

**Question for written answer E-000023/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catherine Griset (PfE)

Subject: Complementarity between artificial intelligence and literary translators

A number of major publishing houses are now using artificial intelligence (AI) to translate literary works¹, and are thus terminating their contractual relations with some of their translators.

Admittedly, the software used still requires humans to carry out post-editing in order to correct the AI-generated texts, but it seems that translators are doomed to be replaced by AI almost entirely in the future.

Moreover, they have shorter deadlines and receive less pay for post-editing work.

This ‘invisible social plan’, which is already being introduced in many other cultural sectors, raises questions about the sustainability of the profession. As part of the Digital Omnibus package on AI², does the Commission intend to promote:

1. complementarity between AI and the work of translators?
2. the business model used by companies such as Mistral, which have already concluded agreements with media outlets enabling them to train their AI or chatbots³?
3. the inclusion of translators in the ecosystem developed by AI, enabling them to benefit from a share of the various sources of income (direct pay, advertising, content promotion, collection and use of user data, etc.)?

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¹ <https://siecledigital.fr/2025/12/18/harlequin-mise-sur-lia-pour-traduire-ses-romans-les-traducteurs-denoncent-une-rupture/>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0836>

³ <https://www.lesechos.fr/tech-medias/intelligence-artificielle/ia-lafp-conclut-un-accord-avec-mistral-pour-utilisation-de-ses-depeches-2142830>