

Interagency Language Roundtable

T&I Committee Meeting

29 January 2021

Your successful Multilingual Event

David Violet

Conference Interpreter and Trainer
San Francisco, California



Chair
AIIC USA



David Violet

Conference Interpreter and Trainer

San Francisco, California





Freelance AICC Conference Interpreter and
Trainer, San Francisco (current)

FREELANCE
Paris
1986-88



N° 121

Luxembourg, le 7.1.87

CONVOCATION - LETTRE D'ENGAGEMENT

M./Mme/Mlle

Violet

Interprète de conférence indépendant

Paris

Domicile professionnel :

est engagé(e) le(s)

à *

29.1.87

Luxembourg

pour les besoins des réunions organisées par les services des Institutions européennes installées à Luxembourg.

L'interprète susvisé est engagé dans les conditions de la réglementation portant sur la rémunération, les indemnités et frais payables aux interprètes de conférence indépendants, applicable dans le cadre de l'Institution pour laquelle il effectue ses prestations.

Pour tout litige relatif au présent contrat individuel, les interprètes engagés

- pour les besoins du Parlement, bénéficient des voies de recours prévues par le titre VII du Statut des fonctionnaires des Communautés européennes ;
- pour les besoins des autres Institutions installées à Luxembourg, bénéficient des voies de recours indiquées aux articles 22 et 23 de l'Accord fixant les conditions de travail et de rémunération des interprètes freelance conclu entre, d'une part, l'AIIC (Association Internationale des Interprètes de Conférence) et, d'autre part, le Parlement, la Commission et la Cour de Justice. A cet effet, compétence est attribuée à la Cour de Justice des Communautés européennes en application des articles 42 du Traité CEEA, 181 du Traité CEE et 153 du Traité CEEA.

Le Directeur de l'Interprétation
du Parlement européen

David Violet

Le Chef de la
Division Administration
de la Commission

P. J. J.



Freelance Conference interpreter, Paris, France (1986-1988)



FREELANCE
Paris
1986-88

FREELANCE
Washington DC
1988-94

STAFF
UN Peacekeeping
1994 Rwanda





Evacuation from Kigali, Rwanda

11 April 1994



**UN Envoy
Jean-Jacques
Booh-Booh**

**Ghana president Jerry
John Rawlings**

**Interpreter
David Violet**

UN in Rwanda calls on President

By Gayheart Edem Mensah

DR Jacques-Roger Booh-Booh, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative in Rwanda, yesterday called on the President, Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings, at the Castle, Osu in Accra, to brief him on the current situation in Kigali.

* President Rawlings [third] from left, welcoming Dr Booh-Booh to his office.

Member of the Council of State, Alhaji Mahama Iddrisu, Minister of Defence, Lt-General Arnold Quainoo of the National Development Planning Commission, Brigadier Francis Agyemfra, Chief of Staff of the Ghana Armed Forces, Mr K. B. Quantson, Executive-Secretary of the Narcotics Control Board and other officials of the security services.

Speaking to newsmen later, Dr Booh-Booh explained that after reducing the troops in Rwanda some few weeks ago, the international community

Candidates to write GCE as private from 1996

By Peter Korda

GENERAL Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary and Advanced level candidates will from 1996, write their examinations as private candidates in May/June





FREELANCE
Paris
1986-88

FREELANCE
Washington DC
1988-94

STAFF
UN Peacekeeping
1994 Rwanda

1994-1999
Angola



das chefias militares

Os chefes das Forças Armadas Angolanas e das tropas da UNITA concordaram realizar a reunião entre as duas estruturas em território angolano, informou ontem o representante especial do Secretário Geral das Nações Unidas para Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye.

Blondin Beye falou à imprensa no aeroporto "4 de Fevereiro", momentos após regressar de Lusaka, onde foi recebido pelo Presidente zambiano Frederick Chiluba. Sem adiantar outros pormenores como a data e o local do encontro, pediu simplesmente que o deixassem "recolher mais informações sobre o assunto".

