




ONLINE WINTER SCHOOL 2026

Legal English & AI
28 February 2026 & 1 March 2026

<http://ileta.org>

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TIME (CET-ROME TIME)	SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2026
13:45-14:00 PM	OPENING NETWORKING
14:00-14:05 PM	WELCOME Sofia Parastatidou, President ILETA
14:05 - 14:40 PM	<i>Comparing Students' with Chatbot-Driven Legal Translations</i> Prof. Patrizia Giampieri, MSc, PhD Sworn Court Interpreter
14:45-15:20 PM	Innovation, Integration, and Intellectual Professions: Where do Ethics Lie? Catia Lattanzi, President of AssITIG, Executive Member of EULITA, ILETA Country Ambassador Expert Interpreter for Monza-Briana Chamber of Commerce
15:20-15:30 PM	COFFEE BREAK/STRETCH
15:30-16:05 PM	<i>AI- Interpreters' Best Friend or Worst Enemy?</i> Sue Leschen, Fellow CIOL, ITI, ATC Avocate Legal & Business French Services Ltd
16:10-16:45 PM	Reining in AI: Combatting Downsides Without Losing Benefits Mike Waters, Founder of Skills Bar and Qualified Solicitor, Ireland
16:45-16:55 PM	COFFEE BREAK/STRETCH
16:55-17:20 PM	<i>Common Law v Civil Law- What Chat GPT and your textbooks got wrong!.</i> Sofia Parastatidou President of ILETA & Practising Solicitor-Advocate (E&W), Aust, NY State Bar Member.
17:20-17:30 PM	REFLECTIONS: Q&A - END OF DAY ONE




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TIME (CET-ROME TIME)	SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2026
13:30-14:00 PM	NETWORKING
14:00-14:45 PM	WORKSHOP: Safe & Ethical AI Use in Legal English, Translation and Interpreting Karolina Karczmarek-Giel
14:45-15:00 PM	COFFEE BREAK/STRETCH
15:00-15:35 PM	<i>Can you expect satisfactory translation or post-editing of legal documents from LLMs?</i> Anna Setkowicz-Ryszka, Sworn Translator
15:35-16:10 PM	<i>Why AI Can't Defeat Bilingual Lawyers</i> Natalia Luna, Argentinian Attorney and Sworn Translator <i>LCT LEX CITY</i>
16:10-16:20 PM	COFFEE BREAK/STRETCH/WINE
16:20 - 17:00 PM	<i>AI - Generated Negotiations</i> Tonya Teichert, MBA, ILETA Country Ambassador, Germany , ILETA Member of Scientific Committee
17:00- 17:25 PM	ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: AI Codes of Conduct & Liability - Ethical Issues for Translators, Interpreters and Legal Professionals - A Balancing Act - led by Sofia Parastatidou
17:25-17:30 PM	CLOSING COMMENTS

ILETA WINTER SCHOOL SPEAKERS



1. Title of Presentation: Comparing students' with Chatbot-driven Legal Translations, Patrizia Giampieri, University of Perugia, MSc, PhD

A speaker card for Patrizia Giampieri. It features the ILETA logo and 'ILETA Winter School 2026' with the dates '28 February 2026 & 1 March 2026'. A snowflake icon is present. The text 'Registering Now' is in red. Below it, the title 'Comparing Students' with chatbot - driven legal translations' is shown. A circular portrait of Patrizia Giampieri is included, with her name and 'ILETA SPEAKER' below it. An icon of a person at a computer is at the bottom left, and the website 'https://ileta.org' is at the bottom.

ABSTRACT

The **increased reliance on GenAI and chatbots** has led **several scholars** to **investigate their potentials and usefulness in translator training** (*Briva-Iglesias et al., 2024; Moneus and Sahari 2024; Alwazna et al. 2025*). Nonetheless, **few studies** have focused on the legal field.

This paper is **aimed at exploring and assessing the employability of GenAI in legal translator training**. More precisely, it examines **whether and how chatbot-powered legal translations can be harnessed to help students in Translation Studies develop critical thinking and analytical skills**.

For this purpose, **38 Master's students** were involved in a **translation project**. They firstly **translated** an **extract** of a **contract clause** from **English** (their L1) into **Italian** (their L2). To perform the task, they could **consult** any **language resource** except for **AI/chatbots**.

They were then **exposed** to **several chatbot-based translations** of the **source text**, thereby **comparing** their **outputs** with the ones produced by **intelligent machines**. The **chatbots** employed for this investigation were both **field-related** (such as *Aptus AI and ChatLaw*) and **general** (i.e., *ChatGPT and Copilot*).

