

European Commission Machine Translation

Use of MT@EC by translators in the European Commission

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What is MT@EC?

Technology:

- MT system introduced in 2010 in DGT
- Real-life trial with DGT translators since 2011, released for production in June 2013
- Core: statistical MT based on open-source engine Moses, improved by rules-based pre- and post-processing
- Data: Data basis Euramis with ca. 1 billion segments in 24 languages

Language pairs:

- EN <> all official EU languages
- Total of 552 language pairs (76 LPs directly)

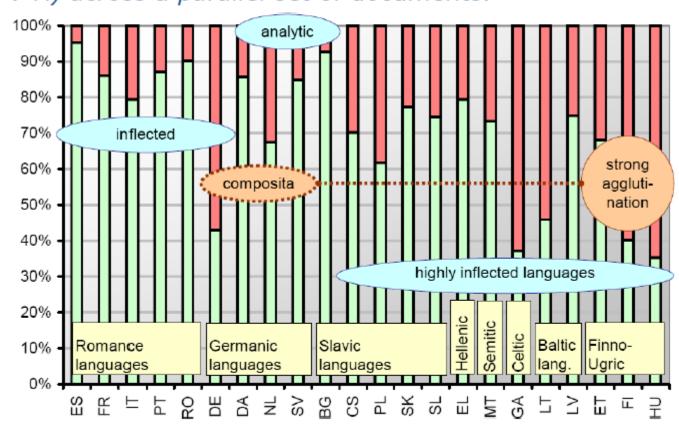




64 translators from 22 language departments contributed more than 17000 binary quality judgements on the usefulness of segment translations (EN \rightarrow X) across a parallel set of documents.

MT user group analysed and clustered the results

Based on this, 10 LDs opted for automatic MT in the real-life trial





Who can use MT@EC?

... staff of the EU institutions

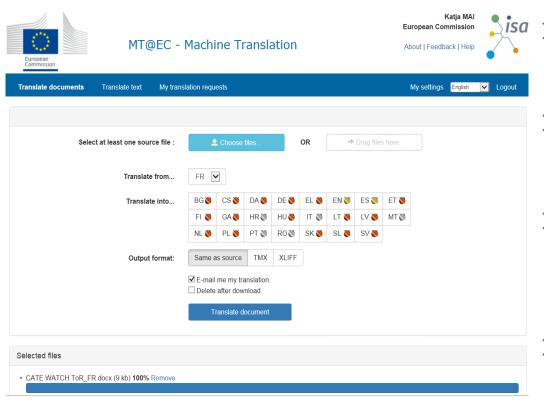
... public administrations in the EU Member States (CEF)

... **EMT*-universities** (cooperation projects)

* European Masters in Translation



How is MT@EC used in the Commission?



- Since 2013: available via
 Web Interface
- Translation of documents and "snippets"
- Since end of 2015: As Plugin for Word and MS Outlook
- Fast access to translation of informations in other languages (gisting)



Translation of "snippets": example DE-EN

Text to translate:

Die Kommission legt heute ihren ersten Bericht über die Fortschritte bei der Umsetzung des Partnerschaftsrahmens für die Zusammenarbeit mit Drittländern vor.

Maximum length: 4000 characters. Remaining: 3843 characters.



Clear

Translate from...

DE Autodetect

Translate into...







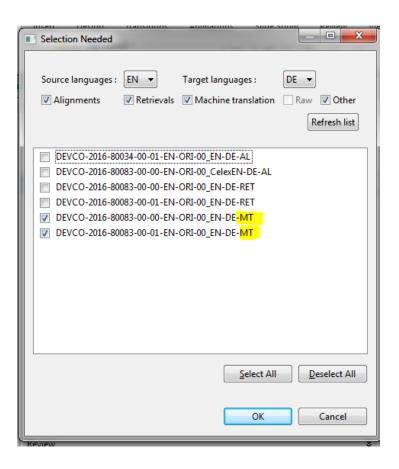


Translated text:

The Commission presented today the first report on the progress of implementation of the partnership framework which provides the framework for cooperation with third countries.



