

EU AGENCIES

THE WAY AHEAD



EU AGENCIES

More information on the European Union is available on the Internet (<http://europa.eu>).

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Introduction

The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have set up a number of decentralised Agencies to carry out specific legal, technical or scientific tasks within the European Union. We work independently, adding value by helping to implement policy and sharing information and expertise. For example, the European Food Safety Authority was established to help provide decision-makers with independent scientific advice on food safety and the European Chemicals Agency was set up to implement the EU's groundbreaking legislation on chemicals. We impact on the lives of Europe's 500 million citizens. We contribute to life in Europe in many areas - health, safety and the environment; freedom, justice and security; education, business and innovation for growth and jobs; and transport and satellite infrastructure.

We work in the public interest and, as we are spread throughout the EU, we facilitate outreach to the EU's citizens.

This brochure gives an overview of the missions of all the EU Agencies and describes our common objectives to strengthen the service we deliver to the EU institutions and ultimately to all EU citizens.

Agency	Website	For more information
Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators, ACER	http://www.acer.europa.eu	Page 5
Community Fisheries Control Agency, CFCA	http://www.cfca.europa.eu	Page 5
Community Plant Variety Office, CPVO	http://www.cpvo.europa.eu	Page 6
European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, EU-OSHA	http://www.osha.europa.eu	Page 6
European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders, FRONTEX	http://www.frontex.europa.eu	Page 7
European Aviation Safety Agency, EASA	http://www.easa.europa.eu	Page 7
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, ECDC	http://www.ecdc.europa.eu	Page 8
European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, CEDEFOP	http://www.cedefop.europa.eu	Page 8
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European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, EUROFOUND	http://www.eurofound.europa.eu	Page 10
European GNSS Supervisory Authority, GSA	http://www.gsa.europa.eu	Page 11
European Institute for Gender Equality, EIGE	http://eige.europa.eu	Page 11
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European Law Enforcement Agency, EUROPOL	http://www.europol.europa.eu	Page 12
European Maritime Safety Agency, EMSA	http://www.emsa.europa.eu	Page 13
European Medicines Agency, EMA	http://www.ema.europa.eu	Page 13
European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, EMCDDA	http://www.emcdda.europa.eu	Page 14
European Network and Information Security Agency, ENISA	http://www.enisa.europa.eu	Page 14
European Police College, CEPOL	http://www.cepoleuropa.eu	Page 15
European Railway Agency, ERA	http://www.era.europa.eu	Page 15
European Training Foundation, ETF	http://www.etf.europa.eu	Page 16
European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA	http://fra.europa.eu	Page 16
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AGENCY FOR THE COOPERATION OF ENERGY REGULATORS ACER

- We work towards a competitive, sustainable, secure and transparent Internal Energy Market to the benefit of all EU consumers.
- ACER's overall mission is to assist national energy regulatory authorities (NRAs) to perform their duties at EU level and to coordinate their actions whenever necessary.
- ACER cooperates with EU institutions and stakeholders, notably NRAs and European Networks of Transmission System Operators (ENTSOs), to deliver a series of instruments for the completion of a single EU energy market.
- The three main areas on which ACER activities focus are:
 - Supporting the development of common rules and initiatives: ACER issues framework guidelines which then serve as basis for the development of EU-wide network codes to be used by all market players. ACER also coordinates Regional Initiatives which are concrete efforts made at regional level towards greater market integration;
 - Energy infrastructure: ACER issues opinions on network development plans with a view to making sure that these are in line with priorities set at EU level;
 - Energy market monitoring: ACER has a general mission in terms of market monitoring and a very specific responsibility when it comes to wholesale energy trading.
- The Agency was created under the Third Energy Package, a set of directives which came into force in 2009. ACER received additional responsibilities in wholesale energy market oversight under the Regulation on energy market integrity and transparency (REMIT) adopted in 2011.

