Translating and interpreting in the EU institutions

Paul Kaye

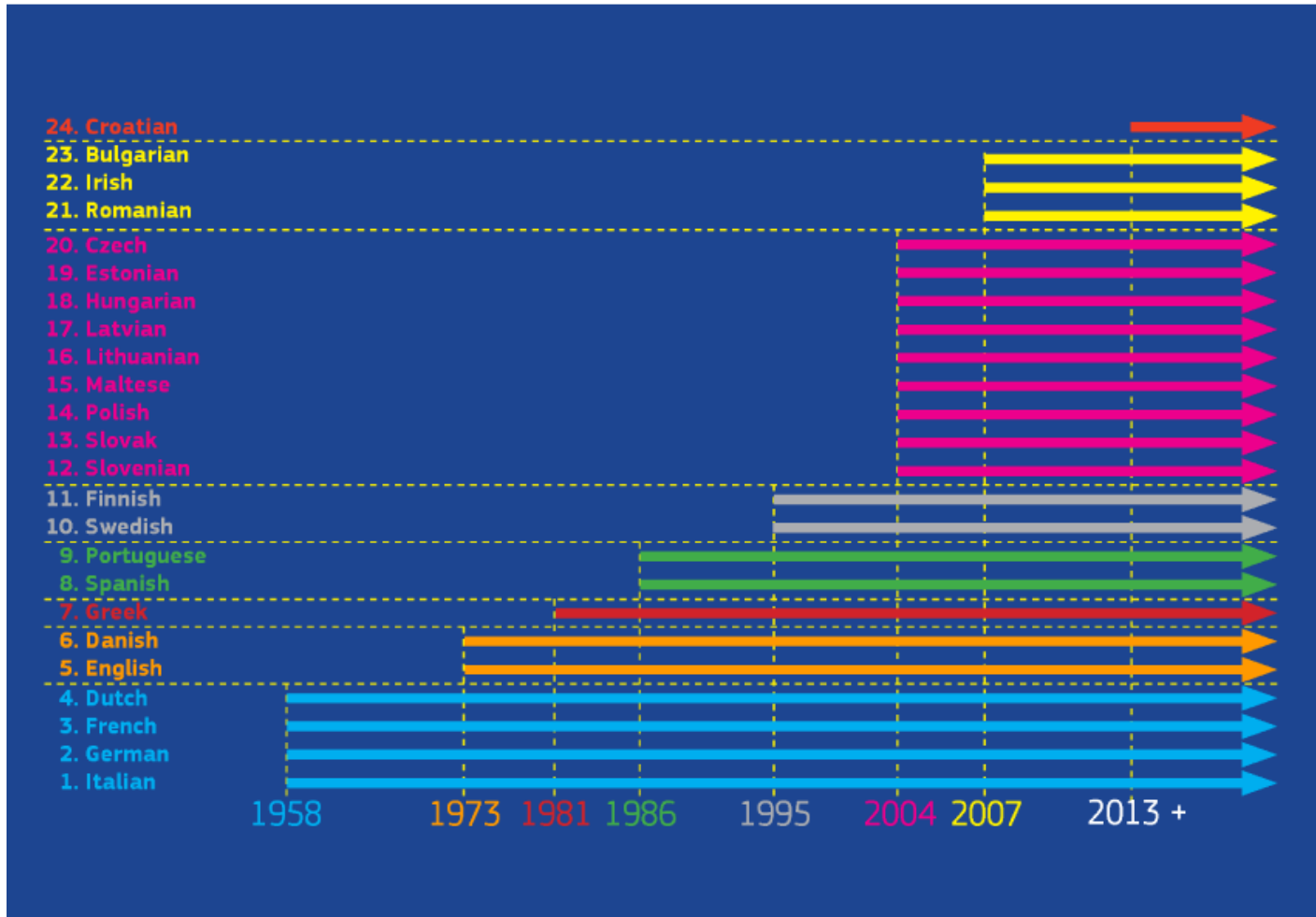**@PaulKayeEUlangs**

Language Officer, European Commission

University of Surrey, 1 May 2015

EU official languages over time

24. Croatian
23. Bulgarian
22. Irish
21. Romanian
20. Czech
19. Estonian
18. Hungarian
17. Latvian
16. Lithuanian
15. Maltese
14. Polish
13. Slovak
12. Slovenian
11. Finnish
10. Swedish
 9. Portuguese
 8. Spanish
 7. Greek
 6. Danish
 5. English
 4. Dutch
 3. French
 2. German
 1. Italian