Em relação ao encontro entre o Presidente José Eduardo dos Santos e o líder da UNITA, considerado importante para o processo de pacificação, maître Beye disse que as



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mesma po
lhor. Mas a
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partes e a
observador
Unidas co
conducente
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As última
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FREELANCE
Paris
1986-88

FREELANCE
Washington DC
1988-94

STAFF
UN Peacekeeping
1994 Rwanda

1994-1999
Angola

1999-2000
Kosovo

Glogovac

Podujevo

Kosovo



First marriage in Kosovo since the war, autumn 1999

FREELANCE
San Francisco
2013-2020

FREELANCE
Paris
1986-88

FREELANCE
Paris
2000-2005

STAFF
International Criminal
Court, The Hague
2005-06

Member of
 aiic
2003

STAFF &
FREELANCE
Professor
MIIS
2006-2008

FREELANCE
Washington DC
1988-94

STAFF
UN Peacekeeping
1994 Rwanda

1994-1999
Angola

1999-2000
Kosovo

SABBATICAL
Buenos Aires
2008-2012





David Violet interpreter for
President of France, François Hollande.
San Francisco, California, 2014

Your successful Multilingual Event

- I History of conference interpreting
- II AIIC: getting organized
- III Covid-19 shuts down in-person meetings
- IV The rise of remote
- V AIIC supports members in a crisis
- VI Your successful multilingual event
- VII Do the right thing



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Conference Interpreting

“one hour
consecutive”

Simultaneous =====[?]

