2015 until 2019 and as member of the Admissions Committee from 2017 to 2021. She has been CONALTI's webmaster since 2009 and its social media content creator for the past year. She is also a member of ATA and International Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters (IAPTI).



Paola Andrea Sosa is an English<>Spanish literary and technical-scientific translator based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She earned a degree in literary and technical translation from the Instituto de Enseñanza Superior en Lenguas Vivas "J. R. Fernández" and a degree in legal translation from Universidad de Belgrano. She specialises in legal, aeronautical, and institutional translations. Since 2008, she has worked as a freelance translator, proofreader, and translation project assistant for several agencies and is currently working as an in-house translator at the Language Training Centre of the Argentine Air Force. She is a member of CTPCBA and the AATI.



Volunteering as promising practice for students

Current trends in T&I emphasise the necessity for university graduates to start their careers with a certain level of professional and social maturity regarding the challenges and demands of the industry. Interdisciplinary training is therefore of the utmost importance.

The Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University) has traditional bachelor's and master's programmes in foreign languages and translation and interpreting, including conference interpreting, legal and business translation, etc. Since its inception in 1960, the university has also been running a special university-wide translation option for students of all non-language programmes (currently over 65). The option consists of a professional conversion course (1,500 academic hours, of which 750 are contact hours) for translation and interpreting related to their area of study, resulting in a T&I diploma for those who pass the final qualification exam.

The programme has proven popular,

with 50% of 2022 graduates of non-language bachelor's courses being awarded a qualification in specialised translation in line with their undergraduate major. The course is based on a solid practice of engaging students in T&I activities in real-world professional contexts. Over the past two years, these have included several volunteer projects.

In 2021, students localised the *Sustainable cities* course (uploaded on the edx.org platform) from English into Russian. The course was created by the Academy of Sustainable Development with UN support. The project brought together students from the RUDN Institute of Environmental Engineering and was completed using Smartcat. Students received certificates of appreciation from the director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and a UN special adviser.

In September 2022, 40 students whose majors included journalism, public relations, and television acted as consecutive interpreters from Chinese into Russian

and vice versa at the *Worldfood Moscow 2022* international food and beverage trade show.

The final example is from the International Financial Security Olympiad 2022, which was held from April – October 2022 in Russia and brought together participants from universities in Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa, and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Students and teachers at the RUDN Law Institute provided pro bono translation and interpreting support between Russian, English, Chinese, and Portuguese.

These projects are important as they bridge academics and industry, helping students learn about the challenges of their future multilingual professions and encouraging T&I instructors to maintain their professional competencies and stay abreast of the industry's changing needs.

Anastasia Atabekova, Vice Rector for Multilingual Development, RUDN University



L to R: Two conference interpreting instructors, the interpreter team coordinator, and two interpreting students at the International Financial Security Olympiad

'Teaching T&I in the neural age' conference at ULB

On 29 and 30 September 2022, the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) held a conference around the theme 'Teaching translation and interpreting in the neural age'. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the integration of the former École de Traduction et Interprétation (ISTI) with ULB.

The conference was supported by the National Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS), the European Commission, the Faculté de Lettres, Traduction et Interprétation, and the Tradital research centre, and was co-organised by the University of Mons.

There were around a hundred attendees, including many master's students. Our students provided interpretation.

Sixteen proposals had been selected, with speakers hailing from around ten countries, mainly across Europe.

As well as these papers, there were two guest speakers: Bart Defrancq from Ghent University, who serves as chair of the Conférence internationale permanente d'instituts universitaires de traducteurs et interprètes (CIUTI), spoke about interpreting technologies, and Merit-Ene Ilja,

Director of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Translation (DGT), gave a presentation about the technologies they use.