1958   1973   1981   1986   1995   2004   2007   2013 +

Linguists in the EU

Translators : ± 4 300	Interpreters: ± 1 000

European Commission

European Economic & Social Committee

European Central Bank

Parliament

CONSILIUM
Council

Court of Auditors

Court of Justice

Committee of the Regions

Translation Centre

European Investment Bank

Translators in the EU institutions

Legend:
- European Commission
- European Parliament
- Council of the EU
- Court of Justice
- Committee of the Regions and European Economic and Social Committee
- Translation Centre
- Court of Auditors
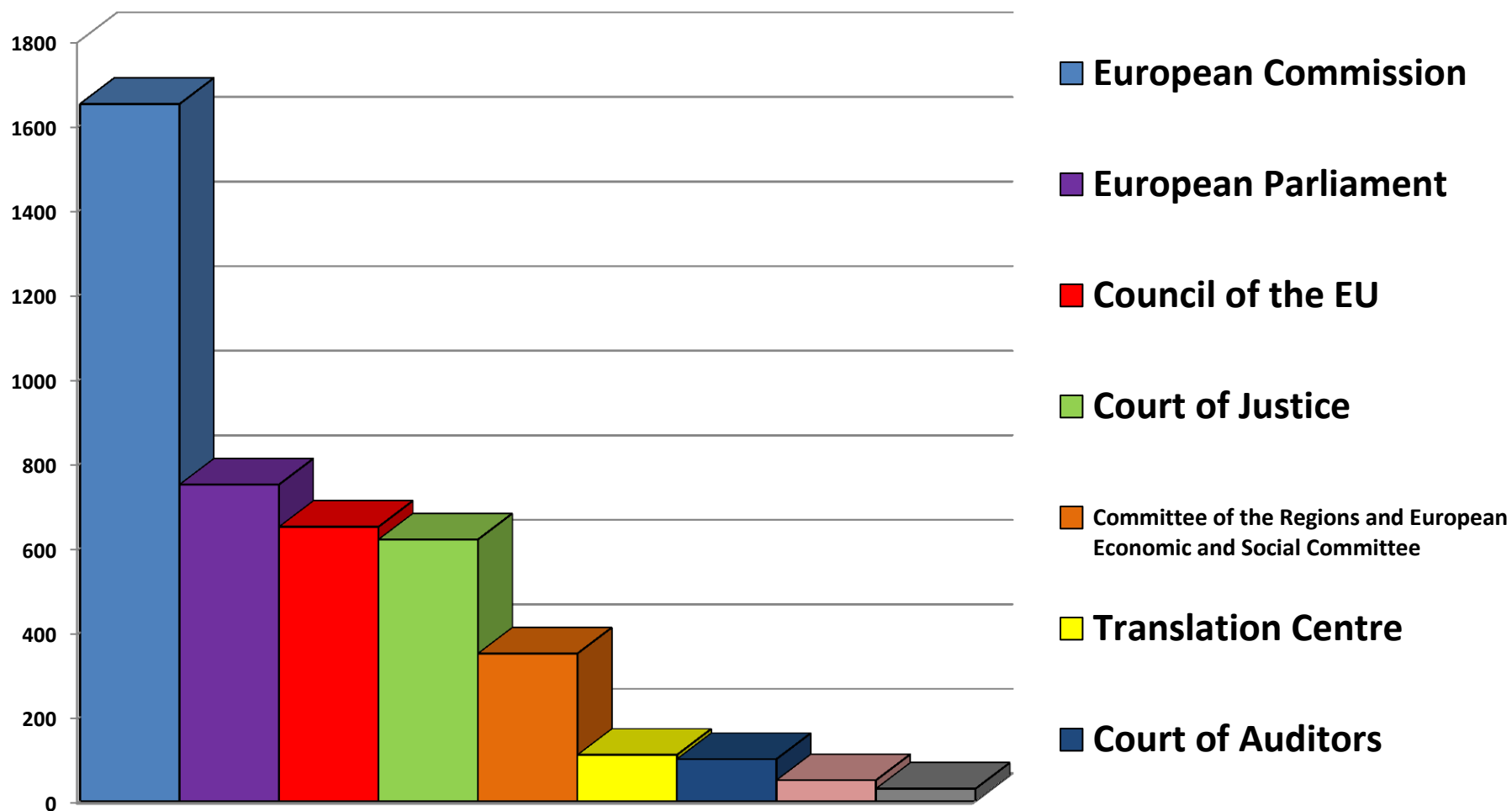
We translate from and into all the EU's 24 official languages

