

# Assessment of Video-Mediated Interpreting in the Criminal Justice System Assessing the Implementation



## AVIDICUS 3

[www.videoconference-interpreting.net](http://www.videoconference-interpreting.net)

JUST/2013/JPEN/AG/4553 • 2014-2016

Funded by the Criminal Justice Programme of the European Union



### International Symposium Bilingual Videoconferencing in Legal Settings Paris, 21-22 January 2016

Videoconferencing is a reality in European eJustice, enabling judicial and law enforcement institutions to create video links, for example to defendants in custody or witnesses in other countries. When the main parties do not speak the same language, an interpreter needs to be integrated in such links. Given the current scale of migration and multilingualism in Europe and the important role of videoconferencing in European eJustice, video links involving interpreters are likely to become more frequent in legal proceedings. Moreover, videoconference (VC) technology can be used to optimise access to legal interpreters, as confirmed by Directive 2010/64/EU on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings and Directive 2012/29/EU on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. These practical developments highlight the urgent need for provisions to integrate interpreters in legal videoconferencing solutions. Research has begun to investigate several aspects of bilingual VC communication in legal proceedings including the quality of the interpreting performance and the dynamics of the communicative interaction in video links used in investigative interviews, court-room proceedings, probation and prison settings. However, a number of other factors that potentially play an important role in ensuring efficiency and fairness of justice have not yet been addressed systematically. These include, for example,

- The way in which VC facilities are implemented, i.e. the role of system design and room layout;
- The impact of the physical location of all participants, including the interpreter, on the communication (i.e. interpreter co-located with the judicial authority, co-located with the person to be heard, not co-located with any party);
- The impact of the spatial organisation, i.e. seating arrangements and positioning of participants in relation to the equipment and each other;
- Procedural questions relating to the effective integration of videoconferencing and interpreting services in legal proceedings;
- The appropriateness of different modes of interpreting.

This symposium will address these questions by reporting key findings from the European AVIDICUS 3 project, which has conducted a comprehensive assessment of the videoconferencing solutions used or under development in the legal sector, and other projects that are currently investigating different aspects of videoconferencing in the legal system. AVIDICUS 3 has drawn on a mixed-method approach that combines observations and qualitative analyses of videoconference-based, interpreter-mediated proceedings with insights from stakeholder interviews in order to evaluate the current state of bilingual videoconferencing in legal proceedings and design viable solutions.

The symposium will also present guidelines for bilingual videoconferencing and an innovative method for using the medium of VC itself to deliver training in bilingual videoconferencing, which was piloted in AVIDICUS 3.

#### Who should attend?

- Representatives of judicial & law enforcement agencies
- Legal practitioners (judges, lawyers, prosecutors, police officers)
- Interpreting service providers
- Legal interpreters
- Researchers in the field of legal interpreting including spoken-language and sign-language interpreting
- Specialists in the use of videoconference technology
- Videoconference system designers
- Representatives of educational and training institutions

**Venue:** Paris, France

**Start:** 21 January 2016, 2.30 pm

**End:** 22 January 2016, 4.30 pm

#### Registration opens 1 September 2015

Early-bird fee £50 (until 7 Dec 2015)

Standard fee £70 (1 Dec 2015 - 10 Jan 2016)

**To register**, please visit the [Surrey Online Store](#).

Please note that you will be required to create a store profile before you can register for the symposium.

**If you have any queries**, please contact us at

[symposium@videoconference-interpreting.net](mailto:symposium@videoconference-interpreting.net)

**PARTNERS** University of Surrey (co-ordinator); Ministry of Justice and Security of The Netherlands; KU Leuven; Institut Mines Télécom; University of Trieste; University of Alicante; Ann Corsellis OBE (internal evaluator)

This symposium is organised with the financial support of the Criminal Justice Programme of the European Union. It reflects the views only of the organisers/participants, and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.

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### International Symposium: Bilingual Videoconferencing in Legal Settings Paris, 21-22 January 2016 Provisional Programme

#### Thursday, 21 January 2016

14:30 *Registration*

15:00 **Welcome**

15:30 **Videoconferencing in international criminal tribunals**

Dariusz Sielicki, Judge of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo, Poland/Kosovo

16:00 **Videoconferencing as a priority in European eJustice**

Willem Waslander, Ministry of Security and Justice, The Netherlands

16:30 *Coffee break*

17:00 **Panel:  
Videoconferencing and interpreting in national courts across Europe – challenges, approaches, experiences**

Confirmed contributors:

Aki Hietanen, Director of Information Services, Ministry of Justice, Finland

Eulalia Pessoa-White, Legal interpreter, UK

Neil Purcell, Judge in the Criminal Chamber of the Amsterdam Court, The Netherlands

Yolanda Vanden Bosch, Barrister with the Antwerp Bar, Advocatenkantoor Van der Mussele-Vanden Bosch, Belgium

Moderator: Erik Hertog, KU Leuven

18:30 *Reception*

19:30 *End of day 1*

#### Friday, 22 January 2016

08:30 *Registration*

09:00 **Videoconferencing and interpreting in legal settings: an updated overview of practice and research**

Sabine Braun, University of Surrey, UK

09:45 **AVIDICUS3 results part 1:**

**A day in a virtual bilingual court: observations from French immigration courts**

Christian Licoppe & Clair-Antoine Veyrier, ParisTech, France

10:30 *Coffee break*

11:00 **AVIDICUS3 results part 2:**

**Assessing videoconferencing and interpreting in legal settings across Europe: implementation and stakeholder perceptions**

Maurizio Viezzi & Caterina Falbo, University of Trieste, Italy

Katalin Balogh & Yolanda Vanden Bosch, KU Leuven, Belgium

Cynthia Giambruno & Juan Miguel Ortega Herráez, University of Alicante, Spain

Sabine Braun & Elena Davitti, University of Surrey, UK

12:45 *Lunch break*

14:00 **AVIDICUS3 results part 3:**

**Videoconferencing and interpreting: challenges for the interpreter, challenges for the interaction**

Sabine Braun & Elena Davitti, Univ. of Surrey, UK

15:00 **Videoconferencing and sign language interpreting in court: A pragmatic analysis**

Jemina Napier, Heriot Watt University, UK

15:30 *Comfort break*

15:45 **The AVIDICUS3 handbook of bilingual videoconferencing and videoconference-based training**

Sara Dicerio & Sabine Braun, University of Surrey, UK

16:30 *End of Symposium*

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