The papers, in French or English, addressed various aspects of teaching neural machine translation (NMT), post-editing and, in wider terms, proficiency with digital technology and machine translation. The issues discussed and debated included the following:

- How far should we go with teaching NMT? Nicolas Ballier demonstrated that the internal workings of neural networks explain NMT's gender bias. Krüger and Hackenbuchner discussed digital data literacy and proposed a taxonomy of the digital skills essential for using NMT responsibly.
- How do we evaluate our students' post-editing quality? Bodart and colleagues presented a taxonomy of errors.
- Specific linguistic problems, discussed by Van Gysel and Benyahia.
- How to approach NMT teaching: Ciobanu and Secara proposed various

student assessment exercises. Girletti and Lefer discussed the issue of pricing.

- Starlander questioned the place of traditional tools, such as translation memories or terminology management tools, in the wake of NMT's surge.

Two roundtables brought together practitioners, teachers, and students to discuss these educational issues and the profession's expectations, extending the debate to the whole audience.

The takeaway was that teaching NMT and post-editing is essential. Various methods are used to raise awareness among students. Views were mixed on when to address these topics, but everyone agreed that a certain level of understanding of how these systems work is needed to deal with post-editing errors. A thorough knowledge of the target language is also crucial for correcting NMT errors that are not always easy to spot.

Feedback from participants on the papers and the conference's organisation was very positive. We hope to publish the findings soon.

Dr Pascaline Merten, ULB

Promoting student research at ISIT

In 2016, ISIT Paris-Panthéon-Assas Université created a scheme known as ValRec, which stands for 'Valorisation de la recherche des étudiants' (promotion of student research) to pique students' interest in research and encourage their scientific research endeavours.

With support from research tutors, our master's students build on their work in their programme's research workshops and take part in four ValRec components:

1. Study days
2. Scientific posters
3. 'Intercultural Thesis Pitch' mini-conference
4. Thesis publication

STUDY DAYS

ISIT organises two study days, each with a different theme, for first-year master's

students: a Language and Intercultural Communication Day for intercultural communication and translation and digital intercultural strategy students, and an Intercultural Management and International Relations Day for intercultural management and international strategy and diplomacy students.

Students spend these days investigating research methodologies through case studies, hearing from guest alumni, reporting on how their theses are progressing, and discussing the difficulties they have encountered.

SCIENTIFIC POSTERS

Midway between their first research workshop and their defence, second-year students present scientific posters on how their research is progressing.

The topics vary and include translation studies, terminology, discourse analysis, digital anthropology and artificial intelligence, intercultural marketing and consumer sociology, international intercultural communication, geopolitical crises and conflicts, economic intelligence, human resources and management, and the potential challenges of sustainable development.

A panel representing various ISIT departments selects the top posters by judging the clarity of presentation, quality of writing, originality of design, scientific approach, and the work completed.

The chosen posters are then printed and displayed at ISIT and the best ones receive a prize.

'INTERCULTURAL THESIS PITCH' MINI-CONFERENCE

After defending their theses, second-year master's students present their research in five-minute pitches at a public conference. These short pitches show a cross-section of the various facets of students' research and revolve around interculturality and multilingualism, which are at the heart of ISIT's work.

THESIS PUBLICATION

Once the best theses have been identified, graduates revise them with the support of their research supervisors for publication on the multidisciplinary open archive HAL. To date, 17 ISIT thesis papers have been published online and can be viewed [here](#).

ValRec, which combines research and education, lets our students be the architects

and builders of their knowledge, grasp every aspect of a collective and intercultural research project, acquire new skills, and find solutions to the problems they encounter. We are sharing this framework with FIT members to highlight how much it has helped our master's students expand their knowledge, develop their expertise, and learn new soft skills.

Carolina Bley-Loez, ValRec Director, ISIT Paris Panthéon-Assas Université

2022 annual conference: Record turnout for OTTIAQ's 30th anniversary!

On 14 October, the *Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (OTTIAQ)* held its annual conference in person at the *Palais des congrès de Montréal* around the theme 'Language professionals at the forefront of social change.' It was a welcome change after two years of virtual conferences.

This year, 415 attendees took advantage of the conference's ample opportunities to learn, share, and network.