Established in 2011

Located in Ljubljana, Republic of Slovenia

WWW.ACER.EUROPA.EU



COMMUNITY FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY CFCA

- The core task of the CFCA is to ensure uniform and effective application of the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy by Member States. To this end, it organises operational cooperation between Member States and coordinates their fisheries control, inspection and surveillance activities at sea and ashore.
- Through its activities, the CFCA contributes to a European wide level playing field for the fishing industry and sustainable exploitation of common marine living resources.
- The CFCA promotes actively a culture of compliance by all stakeholders.

Established in 2005

Located in Vigo, Spain

WWW.CFCA.EUROPA.EU



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COMMUNITY PLANT VARIETY OFFICE CPVO

- Meeting the challenges of the plant breeding industry by high quality processing of applications for Community plant variety rights at affordable costs while providing policy guidance and assistance in the exercise of these rights for the benefit of stakeholders.
- CPVO's goals are to optimise quality and costs of plant variety rights system, to improve international cooperation in plant variety protection and to contribute to the enforcement of community plant variety rights.
- To date, the Community protection system managed by the CPVO has become the biggest of its kind in the world, with more than 36,000 applications processed resulting in the granting of more than 27,000 Community plant variety rights.

Established in 1995
Located in Angers, France
WWW.CPVO.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK EU-OSHA

- Making Europe a safer, healthier and more productive place to work.
- EU-OSHA is Europe's reference point for occupational safety and health (OSH) information.
- We identify new and emerging risks in order to facilitate preventive action. We collect and analyse good practices and promote their exchange. And through our campaigns we raise awareness of work-related risks and how to prevent them.

Established in 1994
Located in Bilbao, Spain
WWW.OSHA.EUROPA.EU





EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF OPERATIONAL COOPERATION AT THE EXTERNAL BORDERS FRONTEx

- Coordinating Member States' actions in external borders management.
- Frontex aims to provide support to border control authorities in the Member States by coordinating operational activities, strengthening its analytical and intelligence capabilities, implementing a coherent and comprehensive strategy for relationships with external partners, and optimally managing its internal resources and procedures. By doing so, Frontex contributes to an efficient, high and uniform level of control on persons and surveillance of the external borders of the Member States.

Established in 2004
Located in Warsaw, Poland
WWW.FRONTEx.EUROPA.EU

EUROPEAN AVIATION SAFETY AGENCY EASA

- Your safety is our mission.
- EASA is the EU's central regulator for aviation safety; it promotes the highest common standards of safety and environmental protection in civil aviation in Europe and worldwide. Our vision is the safest and most environmentally-friendly aviation system in the world.
- A milestone achievement of the agency in December 2006 was the certification of the Airbus A380, the world's largest airliner. In addition to the airworthiness of aircraft and parts, the agency is taking up new responsibilities in the areas of air operations, flight crew licensing, air traffic management, airports and the approval of third-country operators flying into the EU.

Established in 2002
Located in Cologne, Germany
WWW.EASA.EUROPA.EU

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EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL ECDC

- ECDC's mission is to strengthen Europe's defences against infectious diseases.
- ECDC seeks to be a proactive centre of excellence on all aspects of prevention and control of infectious diseases. Our aim is to make state-of-the-art knowledge, and the most up-to-date information, available to decision-makers in this area.
- ECDC gathers, analyses and disseminates data on 47 infectious diseases and two health issues (antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections). We provide scientific guidance to EU policy-makers and also support the EU's Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) on public health threats 365 days a year. When called on to do so, ECDC can offer hands-on technical support to the European Commission and Member States in responding to disease outbreaks.

