

# From the wheel of competences to the EMT competence framework 2022

**EMT Network Meeting 29 March 2023 Open Session**

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European  
Commission



European Master's  
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# History

- **2009: the *Wheel of Competences*, devised by a group of EMT experts under the leadership of Yves Gambier**



- **2017: EMT Competence Framework (overhaul)**
- **2022: EMT Competence Framework (update from 2017) (now online in English, French and German)**



# Purposes

- **promoting the implementation of translation programmes at university level**
- **defining quality standards for existing and future translation programmes**
- **training graduates who are fit for purpose, thus enhancing their employability**
- **raising awareness for translation in general**
- **increasing the visibility of the profession**

# A sea-change in translation training

- Translation is no longer seen as an art, or craft
- But as a profession, resting on a set of competences...
- ... that can be taught...
- ... used as a template for curriculum-building...
- ... for benchmarking
- and also for a number of Ph-Ds since 2017

# Contributors

- **Expert group (2009)**
- **EMT WG “Graduate employment and future of the profession”, submitting the working output step by step to the whole EMT network and all important stake-holders from academia, language industry and institutions for discussion (2015-2017)**
- **EMT WG CATO “Competence Awareness in TranslatiOn”**
- **EMT task force “Competences fine-tuning” submitting the working output step by step to the whole EMT network and all important stake-holders from academia, language industry and institutions for discussion (2022)**

# Framework structure

- **Wheel (2009) - 5 competence areas: Language, Intercultural, Information Mining, Technology and Thematic, centered around Translation Service Provision**
- **2017 and 2022 Competence Framework: 5 interconnected competence areas - Language and Culture, Translation, Technology, Personal and Interpersonal, Service Provision – 2017: 35 skills ↔ 2022: 36 skills**

# Framework structure 2022

**Link to the 2022 English version (also extent in German and French)**

**[https://commission.europa.eu/news/updated-version-emt-competence-framework-now-available-2022-10-21\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/news/updated-version-emt-competence-framework-now-available-2022-10-21_en)**

## Language and Culture

**Prerequisite with some explanatory description but without separate skills.**

# Framework structure 2022

## Translation 14 skills (part I - skills N°1 – N°5)

- **Text analysis**
- **Summarising, rephrasing, restructuring and shortening**
- **Information sources**
- **Thematic and domain-specific knowledge**
- **Instructions, style guides, conventions**



# Framework structure 2022

## Translation 14 skills (part II - skills N°6 – N°10)

- **General and domain-specific translation**
- **Different types of material and media**
- **Translation and mediation in specific intracultural and intercultural contexts (e.g. PSIT)**
- **Text drafting for specific purposes**
- **Analysis and justification of translation solutions (metalanguage)**

# Framework structure 2022

## Translation 14 skills (part III - skills N°11 – N°14)

- **Checking, reviewing, revising**
- **Quality control**
- **Source editing for processing (tools)**
- **Postediting MT output**

# Framework structure 2022

## Technology 6 skills (skills N°15 – N°20)

- **IT applications**
- **Search engines, corpus based tools, CAT, QA tools, etc.**
- **File (pre-)processing and management**
- **MT systems**
- **Data literacy**
- **Support tools (e.g. workflow management tools)**

# Framework structure 2022

## Personal and Interpersonal 6 skills (skills N°21 – N°26)

- **Planning and time management**
- **Workload, cognitive load, stress**
- **Autonomous and team work**
- **Social media**
- **Ergonomics**
- **Self-evaluation, updating, lifelong learning**

# Framework structure 2022

## Service Provision 10 skills (Part I - skills N°27 – N°31)

- Language industry demands and market requirements
- Client acquisition and customer care
- Client requirements, objectives and purposes
- Interaction with clients
- Organisation, budgeting and management of translation projects

# Framework structure 2022

## Service Provision 10 skills (part II – skills N°32 – N°36)

- Language service standards
- Quality management and quality assurance
- Codes of ethics
- Networking
- Analysing and critically reviewing language services and policies

# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Language and Culture

Prerequisite

## Competence Framework 2022

### Language and Culture

Some important aspects and skills have been described in more detail in the main text of the EMT Competence Framework 2022

# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Translation

N°7 Translate different types of material on and for different kinds of media, using appropriate tools and techniques

N°11 Check, review and/or revise their own work and that of others according to standard or work-specific quality objectives

## Competence Framework 2022

### Translation

Translate different types of material on and for different kinds of media **and target audiences**, using appropriate tools and techniques

Check, review, **revise and evaluate** their own work and that of others according to standard or work-specific quality objectives **and assess the appropriateness of using such tools for the work at hand**



# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Translation

N°13 Pre-edit source material for the purpose of potentially improving MT output quality, using appropriate pre-editing techniques

N°14 Apply post-editing to MT output using the appropriate post-editing levels and techniques according to the quality and productivity objectives, and recognise the importance of data ownership and data security issues

## Competence Framework 2022

### Translation

**Edit source text content for processing using a translation tool**

**Post-edit MT output using style guides and terminology glossaries to maintain quality standards in MT-enhanced translation projects**

# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Technology

N°16 Make effective use of search engines, corpus-based tools, text analysis tools and CAT tools

N°18 Master the basics of MT and its impact on the translation process

## Competence Framework 2022

### Technology

Make effective use of search engines, corpus-based tools, text analysis tools, computer-assisted translation (CAT) **and quality assurance (QA) tools where appropriate**

Understand the basics of MT systems and their impact on the translation process, **and integrate MT into a translation workflow where appropriate**

# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Personal and Interpersonal

N°21 Plan and manage time, stress and workload

N°22 Comply with deadlines, instructions and specifications

N°23 Work in a team, including, where appropriate, in virtual, multicultural and multilingual environments, using current communication technologies

## Competence Framework 2022

### Personal and Interpersonal

Plan and manage time **(including complying with deadlines)**

**Manage workload, cognitive load, stress and critical professional situations**

**Work in a team, including, where appropriate, in virtual, multicultural and multilingual environments, using current communication technologies**

# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Service Provision

N°30 Negotiate with the client (to define deadlines, rates/invoicing, working conditions, access to information, contracts, rights, responsibilities, language service specifications, tender specifications etc.)

## Competence Framework 2022

### Service Provision

**Interact at all stages with the client** (negotiate deadlines, rates/invoicing, working conditions, access to information, contracts, rights, responsibilities, language service specifications, tender specifications, **offer feedback** etc.)

# Fine-tuning 2017-2022

## Competence Framework 2017

### Service Provision

N°34 Comply with professional ethical codes and standards (confidentiality, fair competition etc.) and network with other translators and language providers via social media and professional associations

N°35 Analyse and critically review language services and policies and suggest improvement strategies

## Competence Framework 2022

### Service Provision

Critically assess and work within the ethical principles (such as confidentiality, fair competition, impartiality) defined in codes of ethics and guides of good practice

Network with other translators and language service providers, including via professional associations, events and social media so as to improve individual and collective professional visibility **NEW**

Analyse and critically review language services and policies and suggest improvement strategies as an extension to their social and economic responsibility

# To make a long story short

The EMT competence framework, a splendid tool for...

- ... joining the EMT (networking, best practices, recognition...)
- ... assessing where your own programme stands regarding professionalisation
- ... advertising the quality of your programme (students, institutions...)
- ... doing your part in the advancement of the translation profession in Europe and beyond

# Contacts

Thank you for your attention!

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