OTTIAQ's president kicked off the day by highlighting two things that have had a lasting impact on professional practices in the language industry: the pandemic and AI.

Two high-profile speakers also took part in the event. Patrice Roy, a journalist at Radio-Canada, discussed his special relationship with the interpreters he worked with as a foreign correspondent. Thomas Mulcair, former president of the *Office des professions du Québec*, praised language professions and OTTIAQ and stressed the importance of keeping French an official language in Canada.



From L to R: Donald Barabé (C. Tr.), current OTTIAQ president, Monique Cormier (C. Term.), past president, Betty Cohen (C. Tr.), past president, Réal Paquette (C. Tr.), past president, Anne-Marie De Vos (C. Tr.), past president, Johanne Boucher (C. Tr.), past president.

Photo credit: Denis Girard

The conference featured more than a dozen speakers who spoke about various topics, such as past participle agreement, neologisms, neural machine translation, ethical guidelines for using machine translation, safeguarding language in software development, inclusive language and vocabulary, the state of inclusive writing, pragmatic approaches to gender-neutral translation, and language as a cornerstone of social responsibility for organisations.

In addition to the speaking sessions, more than twenty industry exhibitors shared

their services offerings with attendees. At lunch, the current president and his predecessors gathered around a special birthday cake to celebrate OTTIAQ's 30th anniversary.

Before ending the day with a cocktail reception and some music, the New Talent and Excellence Awards were presented to several up-and-comers wishing to join our professions.

Read a recap of the event (in French) [here](#).

Nora Azouz (OTTIAQ)

Credits: Denis Girard



Women in translation in Iran

Over the past few weeks, Iran has been a recurring headline and a heated topic on social media. An unprecedented protest mainly led and run by women has taken the world by surprise. All the years of Iranian women living and working under repression could have led to inertia and quiet frustration, but instead have given rise to seismic change. This painstaking path has undoubtedly been illuminated by women writers, teachers, and translators. What has been hidden over the years until now is the overwhelming number of educated Iranian women who are well aware of their civil rights and are now demanding them.

Just a few weeks before the protests, Translators and Interpreters' Association of Tehran (TIAT) conducted a survey on the contribution of women in translation

that had surprising results. Based on data available [online](#), we hypothesized that the proportion of female translators and published translations by female authors would be less than their male counterparts. What compelled us to test our hypothesis was the number of female members in our association in Tehran. It should be noted that, since the establishment of TIAT in 2013, out of 670 members, 502 members are active female translators, representing a hefty 75% of our total membership. We hold regular seminars, workshops, and meetings where both attendees and lecturers are mainly women. This suggests a firm belief in empowering civil institutions, which is one of the main pillars of democracy.

To increase the reliability of our survey sample and reach a valid conclusion,

we distributed our online questionnaire broadly to a wide range of publishers and translators. Perhaps unsurprisingly, women were more willing to return the questionnaire. While official statistics published by the Iranian Ministry of Culture claim that the share of women in the book translation market in 2022 is 41.2%, our survey showed that women account for almost 78% of the total market, a gap of almost 37%.

Based on our survey, we can conclude that while the government celebrates and propagates traditional caretaking roles for women, they have been trying hard to break the mold and empower themselves. The community of women translators is representative of all Iranians, a group that is fighting for freedom.

Dr Shaghayegh Nazarzadeh (TIAT)

APTI celebrates ITD with several educational activities

The Asociación Panameña de Traductores e Intérpretes (APTI) organised various activities in September to celebrate International Translation Day.

Our profession as translators and interpreters requires that we sit (and stand) for many hours, and maintaining good posture is important to avoid health problems. For this reason, we began the month with a theoretical and practical workshop called *Ergonomics for translators and interpreters*, presented by Javier U. Córdoba Garcerán, a physiotherapist specialising in

physical rehabilitation, ergonomics, and industrial rehabilitation.