The **findings** indicate that the **students' language resources** were often **untargeted**, thereby giving rise to a few **translation infelicities** and **shortcomings**. This was probably due to the **students' scarce familiarity** with **legal language** and/or with **legal translation**. On the other hand, **GenAI-driven translations** appeared as quite **satisfactory** and were successfully **mainstreamed** in **translator training**. Namely, **automated target texts** helped reflect on **possible** or **alternative translation options**, thus providing language solutions that had not been considered. Other times, conversely, **erroneous** or **inaccurate target words** or **phrases** allowed **students** to **notice differences**, ask for **explanations**, and possibly **retain adequate legal language conventions** and **patterns**. In this respect, the **pivotal role** of the **lecturer** was **essential** to **guarantee** the **correct interpretation** and **adjustments** of **chatbot-powered outputs**.

BIOGRAPHY

Patrizia Giampieri, MSc, PhD, is an Associate Professor of English at *University of Perugia(Italy)*. She is a member of the **Executive Board of EST (European Society for Translation Studies), and of the **Scientific Committee of ILETA** (International Legal English Teacher's Academy). She is a **court interpreter** and **translator**. She has **authored books** and **academic papers** on **English as a second language, legal English** and **legal translation, corpus-based translation, machine translation, AI-driven translation**. Her last scientific monographs are titled "*Legal Formulae: Exploring legal multi-words in English, Italian and French*" (*Palgrave MacMillan, 2025*).**

2. **Title of Presentation: *Innovation, Integration and Intellectual Professions: Where do Ethics lie?* Catia Lattanzi, President of AssITIG, Executive Board Member of EULITA, ILETA Country Ambassador, ILETA Scientific Committee**



ABSTRACT

The **main focus** is on the **ethical integration** of **advanced technologies**, particularly **artificial intelligence (AI)**, within **professional fields**. The presentation emphasizes the **importance of maintaining human oversight** and **moral responsibility**. Three main **ethical pillars** are identified: **accountability, fairness and bias, and transparency**. The **aim** of these **pillars** is to ensure that **AI systems** are used **responsibly, mitigating biases** and **maintaining trust**.

Key Points:

- **Ethical challenges:** The importance of clear accountability, equitable treatment and transparency in AI processes in order to maintain professional integrity.
- **Regulatory Framework:** The talk introduces the Italian AI Law, which is aligned with the EU AI Act and focuses on principles such as putting people first, clarity, and fair use. The law emphasises sustainability, human oversight, and cybersecurity.
- **Governance Structure:** A multi-level governance system has been established, comprising an Interministerial Committee and independent authorities, to ensure the ethical development and application of AI.
- **Impact on professions:** AI is viewed as a tool and a challenge for professionals such as architects and engineers, who remain responsible for AI – assisted decisions.
- **Innovation and training:** The law encourages innovation within ethical boundaries and stresses the importance of continuous learning and adapting professional training to integrate AI responsibility.

Overall, the importance of striking a balance between leveraging the capabilities of AI and safeguarding human values and responsibilities is emphasized.

BIOGRAPHY

Ms. Catia Lattanzi has been working as an **interpreter** and **translator** for over **twenty years** throughout Italy in **English, French and Italian** (*her mother tongue*).

She is **registered** as an **expert interpreter** and **translator** with the **Chamber of Commerce CCIA Milan, Monza-Brianza, Lodi**. Member of **ILETA** (International Legal English Trainers' Academy) and **ILETA Country Ambassador for Interpreters and Translators 2025-2027**.

Catia is also in her **second consecutive term** as **President of AssITIG (Italian Association of Legal and Judicial Translators and Interpreters)** and member of the **Executive Committee of EULITA**.

3. **Title of Presentation: Workshop: AI - Interpreters' Best Friend or Worst Enemy? Sue Leschen, Avocate Legal and Business French Services Ltd**

The poster is for the ILETA Winter School 2026, held from 28 February 2026 to 1 March 2026. It features a green background with a white snowflake icon in the top right. The ILETA logo is in the top left. The text 'Registering Now' is in red. Below it, the title 'AI - Interpreters' Best Friend or Worst Enemy?' is written in white. A circular portrait of Sue Leschen is shown, with a blue and white checkered pattern behind her. To the right of the portrait, her name 'Sue Leschen' and her role 'ILETA SPEAKER' are listed. At the bottom left, there is an icon of a person at a computer. The website 'https://ileta.org' is at the bottom.

