CONTRIBUTIONS TO IATE IN THE CONTEXT OF MA DISSERTATIONS

DGT research line: Terminology validation in the Member States

1. IATE: THE EU’S TERMINOLOGICAL DATABASE

23+ languages; internal version and public version.

2. CHALLENGES FACING IATE

- Originally a merger of existing termbases → duplicates
- Gaps for individual languages
- Challenge of new topics → new terminology.

3. WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO

- Study specific batches of concepts (identified by DGT contact) for 2 or 3 languages
- Look for reliable definitions and illustrative contexts
- Find matching translations
- Assess the validity of synonyms and alternative spellings
- Study usage characteristics and semantic relationships with other concepts in IATE
- Prepare all the ingredients for an IATE term record; motivate choices made.

4. SUPERVISION

Terminology Centre (CvT) of the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Communication – [http://www.cvt.ugent.be](http://www.cvt.ugent.be)

The CvT has staff with inside knowledge of IATE methods.

Contact persons at the DGT help supervisors as well as students.

5. METHODOLOGY

- DGT contact suggests a batch of terms / concepts
- Student does research on them for 2 or 3 languages
- Student uses a Word-template for entering data. This template combines fields of the CvT’s own GenTerm template as well as all the relevant IATE fields
- Student writes up a full report motivating the choices made, demonstrating command of established principles of terminography. The report is the actual dissertation; the term records are added as an Appendix.

6. VALIDATION

The MA Dissertations offer the DGT potential input for IATE, subject to validation by DGT staff.

Direct import via an excel-version is possible.

7. EXAMPLE 1: ENERGY TERMINOLOGY ENGLISH – DUTCH – ITALIAN

**Jill Verkoyen – May 2012**

(Fragment from the concluding survey of results)

18 concepts, 3 languages.


**ENGLISH & DUTCH**

**Laura Ameel – August 2012**

20 concepts, 2 languages.

9. EXAMPLE 3: PHARMACEUTICAL TERMINOLOGY, ENGLISH & DUTCH

**Ellen Van Causbroeck – May 2013**

Re-examination of existing IATE records that needed correction and amplification

20 concepts, 2 languages.

10. FRAGMENT FROM A DISSERTATION ILLUSTRATING THE NATURE OF DISCUSSION / MOTIVATION

11. FUTURE PLANS

DGT (Dutch) as well as CvT-UGent are interested in continuing the project.
A fourth student has already expressed an interest in contributing to the project in the course of academic year 2013/14.

12. CONTACT

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