To reinforce existing knowledge of our official language, Spanish, we organised our second educational activity with the Panamanian Academy of Language, a workshop entitled *Regulatory Aspects of Spanish*, presented by the prominent Panamanian speaker Rodolfo de Gracia Reynaldo. At the end of the seminar, participants received certificates issued and signed by the director of the Academy, Dr Arístides Rojo, and by the speaker.



APTI President Suzet Gonzalez during our celebration on 30 September. Credit: Dalys Sagel de Wong



We closed the Month of Translation with a lively dinner at a local hotel. We talked about aspects relevant to our profession, and several of our members participated in various artistic activities that night. Two skits, skilfully acted by several of our members, showed different scenarios we as translators and interpreters face in our daily work.

Reina de Bettendorf (APTI)

APTI members at the Panamanian Academy of Languages. Credit: Dalys Sagel de Wong

Translating is a party!

ACOTIP's 3 events celebrating Translation Month 2022

On 24 May 2017, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on the role of professional translation in connecting nations and fostering peace, understanding, and development and declared 30 September International Translation Day. However, given that translation has become the *lingua franca* of today's interconnected world, because translating is the only efficient way to disseminate information to everyone everywhere, it is well worth dedicating a full month of festivities to it!

The Asociación Costarricense de Traductores e Intérpretes Profesionales (ACOTIP) joined the party in a special way this year with three free virtual talks organised in September on three different topics:

- *ISO standards for translation and interpretation: service quality assurance*
- *Professional management for translators*
- *Caring for the voice and ears, ah... and the eyes and hands of interpreters and translators*

Our sincere thanks to our excellent speakers (in order of appearance): Mónica Porras (Costa Rica), Bianchinetta Benavides (Costa Rica), Horacio R. Dal Dosso (Argentina), and Sergio M. Alarcón (Mexico).

In addition to our internal efforts, we are grateful to have the support of the following top-level collaborators and sponsors: the Institute of Technical Standards of Costa Rica (INTECO), the College of Letters of the University of Costa Rica (UCR), the School of Modern Languages of UCR, Colegio Mexicano de Intérpretes de Conferencias (CMIC), FIT North America (FIT NA), and FIT Latin America (FIT LATAM). To top it all off, our local and regional audience showed a real interest, great motivation, and a lot of energy.

