

The Asian Regional Centre of the International Federation of Translators

FIT ASIA BULLETIN



Translators and interpreters from around the world (Credit: FIT, FIT Asia, TAC, FTIM, HKBU, HPI)

INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY 2025

By M. Zain Sulaiman (FIT Asia, MTA, UKM)

International Translation Day, celebrated every year on 30 September, reminds us that translation is far more than converting words from one language into another. It is about conveying meaning, intent, and cultural nuance—building bridges where misunderstandings could easily arise.

In an increasingly interconnected world, translation plays a vital role in diplomacy, business, education, healthcare, and technology. Every translated document, subtitle, contract, or interpretation allows ideas to travel across borders and communities.

It enables collaboration, supports inclusion, and ensures that information is accessible to people in their own language.

Translators and interpreters work quietly behind the scenes, yet their responsibility is immense. Accuracy, cultural sensitivity, and ethical judgment are essential in their daily work, where a single word can shape understanding, trust, or outcomes. Their expertise helps organisations communicate clearly, governments cooperate effectively, and societies engage more openly with one another.

On International Translation Day, we take a moment to recognise the dedication, skill, and professionalism of language professionals worldwide. By connecting people through language, they help the world understand itself a little better—one carefully chosen word at a time.

TAC Celebrates ITD 2025

By the Translators Association of China (TAC)

To celebrate the 2025 International Translation Day (ITD) with translators and interpreters across China and to highlight the value of the T&I profession in bridging different cultures and civilizations, the Translators Association of China (TAC) launched a featured interview series, inviting professionals to talk about where they see the future of translation in the age of AI.

In the interview, 14 renowned experts from educational and industrial sectors weighed in with their interpretation of the 2025 ITD theme, shared their view on the vital role of human translators in the era of AI and offered their messages to the next generation of translators and interpreters.

Interviewees echoed this year's ITD theme, "Translation: Shaping a Future You can Trust," and agreed that the theme is highly relevant to the evolving landscape of the profession. While recognising that machine translation enhances efficiency, they affirmed that despite the growing application of machine translation, the expertise of professionals can never be overestimated, especially when it comes to creative tasks, culturally nuanced work, matters of political implications, among many others.

The video series was posted on TAC's social media platforms, attracting around 400,000 views till now. A clip of the video can be accessed on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/7bSat1C4HKk?si=-VcNcROv-GWOAfGQ>



FIT Asia Hosts Inaugural Lecture on AI and Translation

By Defeng LI (FIT Asia, University of Macau), Junhuan Liu (Translators Association of China)

The Asian Regional Centre of the International Federation of Translators (FIT Asia) successfully launched its Global Online Lecture Series on 9 December 2025 with the first session delivered by Mr. Anming GAO, Executive Vice President and Secretary General of the Translators Association of China (TAC), Editor-in-Chief of China International Communications Group (CICG), and former FIT Council Member. The lecture was moderated by Prof. Defeng LI, FIT Asia Board Member in charge of research and Distinguished Professor of Translation Studies at the University of Macau. More than 5000 viewers from the world tuned in to the livestream to hear Mr. Gao chart the future of translation practice and education in the age of artificial intelligence.



Global Online Lecture Series

Asian Regional Center of the International Federation of Translators

Live-streaming on YouTube Bilibili WeChat

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Anming GAO**
高岸明
Editor-in-Chief, China International Communications Group
Executive Vice President & Secretary-General, Translators Association of China

MODERATOR

**Defeng LI**
李德凤
Member of Academia Europaea
Distinguished Professor of Translation Studies
Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Macau

In his 45-minute keynote speech on "Translation Practice & Education in the AI Era", Mr. Gao shared his thoughts on opportunities and challenges that technology development brings to the profession. He continued to elaborate on China's approaches to AI impact on the translation practice and education and TAC's initiatives as well. He concluded that machine and AI translation will replace human translators within specific domains and certain scenarios. At the same time, however advanced machine translation may become, human translators remain irreplaceable in areas such as creative expression, the conveying of emotions, precise semantic rendering, and intercultural communication.

The subsequent Q&A fielded a myriad of questions from the audience, including curriculum design, translators' career planning and AI trends. The full recording is available on YouTube channel (Translator&Interpreter Zone <https://youtu.be/JXpPz2hzuBk?si=NetoMh45t7FVsWbY>) and Bilibili portal (<https://b23.tv/gO8qfMH>).

The lecture series will continue in 2026 with a focus on large language models and translation and interpreting studies.

Translation Research Summer School (TRSS)

Hong Kong Baptist University

6 – 11 July 2026

Building Capacity for the Next Generation of Translation Scholars

By the Centre for Translation, Hong Kong Baptist University

The Centre for Translation (CTN) at Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) is proud to host the Translation Research Summer School (TRSS) on our campus from 6–11 July 2026. This landmark event reflects the Centre's sustained commitment to advancing the discipline and nurturing the next generation of researchers through high-quality, research-led training. Alongside our biennial International Research School for Media Translation and Digital Culture (MTDC), TRSS strengthens our training pipeline for doctoral candidates, early career researchers, and colleagues newly engaging with translation and interpreting studies.

