



CALL FOR PAPERS

Building Inclusive Societies through Higher Education and Life-Long Learning: Audiovisual Translation, Media and Technologies for Accessibility

**Naples, Italy
February 22-24, 2023**

Accessibility has recently come to play a pivotal role in policy-making and has become a positive propeller of societal change, as evidenced by the *UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (2006), *European Accessibility Act* (2019), and the *EU Disability Rights Strategy 2021-2030*. In the push for digital transition, principles of accessibility and universal design have been mainstreamed and are guiding technological innovation regarding user experience.

Accessibility is not a new concept for audio-visual translation studies (Greco, 2018; Romero-Fresco, 2018), yet the call for equal access to information, culture and knowledge in public policy has resulted in a greater diffusion of audio-visual translation for inclusive purposes in educational, workplace and entertainment sectors. Audiovisual translation is therefore undergoing great changes as it has become part of the universal design of educational and entertainment platforms, gaming apps, digital and traditional broadcasting, theatre performances, museum exhibitions immersive experiences. As a consequence, audio description, subtitling and sign language interpreting are rapidly adapting and evolving due to market needs, yet professional profiles including audio describers and live subtitles creators are often trained in the workplace, outside educational institutions (Cerezo Merchán, 2019).

Based on these premises, the International Conference on ***Audiovisual Translation, Media and Technologies for Inclusion*** will provide a space for discussing, sharing and training experts in new techniques in AVT, accessibility studies and social inclusion. In doing so, it aims at gathering scholars from different research fields, audiovisual translators, teachers, students and educators, experts of media and language accessibility and associations for people with disabilities. The Conference invites contributions that examine the universal design and the idea of accessibility in the preproduction of audiovisual products, providing an overview of the available academic research and the latest developments of audiovisual translation and media

accessibility. It also strives to promote a lively debate on the impact of AVT new technologies, media accessibility and consumer behaviour to demonstrate the positive influence of cooperative and interdisciplinary research aimed at changing user perceptions and improving quality standards in AVT. Concurrently, it seeks to shed light on the usage of new tools and to further develop research methodologies traditionally applied to investigate AVT, such as linguistic and corpus-based research, with a particular focus on the positive impact of technologies in the foundation of new methods and contents.

Themes and topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- AVT and accessibility
- Language learning, AVT and Accessibility
- Life-Long Learning, AVT and Accessibility
- The impact of digital transition in AVT
- User-oriented accessibility experimental research
- The training of new professional profiles in AVT and accessibility
- Realisation of accessible media products in different contexts (e.g. education, cultural heritage, tourism, sport events, digital platforms, among others).

The conference official language is English, but proposals of case-studies in other languages will be accepted.

Submission guidelines

Proposals must be submitted to amticonference@gmail.com by 20 December 2022

Submissions should be accompanied by:

- Name/s, surname/s and institutional affiliation/s
- Email address
- Title
- Abstract (250 words, references excluded)
- Keywords
- References

Notification of acceptance will be communicated by 10 January 2023.

Accepted papers are programmed to last 20 minutes

Keynote speakers

Professor Elena Di Giovanni (University of Macerata)

Professor Pablo Romero-Fresco (Universidade De Vigo / The University of Roehampton)

Scientific committee

Giuseppe Balirano, University of Naples L'Orientale

Elena Di Giovanni, University of Macerata

Anna Mongibello, University of Naples L'Orientale

Katherine E. Russo, University of Naples L'Orientale

Organizing committee

Arianna Del Gaudio, University of Naples L'Orientale

Arianna Grasso, University of Naples L'Orientale

Suggested readings

- Cerezo Merchán, B. (2019). Audiovisual translator training. In L. Pérez-González (ed.), *The Routledge handbook of audiovisual translation* (pp. 468–483). London, England: Routledge.
- Di Giovanni, E. (2018). “Participatory accessibility: Creating audio description with blind and non-blind children”. *Journal of Audiovisual Translation*, 1(1), 155–169.
- Greco, G. M. (2018). The nature of accessibility studies. *Journal of Audiovisual Translation*, 1 (1), 205-232.
- Jankowska, A. (2019). Audiovisual Media Accessibility. In E. Angeone, M. Ehrensberger-Dow & G. Massey (Eds.), *The Bloomsbury Companion to Language Industry Studies* (pp. 231-260). London: Bloomsbury Academic Publishing.
- Pagano, A. S., Teixeira A. L. R., and F. A. Mayer, 'Accessible Audiovisual Translation', in Meng Ji, and Sara Laviosa (eds) (2021, *The Oxford Handbook of Translation and Social Practices*, Oxford Academic.
- Romero-Fresco, P. (2018). Accessible filmmaking: Translation and accessibility from production. In L. Pérez-González (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Audiovisual Translation Studies* (pp. 498-515). London: Routledge.