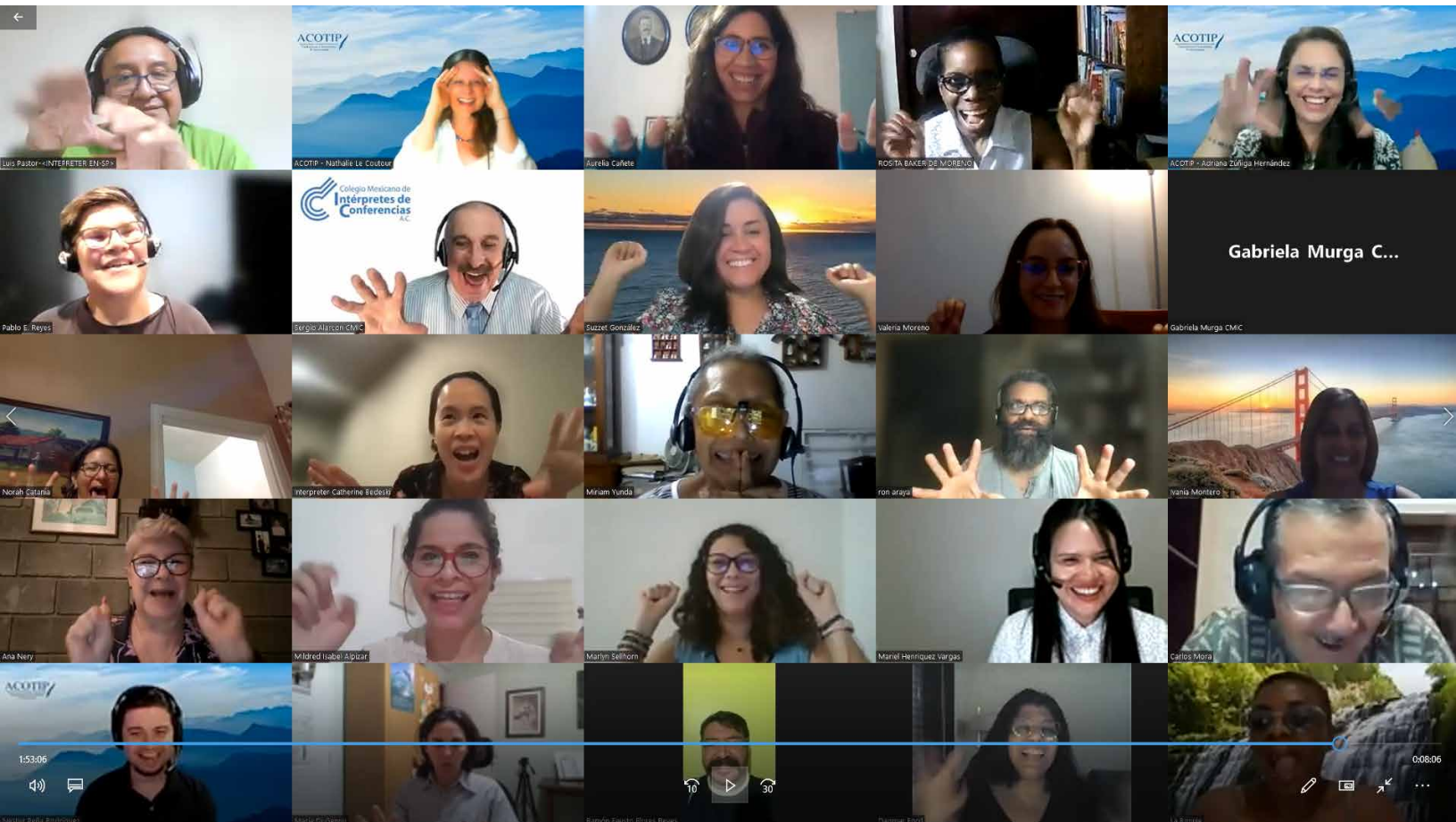
The broad and active participation sparked by these three activities clearly shows how important training is in our professions. We should reflect on the national strategies we must promote to foster and enhance the

continuing and professional education and development of our current and future colleagues.

The gift we received from FIT NA and CMIC through CMIC's president, Sergio M. Alarcón, co-winner of FIT's Albin Tybulewicz Prize for Professional Solidarity in the Translation and Interpreting Community (thanks to our president Adriana Zúñiga-Hernández being the other co-winner) is a reminder that official recognition is more meaningful when awards for solidarity become chains of solidarity. We amplify what we share. Gratitude, like solidarity, is unmeasurable. It is unquantifiable because it surpasses all mathematical logic. In the end, we exchanged knowledge and learned... in a world without barriers.

Nathalie Le Coutour (ACOTIP, SFT, ANTIO)

The original version of this article is pending publication in the second issue of *Revista FIT LatAm*



A translator flash mob!

The Colegio de Traductores Públicos de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires (CTPCBA) choir recently organised a special public event to increase the visibility of translators and interpreters. To mark International Musician's Day on 22 November, CTPCBA's Cultural Affairs Committee, choir conductor, Mariano Irschick, and choir singers held a unique performance that was filmed by a professional media team: a flash mob that took commuters by surprise at the Retiro Central Station in Buenos Aires on a Sunday morning. The choir decided to perform ABBA's *Thank You for the Music*, arranged for four voices. The music and the sudden appearance of the pianist and singers sparked the curiosity of passers-by, who gathered to watch, enjoy the show, take photos, and sing along.

A few snapshots accompany this article, but the actual video really bears testament to the power of music. You can watch it [here](#).

