



FINNISH
GOVERNMENT

ESKO network: Cooperation between EU translators and Finnish experts towards better legislation

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- What is ESKO?
 - main purpose
 - members
- How does ESKO work?
- What is ESKO's contribution to better regulation?

What is ESKO?

- collaboration network between Finnish translators/interpreters in EU institutions and Finnish national experts
- established in 2009 at the initiative of DGT to facilitate and increase collaboration and the provision of feedback
 - particularly during the translation phase of EU legislative acts
 - also to collect feedback on published FI language versions

Main purpose of ESKO

- to make better use of limited resources on both sides
 - helps EU translators and terminologists
 - provides a feedback channel
- to improve the linguistic quality of FI language versions of EU legislative acts and facilitate transposition and implementation
 - the terminology of EU acts is often integrated as such in Finnish legislation

Network members in Finland

All Finnish ministries (12)

- 1-2 contact persons in each ministry
- coordination at the Prime Minister's Office

Institute for the Languages of Finland

Network members in the EU

Coordination at the Commission

Coordinators: Quality officer and main terminologist at DGT's Finnish language community

- European Commission's Directorate-General for Translation
- European Commission's Directorate-General for Interpretation
- Council of the European Union
- European Parliament
- The European Economic and Social Committee and the European Committee of the Regions
- Court of Justice of the European Union

Operation of the network: one-stop shop principle



- In Finland, the network is coordinated by the Language Services Unit of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- In the EU institutions, the network is coordinated by the two coordinators in DGT's Czech and Finnish language department.
- The coordinator or translators of EU institutions send their questions by email to PMO's terminology service address.
- The PMO terminologist determines which ministry's branch the question belongs to and forwards it to the appropriate ministry.
- Each ministry has one or two contact persons. They find the right experts in the ministry or sometimes in an agency in the ministry's branch of government.
- Reciprocally, an expert from a ministry or an agency can give feedback on EU legislation through the ministry's contact person or contact the EU coordinator directly.

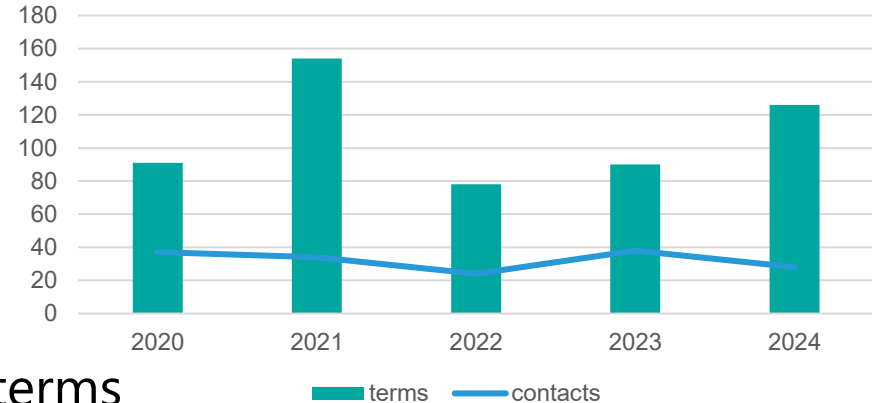
What are the questions like?

- extremely technical and difficult; expert consultation necessary
- specialised terminology related to various topics (finance, environment, energy, plant parts, chemistry...)
- recent examples:
 - plants: *Dipteryx alata* Vogel (baru)
 - energy: *single mass-based threshold*
 - optics: *single mass-based threshold*
 - human or animal diseases: *non-malignant pleural effusion caused by asbestos; equine grass sickness polyneuropathy*
 - laboratory tests related to bacteria: *in vivo micronucleus comet supernatant study; Lysis efficiency French Press study*
 - plastics: *polymer with 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol and polypropylene glycol*

How many contacts and questions?

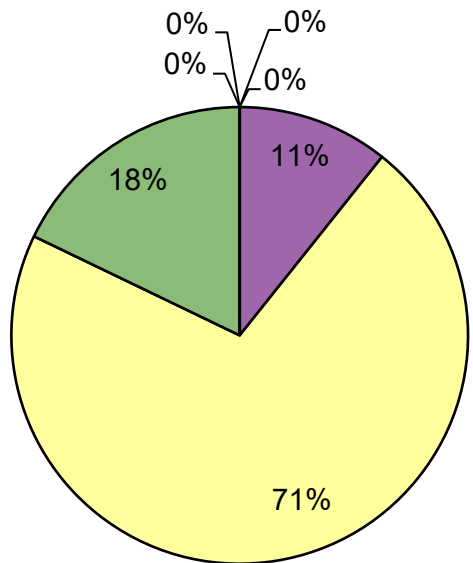
- 28 contacts in 2024
(68 in 2010; 60 in 2011)
- 126 term questions in 2024
(207 in 2010; 187 in 2011)
one query often contains several terms
- schedule: most often a reply requested in 2-4 days
- reply received on time: 100 % in 2024 (over 80 % every year)

Contacts and terms 2020-2021



Which EU institutions send questions?

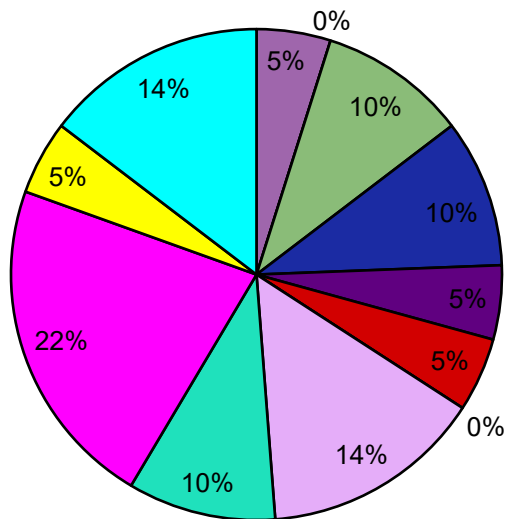
Contacts by EU institution (2024)



- European Parliament
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission
- Court of Justice of the European Union
- European Court of Auditors
- European Economic and Social Committee
- European Committee of the Regions

Which ministries are the questions for?

Ministry contacted (2024)



- Prime Minister's Office
- Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Education and Culture
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
- Ministry of Transport and Communications
- Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment
- Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
- Ministry of the Environment

Strengths

- through contact persons, it is possible to reach out to a vast number of experts
- ministries and experts are committed and willing to help as they have an interest in terminology
- a simple but systematic operating model

Towards better regulation

- in most cases, the term used in the translation is the one received through ESKO
 - translators get the help they need
 - national experts get a say in terminology
- terms entered in IATE whenever possible
 - they become available to other institutions and all IATE users

Thank you!

For further questions, please contact:

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