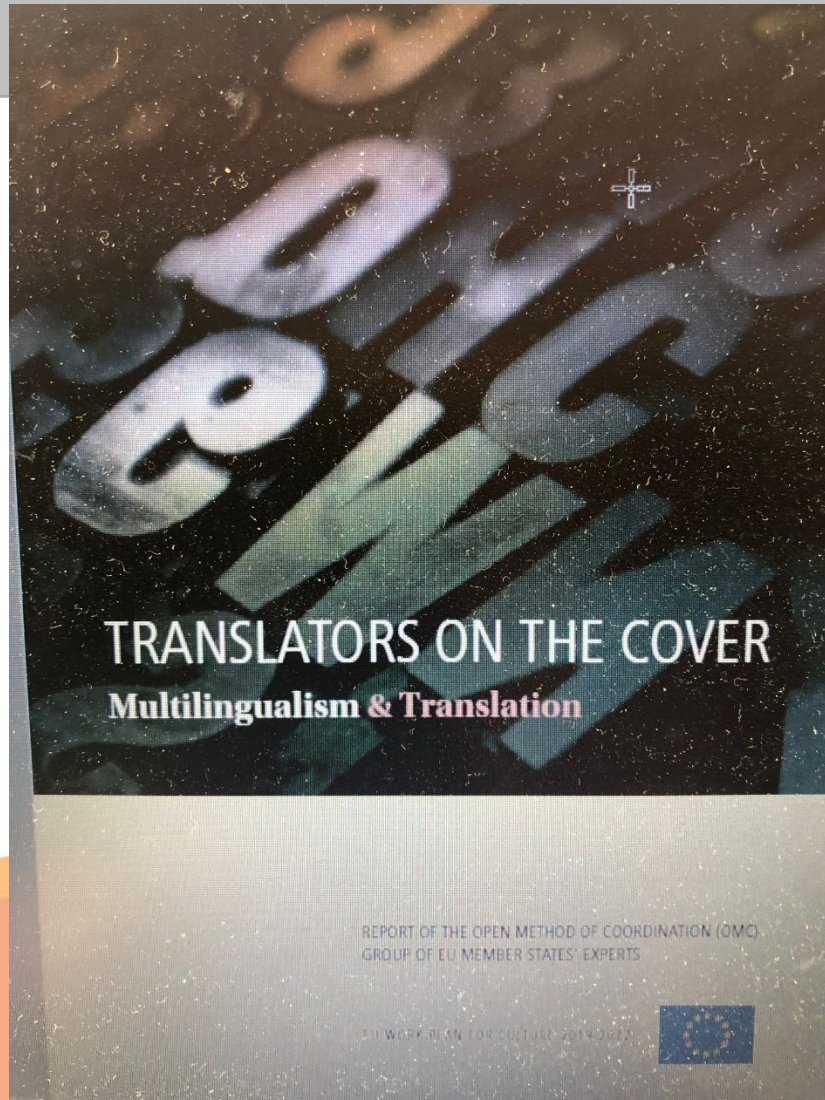




# **TRANSLATOR ON THE COVER OMC report on Multilingualism & Translation**

**Renate Punka  
Latvian Publishers Association**

# Report on Multilingualism and Translation



- OMC group created – beginning of 2020
- Work of OMC group – from June 2020 till December 2021
- English version published – February 3
- French version – expected circa February 20
- Other languages - mid March

# Participants

- Officials from **ministries of culture** - **9**

Spain, Estonia, France, Greece, Croatia, Lithuania, Norway, Romania, Switzerland

- Representatives of funding organizations - **8**

Flanders, Germany, Finland, Ireland, Iceland, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland

- **Translators** **5**

Austria, Denmark, Germany, Spain, Slovenia

- **Publishers** **1**

Latvia

- **No representatives**

Bulgary, Cyprus, Czech, Italy, Hungary, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovakia

6 plenary sessions, multiple meetings of three separate subgroups

# Contributors

- Education and training:

Universities of Vienna, Nitra, Leuven, Paris VIII, programm Petra-E, Vertalerhuis Amsterdam, Association pour la promotion de la traduction littéraire ([atlas-citl.org](http://atlas-citl.org))

- Translation and publishing:

EWC, CEATL (European Council of Literary Translators' Associations), FEP, EIBF, Aldus Up, Frankfurt Book Fair, Bologna Childrens Book Fair

# Structure of the report

Executive summary with main recommendations

Introduction

## **Chapter 1 How to reinforce translation sector**

1-3 Training (professional and life-long); 4 work and living conditions of translators; 5 Translation for audiovisual and Theatre; 6 Machine & relay translation; 7 visibility and inclusivity