The CTPCBA Choir recently celebrated its 12th anniversary. A special feature of this choir is that it sings songs in many different languages.

Marita Propato (AATI, ATA, CTPCBA)

[Promoting T&I at the Retiro Station](#) →



Flash mob location: Retiro Central Station, Buenos Aires



TAC: ITD in Pictures

On the occasion of International Translation Day (ITD) which falls on 30 September each year, the Translators Association of China (TAC) launched a special event to encourage translators and interpreters to look back at their practice and submit photos they thought best fit this year's ITD theme: *A world without barriers*.

By calling for submissions of themed photos from the Chinese T&I community, TAC

hoped to get more members involved in the celebration, thus raising public awareness about the significance of translation and interpreting in cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

The call was sent on 25 August and closed on 10 September and drew wide attention from academia, industry, and media, reaching a large audience. In 15 days, TAC received 175 photos accompanied

by some impressive behind-the-scenes stories.

Members cast a total of 30,000 votes to select the top 10 photos from among the entries. To share the winners and broaden the impact of ITD, TAC created a photo album and a video and posted them to our official WeChat account and [website](#).

Liu Junhuan (TAC)



Top 10 ITD photos

Introducing the FIT LatAm Social Media Team

The FIT LatAm Board decided to amplify its presence on social media to stay connected with professionals and share relevant news from LatAm associations and FIT.

A team was formed with two volunteers from Asociación Argentina de Traductores e Intérpretes (AATI) (Argentina) and three volunteers from Confederación de Trabajadores Peruanos, (CTP). A WhatsApp group was created for circulating proposed posts, whose content and design have to be pre-approved by FIT LatAm's chair and two vice-chairs. The communication strategy is led by Katia Jimenez Pochet, FIT LatAm vice-chair and FIT Council member.

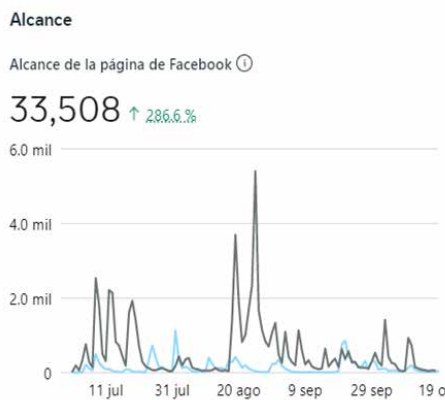
We thought the team deserved a proper introduction, so we created a special post:

After working for three months, the team decided to review some key metrics from various social media platforms. Here are the highlights:

Analysis of Facebook and Instagram activity

The team analysed performance on these two platforms by comparing two periods, March 2022 – June 2022 and July 2022 – October 2022, using three metrics: (a) reach, (b) page and profile visits, and (c) new likes and followers.

(a) Reach refers to the number of users who have seen our content in a given period. The comparison showed an increase in reach of 286.86% for FB and 61.7% for IG.



(b) Page and profile views refers to how many visitors have viewed the FIT LatAm page. The comparison showed an increase in visits of 98.7% for FB and of 73.6% for IG.



FIT LATAM - Centro Regional América Latina de la Federación Intern...
2mo · 🌐

Con mucho entusiasmo presentamos en sociedad a nuestro flamante Equipo de Gestión de RRSS para el periodo 2022-2025. ¡Sean muy bienvenidos colegas traductores e intérpretes latinoamericanos a FIT LATAM!
Eduardo Castillo Vargas, Roxana Fuentes, Luis Huaraca Aylas, Luisa Portocarrero, Mining and Technical Interpreter, Vanesa Toimil

See translation

Este es el equipo de Gestión de Redes Sociales FIT LATAM 2022-2025

Eduardo Castillo
Facebook e Instagram

Vanesa Toimil
LinkedIn y Twitter

Luisa Portocarrero
Facebook e Instagram

Roxana Fuentes
LinkedIn y Twitter

Con la colaboración creativa de:
Luis Huaraca
Facebook e Instagram

Centro Regional América Latina - Latin America Regional Centre - Centre Regional Amérique Latine (FIT - ITF)