ABSTRACT

Imagine this, you are the **defence interpreter** faced with a **witness** whose **English accent is problematic** (*a mix of Scottish and possibly Arabic*).

How to interpret with accuracy to the court?

No worries, simply switch on your **Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)** button and **all will be well! Except that it isn't.**

The **ASR function** does **not** appear to **function properly** where a **Scottish accent** is **involved** but **worse** than that appears to be "**scrambling**" names of **English** and **Scottish people** and **places** being referred to.

So should I stay or should I go as far as ASR is concerned? I have to make a **quick decision** because I am in **danger of messing up** this **assignment badly**. If I get it **wrong** so will my **client** the **defendant** who is **peering** over my **shoulder** at my **screen** (*I wish that he wasn't doing this*) because he is **becoming more and more irate** as my **ASR continues** on it's **merry way** typing the **witness's speech** but **without** necessarily always making **much sense**. Frankly, it would probably be **better** to use my **notepad** and **pen**.....

The other issue that is **worrying me** is that whilst I try to focus on the **witness** whilst she is **testifying** (*speech and body language both*) my attention is being **diverted to** what is being printed across my **screen** by my new best friend **AI**. There are times when I really **don't know where to look!**

Finally, I hear one of the **lawyers** refer to some **legal English terminology** that I am not sure how to interpret (*with or without the "benefit" of my AI research tools for that matter*). In the interests of speed I check it out **using AI** but then slow myself down because I am **unconvinced that AI** has rendered the **correct meaning** for this **particular context** and now need to start checking my own **glossaries** prepared for **similar cases** I have already worked on.

I have a **legal background** (*UK qualified but now non - practising solicitor*) and can draw on that **background** but a colleague who is not so fortunate may just **blindly accept** whatever **AI produces**.

I know that **AI** is being **improved every minute** of every day but, right now in my opinion it **isn't a reliable friend** (*at least not in a court room it isn't*).

BIOGRAPHY

Lawyer - linguist with **23 years experience** in the field who has **married** her **twin passions** of **law** and **languages together**. **Director** of UK based niche market company **Avocate** specialising in **legal and business French Interpreting** and **translation**. **Fellow** of **CIOL** and **ITI** and member of **ITI's Law, Insurance, Finance Committee** and also of **CIOL's Interpreting Division Steering Committee**. An **ISO/ BSI** representative for the **Association of Translation Companies** (ATC). Also member of the **professional conduct committees** of **NRCPD** and **CIOL**.

4. Presentation Title: *Reining in AI: Combatting Downsides without Losing Benefits* Mike Waters: SkillsBar

ABSTRACT



The **rapid adoption** of AI tools in legal education presents **Legal English trainers** with a **paradox**: while AI offers **unprecedented efficiency, accessibility, and pedagogical support**, it also risks **encouraging superficial understanding, eroding linguistic precision, and fostering the illusion that professional competence can be automated**.

This **presentation** argues that the **real challenge** is not **whether to use AI**, but how to **integrate it responsibly** without **undermining legal judgment, system awareness, and risk sensitivity**. Drawing on **practical classroom experience** and a **lawyer's perspective**, the **session examines three key downsides** of AI in **Legal English training**—**shallow legal understanding, diminished attention to legal consequences, and clients' growing perception of AI as a substitute for human learning**—while **demonstrating** how these risks can be **actively countered**.

Ultimately, the presentation reframes AI *not* as a **threat** to **Legal English trainers**, but as an **opportunity** to **reposition their role**: from **language correctors** to **trainers of judgment, critical evaluation, and AI-augmented professional competence**.

Combatting the Downsides of AI ...

Key points include:

- How **trainers** can **reposition Legal English** as **AI-augmented legal judgment**, not **mere language training**
- Why **fluent AI output** can **conceal doctrinal errors** and **blur common law–civil law distinctions**
- How **AI's stylistic strengths** can **weaken precision** and **risk awareness** in **legal language**
- Why **AI answers questions** but **does not build professional competence** or **accountability**

BIOGRAPHY

Mike Waters is the **founder** and **managing director** of *SkillsBar*, a **business** and **professional language services** provider based in **Bucharest, Romania**. Originally from **Ireland**, where he **qualified** as a **solicitor**, Mike has worked as a **lecturer** and **corporate trainer** around the world, including **The Gulf Region, Africa, and Europe**. His main areas of interest include **Legal English, Business Communication, Business Writing** and, lately, **AI and its impacts on learning**.