===== Consecutive =====

Versailles
Peace Conference,
Creation of League of
Nations

International
Labour
Organization

Nuremberg
Trials

United
Nations
First GA

FAO
World
Forestry
Conference
Finland

Creation
of AIIC

World War I

1919-20

1927

World War II

1945-46

1946

1949

1953

Nuremberg Trials





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**Creation
of AIIC**

World War I

1919-20

1927

World War II

1945-46

1946

1949

1953









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of AIIC**

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1927

World War II

1945-46

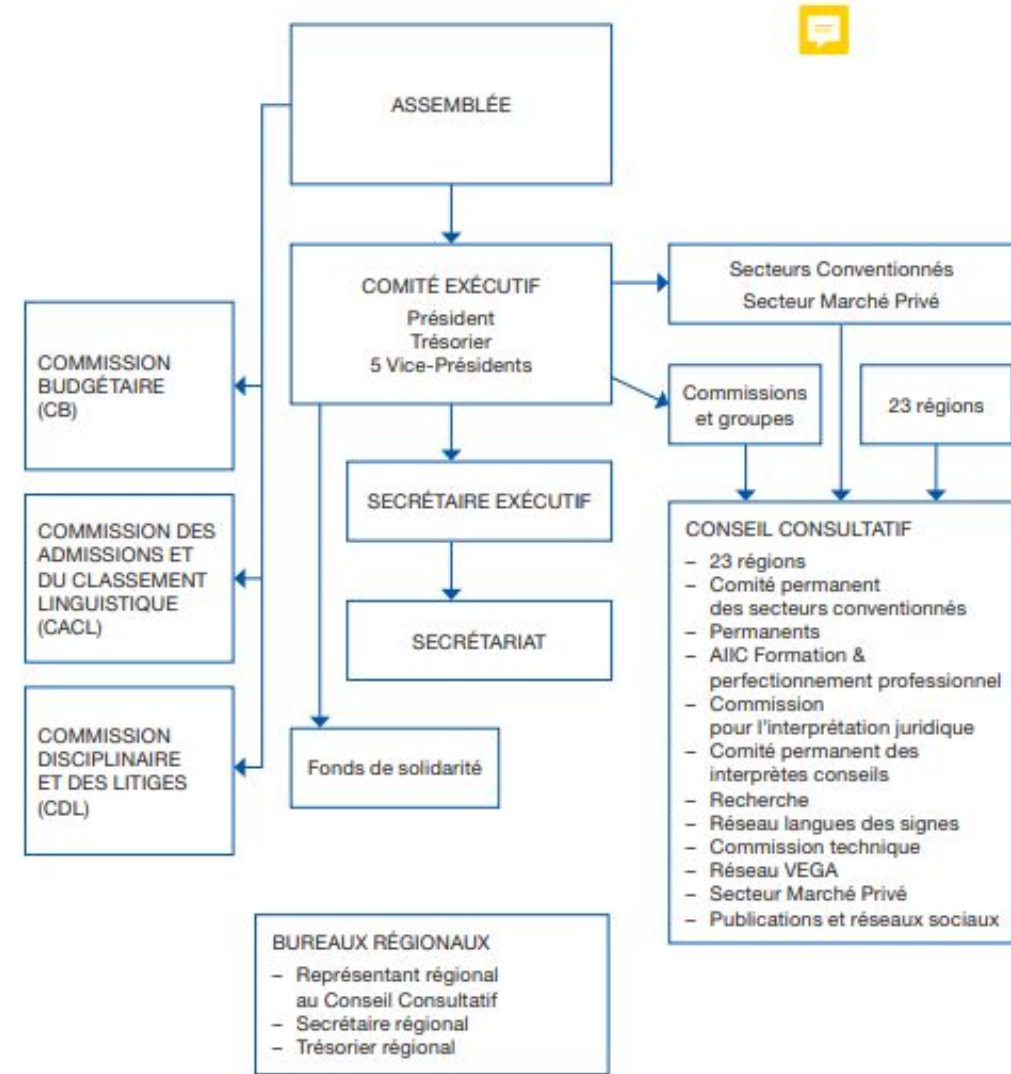
1946

1949

1953

AIIC

ORGANIGRAMME



International Association of Conference Interpreters AIIC

Defines conditions necessary for interpretation to work.

Negotiates with major bodies, such as the United Nations, the European Union and others on behalf of all conference interpreters to ensure respect for those conditions and to agree on rates.

Conducts research on matters of health (such as acoustic shock), market trends, etc.

Supports teaching of conference interpretation.

Promotes a code of ethics essential to the functioning of conference interpreting, notably enforcement of strict confidentiality, without which clients could not trust that sensitive material will remain confidential.

Educate clients and public.

March 2020

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AIIC Action for members

1. Writing to Pelosi, Trump and joining with other associations
2. Maintaining usual training professional development
3. Major RSI Forum event
4. Various training events specific to Covid-19
5. Reduced dues



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<https://aiic.org/site/world/recruit/organisingevent>



Multi-language with Interpreters demonstrate
better communication than all English events

Intelligibility in English as a lingua franca – The interpreters' perspective

Karin Reithofer • Published 2020 • Sociology • Journal of English as a Lingua Franca



There's always someone who will do it cheaper



Quality

Conference Interpreters

Equipment providers / platforms

Participants

Conference Interpreters

<https://aiic.org/site/world/recruit/organisingevent>



There are many excellent conference interpreters who are NOT members of AIIC.

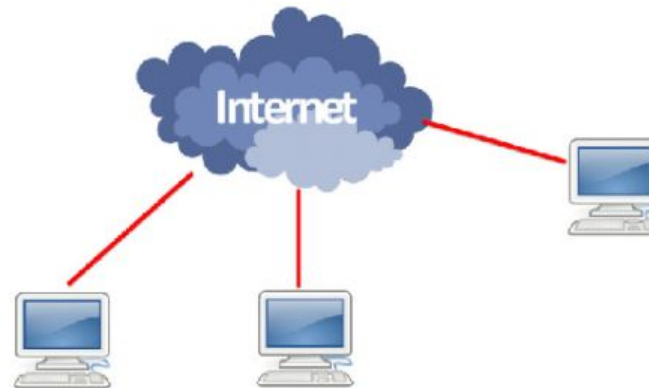
However, make sure you hire conference interpreters if it is a conference.

Equipment providers / platforms

In-Person

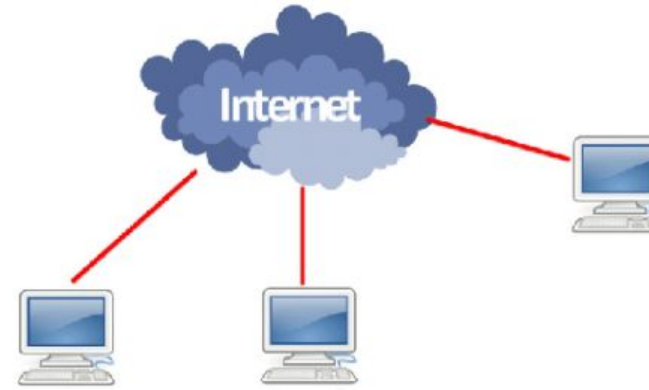


Remote



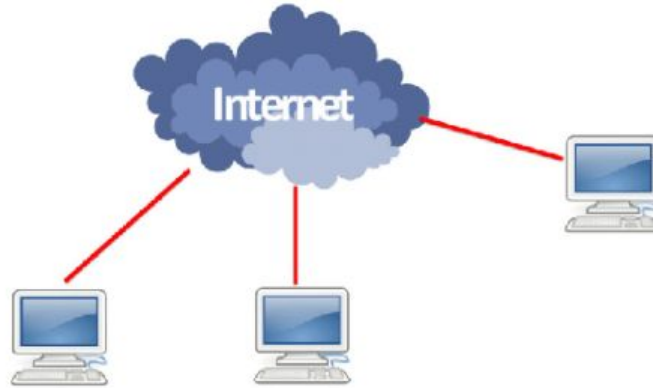
Equipment providers / platforms

Remote



ISO Compliant

Remote Simultaneous Platforms



Are **NOT** ISO Compliant

This is a problem for your conference
and for interpreters' **health** and **safety**.

