

“Translation for Dialogue” Euromed Conference

23-24 June 2016 – Piran, Slovenia

#Translate4dialogue

On 23rd and 24th June 2016, the Slovenian municipality of Piran will host the “Translation for Dialogue” Conference, co-organised by the Anna Lindh Foundation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia and the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI), on the eve of the 25th anniversary of the Slovenian independence day.

“Translation for Dialogue” is the first high-level conference of its kind to take place in the Euro-Med region. It will gather around **100 experts and cultural actors** involved in the field of translation. It will focus on the **central role of translation in the current emerging socio cultural challenges in the region** and will involve all the stakeholders of the “translation chain” – publishers, authors, academics, libraries, translators, civil society organisations, foundations, public and private institutions – to **showcase, debate and advocate for translation as a central tool for intercultural dialogue**.

The programme of the conference will be underpinned **by five central objectives**: (1) To encourage and facilitate the mobility of intercultural knowledge, ideas and actors through the region (2) To promote and expand a cooperative network between the actors involved in the translation chain promoting intercultural dialogue (3) To channel resources and funding through an ad hoc financial Euro-Med instrument/fund with public and private supports (4) To translate cultural diversity and to involve youth as target audience within the translation field promoting intercultural dialogue (5) To showcase and highlight the good practices in the field.

The two-day event will serve as a platform to encourage and facilitate the mobility of knowledge, ideas and actors through the region, to promote and expand a cooperative network between the actors involved in the translation chain, to channel resources and funding through an ad hoc financial Euro-Med public and private supports, to translate cultural diversity, to involve youth as target audience within the translation field, and to showcase and highlight the good practices in the field.

The conference format will include: public plenary sessions involving prominent key-players in the field and organizations who have contributed with their works to the promotion of translation as a tool for intercultural dialogue; interactive workshops and debates with various actors from the field contributing to the development of the programme; and a networking space for future partnerships.

The conference will also be an opportunity to launch the “Slovenia Manifesto” to support translation as bridge for common understanding in the region, and the Euro-Med Translation for Dialogue Roadmap with concrete initiatives, identified funds and renewed platforms for translation.

TRANSLATION MATTERS. WHY?

The Euro-Med region is currently facing global, encompassing and social challenges affecting the reality on both sides of the Mediterranean: extremism, youth unemployment, increasing migration waves, and

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refugee crisis. An ambitious Euro-Med translation policy is key in the face of the current challenges as it can foster cultural diversity, promote shared values and offer a new tool to solve the region's problems.

As a tool for dialogue and understanding, it covers from literary translation to social sciences, theatre, comics, movies and music. It opens up to new ways of thinking, feeling, dreaming. It is also the key to trading, diplomacy and innovation.

THE CONFERENCE VENUE: CONGRESS CENTER – BERNARDIN

The "Translation for Dialogue" Euro-Med Conference is held in spacious and calm ambience of Bernardin. This multifunctional centre is settled at the Top of the Adriatic Sea and it is the first and largest Congress Centre in Slovenia. The Complex provides wide range of services and it is a place where the Mediterranean and business environment merge.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SLOVENIA

The Anna Lindh Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia and the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI) to cooperate for the promotion of intercultural dialogue across the region and to co-organise the "Translation for Dialogue" conference on 23-24 June 2016 in Piran, Slovenia. The MoU was signed by ALF Executive Director Ambassador Hatem Atallah, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia Ambassador Stanislav Vidovič and President of the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMNUNI) Dr. Abdel Hamid Zoheiry.

The agreement focuses on consolidating Slovenia as a regional hub for the organisation of the "Translation for Dialogue" conference. Specific areas of actions include: co-organisation of the high-level Euro-Med conference on translation; a major event advocating for the role of translation in promoting intercultural dialogue; supporting the work of institutions such as the ALF in combining existing networks, resources and expertise as part of a long term strategy for intercultural dialogue and people-to-people cooperation in the region.

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

DAY 1 – 23 JUNE 2016

9h00 - 9h30 **REGISTRATION**

9h30 - 10h00 **OPENING SPEECH**

Ms. **Elisabeth Guigou**, President of the Anna Lindh Foundation

Mr. **Karl Erjavec**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia

10h00 - 11h30 **PUBLIC PLENARY SESSION - TRANSLATION: THE LANGUAGE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**

The importance of Translation and its role as bridge in the region for the transfer of knowledge and ideas in the emerging socio cultural challenges in the region and underlining the importance of translation to support social cohesion and fighting stereotypes.

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11h30 – 12h00 **Coffee Break**

12h00 – 13h30 **PARALLEL WORKSHOPS (1)**

To explore and elaborate on proposals and initiatives aiming to support, network and advocate for Translation by highlighting on existing and future good practices, facilitating the exchange between the actors

Working group 1.A – Why invest in translation?

Practices from institutions, actors and public and private donors in the region

Working group 1.B – What are the translation needs and instruments for Dialogue?

Practices of capacity building, mobility and dissemination in the region. Interactive and technologies for translation.

Working group 1.C – How to outreach audiences and involve youth?