Established in 2004
Located in Stockholm, Sweden
WWW.ECDC.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING CEDEFOP

- Cedefop is the European centre of expertise on vocational education and training.
- Vocational education and training provides people with the knowledge, skills and competence they need throughout their working life. With its research and policy analysis, Cedefop provides evidence to the European Commission, Council and European Parliament as well as Member States and the social partners to support the development of vocational education and training. The aim is to ensure that people acquire the right skills for today's and tomorrow's labour market and economy, move easily between jobs and countries, and have all their experience and skills - however acquired - recognised and valued.
- Guided by Europe's 2020 strategy, Cedefop supports the modernisation of vocational education and training systems, investigates the role of continuing training and adult learning in promoting successful careers and working life, and anticipates future skills and competence needs in Europe. In addition, the agency's expertise is underpinning the development and implementation of common European tools, such as the Europass and the European qualifications framework.

Established in 1975
Located in Thessaloniki, Greece
WWW.CEDEFOP.EUROPA.EU

EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY ECHA

- ECHA is the driving force among regulatory authorities in implementing the EU's groundbreaking chemicals legislation for the benefit of human health and the environment as well as for innovation and competitiveness. ECHA helps companies to comply with the legislation, advances the safe use of chemicals, provides information on chemicals and addresses chemicals of concern.
- ECHA aspires to become the world's leading regulatory authority on the safety of chemicals.

Established in 2007

Located in Helsinki, Finland

WWW.ECHA.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY EEA

- Information for improving Europe's environment.
- EEA's goal is to be globally recognised as the leading body for the provision of timely, relevant and accessible European environmental data, information, knowledge and assessments.
- To help the Community and Member countries make informed decisions about improving the environment, integrating environmental considerations into economic policies and moving towards sustainability.
- To improve communications and dissemination to citizens via multimedia, user-friendly, multilingual information.

Established in 1990

Located in Copenhagen, Denmark

WWW.EEA.EUROPA.EU

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EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY EFSA

- Committed to ensuring Europe's food is safe.
- EFSA's goal is to become globally recognised as the European reference body for risk assessment on food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, nutrition, plant protection and plant health.
- Our large body of scientific advice helps risk managers across the EU to make informed decisions to protect the health of European citizens and respond rapidly to urgent food safety incidents such as the E. coli outbreaks that struck Europe in 2011.
- EFSA works with Member States, European bodies, international and third country organisations to share information, data and best practices, identify emerging risks and promote coherent communications on risks in the food chain.

Established in 2002
Located in Parma, Italy
WWW.EFSA.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS EUROFOUND

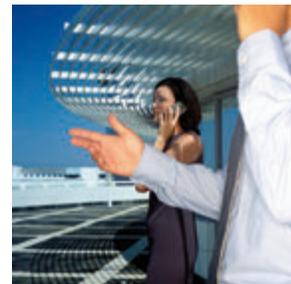
- Promoting the improvement of quality of work and life across the European Union.
- Eurofound's main objective is to provide policy-makers with relevant and timely information, data and analysis on key social policy issues and on anticipating and managing industrial change.
- Eurofound's network of European correspondents across the 27 EU Member States and beyond, as well as its three pan-European surveys on quality of life, working conditions and company practices, make it a unique source of information for all decision-makers seeking to improve the lives of Europe's citizens.

Established in 1975
Located in Dublin, Ireland
WWW.EUROFOUND.EUROPA.EU

EUROPEAN GNSS SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY GSA

- By developing a new generation of global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), Europe is opening new doors for high-technology industry development, job creation and economic growth. With Europe in the driver's seat, Galileo has the potential to become a cornerstone of the global position, navigation and time system of the future.
- Given the strategic nature of satellite navigation, the GSA was established to be the regulatory agency for the European GNSS Programmes (which include both Galileo and EGNOS), while laying the foundations for economically viable systems.
- The GSA is working to:
 - Ensure the security accreditation of the systems and the operation of the Galileo Security Centre;
 - Contribute to the preparation of the commercialisation of the systems with a view to good-quality service provision and high market penetration (EGNOS officially began providing services in 2009);
 - Accomplish other tasks entrusted to it by the Commission, in particular the promotion of applications and services and ensuring the certification of the components of the systems.

