

TRANSLATION  
COMMONS



2022-2032 | INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF  
Indigenous Languages



# International Translation Day

September 30, 2022

A World Without Barriers:  
Translation and Interpretation  
in Indigenous Languages



Online event organized by UNESCO and Translation Commons

Join the meeting on Youtube : <https://youtu.be/TJjUfLRKno>



# Introduction

UNESCO and Translation Commons (TC) will organize a joint virtual event to celebrate the International Translation Day (ITD) on 30 September 2022.

At the 71st session in 2017, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 288 ([A/RES/71/288](#), para 2), recognizing “the role of professional translation in connecting nations, and fostering peace, understanding and development”, and declaring 30 September to be International Translation Day.

The International Translation Day aims to raise awareness of the importance of professional translation as it brings nations together, facilitates dialogue, understanding and cooperation, contributes to sustainable development and strengthens world peace and security.

## **2022 Theme. A World Without Barriers: Translation and Interpretation in Indigenous Languages**

This year’s theme of International Translation Day is *A World Without Barriers*. On the occasion of this year’s celebration, UNESCO and Translation Commons will co-organize an online event to provide a space for dialogue among translators, interpreters and language specialists working with Indigenous and other languages from all over the world. Various topics related to the translation and interpretation of Indigenous languages will be covered, including their use by interpreters in legal and judicial systems, policy frameworks, access to language resources, capacity building, and the development of translation technologies for the preservation and promotion of these languages. This online event is organized within the context of the [International Decade of Indigenous Languages](#) (2022-2032), which was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2019.

The [Global Action Plan](#) of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages identified language professionals – interpreters and translators, and language technology developers working in both public and private organizations – as key target groups since they are actively engaged in the preservation, revitalization and preservation of Indigenous languages. The capacity of interpreters and translators to provide services in Indigenous languages should be a major area of action to ensure the effective right to interpretation and translation for Indigenous Peoples as enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ([UNDRIP](#), Article 13, para 2), especially in such critical contexts as legal cases in the justice system and access to health care provision. These requirements apply also in refugee situations and to persons with disabilities or those using sign languages. Quality interpretation and translation services provided by professional interpreters and translators make for easy communication in public places between Indigenous populations and public authorities.

At the event, UNESCO will present a newly published edition of the [UNESCO Courier](#) (April-June 2022) which was dedicated to translation related issues.

**Join the meeting on Youtube : <https://youtu.be/TJjUflLRkno>**



# Main objectives

The online event will:

- Raise awareness about the importance of professional translation and interpretation in Indigenous languages
- Share good practices and lessons learnt from concrete projects including those related to the development of digital translation tools
- Mark the International Decade of Indigenous Languages
- Reflect on appropriate actions in implementing the Global Action Plan of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages

Speakers will be representatives from Indigenous Peoples Organizations, academia and other public and private organizations working with Indigenous Peoples and language professionals from all over the world. The online event will be live streamed on the [IDIL 2022-2032 Facebook](#) page and the [Translation Commons YouTube](#) channel.

## Program

(Virtual meeting - Pacific Daylight Time)

*7.00 am PDT / 4.00 pm CET*

### **Welcome Address** (30 min)

- **Ms Jeannette Stewart**, Founder Translation Commons, (USA)
  - Welcome Address (2 min)
- **Mr Dev Kumar**, Chairperson, Indigenous Television (Nepal)
  - Blessing and presentation of the Sunuwar digitization efforts (10 min)
- **Ms Dorothy Gordon**, Chair, UNESCO Information for All Programme (Ghana)
  - (10 min)
- **Dr Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg**, Advisor for Communication and Information, UNESCO
  - Multilingualism, policy and preservation (10 min)

*7.30 am PDT / 4.30 pm CET (60 min)*

### **Theme no 1: Preserving Indigenous languages through Translation**

Moderator: Dr. Siva Prasad Rambhatla, Honorary Professor in the Center for Digital Learning, Training and Resources, University of Hyderabad (India)

