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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

between

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSLATORS Regional Centre Europe**

and

**THE EUROPEAN LEGAL INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION**

**1. PREAMBLE**

- 1.1 The International Federation of Translators (FIT) is an international association established to promote and protect the moral and material interests of translators, interpreters and terminologists at an international level and to work towards harmonising professional standards. Its fields of interest cover the theory and practice of these professions, as well as related training and research. Its Regional Centre Europe (FIT Europe) is the regional branch of FIT in Europe.
- 1.2 The European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association (EULITA) is a European association devoted to excellence in legal interpreting and translation in the Member States of the European Union in order to ensure access to justice across languages and cultures and so guarantee fundamental principles of human rights. It operates through a membership comprising professional associations of legal interpreters and translators and general associations that include legal interpreters and translators among their membership in the EU Member States.

**2. PURPOSE**

- 2.1 FIT Europe, as part of the International Federation of Translators, and the European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association share common objectives in promoting quality and professionalism in translation, interpreting and terminology. These objectives include:
- providing a platform for the exchange of information related to the education and training of professional translators, interpreters and terminologists as well as to the practice of the professions;
  - encouraging research on translation, interpreting and terminology practice and training;
  - encouraging general sensitization to translation, interpreting and terminology quality.
- 2.2 The parties wish to cooperate in order to avoid duplication of effort and to enable a pooling of resources to better serve the profession and have therefore agreed to this memorandum of understanding.

2.3 Under this memorandum, the parties each retain their own identity and continue to serve their own constituency.

### 3. COOPERATION

The parties will consult at least once a year, or more often as the need arises, concerning the matters covered by this Memorandum and will cooperate in good faith with one another in relation to that consultation.

### 4. WORKING RELATIONSHIP

- 4.1 The parties will maintain contacts with each other, particularly in matters of primary concern to the other party. This will take place through the secretariats and presidents/chairpersons of the parties, as appropriate, and will at a minimum comprise an annual activity report to one another.
- 4.2 Once a year a nominated member of the FIT Europe Steering Committee and a nominated member of the EULITA Executive Committee will meet a nominated member of any relevant FIT Committee or taskforce to discuss the state of legal translation and interpreting, identify areas in which the organisations can make a contribution, consider their proposed working programmes for the following 18 months and identify projects and events on which they can work together. Meetings may take place virtually.
- 4.3 The parties will cooperate in the organisation of international forums and events on legal translation and interpreting held by committees or taskforces referred to in 4.2 above when such forums and events take place in Europe.
- 4.4 The parties will exchange newsletters or bulletins issued for general information to their members/constituents or will send one another six-monthly updates on relevant issues from such newsletters or bulletins (to be sent to the secretariat or equivalent).
- 4.5 The parties will inform each other in advance of the timing of their own conferences and other events related to their respective fields of interest for the purpose of coordination.
- 4.6 The parties will distribute information on relevant events organised by the other party to their members and will encourage participation by their members in one another's conferences, congresses, research activities and other relevant events. They will allow attendance at public events of the other party at members' rates.
- 4.7 The parties will assist one another to disseminate relevant professional information to their members and others in their network.
- 4.8 The parties will cooperate in the field of training and professional development for legal translators and interpreters, whether by promoting initiatives of the other party, organising joint initiatives or pooling resources in this regard. In particular, when establishing new projects or committees related in any way to training and professional development for legal translators and interpreters, they will consider whether there are opportunities for the two organisations to work together.
- 4.9 The parties will publicly acknowledge their good relations by including on their website the other party's logo with a link to their website and including relevant events in their Calendar of Events.

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2

## 5. TERM

This memorandum will commence on 4 August 2014 and will continue until either party requests its termination with advance notice of twelve (12) weeks.


## 6. VARIATION TO THIS MEMORANDUM

This memorandum may be amended at any time during its term by agreement in writing between the parties.


Signed in two identical copies in the English language in Berlin, Germany

Date: 4 August 2014

For  
FIT Europe, International Federation of  
Translators

  
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Eivor Fogarty  
Chairperson of FIT Europe  
(authorized by FIT Council by its resolution taken  
at its meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, on  
23 March 2014)

For  
European Legal Interpreters and Translators  
Association

  
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Liese Katschinka  
President of EULITA  
(authorized under the EULITA Constitution)