

Workshop

Roman Gajdoš,

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia

Lucia Rennerová

HOW INTERPRETING IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WORKS

Main goal(s):

The European Parliament has one of the largest interpreting services in the world. Interpreters play an important role in ensuring effective communication in this unique institution that works every day in 24 languages.

Interpreting enables Members of the European Parliament to understand and communicate with each other. It all began with four languages (French, German, Italian, Dutch), back in the 1950s, when Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands set up the European Coal and Steel Community. Four languages meant only 12 language combinations, so interpreting went smoothly then. The European Parliament now works in 24 official languages and 552 language combinations. Interpreters work as a team, with 3 interpreters per booth. The full team for a plenary sitting comprises 60 interpreters.

By means of a short realistic simulation, the workshop will demonstrate how interpreting functions. All stages during interpreting will be clearly explained, starting from team building, preparation of tools and their usage. The interpreting phase in 3 booths will enable to explain the key notions used by the European Union interpreters.

The workshop will be held in English, French and Slovak. Linguistic anticipatory strategies deployed by interpreters will naturally emerge during the realistic simulation.