...and cover all subject areas

DG Translation
in the European Commission

DG Translation

Some **2500** translators and support staff
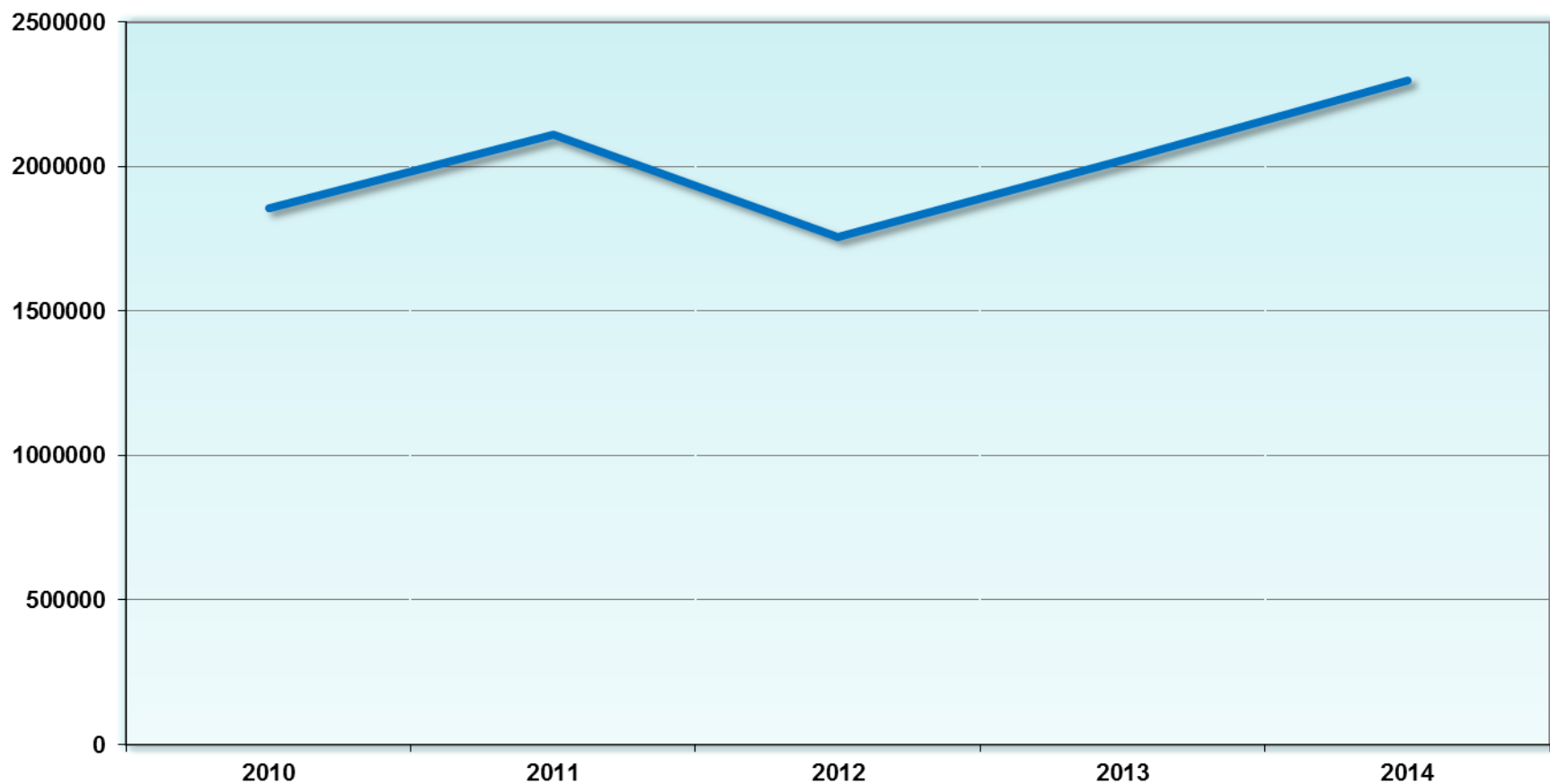
50% in Brussels