Established in 2004
Located in Brussels, Belgium
WWW.GSA.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY EIGE

- To promote gender equality including gender mainstreaming across the EU and Member States.
- To fight discrimination based on sex.
- To raise EU citizens' awareness on the issues of gender equality via the collection, analysis and dissemination of gender-based information, the development of methods to improve data at European level and the setting-up and coordination of a European Network on Gender Equality.

Established in 2006
Located in Vilnius, Lithuania
EIGE.EUROPA.EU

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY EIT

- Aims to boost innovation in Europe
- Brings together excellent universities, research centres and businesses from the EU and beyond, to form innovation clusters - Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) - in areas of high societal need
- Focuses on new business creation within the KICs based on entrepreneurship leading to new products and services for existing industry, new businesses and SMEs, as well as better entrepreneurially minded and trained people
- Develops entrepreneurship education within KIC higher education institutions sealed and branded by an EIT label

Established in 2008

Located in Budapest, Hungary

EIT.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY EUROPOL

- Europol is the European Law Enforcement Agency. It is an intelligence-led organisation and coordinates responses to international serious crime and terrorism. Europol takes a proactive approach to undermining entire criminal networks.
- Europol works closely together with the law enforcement agencies of the 27 EU Member States, as well as with other cooperation partners such as Australia, Canada, the USA and Norway.
- Europol puts analysis at the centre of its activities. By understanding how crime groups operate, Europol and its cooperation partners are able to undermine the criminal organisations and frustrate their activity. The exchange of personal data makes it important for Europol to live up to the highest standards of data protection and data security.

Established in 1999

Located in The Hague, The Netherlands

WWW.EUROPOL.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY EMSA

- EMSA provides technical assistance to the European Commission and the Member States in the development and implementation of EU legislation on maritime safety, pollution by ships and maritime security. It has also been given operational tasks in the field of oil pollution response, vessel monitoring and in the long-range identification and tracking of vessels.
- EMSA's role is a highly practical one, combining a range of services with the overall aim of ensuring safer and more secure shipping. For example, the agency runs a 24*7*365 Maritime Support Services centre for Member States, that offers amongst others a service for satellite imaging of oil spills (CleanSeaNet), a Europe-wide vessel traffic monitoring system using AIS broadcasts (SafeSeaNet), and the EU LRIT data centre, which tracks EU-flagged ships via satellite messaging. It has also set up a network of 16 oil pollution response vessels covering all EU waters, which are ready to assist Member States in case of a major pollution incident.

Established in 2002

Located in Lisbon, Portugal

WWW.EMSA.EUROPA.EU

EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY EMA

- The mission of the agency is to foster scientific excellence in the evaluation, supervision and safety-monitoring of medicines, for the benefit of public and animal health. It provides the Member States and the EU institutions the best-possible scientific advice on any question relating to the evaluation of the quality, safety and efficacy of medicinal products for human or veterinary use.
- Almost all new medicines for human and veterinary use in the EU are approved through the EMA. The agency has a special role in medicines for children, medicines for rare diseases, advanced therapy medicines and herbal medicines.
- The agency works with other EU agencies such as ECDC, EFSA and EMCDDA on a range of scientific issues. Together with the European Commission, the agency maintains operational links with international partners on medicine-related issues.

Established in 1993

Located in London, The UK

WWW.EMA.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN MONITORING CENTRE FOR DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION EMCDDA

- Your reference point on drugs in Europe
- Independent, science-based information is a vital resource to help Europe understand the nature of its drug problems and better respond to them. The EMCDDA offers policy-makers the data they need for drawing up drug laws and strategies. It also provides drug professionals with best-practice examples and evaluation tools to improve the quality of their services.
- One of our tasks is to detect new drugs appearing on the illicit market that could pose risks to European citizens. In cooperation with Europol and EU Member States, we carry out early-warning and riskassessment activities that may pave the way for legal controls. To date, we have detected around 200 new uncontrolled substances.