Quality

Conference Interpreters

Equipment providers / platforms

Participants

Your successful Multilingual Event







Your successful multilingual event

Care Check Plan





=





Remote

Yes

Good microphone or headset



Sitting or standing still



Stable computer



Ethernet cable



No!

laptop microphone



Moving about



shaky telephone



wifi

poor phone connection



Quality

Conference Interpreters

Equipment providers / platforms

Participants

Quality

Conference Interpreters

Trained career conference

Equipment providers / platforms

ISO compliant, top sound quality

Participants

Care, check, plan

Good microphone, no ambient
noise

Good Microphone (in headset)

QR code for list



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Interpreters need higher quality sound
than ordinary listeners

ISO compliant sound

WHY?

Simultaneous Interpreter face Specific Obstacles

1. Auditory

2. Cognitive

1. Auditory

Hearing above the sound of
one's own voice

The first reason interpreters need better sound than other listeners

2. Cognitive

Attention divided among various tasks, so less available cognitive power

Divided attention and thus less available cognitive power

1. Discovery of meaning: “Let’s have lunch at 12:30am”



Divided attention and thus less available cognitive power

1. Discovery of meaning: “Let’s have lunch at 12:30am”
2. Formulating good output in target language

Divided attention and thus less available cognitive power

1. Discovery of meaning: “Let’s have lunch at 12:30am”
2. Formulating good output in target language
3. Monitoring of one’s own output: “I have three points to make.” (Thought: “Did I say three?”)
“I mean two points.”

Simultaneous Interpreter face Specific Obstacles

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Auditory: | 1. hearing above the one's own voice |
| 2. Cognitive: | 2. deriving the meaning |
| | 3. expressing that meaning faithfully |
| | 4. Monitoring that production |



zzzzzzz!

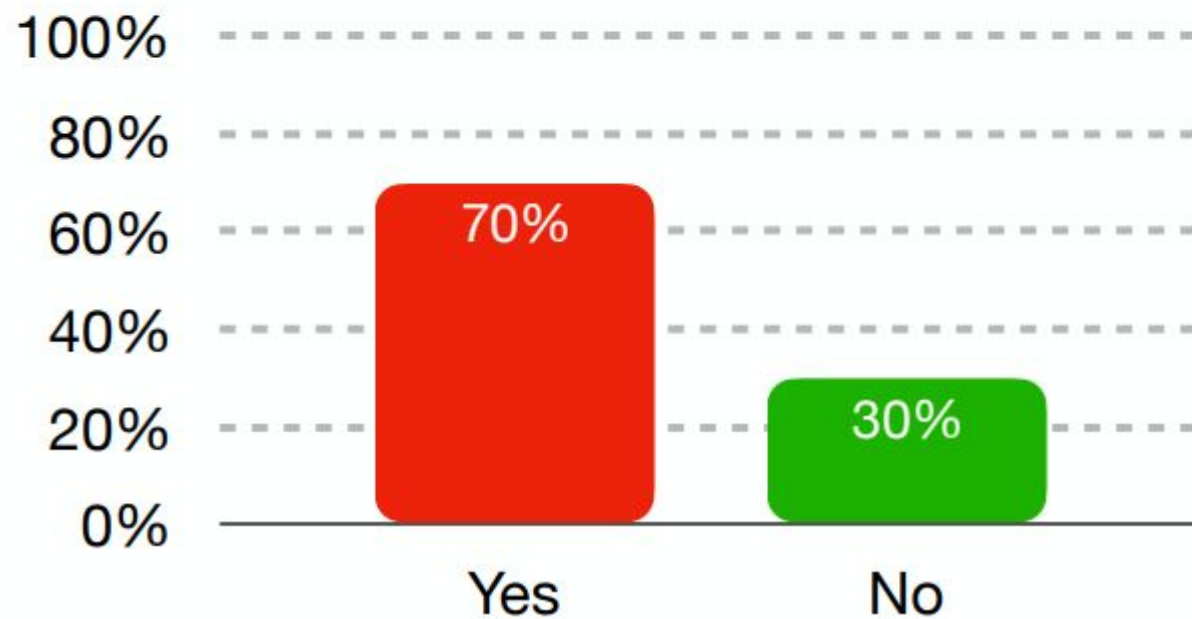
Distance interpreting during the pandemic