50% in Luxembourg

Field Offices
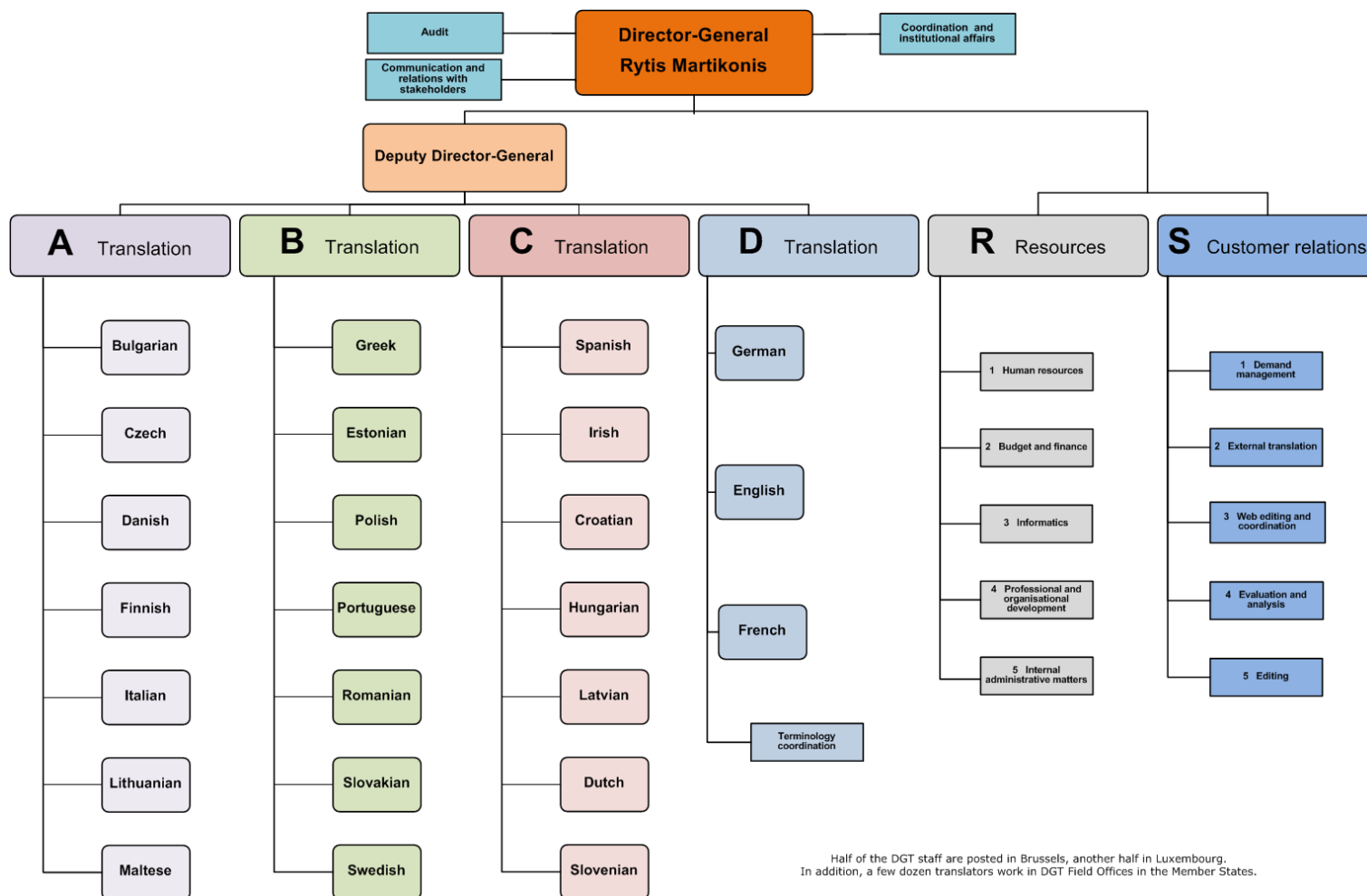in Member States

2.3 million pages translated in 2014
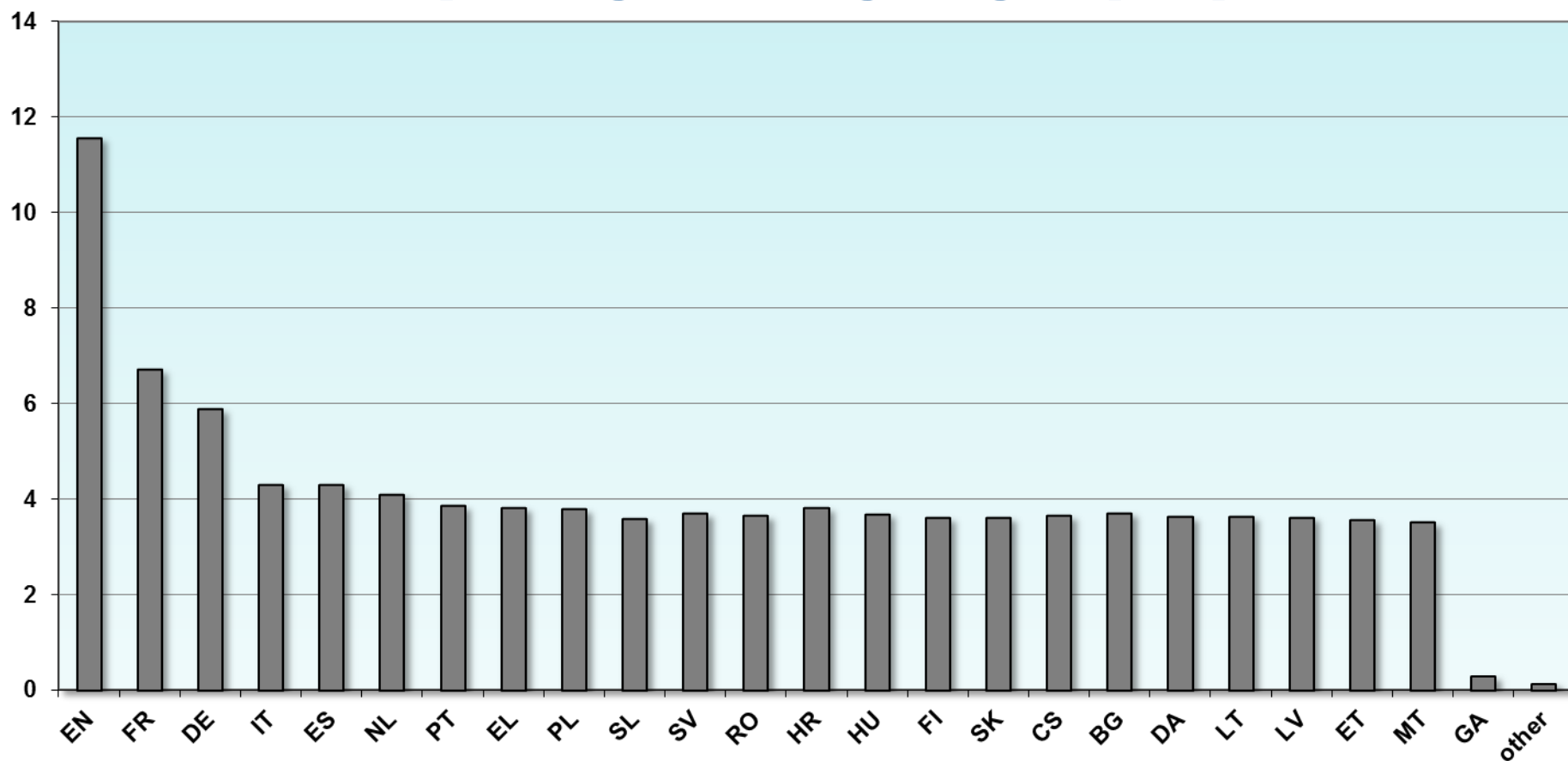## Evolution in the number of translated pages 2010-2014