Practices in outreaching audiences and engaging youth. Usage of the new technologies and innovation. The role of performing arts sector.

13h30 – 14h30 **Lunch**

14h30 – 16h00 **PARALLEL WORKSHOPS (2)**

To elaborate on proposals and initiatives aiming to support, network and advocate

Working group 2.A – Fund for Translation in the field of Intercultural dialogue.

The needed tools while supporting translation actor's needs. Investing in instruments for dialogue: networking, residences, mobility for translators, writers and publishers.

Working group 2.B – Defining an interactive translation platform.

Explore the creation of digital platforms for exchange of information including the whole chain of actors.

Working group 2.C – Exploring initiatives to advocate for Translation in the region as a tool for ICD.

Translated works through visibility events, reviews, distribution campaigns and awards.

DAY 2 – 24 JUNE 2016

10h00 – 11h30 **PLENARY SESSION – TRANSLATION AS MEDIATION**

Exploring the initiatives that can be useful to create synergies through arts, literature and translators, build on an exchange approach with civil society will be the major objective of the panel.

11h30 – 12h00 **Coffee Break**

12h00 – 13h30 **CONCLUSION SESSION**

A road map for the translation in the Mediterranean as a tool for intercultural dialogue

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THE ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION

Created in 2005, the Anna Lindh Foundation is an international organization established by the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and the European Union in the framework of the Barcelona Process as the central institution for inter cultural dialogue among the peoples of the region. It represents a network of networks comprising civil society organizations dedicated to promoting intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity in the region. It endeavors to promote inter cultural exchanges and mutual understanding through common projects established between civil societies of the euro-med region.

Through its actions and reflections, the Anna Lindh Foundation aims to contribute to the development of an inter cultural strategy for the Euro-Mediterranean region, providing recommendations to decision-makers and institutions and advocating for shared values.

The Foundation aims to build bridges in the Mediterranean. It has pioneered and partnered in initiatives across most of the social and cultural fields, including facilitating capacity-building and training seminars, cultural and artistic exchanges, translation and joint academic research, awards, seminars and public debates. The ALF works in partnership with a wide range of institutions. Some long-term initiatives are set out in collaboration with UNESCO, the League of Arab States, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, ALECSO, ISESCO, EMUNI and with the regional networks operating within the Euro-Med region.

For more information...

ALF Website: www.annalindhfoundation.org

Find ALF on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/annalindhfoundation/?fref=ts>

Follow ALF on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AnnaLindh>

THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY

Since its establishment in 2008, the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMMUNI), one of the priority projects of the Union for the Mediterranean, has become an international institution, which gathers expert knowledge and experience of the Euro-Mediterranean countries and thus contributes in a significant way to the creation of a unified, integrated Euro-Mediterranean higher education and research area.

EMUNI University organises the implementation of study programmes, which are accredited at the partner universities in Slovenia and other member countries, and conducts research activities at all scientific fields of research. The main goals of the EMUNI University are: to raise quality of higher education through the implementation of study and research programmes; to be an international university, which acknowledges cultural diversity; and to establish university environment with a stimulating effect on integration of different nations and cultures in the academic spheres.

For more information...

EMUNI Website: <http://www.emuni.si/>

Find EMUNI on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/emuni.university/?fref=ts>

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THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIRAN: A PINCH OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

The Municipality of Piran is situated in South west of the Slovenian Republic, overlooking the Adriatic Sea and only one hour away from Ljubljana, in one of Slovenia's major tourist areas. The modern development began in 19th century with first hotel resorts. Natural attractions and the spirit of equality, tolerance and mutual respect are the ones which attract people all around the world. Piran is a temple of culture and a treasure trove of art, where numerous events, concerts and exhibitions are held.

The municipality revives internationally diversified educational activity and a wide range of business opportunities, which will make sure that you will not miss exceptional challenges and break away. When entering Piran, the pearl of the Mediterranean, you will feel like stepping right into a picture postcard. This picturesque city is full of cultural and art establishments such as the Tartini theatre, coastal galleries, Maritime museum and Aquarium. Not only that, Piran is twinned and cooperates with several cities around the world in the field of education, culture and economy. This unique municipality with generous people forged bonds of coexistence and despite the diversity, maintained indigenous culture and those values, which are reinforced by the united Europe.

THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

Slovenia is a country with many identities. We are a member of the EU; we share common history with countries of the Central Europe, with all our neighbors and with countries of the Western Balkans. However, Slovenia is also a maritime country – our shoreline is not very long, but it has always served as our window to the world and our link with all the countries in the Mediterranean. In this regard, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia is interested in the long-term prosperity, stability and security in the Mediterranean. This is also one of the components in our new foreign policy strategy. Slovenia aims to explore the economic opportunities and safeguarding the sustainable development of its ecologically fragile environment.

Slovenia is also a member of the Union for the Mediterranean, which we see as a useful forum for dialogue and cooperation between the EU and countries of the Southern Mediterranean. We strongly support the important role for the Anna Lindh Foundation as a unique institution for supporting the intercultural dialogue in the Mediterranean.

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