Established in 1993
Located in Lisbon, Portugal
WWW.EMCDDA.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN NETWORK AND INFORMATION SECURITY AGENCY ENISA

- ENISA – Securing Europe’s Information Society.
- Every day, we experience the Information Society. Interconnected networks touch our everyday lives, at home and at work. It is therefore vital that computers, mobile phones, banking, and the internet function, to support Europe’s digital economy. ENISA is the EU’s response to network and information security issues of the European Union. As such, it is the ‘pacemaker’ for information security in Europe.
- ENISA’s role is an expert body in Network and Information Security (NIS) for the EU. As such it is:
 - Giving independent, expert advice to the EU and its Member States,
 - Promoting good practices in, for example, risk assessment and risk management, awareness raising, and how to respond to computer security incidents.

Established in 2004
Located in Heraklion, Greece
WWW.ENISA.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN POLICE COLLEGE CEPOL

- Brings together senior police officers through its training activities, exchange programmes and specialised projects to support and develop a European approach to the main problems facing Member States in the fight against crime, crime prevention, and the maintenance of law and order, and public security.
- Operates as a network with the core activities implemented in and by Member States.
- Organises between 70-100 training activities a year, creates Common Curricula relevant to all Member States and operates a state-of-the-art electronic network to assist learning and communication.

Established as an EU Agency in 2005 (2001)

Secretariat located in Bramshill, The UK

WWW.CEPOL.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN RAILWAY AGENCY ERA

- We work for a safe and modern railway.
- The activities carried out by the agency aim at:
 - Developing a common approach to safety,
 - Improving the interoperability of the European rail system,
 - Facilitating the exchange of information within the railway sector.
- The adoption of the new legal framework at the end of 2008 with the amendment of the Agency Regulation, the new Interoperability and Safety directives, resulted in new tasks for the agency. A Cross Acceptance Unit has started its work in 2008 and the first recommendation on the list of parameters to be checked for vehicle authorisation was supported by the Risk Committee in June 2009. The Agency has established itself as the system authority for the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS) specifications.

Established in 2004

Located in Valenciennes and Lille, France

WWW.ERA.EUROPA.EU



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EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION ETF

- The ETF helps transition and developing countries in the EU neighbourhood to harness the potential of their human capital through the reform of education, training and labour market systems in the context of the EU's external relations policy.
- Our vision is to make vocational education and training in the partner countries a driver for lifelong learning and sustainable development, with a special focus on competitiveness and social cohesion.
- By developing people's skills and knowledge the ETF's activities contribute to a better functioning labour market, thus increasing prosperity, creating sustainable growth and encouraging social inclusion in transition and developing countries.

Established in 1994
Located in Turin, Italy
WWW.ETF.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS FRA

- Helping to make fundamental rights a reality for everyone in the EU.
- The agency undertakes comparative research across a range of thematic areas in the context of the European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights.
- Further to that, the agency gives evidence-based advice and formulates opinions to the EU institutions and the EU Member States.
- The agency cooperates closely with civil society and raises awareness on fundamental rights among the general public.

Established in 2007
Located in Vienna, Austria
FRA.EUROPA.EU

EUROPEAN UNION JUDICIAL COOPERATION UNIT EUROJUST

- Eurojust, the European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit.
- Eurojust's goal is to reinforce the fight against serious organised and cross-border crime. Eurojust is composed of 27 National Members, who are prosecutors or judges, one from each EU Member State. The national members are seconded in accordance with their respective legal systems and hold permanent seats in The Hague.
- Eurojust receives requests for assistance from national authorities in cases of serious organised crime and involving two or more Member States. Eurojust then organises judicial coordination and cooperation between the Member States, as well as with other cooperation partners such as Norway, Iceland, the USA, Croatia, Switzerland, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Eurojust also has 31 judicial contact points in 23 countries outside the European Union.
- The national members and the College are supported by an administration led by the Administrative Director. The Secretariat of the European Judicial Network (EJN) is situated within the Eurojust administration.
- In 2008, Eurojust managed 1,193 cases, and organised 132 coordination meetings in The Hague, involving police and judicial authorities both within and outside the Member States.