Number of translated pages 2014 by target language (%)
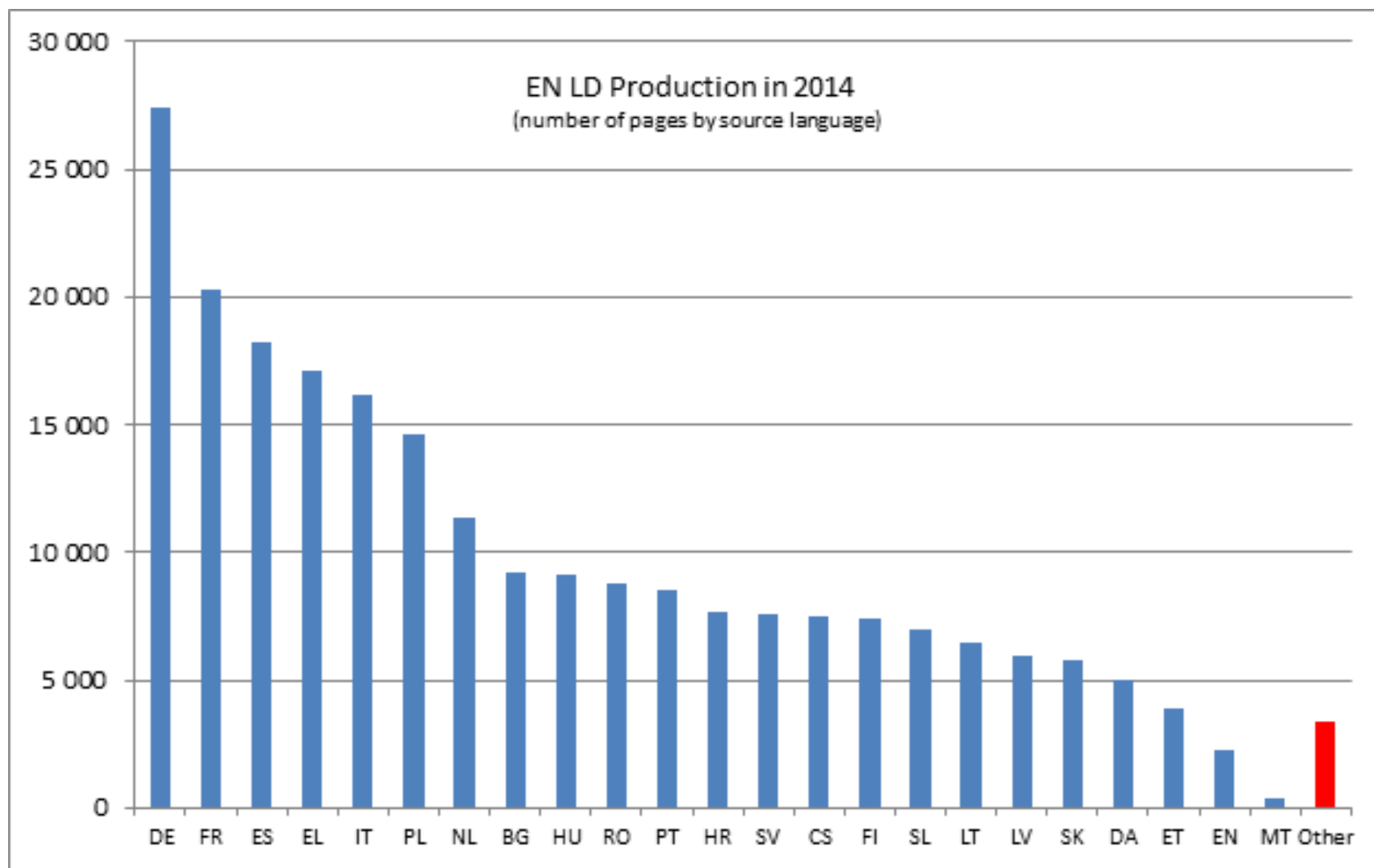
DGT's English-language department