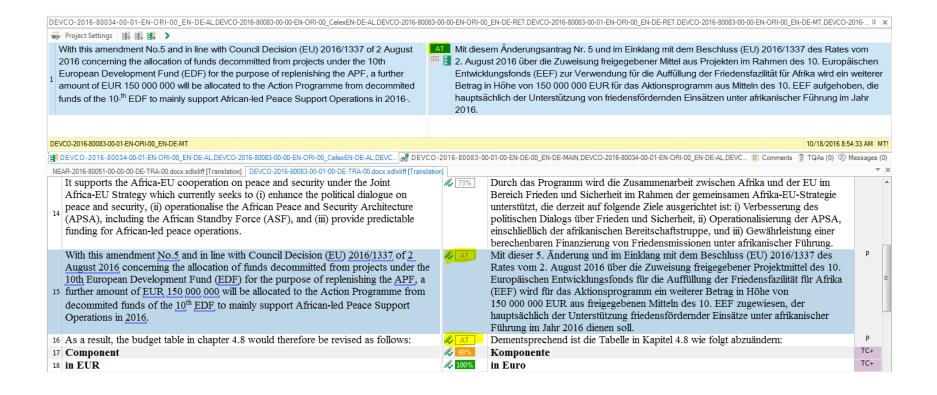
How is MT@EC used by translators in DGT?



- As a resource within the CAT tool: adding of MT-tmx optional
 - Automatic creation of MT-tmx for some LPs
 - Manual requests of MT-tmx via Web-Interface for the other LPs
- MT-segments on displayed in CAT tool as "AT" resource



Display of MT-segments in CAT-Tool





MT: examples ...

Le cadre de partenariat constitue une approche européenne tournée vers l'avenir tendant à l'approfondissement de la coopération avec les pays d'origine, de transit et de destination.

Il NIF sostiene progetti elaborati dagli enti finanziari europei ammissibili nel vicinato in linea con gli obiettivi definiti negli orientamenti strategici.

Комисията "Юнкер" представя трета годишна работна програма: Европа на резултатите: закрила, предоставяне на повече права и защита на гражданите

The partnership framework provides a forward-looking European approach aimed at stepping up cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination.

The NIF supports projects prepared by the eligible European financial institutions in the neighbourhood in line with the objectives set out in the strategic guidelines.

The Juncker Commission submitted a third annual work programme: A Europe of results: protection, empowerment and protection of citizens



... and some typical MT errors

The · Federal · Ministry · of · Health · finances · directly · the · stakeholders.

Das ·Bundesministerium ·der · Finanzen · unmittelbar · Beteiligten.

H

He teaches rap to Roma children.

Er unterrichtet Anwendungsbestimmungen zur Haushaltsordnung Roma-Kinder.

This Convention was adopted by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and ratified by all EU Member States.

Dieses Übereinkommen wurde von der Internationalen Seeschiffahrtsorganisation (IMO) und von allen Mitgliedstaaten der Europäischen Union ratifiziert.



Developments since 2013

- Usage and feed-back from translators are one of the main sources of inspiration for improvements of MT quality
- Explicit feedback (Language weeks) + implicit feedback (final translations)
- Quality of the MT-Engines has improved from generation to generation (more data, inclusion of rules, formatting, placeholders)



Experiences with MT@EC in the German Language Department | 1

Advantages and added value

- Lexical inspiration
- Offers usable phrases /sentence parts
- Less typing needed
- Speeds up translation work
- Good terminology in technical texts



Experiences with MT@EC in the German Language Department | 2

Disadvantages and remarks:

- Shift from translation to Post-Editing-activities
- Editing MT output requires a different kind of attention than translation or revising HT (declinations and verb forms, completeness, negations, additions/omissions)
- Higher need for revision
- Usability of MT-Output varies according to LP (morphology, syntax) and quality of the original



When do we use MT?

Text types:

- + Press releases, reports, general communications
- Legal acts and in general texts which require a high degree of legal/conceptual accuracy

Selective use of MT as a resource in the translation process alongside with other language resources is becoming more and more part of the daily work of translators in DGT– in varying degrees depending on text types and the language pairs.





Questions?

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Additional infos:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/ translationresources/machine_tran slation/