

Athens, 12.8.24

Prot. Number: **12082024015359**

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREREST

To participate in a training for interpreters, aiming at their registration in an EU-wide electronic platform (portal) for providing remote interpretation services via video, as part of the EU-WEBPSI project, funded by the European Commission's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) - 2021-2027.

When arriving in a new country, effective communication in the initial stage is one of the main tools to achieve integration in that country. A newcomer will obviously not immediately be able to master the local language, which is why the services of a public service interpreter play an important role in this initial stage. Practices of how interpreters can be and are employed in such settings differ widely across Europe, and there is no European framework of minimal standards for Public Service Interpreting (PSI) yet. This causes unequal access to basic services across the EU. An additional challenge for newcomers is the mismatch between interpreter supply and demand: speakers from Languages of Lesser Diffusion (LLDs) are often excluded from access to essential services due to insufficient interpreters in their languages.

To tackle these challenges, the EU_WEBPSI project has a three-fold overall objective:

- ✓ Develop minimum standards to guarantee high-quality language support and equal access to basic services for newcomers across the EU
- ✓ Facilitate access to interpreting services by offering remote solutions that are more adapted to contemporary needs
- ✓ Increase the interpreting capacity for LLDs to make sure that more newcomers have access to essential language services and to empower the speakers of these languages

EU-WEBPSI includes several project stages to achieve these objectives. To be able to fulfil the several project objectives, an innovative EU-wide portal will be set up, which will provide video remote interpreting services. Candidates who successfully complete the training will be deployed as public service interpreters on the web portal after certification.

PARTNERS CONSORTIUM

The project is implemented through a consortium of partners from Belgium, France, Greece, Austria and United Kingdom.

The consortium brings together:

- ✓ **Universities with teaching and research experience in several PSI domains:**
 - Universiteit Gent, University of Surrey, Universität Wien and KU Leuven
- ✓ **Reception authorities that work with public service interpreters on a regular basis:**
 - Fedasil/ the federal agency for the reception of asylum seekers in Belgium, Entraide Pierre Valdo/ the French association that manages numerous establishments and activities in the field of reception, accommodation, support and social and professional integration and the Greek NGO METAdrasi, Action for Migration and Development which helps facilitate the reception and integration of refugees and immigrants in Greece.
- ✓ **Interpreting agencies with experience in offering interpreting services, interpreter training and interpreter assessment:** The Belgian Agency of Integration and Civic Orientation (AgII), the French association (ISM CORUM) and the European Network for Public Service Interpreting and Translation (ENPSIT).

1. Subject of the Call for Expression of Interest

This call for Expression of Interest is addressed to individuals **from all over Greece** that are interested to participate in an Interpreter Training Program, which consists of:

- One hundred (100) hours of synchronous remote training
- Two hundred (200) hours of asynchronous remote training
- Two (2) months of internship

The daily duration of this training is approximately four (4) hours, primarily in the afternoon (including breaks), from Monday to Friday, and is completed no later than 10:00 pm. Training will not be carried out on Sundays or official holidays. The training will be conducted by the NGO METAdrasi.

There are twenty (20) training positions available for the total of three hundred (300) hours, and successful participation in this program leads to the registration of each participant in a EU wide electronic platform (EU-wide portal), which will provide remote interpretation services via video, as well as the receipt of a relevant certification.

INDICATIVE LIST OF PREFERRED LANGUAGES

- ✓ Pashtu
- ✓ Dari
- ✓ Arabic
- ✓ Tigrinya/Amharic
- ✓ Oromo
- ✓ Kurmanji-Sorani-Badini
- ✓ Krio
- ✓ Somali
- ✓ Nepali
- ✓ Swahili
- ✓ Madinka
- ✓ Igbo
- ✓ Poular
- ✓ Uzbek
- ✓ Yoruba
- ✓ Azer
- ✓ Soninke,
- ✓ Portuguese
- ✓ Sinhala
- ✓ Tamil
- ✓ Kirundi
- ✓ Georgian
- ✓ Kinyarwanda
- ✓ Susu
- ✓ Peul
- ✓ Malinke
- ✓ Bambara
- ✓ Peuth
- ✓ Dioula

Applications for participation **must be submitted exclusively online** by completing the electronic application form and in accordance with the terms and conditions described below in this call for Expression of Interest.

It is noted that applicants have the option to indicate more than one language from the list mentioned above when submitting their application.

2. Application Submissions Requirements

Candidates eligible to apply for participation must meet the following qualifications:

- ✓ Proven knowledge of the English language (B2 level)
- ✓ Sufficient knowledge of at least one language from the aforementioned list
- ✓ Work permit

Note:

- a) If a candidate is unable to provide proof of English language proficiency (B2 level), METAdrasi will conduct relevant language proficiency tests.
- b) If a candidate declares a language from the aforementioned list as their native language and is unable to provide proof, METAdrasi may conduct relevant oral proficiency tests.

Candidates are required to complete the online application form **by August 30, 2024**.

The submission of the application also serves as a declaration form and constitutes authorization for METAdrasi to further process personal data, including sensitive data, for the purposes of implementing the training program. **If any errors are found in the submitted application, candidates may submit a new application**, provided that the process of filling the twenty (20) training positions has not been completed, or the application submission period has not yet expired.

3. Assessment and Selection Process of Trainees

Candidates who meet the aforementioned minimum participation requirements for this call for expression of interest are called by the relevant assessment committee—which will be appointed for the needs of this call by the project management team titled "Interpreter Training Program"—to conduct individual interviews and possible proficiency exams in the English language, as well as the mother tongue, by METAdrasi, in cases deemed necessary. Subsequently, the final participation list is formed, and candidates will be informed by METAdrasi.

METAdrasi may choose to begin the individual interview process before the application submission deadline if suitable candidates are identified.

4. Additional Information

The invitation is posted on the official METAdrasi website (<https://metadrasi.org>). The application for participation is sent exclusively electronically.



Information regarding this Call for Expression of Interest is provided by phone at 2141008700 (ext. 279) (Ms. E. Nomikou) daily, Monday to Friday, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

For METAdrasi

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President of the Board of Directors

APPENDIX I: INFORMATION ON PERSONAL DATA

METAdrasi guarantees the protection and respect of your privacy, as well as the protection of your personal data. In any case, METAdrasi complies with the requirements of national and EU legislation on personal data protection, particularly the European Regulation on the protection of individuals regarding the processing of personal data (GDPR) and Greek Law (Law 4624/2019, as applicable). Specifically, personal data (name, surname, father's name, place of residence, home address, VAT number, Tax Office, contact phone number, and email) will be retained for a period of three (3) years. The processor of the aforementioned data is METAdrasi. The collected data are fully confidential, intended only for the purposes mentioned above, and will not be disclosed/transferred to third parties.

In any case, you can contact the Hellenic Data Protection Authority (www.dpa.gr). For more information on the processing of your personal data and your rights, please read METAdrasi's Privacy Policy available at <https://metadrasi.org/gdpr/>. Alternatively, you can send your inquiries to the Data Protection Officer at dpo@metadrasi.org (Address: 25th Martiou 7, 17778, Tavros).