- Translated 230,907 pages in 2014
- 141 members of staff (Jan 2015)
- 116 translators (Jan 2015)
- 2 field officers in London
- 3 dedicated terminologists
- Remainder are management and support staff
- Organised into 3 units specialising in different policy areas: 2 in Brussels, 1 in Luxembourg
- Main task is translating documents from EU member states
- Has to have knowledge of all EU languages except MT / GA
- Has to cover documents across the full range of EU policy
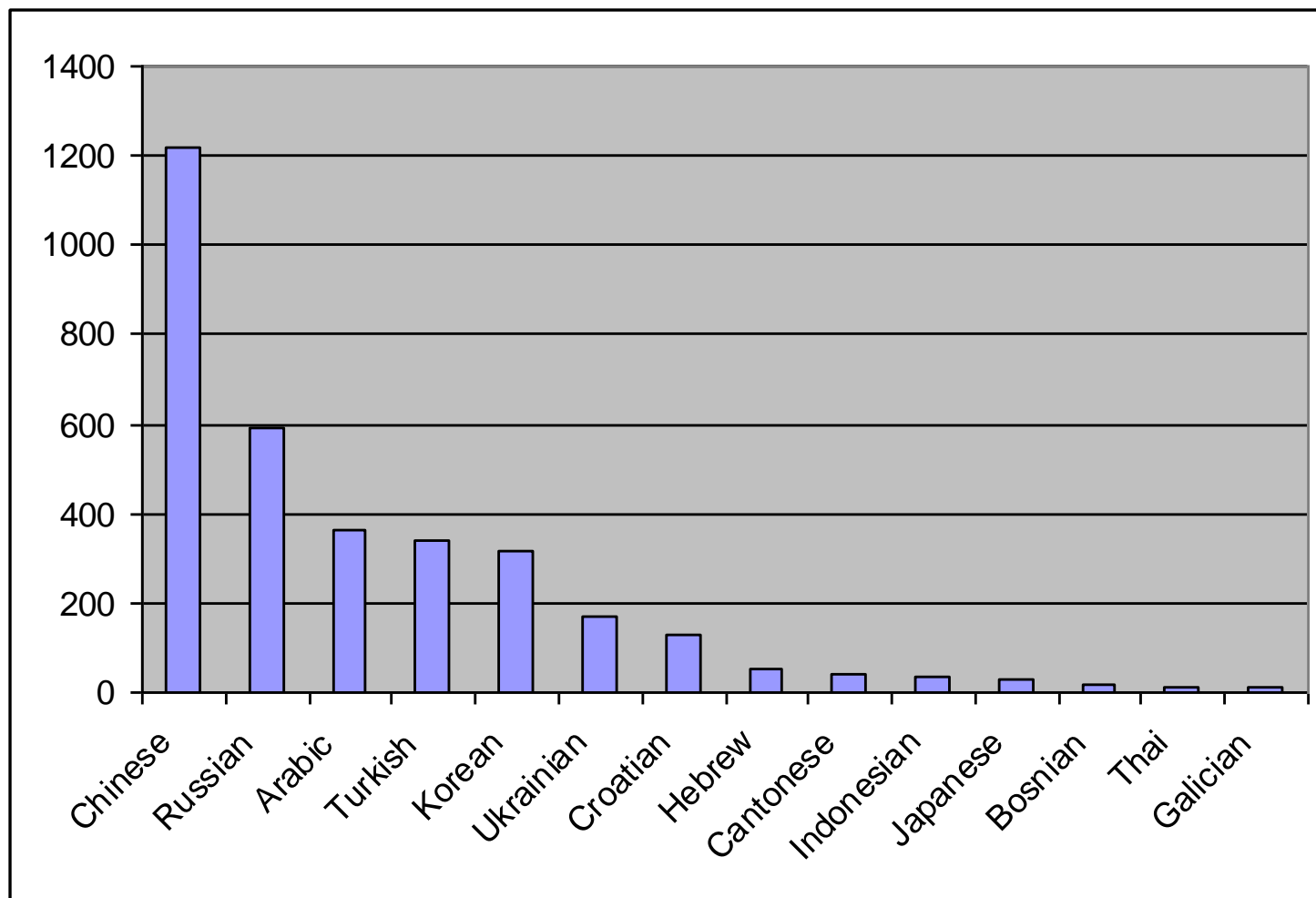
English Language Department – June 2013

EN LD Production in 2014
(number of pages by source language)

English Department production per non-EU source language

Working in and with DG Translation

Job opportunities

- Permanent job (EU official)

- Contract staff

- External contractor (freelance)

- Trainee

Recruitment criteria

You must be an EU citizen

You must hold a full university degree in languages or another field
(minimum bachelor's)

No professional experience is required

Language knowledge

- Perfect command of your main language or mother tongue

- Very sound knowledge of English or German or French (first source language)

- Very sound knowledge of a second source language among the EU's official languages

What can the Commission offer you?

- €4500/month starting salary

- Good leave entitlement

- Job security

- Varied and challenging work

- Scope to shape your own career in the Commission

- Excellent language learning opportunities

- Multicultural environment

- Flexible working-time arrangements

Training and professional development

- Thematic and IT training

- Language courses (weekly, in-country, VTS)

- Other DGT jobs

- Jobs elsewhere in the Commission/ other EU institutions

Traineeships

- Duration: 5 months

- Two rounds per year, starting in March and October

- For university graduates only

- For EU citizens – but a quota for other nationals

- Skills needed: ability to translate from two EU languages into your main language

- Monthly grant

- http://ec.europa.eu/stages/

More information?

- **Web:** ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation

- **Facebook**.com/translatingforeurope

- **Twitter:** @translatores

- **YouTube**.com/dgtranslation

TRANSLATION

European Commission > DGs > DG Translation

Home

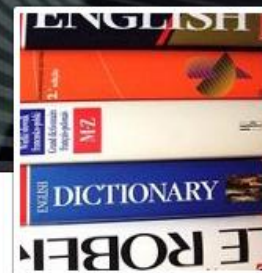Translating for Europe

Translation resources

Programmes

Publications

Directorate-General for Translation

DG Translation is the European Commission's in-house translation service. We translate for Europe — working in all the official languages of the European Union.

