

The background of the slide is a photograph of the Court of Justice of the European Communities building in Luxembourg. The building is a large, modern structure with a grid-like facade. In the foreground, there are several flagpoles with various national flags flying. The scene is set outdoors with green grass and trees visible in the distance.

Court of Justice of the European Communities

Translation at the ECJ

28.11.2009

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Head of Division

1. Multilingualism

The official languages and the working languages of the institutions of the Union shall be Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish.

REGULATION No 1/58 determining the languages to be used by the European Economic Community

Principles governing multilingualism

Κοινό Δασμολόγιο

La demande de décision préjudicielle porte sur l'interprétation...

Määruse eesmärk on kohtumenetluste tõhustamine ja kiirendamine

Importafgifter

Volný pohyb kapitálu

Cooperazione giudiziaria in materia civile

döntéshozatal iránti kérelem tárgyában

Die Verordnung sieht die Verwendung verschiedener Formblätter vor

Mission of the Translation Service:

To produce high quality, legally exact texts for both the parties and the public within given deadlines in order to enable the Court to fulfil its task.

DG Translation

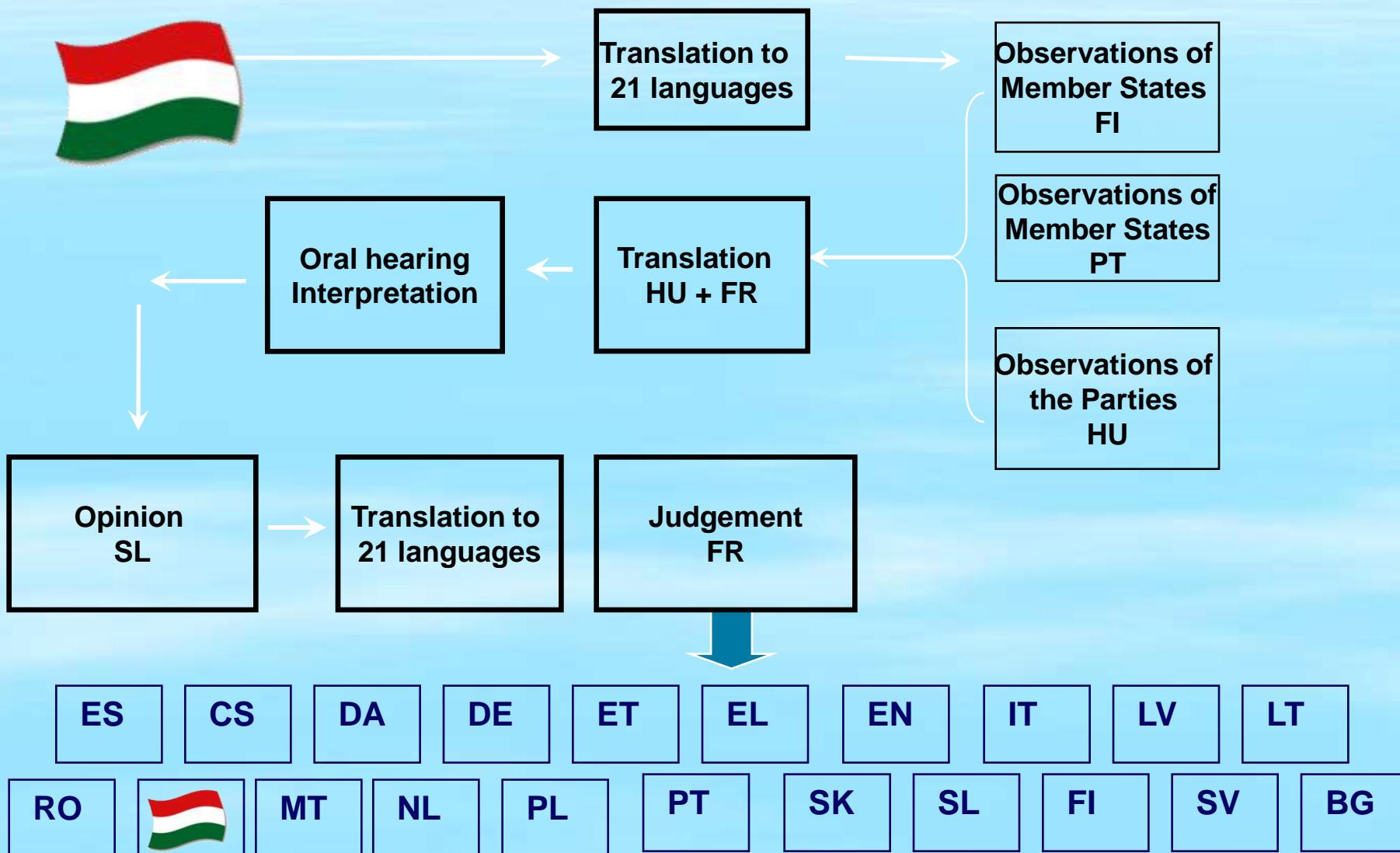
- Mission of a service provider
 - Internal, French
 - External, other languages
- Readers

