

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Competition for best young translator BABYLON 2017

Questions from students and applicants regarding the competition

1. I have already turned 26; do I have the right to apply for the competition?
Anyone who is 26 on 3 April 2017 can apply.
2. When should the original work be published, 2013 or 2014?
Not before 3 April 2014, three years preceding 3 April 2017.
3. Should the original work not be already translated into Macedonian* by the publishing houses?
The original work should not be already translated into the languages spoken in the country by any publishing house in EU and the region.
4. If the original work is in English, must the writer be British, or could he/she be American?
The nationality of the writer is irrelevant, but the original work must be published by a publishing house within the EU.
5. Does the original work have to be published in the EU?
Yes.
6. How free are we to use translator's notes?
Translators are free to use translators notes but have to be careful not to distract the reader with too many explanations or not to use them to justify their translation choices/solutions.
7. Does the translated text need to be proofread?
Proofreading of the translated text is not a requirement. The applicants are solely responsible for the translation as a whole; having the translated text proofread is a choice of the applicant. The applicant-translator can be co-authors with the lector, in which case the lector needs to meet the same competition criteria and needs to be included in the application forms.
8. I have complete knowledge of the Spanish language, supported by a certificate. At the same time, I am not a certified court translator. Am I eligible to apply for the competition or the competition is only open to a certain group of translators?
The competition is not limited to any one group of translators. The only limitations are the age of the applicant and the languages from and into which translation must be done.
9. Is there a list of source texts that the applicant must choose to translate from?
The applicants are free to choose their source text, in accordance with the competition criteria.

10. Is there a web page where the applicant can check whether the text has already been translated into Macedonian?
The web page which can offer helpful information for the applicants is the bibliographic/catalogue database consist of contributions from national libraries, available at the following link: <http://www.vbm.mk/scripts/cobiss?ukaz=GETID>.
11. How can I know if the text has been published in the European Union (having in mind that the writer may be of another nationality)?
The source text needs to be initially published in the EU within the last three years. The publication details of the source text can be found through Internet research, having in mind the importance of confirming whether it is the first or another edition of the source text. For source texts in hard copy, the details are included in the edition itself. In case the applicant is translating a part of a novel, for example, Internet research can help in identifying the details of the first edition of the novel.
There are several ways in which the applicant can find the text, in addition to the Internet; permitting one's circumstances, the source text can be ordered, borrowed from a library or another source, and the pages can afterwards be scanned as part of an electronic application. Regarding the writer, despite his/her origin, it is recommended that s/he is living and working in an EU Member State and writing in one of the official EU languages.
12. Which documents do I need in order to apply?
Entries must be submitted with a code, composed by the applicant and consisting of five characters, and each with a separate entry form. Each entry must consist of: a) a letter of interest, b) a correctly completed entry form, c) a copy of the source text, d) a copy of the translated text, and e) a signed statement that the entry has been translated from the source text in its original language. Applicants should send a letter of interest, a filled-out entry form and a copy of their ID card to the following address:
**EU InfoCentre
(for the BABYLON BEST YOUNG TRANSLATOR COMPETITION)
Sv Kiril i Metodij 52b, 1000 Skopje**
Or to the following e-mail address: Babyiloncompetition@euic.mk
13. Do the translations need to be sent by the deadline, 03 April?
Yes, complete applications need to be submitted by 03 April (see above).

** The questions were raised by student participants at the workshop held on 16 December in the EU InfoCentre and by potential applicants through the EU InfoCentre.*