

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

29th February - 1st March 2024

LEGAL TRANSLATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES IN THE LIGHT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE?

29th February afternoon :

Maison de l'Ile-de-France de la Cité
Internationale universitaire de Paris
9D Boulevard Jourdan, 75014 PARIS

1st March morning :

Campus ISIT
23 Av. Jeanne d'Arc, 94110 Arcueil



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Maison fondée par la  **Région Île-de-France**



LEGAL TRANSLATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES IN THE LIGHT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE?

**SCIENTIFIC DIRECTION: L. CLÉMENT-WILZ, I. CENNAMO
AND A. DE LAFORCADE**

The fact that the European Union has 24 official languages has a profound effect on the process by which legislation, rules and jurisprudence are produced, with legal translation from and into multiple languages occupying a crucial role. EU law is automatically incorporated in the internal legal order of Member States, has primacy over national law, and naturally shapes the rights and obligations of individuals. Consequently, the clarity and quality of the drafting of equivalent legal texts in all 24 languages is a fundamental requirement, making translation a guarantor of the quality of lawmaking and rulemaking within the European Union.

In addition, the European Union's own requirements with regard to the normalisation and harmonisation of European countries' domestic legislation disrupt the traditionally two-way transaction of translation. What is more, as pointed out by language sciences specialists, the institutional translation service set up within the European Union, a "Union based on the rule of law", is designed to meet the legal and political needs identified in accordance with its institutional and Community ethos.

At present, like many human and social activities, the political project of the European Union is facing up to the challenges of artificial intelligence (AI). AI is a subject of great strategic importance for the EU and has already had a direct impact on the Union's translation practices, particularly since the European Commission's launch of the e-Translation system in 2017. As indicated by the European Commission, this neural machine translation engine has a specific institutional objective: to connect the institutions of the European Union to government bodies, to universities, to freelance translators working for the EU, to SMEs and to NGOs based in an EU Member State or in Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein or Ukraine. Operating in several discursive fields (legal, financial, general, etc.), from and into any official EU language as well as Arabic, Chinese, Icelandic, Japanese, Norwegian, Russian, Turkish and Ukrainian, e-Translation is presented by the Commission as a tool offering raw machine translations that require verification by a human being skilled in translation.

The progress made by neural machine translation systems compared with the previous statistical or hybrid systems poses many challenges. First of all, the impact of English, as a pivot language, to address the inequitable representation of all languages in the training corpora (Vetere 2022) calls for a critical analysis of the linguistic and legal effects this method could have. Furthermore, if we consider the use of e-Translation at the Court of Justice of the European Union, where jurisprudence is drafted in French (the working language of the Court) and then translated into other EU languages, other factors then come into play. Then, there is the question of the impact on legal terminology and the relationship between e-Translation and the IATE terminology database, which is also populated by the Court of Justice.

The question of linguistic variation within the various official languages also arises, given the risk of reproducing the biases (gender or other) contained in the training corpora. In addition, the challenges posed by neural machine translation are growing, because today many national and international institutional translation services are training a neural machine translation engine in customised fashion to meet context-specific translation requirements, in what is known as "custom machine translation". While post-editing remains a vital part of such integrated, tool-assisted approaches and raises many questions about the expected results, we might also wonder about the skills and processes required for the pre-editing of multilingual corpora, which are so vital to the smooth running of multilingual artificial intelligence. Finally, the integration of AI in an institutional framework demands reflection on the implications for the higher education of linguists, translators and lawyer-linguists in order to ensure that these professionals are able to operate in this rapidly shifting context.

This international symposium, at which simultaneous interpreting will be provided, examines the institutional, administrative and normative framework established to cope with the reality of neural machine translation, as well as the methods by which legal texts are adopted and by which European judges interpret those texts and jurisprudence. It will enable an exchange of views on the advantages and limits of AI and the questions it poses for legal multilingualism in the European Union and other institutions. To address these questions, the event will bring together recognised specialists in their fields, be they jurists specialising in European law, comparative law experts, lawyer-linguists, translation theorists, AI experts, or translation practitioners or translation service managers from European institutions.

PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 29TH AFTERNOON

MAISON DE L'ÎLE-DE-FRANCE, CITÉ INTERNATIONALE UNIVERSITAIRE DE PARIS

13h Welcome of participants

13h30 Opening : F. Torrisi, Maison de l'Île-de-France (CIUP) ; Y. Parisot, EUR FRAPP (University Paris-Est Créteil) ; S.de la Rosa, Laboratoire MIL (University Paris-Est Créteil)

13h45 Introduction : L.Clément-Wilz, University Paris-Est Créteil /EUR FRAPP, A. de Laforcade, ISIT, I. Cennamo, University of Turin

14h15-15h Artificial intelligence and the challenge of contextual translation of legal text – KeyNote Speech of J. Ziller, University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Università di Pavia

15h-16h Session n°1: The European Union's approach to legal translation in the context of artificial intelligence

Chair: L. Xenou, University Paris-Est Créteil

Is artificial intelligence capable of validating linguistic policy aspects in the translation of European legislation? : R. Somssich, Eötvös Loránd University

Legal Certainty and AI: Implications of Diverging Language Versions in EU law: S. Van der Jeught, Vrije Université Libre de Bruxelles , CJEU

16h-16h30 Coffee break

16h30-18h00 Session n°2: Round-table on tools, practices and the transformation of the legal translation professions in the light of AI

Présidence : I. Pingel, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Chair: I. Pingel, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University

European Parliament: P. Vlaic, Head of Unit, DG for Translation; Applications & IT Systems Development Unit

Council of the European Union: S. Sipos, Head of Unit, General Secretariat, Legal Service, Quality of Legislation, Processes and Digitization

Court of Justice of the European Union: S. Wright, former Director of legal translation, Directorate-General for Multilingualism

Banca d'Italia: A. De Michele, Coordinator of the Italian section Language Services Division



PROGRAM

MARCH 1ST
ISIT, ARCUEIL

9h Welcome of participants

9h20 Opening : B. Baldwin, ISIT

9:30–10:15 AI for EU legal translation: Spotlight on terminology – Keynote speech by L. Biel, University of Warsaw

10h15–11h45 Session n° 3: Conceptual framework and linguistic challenges of neural legal translation in the European context

Chair: Ch. Durieux, ISIT

The impact of NMT on legal and institutional translation: F.Prieto Ramos, University of Geneva

Towards clear, simple and inclusive language in law; exploring AI models as reformulation assistants in the context of multilingual translation: M.Zimina, Ch. Gledhill, University of Paris Cité, M. Bouyé, ENS Saclay

The translation paradigm applied to law in the age of deep learning: A. Talbot, Université Grenoble Alpes

11h45–12h15 Coffee break

12h15–13h15 Session n° 4: Round-table on Technical challenges of neural legal translation in the European context?

Chair: F. Prieto Ramos, University of Geneva

Technical elements of quality AI-assisted legal translation: model, dataset, dictionaries and training, M. Cabrera Diego, Jus Mundi

Neural Machine Translation and the preparation of data. A field study of legal translation, F. Mileto, UNINT Rome

The technical challenges of translation at the Court of Justice of the European Union, M.Markiewicz, Head of the Polish Language Translation Unit, Directorate-General for Multilingualism, Court of Justice of the European Union.

13h10–13h30: Conclusions of the Symposium: S.Monjean Decaudin, Sorbonne University