Texts to be translated

- Judgements
- Opinions of the Advocates General
- Requests for preliminary ruling
- Submissions of the Parties
- Press releases
- Communications for the OJ
- NB! Authentic version

Proceedings – A linguistic view

Eg. A request for a preliminary ruling from a Hungarian Court:



Statistics

- ECJ 1800/DGT 892 persons
- 22 linguistic units à 25 lawyer-linguists
- DGT → 755 345; 804 549 →
- Availability of translations 99,3 %

Lawyer-linguists

- Translation of legal documents
 - There are two things wrong with most legal writing. One is style. The other is content. (Fred Rodell, 1936)
- Composition of a judgement (FR structure)

Special features of translation

- Research on legal background =

Comparative Law

- National legal orders
- Community Law (6/64, Costa v. Enel; 75/63, Unger)
- National legal order of the target language

- 283/81, CILFIT
- C-111/94, Job Centre etc.

283/81 CILFIT

IT MUST BE BORNE IN MIND THAT COMMUNITY LEGISLATION IS DRAFTED IN SEVERAL LANGUAGES AND THAT THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGE VERSIONS ARE ALL EQUALLY AUTHENTIC. AN INTERPRETATION OF A PROVISION OF COMMUNITY LAW THUS INVOLVES A COMPARISON OF THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGE VERSIONS.

EVEN WHERE THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGE VERSIONS ARE ENTIRELY IN ACCORD WITH ONE ANOTHER, COMMUNITY LAW USES TERMINOLOGY WHICH IS PECULIAR TO IT. FURTHERMORE, IT MUST BE EMPHASIZED THAT LEGAL CONCEPTS DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE THE SAME MEANING IN COMMUNITY LAW AND IN THE LAW OF THE VARIOUS MEMBER STATES.

EVERY PROVISION OF COMMUNITY LAW MUST BE PLACED IN ITS CONTEXT AND INTERPRETED IN THE LIGHT OF THE PROVISIONS OF COMMUNITY LAW AS A WHOLE, REGARD BEING HAD TO THE OBJECTIVES THEREOF AND TO ITS STATE OF EVOLUTION AT THE DATE ON WHICH THE PROVISION IN QUESTION IS TO BE APPLIED.

Määruse eesmärk on
kohtumenetluste tõhustamine

Asetuksen tarkoituksena on oikeudenkäyntien
tehokkuuden parantaminen

Cooperazione giudiziaria in materia civile

Oikeudellinen yhteistyö yksityisoikeuden alalla

döntéshozatal iránti kérelem tárgyában

Ennakkoratkaisupyyntö

Κοινό Δασμολόγιο

Yhteinen tullitariffi

La demande de décision
préjudicielle porte sur
l'interprétation de l'Article 230...

Ennakkoratkaisupyyntössä on
kyse EY 230 artiklan tulkinnasta

Volný pohyb kapitálu

Importafgifter

Pääomien vapaa liikkuvuus

Tuontimaksu

Die Verordnung ist ungültig

Asetus on pätemätön

A grayscale map of Europe and its surrounding regions, including parts of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. The map shows major countries and their names in both English and their native languages. A red arrow points to the location of the Curia in Brussels, Belgium. Overlaid on the map are two lines of contact information in large, bold, black text.

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