5. Title of Presentation: Safe & Ethical AI Use in Legal English, Translation and Interpreting, Karolina Karczmarek-Giel, Independent



ABSTRACT

Generative AI is already **reshaping** how **legal texts** are **drafted, translated** and **checked**, yet many **classroom tasks** and **professional workflows** still ignore the **confidentiality, IP** and **reputational risks** of “*just trying*” an **AI tool**.

This **hands-on workshop** helps **Legal English teachers** and **educators of legal translators/interpreters** build **AI-risk literacy** into their **courses**. After a **rapid, practical overview** of what **AI can** and **can't do** with **legal language** (*accuracy, sources, hallucinations*), participants map three risk areas:

- (1) **data privacy & confidentiality** (*privilege, NDAs, personal data*),
- (2) **intellectual property** and **ownership** of **outputs**, and

(3) **reputational/quality risk** when **AI errors** reach **clients** or **assessment**.

Participants then run **three classroom-ready activities: anonymisation & safe-prompting drills; an AI-output audit of a short legal clause/translation; and a mini “policy sprint” to adapt a Personal AI Usage Policy for their context.**

Takeaways include **printable handouts** plus links to **encrypted file-transfer** and **local/offline AI options**.

BIOGRAPHY

Karo is a **web and systems developer** specialising in **stable, maintainable digital setups** for **exacting professionals**. She works with **language professionals** and other **experts in regulated contexts, focusing on data protection, confidentiality, intellectual property, and the practical limits of AI tools.**

Karo uses **AI** in her **own work** and **teaches calm, risk-aware approaches to AI adoption** that **prioritise accuracy, professional responsibility, and long-term reliability.**

6. **Title of Presentation: Can you expect satisfactory translation or post-editing of legal documents from LLMs? Anna Setkowicz-Ryszka**

ILETA Winter School 2026
28 February 2026 & 1 March 2026

Registering Now

Can you expect satisfactory translation or post-editing of legal documents from LLMs?

Anna Setkowicz-Ryszka
ILETA SPEAKER

website: <https://ileta.org>

ABSTRACT

This **paper** is an **off-shot** of a **workshop** for **Polish lawyers** in which the **author** tried to **examine** whether one starts with a **detailed comparison** of **translations** of **two Polish texts** from the field of law - an **abstract** of a **journal article** and a **power of attorney** - into **English** and **one English text** – a **car rental contract** – into **Polish**.

The **translations** were prepared using **two DeepL engines (classic and new-gen)** and **two LLM-based tools: ChatGPT and Perplexity** in **November 2025**.

Both LLM-based tools have the potential for **improvement** compared to **neural MT tools** thanks to larger attention **windows** and **ability to perform** a wider range of **tasks compared to MT**. Additionally, **research** has already

shown that **LLMs** have **advantages** over **NMN** in **translation**, including in the field of **law**, and that **LLMs** can improve **MT output**, that is, **perform post-editing**, which is a **cognitively demanding task** for **humans**.

The **analysis focuses** on the **translation solutions** for a number of items **representing challenges** particular to **legal translation**, such as **asymmetrical terminology** or the need to **explain system-bound concepts** relying on **knowledge** that is **not explicitly** stated in the **source documents**. The results confirm **limited usefulness** of **LLMs compared to neural MT engines** in terms of **preparing** text adapted to the **needs** of **target language readers**, whether they are **prompted to translate** or **post-edit** them. They also confirm the **need** for **human oversight** and **domain expertise** when **LLMs** are used. Additionally, the **assessment** of the **quality** of **machine-translated texts** as well as **LLM's own versions** performed by both **LLMs leads** to the conclusion that, like the **edits** they **introduce** in PE, the focus is on **superficial linguistic phenomena**, rather than **improvement** that would be **appreciated** by a **human reader unfamiliar** with the **source legal system**.

BIOGRAPHY

Anna Setkowicz-Ryszka is a **freelance legal translator EN-PL/PL-EN** with **considerable experience** in **translating, revising and post-editing legislation, contracts, legal and financial opinions, accounting documents, and academic legal texts**.

She is a **sworn translator and interpreter of English in Poland** and a **translator trainer** delivering **practical legal translation workshops** in **legal translation** to **legal translator trainees, practicing translators, and lawyers/law students**.

In 2025, she **completed a doctoral school** at the **University of Lodz, Poland**. Her **research interests** include **legal translation, legal translation expertise** (*process-oriented research*), **plain legal language, training legal translators, and various aspects of post-editing** in the **legal domain**.