News

Translating for Europe
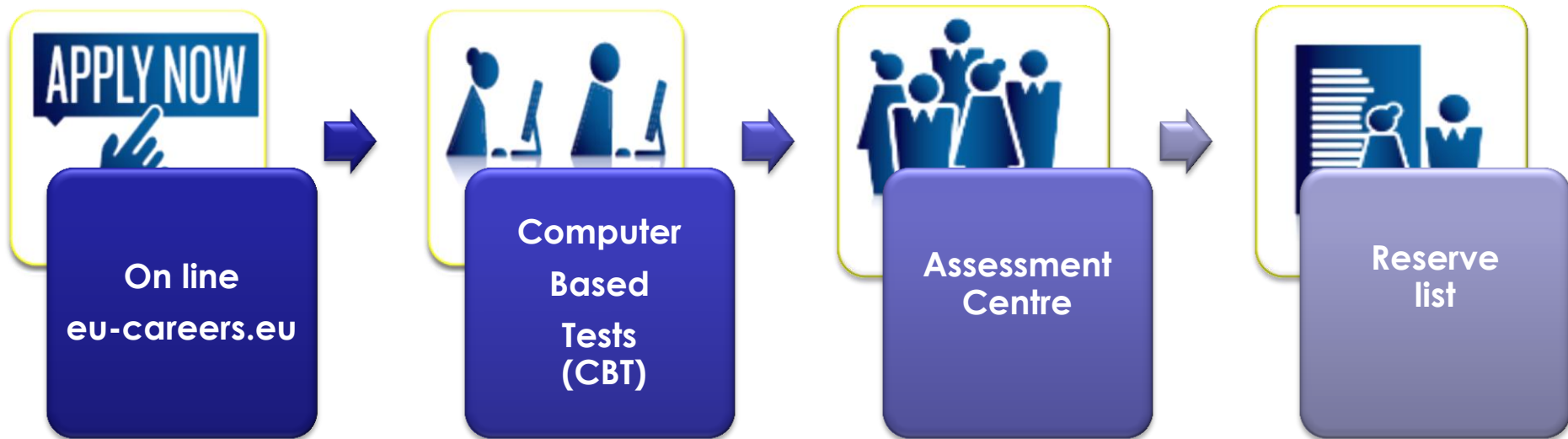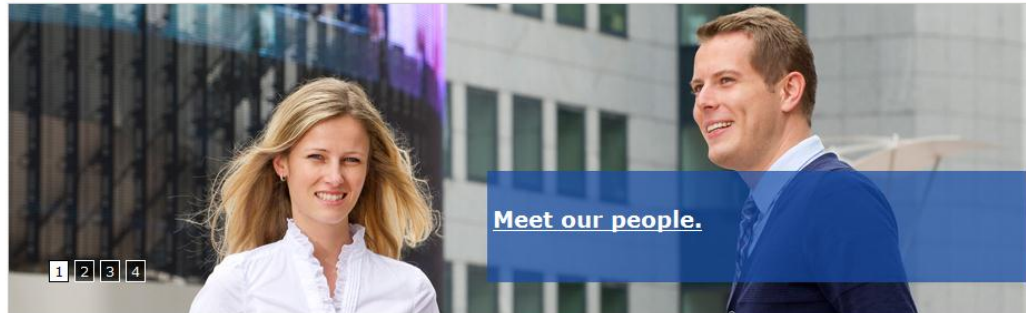5,725 likes · 501 talking about this

Selection Procedure

General overview

APPLY NOW

On line eu-careers.eu

Computer Based Tests (CBT)

Assessment Centre

Reserve list

Number of months

1 ⟶ 9

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CAREERS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION
by the European Personnel Selection Office

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Europa>EPSO

Meet our people.

1 2 3 4

Discover

Why EU Careers?

Job Profiles

EU Institutions and Agencies

Apply

Current job opportunities

How to apply

Already Applied

Check candidate section for news and information.

Latest News

Open for applications (EPSO/AD/278/14)
Thursday 27 March 2014 12:05:07

Digital forensics / Operational analysis (m/f)
EPSO/AD/278/14Applications are now open for
Administrators (AD7) in the fi...

Open for applications – EPSO/AD/277/14
Thursday 20 March 2014 17:03:49

Applications are now open for the
competition EPSO/AD/277/14 for Administrators
(AD5) in the field of audit (m/f). The d...

Meet EU Careers team in Edinburgh
Monday 17 March 2014 15:30:16

The University of Edinburgh and the European
Commission Representation in Scotland are
hosting an EU Careers Event on 19...

Other news from EPSO. de en fr

**Open for applications
(EPSO/AST/131/14)**
Thursday 3 April 2014 12:10:00

Nuclear inspectors (m/f)
EPSO/AST/131/14Applications are now open for
Nuclear inspectors (m/f). The deadline to apply is
12.00 (midday, Brussels time) on 06 May
2014.Your questions:Before contacting us about
EU Careers please make sure you've read all
important documents and updates on this page

What's Coming Up

Forensic analysts
Apply here when applications
open on **27 March 2014.**

Nuclear Inspection
Apply here when applications
open on **03 April 2014.**

Assistants (Security)
Apply here when applications open
on **10 April 2014.**

Assistants (ICT)
Apply here when applications open
on **12 June 2014.**

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Computer
Based
Tests
across Europe

Computer Based Tests (CBT)
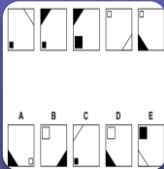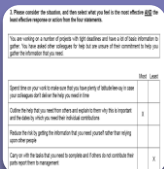
Verbal reasoning

Numerical reasoning

Abstract reasoning

Situation Judgment

In your main language

1 of 24 official EU languages

In your 2nd language

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Example verbal reasoning

Human genetic testing: implications and recommendations

Although genetic testing in Europe is based on high-quality scientific know-how, it can suffer from a certain level of technical errors. Moreover, the reporting on these tests is sometimes of poor quality. In the context of healthcare, a test should only be offered when it has been proven to be reliable and when there is a sound medical reason to justify it. A test validation system should therefore be established. Public concern regarding genetic testing revolves around the fear of misuse of genetic data and inappropriate access to such data by third parties. The confidentiality and privacy of all personal medical data, including information derived from genetic testing, is a basic right that must be respected. The individual has the right to know about test results, but also has the right to decide not to know.

What is the present situation as regards genetic testing?

- A. Testing is frequently carried out without a valid medical prescription.

- B. Scientists have the right to decide whether or not to divulge the results.

- C. The reporting of genetic data is always of a poor standard.

- D. Despite the expertise in the area, reporting is not always perfect.

