

Antwerp, 20 April 2017

To the members of the Executive Committee of EULITA

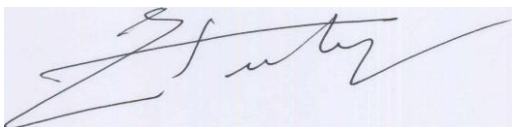
When EULITA was established in November 2009, we had the great fortune that a number of eminently capable and highly motivated project partners accepted the responsibility to serve as the first Executive Committee of the new association. With some minor changes along the road, they were duly elected for a second term of office. In April 2017 this term came to an end. A new leaf was turned, a new chapter in the association's history to be written by their successors.

Establishing an association is one thing, steering and managing it through its first years is an altogether different challenge. I would like to put on record that I have the greatest admiration for the commitment, the expertise and the diplomacy with which this Executive Committee has carried out their duties. In complete accordance with the tenets of the mission statement of EULITA, they have succeeded in building a fledgling in the domain of legal translation and interpreting into an authoritative, respected and influential association. The benefits that national associations and individual members, the European Union as well as other international organisations and associations have reaped from their work are invaluable.

I would therefore like to express my sincere gratitude to all members of the Executive Committee for these six full years of office. However, all will agree that singling out Ms Liese Katschinka, the president of EULITA during these two terms, for some extra praise and gratitude, is well deserved. With her tireless stamina, admirable professionalism and intellectual power, she has provided the kind of leadership that EULITA needed. We owe her!

In conclusion, I would like to express my best wishes to the new president and the new Executive Committee. I hope they will carry on the legacy of their predecessors, build on their merits and achievements, while at the same time being alert to new challenges and opportunities. I wish them every success.

Ad multos annos, EULITA.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Erik Hertog'.

Emeritus professor Erik Hertog

Coordinator of the 'Eulita' EU project Criminal Justice Programme of the Directorate-General Justice, Freedom, Security of the European Commission (project number JLS/2007/JPEN/249).