- **Dr Niladri Sekhar Dash**, Professor and Head, Indian Statistical Institute (India)
  - Application of Traditional and Digital Methods in Preservation of Indigenous Languages Through Translation (10 min)
- **Dr Parameswari Krishnamurthy**, Assistant Professor, University of Hyderabad (India)
  - Connecting Language and Technology: A case study with building machine translation systems (10 min)

- **Dr Avni Khatri**, Panjab University, Department of Anthropology and **Dr Saumya Sharma**, Freelance Researcher with Canvas8 (India)
  - Anthropological lens from going local to global through indigenous knowledge systems (10 min)
- **Dr Udaya Narayana Singh**, Professor, Amity University Haryana, Gurgaon (India)
  - Curse of Dialects and Predicament of the Indigenous (10 min)
- **Mr Hero Patrianto**, Linguist, Language Office of East Java, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology (Indonesia)
  - Translation and Indigenous Language Preservation in Indonesia
- Q&A (10 min)

8.30 am PDT / 5.30 pm CET (60 min)

### **Theme no 2: Language Policy Frameworks**

Moderator: Dr. Jandhyala Prabhakar Rao, Professor of Linguistics, University of Hyderabad (India)

- **Ms Aluki Kotierk**, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc - Co-chair of Global Task Force for IDIL (Canada)
  - (10 min)
- **Ms Agnes Bardón**, Editor in Chief of the UNESCO Courier, UNESCO
  - From one world to another: special of The UNESCO Courier on translation (10 min)
- **Ms Zeynep Varoglu**, Programme Specialist, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO
  - (10 min)
- **Mr Hector Santaella Barrera**, Association of Professionalism Indigenous Interpreters (Mexico)
  - Our Experience as Professional Indigenous Interpreters (10 min)
- **Ms Alison Rodriguez**, President, International Federation of Translators (New Zealand)
  - A World Without Barriers: How Translation and Interpreting navigate language as a barrier to sustaining culture, understanding, and lasting peace (10 min)
- Q&A (10 min)

9.30 am PDT / 6.30 CET

### **Testimonials** from Translation and Interpretation Professionals (30 min)

- **Ms Alfreda Gasparillo Pineda**, Rights of women, indigenous interpreters NÁHUATL (Mexico)
  - My Experience as a Professional Indigenous Interpreter
- **Mr Ubaldo Pedro Mariscal**, Legal and Indigenous Interpreter of MAZATECO (Mexico)
  - My Experience as a Professional Indigenous Interpreter
- **Mr Akxan**, Musician (People's Republic of China)
  - The necessity of national language art to national culture inheritance

10 am PDT / 7 pm CET (60 min)

### **Theme no 3: Civil and Language Rights**

Moderator: Jeannette Stewart, Founder Translation Commons (USA)

- **Mr Lucio Bagnulo**, Head of Translation and Language Strategy, Amnesty International (Spain)
  - The role of translation in the context of human rights crises (10 min)
- **Ms Thel Morgan**, Translation Bureau, Government of Canada (Canada)

- Indigenous Language Interpretation and the Translation Bureau of Canada (10 min)
- **Dr Kevin Lewis**, Indigenous Freelance Interpreter and Translator, Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation (Canada)
  - Working as an Indigenous Freelance Translator and Interpreter (10 min)
- **Dr Guo Wei**, Lecturer, Hebei Normal University for Nationalities (People's Republic of China)
  - The Significance of Manchu - Chinese Translation Work and Manchu - Chinese Bilingual Literature for Manchu Protection (10 min)
- **Mr Ravi Rebbapragada**, Executive Director, Samata (India)
  - Samata Judgment - A landmark from Supreme Court of India (10 min)
- Q&A (10 min)

*11 am PDT / 8 pm CET (60 min)*

#### **Theme no 4: Translation and Interpretation Professional Aspects**

Moderator: Mr Tex Texin, Advisor, Translation Commons (USA)