Directed by Professor Mona Baker and Dr. Kyung Hye Kim, TRSS delivers intensive, cutting-edge research training tailored to the evolving needs of the field. The 2026 edition at HKBU features the theme "Translation and Technology: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives", inviting participants to explore the technological turn in translation—from historical trajectories to contemporary developments shaping methods, ethics, and practice. The School is a one-week, face-to-face programme taught in English, offering an immersive environment for feedback-rich learning, methodological grounding and international networking.

TRSS is offered at HKBU every two years, rotating with MTDC. By bringing TRSS to the HKBU campus under the leadership of Professor Baker and Dr. Kim, CTN deepens its role as a regional and international hub for scholarly exchange, equipping emerging researchers with the conceptual tools, methodological rigour and professional networks needed to shape the future of translation and interpreting studies. CTN invites prospective participants to explore the programme and apply to join an inspiring international cohort in Hong Kong next July.

HONG KONG

TRANSLATION RESEARCH

SUMMER SCHOOL 2026 (TRSS 2026)

Hosted by the Centre for Translation, Academy of Language and Culture, Hong Kong Baptist University

Featured Theme:
Translation and Technology: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives

Teaching Staff:

- Prof. Mona Baker (University of Otago)
- Dr. Kyung Hye Kim (Hong Kong Baptist University)
- Prof. Sue-Ann Harding (Queens University Belfast)
- Dr. Maureen Martin-Lacarta (Autonomous University of Barcelona)
- Prof. Robert Neather (Hong Kong Baptist University)

TRSS Page: www.hkbu.edu.hk/ctn/trss2026

Apply Now: www.hkbu.edu.hk/ctn/trss2026/apply

2026
6-11 JULY
Face-to-face

All applicants must submit a personal statement outlining their reasons for applying and their interest in the training, refer to application.

TRSS 2026

Featured Theme: Translation and Technology: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives

Dates: 6–11 July 2026

Venue: Hong Kong Baptist University

Format: Face-to-face

Medium of instruction: English

General information on remit, syllabus, pathways and organisation is available on the TRSS website <https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk/research-schools/translation-research-summer-school/>

TRSS 2026 teaching staff

- Mona Baker
- Kyung Hye Kim
- Sue-Ann Harding
- Maialen Marin-Lacarta
- Robert Neather

Key dates

22 October 2025: Application period opens

10 March 2026: Early registration period opens

1 June 2026: Late registration period opens

Applications for TRSS 2026 are now open!

As part of the process, all applicants should submit a personal statement at the online platform and outline their interest in the School's topics. The personal statements will be reviewed by the Academic Directors. Applicants with accepted statements will be eligible to apply. Full details are available via the TRSS page on the Centre for Translation website.

TRSS page

Apply now



HPI's National Certification Test: Elevating Translation and Interpreting Standards in Indonesia

By the Association of Indonesian Translators (HPI)

In a bid to enhance the quality and credibility of translation and interpretation services in Indonesia, Himpunan Penerjemah Indonesia (HPI) or the Association of Indonesian Translators conducted an annual National Certification Test (TSN) on July 19 and 26, 2025 for its members. The TSN is designed to assess the skills and knowledge of translators, translation editors, and interpreters, ensuring they meet the highest industry standards.



Translators and editors (Credit: HPI, Indonesia)

Held in Jakarta and Malang – Indonesia, the TSN offers a range of categories and language pairs, including legal and general translation, as well as conference interpreting. A total of 89 participants took part in the event, consisting of 78 in translation, 5 in translation editing, and 6 in conference interpreting. Covering language pairs such as English <> Indonesian, Mandarin <> Indonesian, Japanese > Indonesian, Arabic > Indonesian, and German > Indonesian, the TSN highlights not only the diversity of languages but also the growing demand for highly skilled practitioners across multiple domains.



Translators and editors (Credit: HPI, Indonesia)

Setting the Benchmark

The TSN serves as a benchmark for the industry, providing a platform for language professionals to demonstrate their expertise and commitment to their craft. By setting a high standard for certification, HPI aims to increase client trust and confidence in the services provided by certified translators, translation editors, and interpreters.



Translators and editors (Credit: HPI, Indonesia)

Step towards Professionalism

The certification test is a significant step towards promoting professionalism in the translation and interpreting industry. By passing the TSN, professionals can enhance their job prospects, increase their earning potential, and gain a competitive edge in the market.

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Industry Impact

The implementation of the TSN is expected to have a positive impact on the industry, driving up standards and promoting excellence in translation and interpreting services. As the industry continues to grow and evolve, the need for certified professionals will become increasingly important.



The interpreters (Credit: HPI, Indonesia)

With the TSN, HPI is playing a crucial role in shaping the future of the translation and interpreting industry in Indonesia. By promoting excellence and professionalism, HPI is helping to build a more credible and trustworthy industry that meets the needs of clients and professionals alike.



The translation and editing test (Credit: HPI, Indonesia)



The interpreting test (Credit: HPI, Indonesia)

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