A survey of official language interpreters
employed by the federal Translation Bureau

January 18, 2021



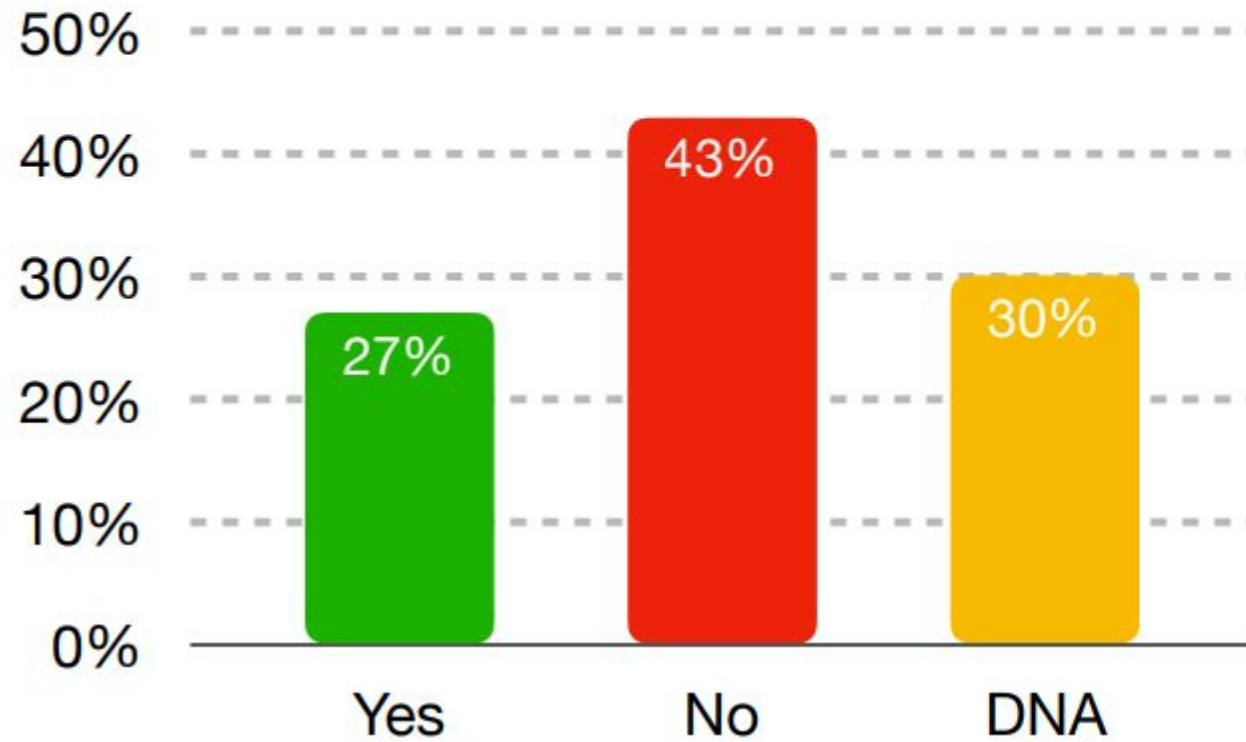
Q2. Since the pandemic started, have you been injured at work while doing Remote Simultaneous Interpreting (RSI)?



Number surveyed	51
Respondents	37
Yes	26
No	11



Q3. Have you fully recovered from your injuries?



Number surveyed	51
Respondents	37
Yes	10
No	16
Does not apply	11



Why?

Very loud noise

Extended exposure to sound degraded and rendered “toxic” by electronic transmission over distance.

<https://www.davidviolet.com/save-your-ears.html>

Save Your Ears



Please help interpreters to

1. Provide accurate, faithful, beautiful interpretation!
2. avoid pain, constantly ringing and hissing ears, headaches, loss of hearing.

Speakers, use

Good headset with a good quality microphone (aiic page)
Cable, not wifi
Stable camera (not a handheld phone)
Alone, quiet surroundings

Platforms

Meet ISO standards of sound.

conference organizers

Demand the above of your services providers.

Interpreters

Insist on good sound.
Keep your volume at the lowest level that still lets you capture the message.



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510-340-0601

AIIC Conference Interpreter and
Trainer
A English
B French
C Portuguese, Spanish

Freelance AIIC Conference Interpreter and
Trainer, San Francisco (current)