



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

TRANSLATION AND LINGUISTIC RIGHTS COMMITTEE OF PEN INTERNATIONAL (TLRC-PEN)

and

EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LITERARY TRANSLATORS' ASSOCIATIONS (CEATL)

1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1. PEN International is a non-political organisation which holds Special Consultative Status at the UN and Associate Status at UNESCO, and is a registered charity in England and Wales. PEN promotes literature and freedom of expression and is governed by the PEN Charter and the principles it embodies: unhampered transmission of thought within each nation and between all nations. Founded in 1921, PEN International connects an international community of writers from its Secretariat in London. Through Centres in over 100 countries, PEN operates on five continents. The Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee (TLRC-PEN) promotes the right of all languages to be written, read, and heard, whether they are spoken by millions of people or just by a few. Through projects, events, publishing and campaigning, the Committee encourages readers and writers to explore writing from cultures other than their own.
- 1.2. European Council of Literary Translators' Associations (CEATL) is an international non-profit association (AISBL) under Belgian law, officially created in 1993 as a platform where literary translators' associations from different European countries could exchange views and information, and join forces to improve the status and working conditions of literary translators. Set up by 10 founder members, CEATL now has 36 member associations from 28 countries across Europe, representing some 10,000 individual authors.

Under this memorandum, the parties each retain their own identity and continue to serve their own constituency.

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1. The PEN International Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee and CEATL share common objectives in the area of literary translation. These objectives include:
 - 2.1.1. encouraging the practice of literary translation from and into all European languages, with special focus in the less translated and translating languages;
 - 2.1.2. providing a platform for the exchange of information related to the personal and professional status of literary translators based in Europe;
 - 2.1.3. encouraging mutual cooperation and coordination of international activities related to literary translators and translation.

2.2. The parties wish to cooperate in order to reinforce their activities and strategies and to enable a pooling of resources to better serve literary translators and have therefore agreed to this memorandum of understanding.

3. WORKING RELATIONSHIP

- 3.1. The parties will maintain contact with each other, particularly in matters of primary concern to the other party. This may be done through the Presidents of TLRC-PEN and CEATL, and their nominees, as appropriate.
- 3.2. The parties will exchange newsletters, journals, publications and social media messages issued for general information to their members/constituents or will send one another regular updates on relevant issues from such newsletters (to be sent to the secretariat or equivalent).
- 3.3. The parties will inform each other in advance of the timing of congresses and other events related to their respective fields of interest for the purpose of coordination.
- 3.4. The parties will promote any translation programmes, grants, residencies and prizes associated with TLRC-PEN and CEATL amongst their membership and associate membership.
- 3.5. The parties will distribute information on relevant events organised by the other party to their members via print, electronic and/or social media channels and will encourage participation by their members in one another's conferences, congresses, research activities and other relevant events.
- 3.6. CEATL and TLRC-PEN will allow one representative of the other party to attend their public events at members' rates.
- 3.7. The parties will encourage publication of relevant articles in their journal(s) by the other party's members.
- 3.8. The parties will work together to improve conditions for literary translators, where appropriate, through joint non-commercial negotiation and campaigns.
- 3.9. The parties may invite one another to nominate a Council member (or equivalent) to attend their statutory congress, general assembly or annual general meeting (or equivalent) as an observer.
- 3.10. The parties will publicly acknowledge their good relations by including on their website the other party's logo with a link to their website.

4. COOPERATION

The parties will consult at least once a year, or more often as the need arises, concerning the matters covered by this memorandum and will cooperate in good faith with one another in relation to that consultation.

5. TERM

This memorandum will commence on the date stated below and will be automatically renewed on the same date of each subsequent year unless any party requests its termination with advance notice of eight (8) weeks.

6. VARIATION TO THIS MEMORANDUM

This memorandum may be amended at any time during its term by agreement in writing between the parties.

Signed at Ljubljana, on 17 May 2023.

For European Council of Literary Translators' Associations

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