

WORKSHOP of the Seminar of 23 January 2012



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Topic: **Improvement and development of the content in IATE**

Introduction

The improvement of the content in IATE is a permanent issue and task of terminologists and Terminology coordination units in all Institutions participating in IATE. Amongst all questions that are discussed at diverse internal and interinstitutional discussions is what direction should IATE take in terms of its content - should it provide more information and if so, in which fields. Should we give priority to feeding it with new terms or should we enhance cleaning old data and duplicates as a priority? More generally speaking: what do users look for and then look at when opening a termbank like IATE. How is a user influenced by elements like interface, hit list presentation, additional information, reliability value?

Since IATE is an interactive termbank, how ready are the users to take part in the shaping of the content by inserting terms in their language or putting marks to terms that should be corrected/updated.

KEYWORDS for DISCUSSION

1. Definitions: in all languages or just in the main source language?
2. Small topic-related collections vs. a big universal termbank
3. How much additional information and in which fields?

CONCLUSIONS and SUGGESTIONS

Opinions:

- How much information do we provide in the different fields? To this question the predominantly give answer was: as much as possible, then users can still decide for themselves which information they need or use?

Comments on different topics:

Reliability value:

- some users don't seem to see the usefulness of the different reliability values and are rather in favour of a general classification in RELIABLE and UNRELIABLE
- translators do not really read it and they do not know even what does it means
- automatically set the reliability value to 3 upon validation

Validation list

- needs improved interface
- filtering/sorting possibilities necessary (by reliability values for example)

Language presentation

- needs some improvements
- presentation of information that appears in the Quest hit list needs more details
- more context provided would be very useful in view of the text for translation

Consolidation

- is definitely needed (part of participants)
- is a waste of time - introducing new entries and completing languages is a priority (some few participants)

Domain searches

They are not user-friendly. They are a chaos and too many. We would need something more concrete. The Eurovoc descriptors for the domains should be revised and eventually replaced by a more complex and easier to use system.

One solution for this: to sort the long hit list by domains. (Violina)

Definitions

- very useful to have definitions in more languages, and not just in the main source language; thus we are able to perceive more differences between languages
- allow more than one definition i case of synonyms (???)
- It is important to take the example of context closer to the definition,
- it would be very interesting to have links to different contexts in order to have many references.

IATE-Content

- It is important to feed IATE with new terms and clean old data and duplicates, but at the same time it's very useful to have as much information as possible about the term in each language.
- Concerning the domain classification, more specific domains should be inserted, since the current 3 levels are not enough.
- the fact that deciding in which domain a term should be inserted is very subjective - hence stricter guidelines should be introduced
- a future objective could be creating a unique global database, collecting terms in all the specific domains
- it would be very positive if the Court of Justice would participate to IATE and contribute regularly