USEFUL INFORMATION

**MIDF, CIUP,
9 D BOULEVARD JOURDAN, 75014 PARIS**

TRANSPORTS

RER B / STATION CITÉ UNIVERSITAIRE

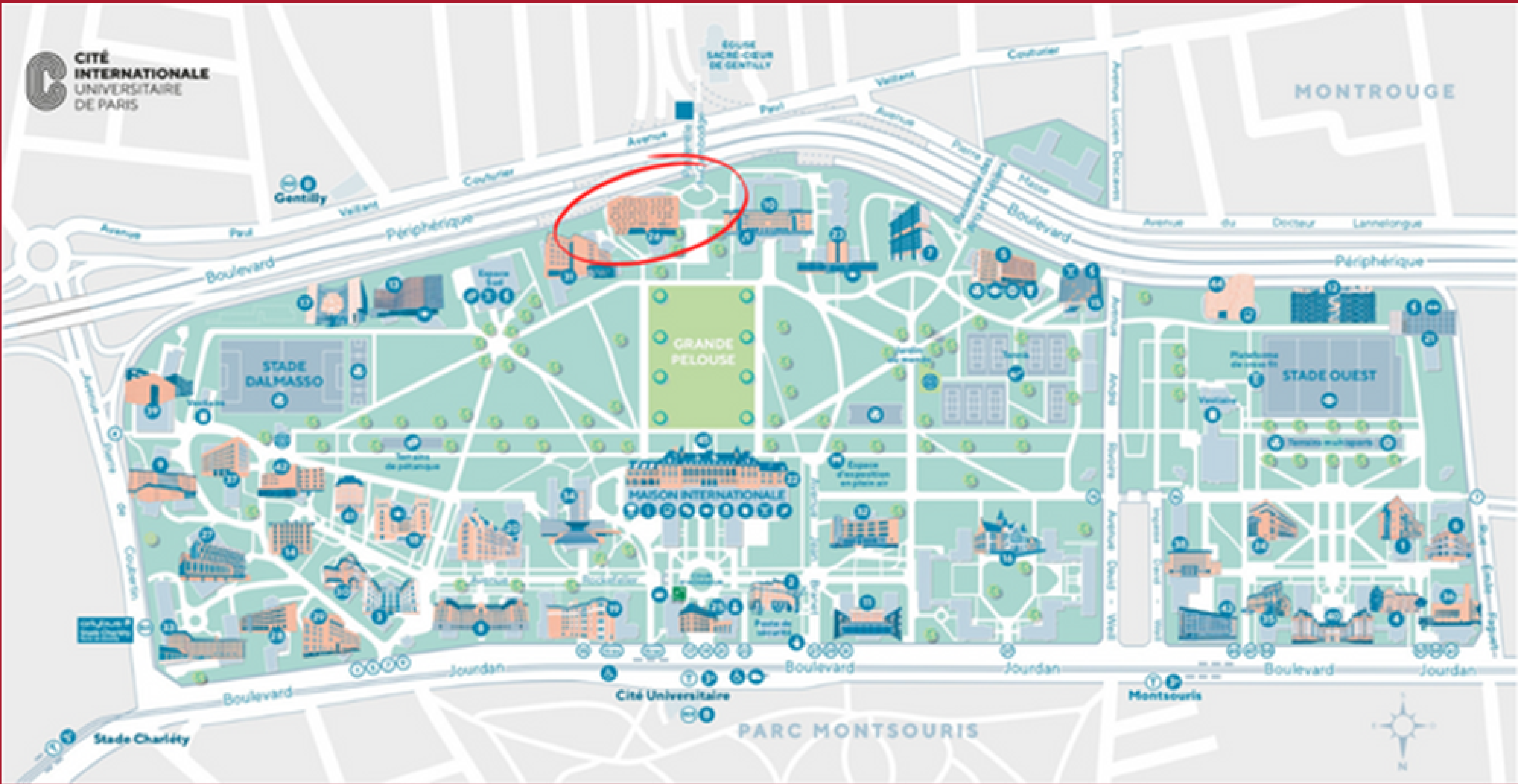
TRAMWAY T3A / STATION CITÉ UNIVERSITAIRE

Enter the Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris via the entrance located at 15 ter boulevard Jourdan, at the transport exit.

Go straight ahead towards the Maison Internationale. Cross the building, then continue straight ahead along the large lawn.

The Maison de l’Île-de-France is at the far left, between the Maison du Cambodge and the Maison du Liban.

ACCESS MAP



TRANSPORTS

**ISIT
23 AV. JEANNE D'ARC, 94110 ARCUEIL**

RER B STATION LA PLACE
Sortie Maison des Examens

BUS 57, 323 ET 530 (ARRÊT LAPLACE)



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