Siganos en Facebook, Twitter e Instagram como @FITLATAM.
www.fit-ift.org/regional-centres/fit-latam

Note: The grey line represents activity from 1 July – 18 October. The light blue line represents activity from 12 May – 30 June.

www.fit-ift.org/regional-centres/fit-latam/

@FITLATAM @FITLATAM FIT LATAM

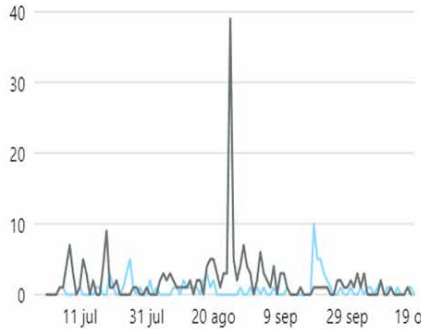
@fitlatam @fitlatam

(c) New likes and followers refers to new likes on FB and new followers on IG. FB saw an increase of 150.6% in the number of likes, and IG reported an increase of 24.9% in followers.

Nuevos Me gusta y seguidores

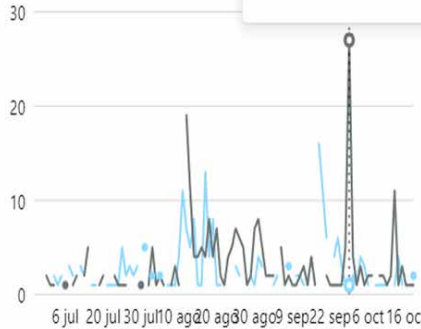
Nuevos Me gusta de la página de Facebook

208 ↑ 150.6%



Nuevos seguidores de Instagram

261 ↑ 24.9%



Analysis of LinkedIn activity

As for the Regional Centre's LinkedIn page, there has been an increase of 63.6% over a 90-day period, from the start of August to the end of October 2022. We are proud of this growth, achieved with 100% organic posts. In the period under review, the page welcomed 91 new followers, and now has more than 570 followers.

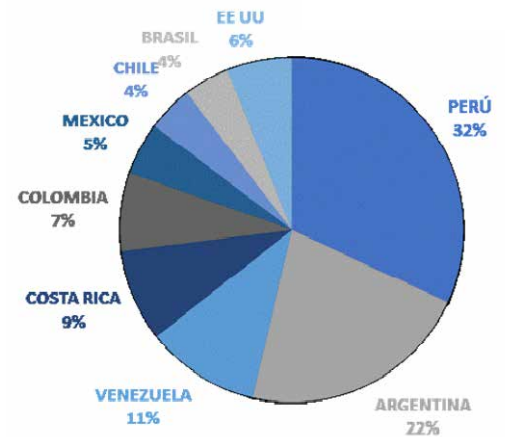
Metrics helped us to identify three key moments in attracting new followers: (1) the release of the first issue of FIT LatAm's magazine, (2) the announcement of FIT LatAm's Legal T&I Seminar to celebrate International Translation Month with speakers Tony Rosado, Darinka

Mangino, and Fernando Cuñado de Castro, and (3) the [presentation](#) of FIT's Statutory Congress 2025 in Costa Rica at the CIUTI Conference in Peru.

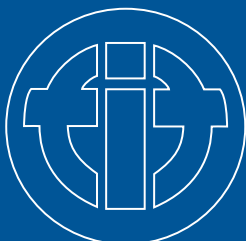
The positive trend of social media visibility that started with the previous Board of FIT LatAm continues to grow. It is encouraging to see such an increase in followers, and we commit to creating posts that are meaningful and add value for professionals in Latin America and the world.

FIT LatAm's Social Media Team & Marita Propato (FIT LatAm Vice-Chair)

LinkedIn followers by country



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