

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002680/25
to the Commission
Fernand Kartheiser (NI)
(2 July 2025)**

Subject: Impact of the rise of artificial intelligence on translation services

Artificial intelligence is progressing rapidly, including in the field of translation. Specialised tools are already widely used in the translation services of the Commission and other EU institutions.

These tools enable translators to work more efficiently, but they still have to check the texts produced to ensure that they are reliable and of sufficient quality.

1. Will the Commission ensure that translators' jobs are sustainable in spite of AI developments, or will it cut staff numbers?
2. Can it guarantee that humans will continue to verify the quality of the services provided and that it will not introduce fully automated translation workflows?
3. Will it support the development of AI for the smaller official languages?

Submitted: 2.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr Serafin on behalf of the European Commission
(13 August 2025)**

The Commission is already using state-of-the-art language tools, technology and linguistic data assets in its translation workflows to enhance the efficiency and quality of the translation work in the context of a high and sustained overall demand for translation and a pressure on Commission's resources under the administrative heading.

The role of translators will remain essential in the Commission's translation workflows, in particular for legislative texts. The Commission will continue to deliver high-quality translation and other language services that meet the needs of the Commission departments and end users, using a flexible resources mix combining in-house staff, a reliable and qualified pool of external contractors, and language technology as an enabler.

The Commission ensures that the use of technologies based on artificial intelligence (AI) remains fully compliant with the AI Act ⁽¹⁾, including the aspect of human oversight.

Through the Digital Europe programme ⁽²⁾, the Commission supports the development of multilingual AI services and AI tools for all EU official languages, including low-resource languages ⁽³⁾, so that none of the languages is left behind.

These services and tools are provided for free to the EU institutions and to public administrations, small and medium-sized enterprises, non-governmental organisations and academia in the Member States.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828 (AI Act), OJ L, 2024/1689.

⁽²⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>.

⁽³⁾ <https://language-tools.ec.europa.eu/>.