

JOHANNES HAHN
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 30.4.2020
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Dear President of the Permanent Delegation of Translators,
Dear President of the Central Staff Committee,

Thank you for your note outlining the results of the DPT's petition against further staff cuts. As I promised at the DGT staff assembly in Luxembourg on 6 March 2020, I would also like to come back to you on this in writing.

Let me start by underlining that the Commission attaches great importance to staff working conditions. Its cross-DG work to seek synergies and efficiencies, necessary to make best use of all our resources, must be done with due care for the people who make up the organisation.

I endorse the need you express for highly skilled staff so that DGT can continue delivering the quality translation service for which it is recognised. DGT is a world-leading translation service, indispensable for the Commission to legislate and communicate clearly and effectively across Europe, and this is largely thanks to the commitment of DGT staff.

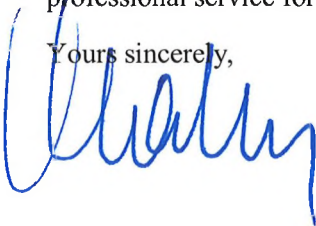
I also fully support DGT's drive for continued modernisation and efficiency, while maintaining the necessary internal capacity to enable the Commission to work in all 24 languages. As I also underscored at the staff meeting, I attach the greatest importance to multilingualism. It is at the very core of what identifies us as a strong European Union.

DGT's approach rightly aims to integrate the opportunities offered by new developments in language technology, streamlined work processes and qualified freelance contractors into its resources mix. In line with developments in other public services, the move to bring in temporary agents will give the service a greater degree of flexibility to further in-source expertise and skills, even in a context of resource constraints.

The working conditions of translators, assistants and DGT staff in the support directorates are no different to the working conditions of other Commission staff. They have access to schemes such as flexitime and teleworking to help staff manage their time and I note that DGT gives an even wider access to these flexible working schemes than in other DGs.

As the Commissioner responsible for DGT, I will continue working with its management team to make sure that DGT has the human, financial and material resources it needs to continue delivering the professional service for which it is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Monia FANCIULLETTI
DPT President

Ignazio IACONO
CSC President