European Commission
creating infrastructure for Greek language and translation

10th Conference «Greek language and terminology»
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In memoriam of

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Multilingualism and the European Union
EU multilingual «by default»

- Because citizens have the right
  - To know the law in their language
  - To communicate with the Institutions in their language
- Multilingualism is a foundation of democracy
  - Transparency of the legislative process
  - Legitimation of the EU
- Regulation No. 1/58 determining the languages to be used
  - All legislative texts are drafted in all official languages
- Also
  - Consultations
  - Criminal proceedings
- Tends to be considered a «fundamental right»
EU’s official languages over time

- Greek (1981)
- English (1973)
- Danish (2013)
- Croatian (2013)
- Dutch (2003)
- French (1963)
- German (1973)
- Italian (1963)
- Hungarian (2004)
- Polish (2004)
- Slovak (2004)
- Slovenian (2004)
- Irish (2007)
- Bulgarian (2007)
- Romanian (2007)
- Spanish (1989)
- Finnish (2009)
- Portuguese (2009)
- Swedish (2009)
The history of Greek in the European Union

1st Period - Pastoral
28 May 1979 – Zappeion

Translation by a team headed by prof. Evrigenis†
· Translation of the Community acquis
· 60.000 pages by a 20-person team
1\textsuperscript{st} January 1981 – Full membership

**What happened before**

- Staffing of Greek translation services
  - Commission – Section of the Personnel Department
  - Institutions of the European Communities
- Introduction of Greek
  - In the editorial systems of the Official Journal
  - In Eurodicautom
    - EBCDIL (adaptation of EBCDIC)
    - Adapted terminals ...
From the IBM era ...
... to the Olivetti ETS 2010 era

Ambiguity between Greek and Latin characters
The history of Greek in the European Union

2nd Period - Heroic
CELEX as a catalyst

- **Single Market**
  - More and more complex legislation
  - Everyday life of citizens
- **Internally – Work load**
  - Productivity
  - Communication
- **Externally – need to inform the public**
  - Access to Community law
What was the Commission’s role

- Intervention in the standardisation procedure
  - ELOT 928 – ISO 8859/7
- Terminals, printers
  - Common ∀ application and language
- Software
  - Word processing (Q-office, WordPerfect, MS-Word
  - Data Base Management Systems (Mistral)
- Conversion programs
  - 16 bit ⇔ 8 bit
- Network
Full text databases

- Greek version of CELEX – 1989
- Today Eur-LEX
- Eurodicautom with Greek
  - Today IATE
- INFO 92 and SCAD in Greek
  - Today Europa portal
The history of Greek in the European Union

3rd Period - Choral
Information technology & multilingualism

- 1991-92 Specification for extended multilingualism
  - Anticipated enlargement
  - Neighbourhood relations w/ Russia, Mediterranean, ...

- Methodology
  - Languages
  - Characters
  - Coding (ISO 10646 – Unicode)
  - Keyboards
  - Alphabetic ordering

- Polytonic Greek!

- 1995 – In all new computers on the market!!
Quality of EU’s Greek texts

- Joint Practical Guide for persons involved in the drafting of European Union legislation
  - Interinstitutional
- Guide for drafting, translation and revision of legal and other texts of the EU in Greek
  - Greek Language Department, European Commission
- Interinstitutional style guide
  - Publications Office of the European Union
- Quality control procedures
  - Obligatory revision of translations
Development of translation tools

- Electronic work flow
  - Poetry
  - Suivi
  - Tradesk
- Memories with Greek
  - Euramis
  - DGT Vista
- Tools
  - SDL Trados Studio
- Machine translation (including Greek)
  - MT@EC
Greek Terminology Network
http://europa.eu/!GP44pR
Why the GTN?

- Terminological differences EU – official docs GR-CY
- Renewal of translators because of age
  - Scientists/Engineers vs. Linguists
- No national terminology networks in GR-CY
- Supporting translators of the Institutions
  - New terms
  - Multiple versions
- Contact between translators and experts
  - Public authorities GR-CY
  - Academic community GR-CY
- Support public authorities in GR-CY
Members

• *Public bodies*, professional and scientific *organisations*, private *institutions* and *organisations* active in Greek language affairs, in translation and terminology.

• *Members of the above* bodies, organisations and institutions.

• *Professionals* working in common or individually.
The role of the Athens Field Office

- Translation support of the Representation
- Creating infrastructure
  - Greek Terminology Network
  - Upgrading of the translation profession
- Promotion of multilingualism and translation
  - Juvenes Translatores, European Day of Languages, MT@EC, Universities
- Translating Europe Forum actions
  - Conferences «The future of language professions»
  - Thematic Workshops
Thank you ...

Questions

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