## **Chapter 2 How public funding can support circulation of translated books**

1-5 Various funding and cooperation models

Annexes

## Why report is semi-decent

Work in subgroups without any physical meetings lessened the discussion opportunities

Subgroup 2 – translators – organised questionnaire on living standards and remuneration in summer 2021 which was not counter-tested and discussed enough but the findings were included in the report in spite of objections from publishers

## Good outcomes

Work and recommendations of subgroup 3 was constructive and aimed to promote necessity for increased funding and visibility of the whole book chain

Annexes include very valuable and interesting data about the current status of translation sector: training opportunities, funding opportunities and also the level of inbound-outbound funding in participating countries, most translated languages. One of recommendations is to harmonise the data collection in EU

# Interesting data: annual support for literature export

1 – 2 million EUR	500 000 – 1 000 000 EUR	200 000 – 500 000 EUR	100 000 – 200 000 EUR
France	Sweden	Denmark	Estonia
Germany	Romania	Iceland	Slovakia
The Netherlands	Spain	Poland	Austria
	Finland	Belgium Flanders	Croatia
		Ireland	Belgium Wallonia
		Slovenia	Latvia

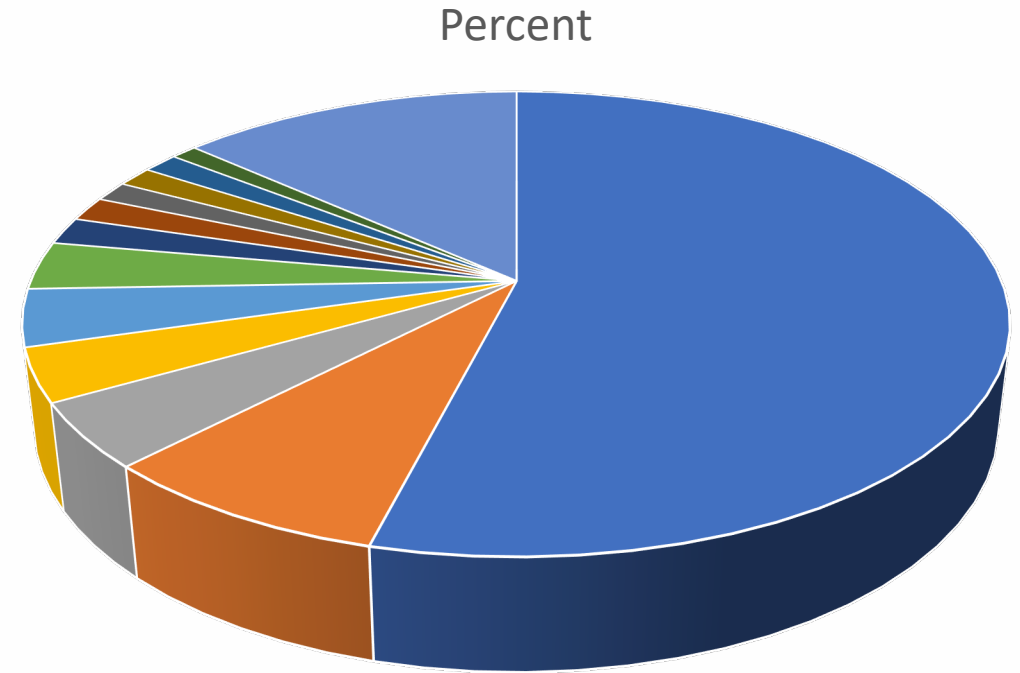


# Inbound translations and most translated languages

Information about inbound translations very fractured and scarce

Two good examples: France and Estonia – very similar spending both directions

Multilingualism or bilingualism? English overwhelms translation market



- English
- French
- Spanish
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Russian
- Swedish
- Norwegian
- Danish
- Czech
- Polish
- Others

# Main recommendations

- More attractive translation sector: well organised, with training opportunities, good working conditions and visibility of translators
- Transposition of DSM providing transparency and framework for negotiation
- Higher level of public funding to increase number of translations and fair remuneration
- Holistic support system for entire value chain
- More cooperation among countries
- Reading promotion actions
- Continuous dialogue on funding practices

## Reaction of FEP

- Use the best parts of the report in the lobbying for support of publishers working with inbound translations
- Bad light on contractual part and remuneration: should we invite CEATL to some dialogue? How credible are their accusations?
- Monitor also the discussion of AI in cultural sectors to avoid wrong recommendations for translation sector

Thank you for your attention!