7. Title of Presentation: Why AI Can't Defeat Bilingual Lawyers Natalia Luna, *LCT LEX CITY*



ABSTRACT

In a world with plenty of **uncertainty** about what **professionals** will devote to after proving that **AI** apparently **performs well** at all levels, I am going to **explain** why **AI** can **never defeat bilingual lawyers**.

Jurisdictional nuances, different legal systems in force, **cultural legal weight** of **specific terminology, knowledge of judicial precedents, and legal reasoning** will still make the **difference**.

Join me to learn more about **En<>Sp terminology** and tips regarding **Civil vs. Common Law countries**.

BIOGRAPHY

I'm an **Argentinian Attorney and Sworn Translator** specialized in law-related matters. I'm a **Court Interpreter** and **legal English training instructor** as well as a **University Professor of Legal English Language and Legal Translation** at **UMSA University in Buenos Aires**. I have been **ILEC** certified since 2016 and I also train lawyers in **Sp-En law, legal terminology** and **cultural differences**. I am a **lecturer**, and I enjoy helping **colleagues** move forward in their **careers**.

8. Title of Presentation AI Generated Negotiations Tonya Teichert- T Squared



ABSTRACT

Are you **struggling** to find **creative ways** to cover **legal vocabulary** and **concepts** with your **students**? Are you **tired** of **spending endless hours** trying to **create activities** that will **reinforce learning** while **engaging** your **students**? Are you **hesitant** to **utilize AI** in your **practice**? Well, don't worry, I got you!

In this **presentation** we will cover how to **create focused negotiation exercises** using **AI** as a **tool** to help your **students work** with the **language** in a **collaborative** and **fun way**. We will cover **prompts you** can use to **ensure** that you are **creating targeted, accurate, and engaging negotiation exercises** that you can use with all **levels**.

We will also **cover** how you can use these **exercises** to **create a semester** of **connected activities** for your **students**.

BIOGRAPHY

Tonya Teichert is an **American living in Germany** who has been **teaching Medical & Legal English** for **17 years**. Her **background began in critical care nursing** where she used those **skills** to begin a career as a **Legal Nurse Consultant**.

She went on to attend **law school and upon completion**, received her **MBA**. She worked, primarily, in **insurance defense and medical malpractice and product liability litigation**. After moving to **Germany**, she began **teaching specialized language courses** for both **private clients and institutions**, including **doctors, nurses, nursing students, medical organizations, corporate legal seminars, and university legal programs**, as well as **training-the-trainer** courses for **Occupational Health and Safety**.

Tonya is **ILETA Country Ambassador** for **Germany** and a **Member of the Scientific Committee**.

9. Common Law vs Civil Law - What ChatGPT and your textbooks got wrong! Sofia Parastatidou



ABSTRACT

The **dichotomy** between **common law** and **civil law** is one that is **universally represented** as being **judge-made - precedent-driven (*common law*)** and **code-based and privy of judicial creativity (*civil law*)**.

These **misrepresentations** now circulate even **more aggressively** through **generative AI systems** such as **ChatGPT**, which reproduce them with an **awe of neutral authority**. This **presentation** is **aimed at debunking** this characterisation and argues that the **classification** is the **product of pedagogical convenience for legal reality**.

The **supposed common law–civil law divide** rests on **selective history and frozen institutional caricatures**. **Civil law judges like their common law counterparts do make law, reason with prior decisions, and develop doctrine over time**. Likewise, **common law systems are saturated with legislation, codification, and regulation**. The **persistence of this superficial characterisation** owes **less to accuracy** than to its **usefulness as a teaching shortcut**.

AI systems do not merely **inherit these misconceptions** but **propagate them**, presenting an **artificial consensus** that **reinforces outdated taxonomies** and **discourages critical engagement**.

I will **conclude** with **recommendations for more nuanced teaching frameworks** using case studies for **legal educators to engage and explore the richness and complexity that comparative studies** can offer.

BIOGRAPHY

Sofia Parastatidou is the **President & Founder of ILETA** and a **practising lawyer** admitted to practise in England and Wales who has been **training professionals** since **1994** and **author** of legal English **textbooks** and **legal articles**.

10. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: AI Codes of Conduct & Liability – Ethical Issues for Translators, Interpreters and Legal Professionals – A Balancing Act

REGISTRATION



Registration Fee is

- €50 (Bronze *members*),
- €70 (Basic Members)
- €90 (*non-ILETA members*) for the ILETA Online Winter School.
- €80 (Bronze Membership & Registration)

Please note that there is an extra €5 fee for PayPal payments.

- To register fill in this form [Registration form](#)
- To apply for Bronze Membership 2026 fill in this form [Application for Bronze Membership 2026](#)

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