- **Dr Sue Ellen Wright**, Emerita Professor Kent State University, Board of Advisors Translation Commons (USA)
  - Why Preserve Indigenous Languages?(10 min)
- **Dr Nicasio Martínez Miguel**, Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca (Mexico)
  - Oaxaca State University's Master's Degree program of Translation and Interpretation in Indigenous Languages is helping to preserve indigenous languages (10 min)
- **Ms Tina Wellman**, Language Resource Developer, University nuxelhot'ine thaa?ehots'j nistameyimâkanak Blue Quills (Canada)
  - Curriculum development and book translation in the indigenous languages (10 min)
- **Dr Alan Melby**, Professor Emeritus Brigham Young University and President of LTAC Global (USA)
  - The Need for a Directory of Interpreters and Translators working with an Indigenous Language (10 min)
- **Dr Kutz Arrieta**, Linguist at Google, Board of Advisors Translation Commons (USA)
  - Dubbing & Closed Captioning for minority languages (10 min)
- Q&A (10 min)

*12 noon PST / 9.00 pm CET (60 min)*

#### **Keynote**

**Mr Roy Boney, Jr.**, Language Program Manager, Cherokee Nation (USA)

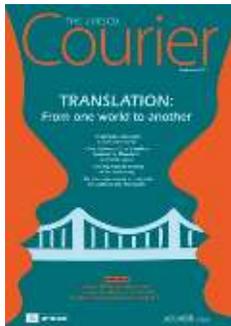
- Cherokee Nation Translation

*12.45 pm PST / 9.45 pm CET (15 min)*

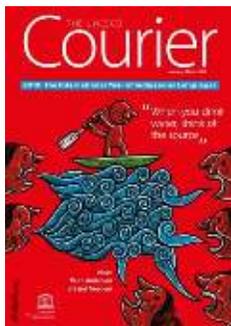
#### **Closing Address**

**Mr Tex Texin**, Globalization Architect, Board of Advisors, Translation Commons (USA)

# Resources



UNESCO Courier (April-June 2022).  
Translation: from one world to another  
[https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381067\\_eng](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381067_eng)



UNESCO Courier 2019 (January – March 2019).  
[The International Year of Indigenous Languages](#)



UNESCO General Conference, 41 session (2021). [Global action plan](#) of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032)

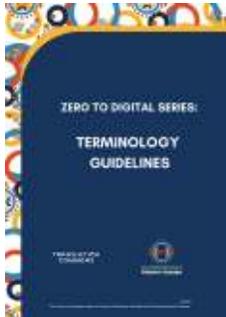


UNESCO (2021). The International Year of Indigenous Languages: mobilizing the international community to preserve, revitalize and promote indigenous languages ([Flagship Report](#))



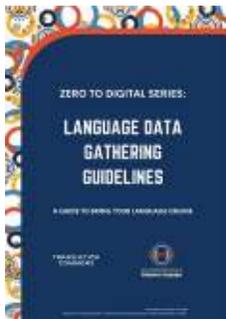
### [Zero to Digital](#)

A guide to bring any language and script online



### [Terminology Guidelines](#)

A guide to help Indigenous communities create the new terms and manage their language assets



### [Language Data Gathering Guidelines](#)

A guide for Indigenous communities to systematically gather their data to enable digital applications

## [Video Resources](#) for Language Digitization





# Join the International Decade of Indigenous Languages campaign **#IndigenousLanguages**

**Follow us on Facebook:**

@IndigenousLanguagesDecade  
@UNESCO

**Twitter:**

@ILDecade  
@UNESCO

**Instagram:**

@indigenousslanguages  
@unesco

#IndigenousLanguages #WeAreIndigenous #internationaltranslationday #ITD2022

**Official website of the IDIL2022-2032:**

<https://en.idil2022-2032.org/>  
<https://fr.idil2022-2032.org/>  
<https://es.idil2022-2032.org/>

**High-level launch event of the IDIL2022-2032 [website](#)**

13 December 2022, UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France

**Follow Translation Commons on Facebook:**

[@TranslationCommons](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

**Twitter:**

[@TranslationCom1](#)

**LinkedIn:**

[Translation Commons page](#)

[Translation Commons group](#)

**Instagram:**

[@translationcommons](#)

## Contact details

UNESCO Secretariat of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages

Email: [indigenous.languages@unesco.org](mailto:indigenous.languages@unesco.org)

Translation Commons

Email: [krista@translationcommons.org](mailto:krista@translationcommons.org)

Website: <https://translationcommons.org/international-translation-day-2022/>