University of Vienna / Postgraduate Center
Campus der Universität Wien
Spitalgasse 2, Hof 1, Eingang 1.14.1
1090 Vienna, Austria

Vienna, 15 October 2016

Re.: University Study Course “Behörden- und Gerichtsdolmetschen”

Dear Univ.-Prof. Dr. Mira Kadric-Scheiber,

EULITA (European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association) supports all activities that help to advance the quality of legal translation and legal interpreting in both spoken and sign language in all member states of the European Union (see Article 2 of EULITA’s Constitution). The Article goes on to stipulate that EULITA shall stimulate appropriate training and research in legal interpreting and translation and - to this end - cooperate with other relevant organizations.

The university study course on public-service and court interpreting (Universitätslehrgang Behörden- und Gerichtsdolmetschen), organized by the Postgraduate Center of the University of Vienna, therefore fits precisely into EULITA’s remit. In particular, current demographic developments in Europe call for academic training programs in the languages offered by this university study course, namely Arabic, Dari/Farsi and Turkish in combination with German. The university study course will help the many men and women who have so far provided language assistance in these languages without the possibility of obtaining any basic interpreting and translation training and are eager to become more professional in their work. By attending this university study course they will be better qualified to support public authorities, police departments and judicial stakeholders. The university study course on public-service and court interpreting, organized by the University of Vienna, will prepare them for eventually taking the examination to become certified court interpreters (allgemein beeidete und gerichtlich zertifizierte Dolmetscher) in Austria.

EULITA therefore lends its full support to the university study course “Behörden- und Gerichtsdolmetschen” and is ready to actively contribute to its success by, for example, sharing experience and knowhow with teachers and students that has been acquired in similar projects in other member states of the European Union.

Looking forward to our fruitful cooperation and sending you the best wishes for a successful launch of the university study course on public-service and court interpreting,

Yours sincerely,

Dipl. Dolm. Liese Katschinka, President