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Example verbal reasoning

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Example numerical reasoning

Road density in EU-15 (km per 1 000 km²) (2000)

	EU-15	Country A	Country B	Country C	Country D	Country E
1980	340	180	360	90	216	120
2000	390	195	450	120	270	130

On average, by how much was the road density in countries A and B higher than in countries D and E in 1980?

○ A. 102 km/1 000 km²

○ B. 122.5 km/1 000 km²

○ C. 204 km/1 000 km²

○ D. 276 km/1 000 km²

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Example numerical reasoning

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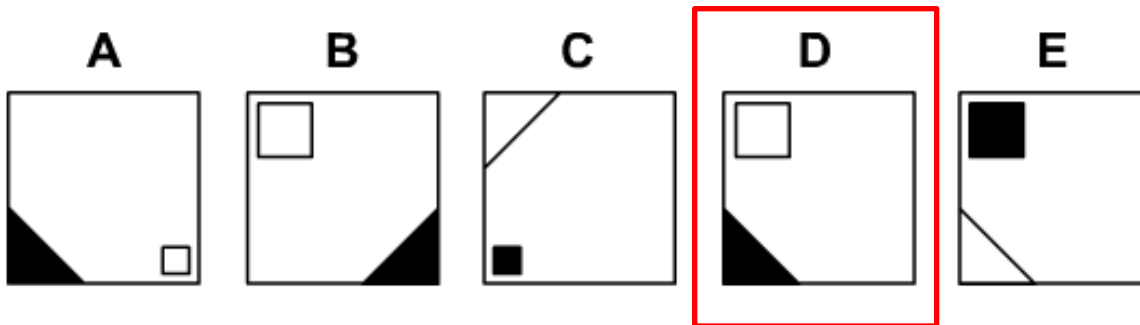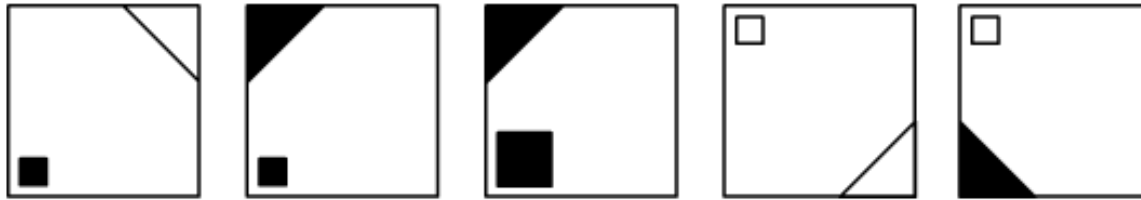|	EU-15	Country A	Country B	Country C	Country D	Country E
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Example abstract reasoning

Example abstract reasoning

Example situational judgement

3. Please consider the situation, and then select what you feel is the most effective **AND** the least effective response or action from the four statements.

You are working on a number of projects with tight deadlines and have a lot of basic information to gather. You have asked other colleagues for help but are unsure of their commitment to help you gather the information that you need.

	Most	Least
Spend time on your work to make sure that you have plenty of latitude/leeway in case your colleagues don't deliver the help you need in time		
Outline the help that you need from others and explain to them why this is important and the dates by which you need their individual contributions	X	
Reduce the risk by getting the information that you need yourself rather than relying upon other people		
Carry on with the tasks that you need to complete and if others do not contribute their parts report them to management		X

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Assessment Centre in Brussels
(or Luxembourg)

Assessment Centre
Testing 7+1 competencies

Analysis & Problem solving	**Communicating**	**Delivering Quality & Results**
Learning & Development	**Prioritising & Organising**	**Resilience**
Working with others	**+**	**Potential to lead (leadership)**

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Assessment Centre
Overview **Linguists**

**1.5 day
in your 2nd language**

Practical Language tests

Oral presen-tation

Structured interview

Group exercise

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Practical language tests

- ## Translation:

- Two translation tests, around 45 lines, on PC, dictionaries allowed!

- A) Source language 1 into English

- B) Source language 2 into English

- If score in test A doesn't reach the pass mark, test B is not marked.

  Tests are marked twice, thrice if necessary.

- ## Interpreting:

- For each language:

- consecutive speech of 5-6 mins, live speaker, no breaks

- simultaneous speech of 10-12 minutes, video recording

Successful Candidate?

Reserve list → Contact with EU Institutions → Job interview → Recruitment

Number of months

1 → 12

When to apply?

Spring

Graduates – Generalists profiles such as law, public administration, etc.

Summer

Linguists - Translators, Conference interpreters

languages vary per year

Winter

non- graduates with experience (Assistants)

Specialists when needed

(e.g. economists, building specialist, ICT, food safety, contractual staff when needed

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Questions?

www.eu-careers.eu

Thank you very much!

Muito obrigado!

Hartelijk dank!

Ďakujeme vám veľmi pekne!

Go raibh maith agaibh!

Tack så mycket!

Kiitoksia paljon!

Mulţumesc!

¡Muchas gracias!

Σας ευχαριστούμε πολύ!

Nuoširdžiai dėkojame!

Mockrát děkujeme!

Merci beaucoup !

Vielen Dank!

Suur tänu!

Nirringrazzjawk ħafna!

Liels paldies!

Grazie mille!

Mange tak!

Najlepša hvala!

Dziękujemy za uwagę!

Köszönjük szépen!

Много Ви благодарим!

Hvala lijepa!

Contact

Paul Kaye

@PaulKayeEUlangs

paul.kaye@ec.europa.eu