Established in 2002

Located in The Hague, The Netherlands

WWW.EUROJUST.EUROPA.EU



EUROPEAN UNION SATELLITE CENTRE EUSC

- Observation and analysis for security.
- The European Union Satellite Centre supports the decision-making of the European Union by providing geospatial intelligence products and services in the context of Europe's common foreign and security policy and, in particular, the European security and defence policy (ESDP), primarily through the analysis of data from Earth observation satellites.
- The EUSC has supported, and is currently supporting the Council of the EU, EU Member States, the European Commission, Third States and international organisations such as the UN and NATO in decision-making at EU, national and international level. Prime beneficiaries of EUSC services are CSDP missions and operations.

Established in 2001

Located in Torrejón, Spain

WWW.EUSC.EUROPA.EU



FUSION FOR ENERGY F4E

- Bringing the power of the Sun to Earth.
- Fusion for Energy (F4E) is the European Union's organisation responsible for providing Europe's contribution to ITER, the world's largest scientific partnership that aims to demonstrate fusion as a viable and sustainable source of energy. ITER brings together seven parties that represent half of the world's population—the EU, Russia, Japan, China, India, South Korea and the United States.
- F4E also supports fusion research and development initiatives through the Broader Approach Agreement, signed with Japan, a fusion energy partnership which will last for 10 years.
- Ultimately, F4E will contribute towards the construction of demonstration fusion reactors.
- To date, F4E has placed grants across Europe financing the enhancement of fusion technologies for ITER and the manufacture of ITER components. F4E has also been proactive in communicating through awareness campaigns the merits of fusion energy and the associated business opportunities for industry and SMEs.

Established in 2007

Located in Barcelona, Spain

WWW.FUSIONFORENERGY.EUROPA.EU



OFFICE FOR HARMONISATION IN THE INTERNAL MARKET (TRADE MARKS AND DESIGNS) OHIM

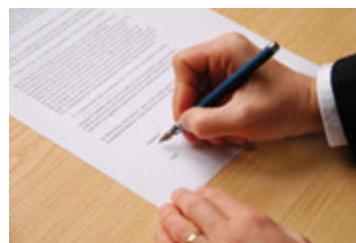
OHIM is the EU agency devoted to Intellectual Property.

- The office, which is non-profit-making and funded entirely by fees from users, administers the Community trade mark (CTM) and the registered Community design (RCD). It also works closely with EU authorities on matters related to the enforcement of IP rights.
- OHIM cooperates with national offices in member states to ensure that there is a coherent IP framework in the EU. This includes working on common IT platforms and converging in practice where possible, to make things simpler for users.
- Community registration of trade marks and designs offers EU-wide protection for these intellectual property rights through a single cost-effective registration process. This complements national registration of IP rights and offers users the choice of how to protect their rights depending on business needs.
- Since its establishment, OHIM has registered around 1m Community trade marks and hundreds of thousands of designs for SMEs as well as major national and international organisations drawn from over 170 countries.

Established in 1994

Located in Alicante, Spain

WWW.OAMI.EUROPA.EU



TRANSLATION CENTRE FOR THE BODIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CDT

- One of the translation services which helps implement the EU's strategic framework for multilingualism.
- CdT contributes to the smooth operation of the Community agencies and offices by meeting their translation needs. Today CdT provides translation services (747,000 pages in 2008) to over 40 Community agencies, institutions and other bodies, and enables them to better achieve their policy objectives.
- CdT contributes to the overall economy of the Community translation system in particular by undertaking large-scale projects, such as the interinstitutional terminology database, IATE. The IATE project has merged the terminological resources of the translation services of the EU and was launched by the Centre in 1999. Today IATE is, with over 8.5 million terms, the biggest terminology resource in the world and accessible to any EU citizen (iate.europa.eu).

Established in 1994
Located in Luxembourg
WWW.CDT.EUROPA.EU



