Transcription Speaker 13

Mod: Hello, thank you for agreeing to participate in the project. And thank you for sending because handful I have received it and it's all fine and so before we start of course about 26 questions in general, but many of them are very straightforward so the these questions are mainly about the organization background information or your background information in terms of languages then its translation in the organization and then internet world communication that were first click strictly to CAN Europe.So those are the four main areas that I would like to cover but before we actually start the the questioner up, do you have any questions about my project? Is there anything that may be ambiguous to you or questions that you wanted to ask?

S13: no, not really.

Mod: Okay.

1:02

Mod: And (.) then just one more thing, I just need to make sure that everything's recording. Okay. Right. So (.) the question I make take 30 minutes, I've had that before. So, but um, another thing I wanted to say is that I'm looking for your opinion and your experience rather than your knowledge about particular languages. This is not my (.) interest.

S13: uhm

1:25

MOdL I'm looking for things that you have experienced or see have seen or think in general. Okay. So, let's start with the organization background information. On a daily basis. What level does your organization operate? (.) Is it supranational national, regional or local?

S13: erm Mainly national, with the EU as well.

Mod: uhm So it's a little bit of supranational as well?

S13: yeah

Mod: I have to say I had a look at the website. And I was really erm there was just one tiny bit in English and there was er an information ata- stating that most of the work is not translated into English er therefore contact us if you needed a little bit more information so I guess you just give the (.) people er (1) sort of information that you work in, er in your own language which is Slovenian. So that's really good. That's not something that happens very often in organizations on a national level. Okay, so how many different nationalities work in your organization?

S13: Currently two to water these nationalities

Mod: yeah. right. So from the region, And is there a written language policy in place in your organization, this (.) is er where a written language policy in place for instance, rules on how to use particular languages or in what kind of occasions use data that language or translating?

S13: No matter we would have a specific policy but we're just circumstances in Nice. So we normally speak Slovene and we organize events in Slovenia. Or if we would have a foreign speaker for example, or if we have a volunteer that speaks only English or something, then we adjust and we speak English or we organize events in English as well. In that case, if there is a English event, and it is financed for public sources, and we're obliged to provide a translation.

Mod: Okay, and suppose it was my first day at your organization? What would it be like in terms of language use?

S13: Oh, would you be able to speak English?

Mod: Okay. And in general, could you describe the use of language in your organization that you have two different nationalities? What languages do you normally operate in?

S13: Oh, okay. So these these people from Croatia still Yeah, yeah, they're, they're actually live in Slovenia morning for me most well.

Mod: Thank you. Let's move. What do you have, like you know/

S13: that's currently but we also have, we had an employee some years ago that came from Germany. So we were using we were speaking English based your phone

Mod: So, all the time.

S13: Yeah. Or like we had, or when we have volunteers or internships, speak English or

Mod: so even among yourselves, yes. Okay. And why is that?

S13: Oh, so that everyone feels included.

Mod: Thank you. And let's move on to your background information. So how many languages do you speak?

S13: Oh, three

Mod: Okay.

S13: So obviously Slovenian, English and, and Croatian.

Mod: Okay. Just to say I'm Polish but I've been to I haven't been just living here yet but I've been to Croatia. So some things are very similar in terms of language, but just a few words.

S13: Yeah, some words are very similar, but there's The grammar in dramatic conversation is different than how we formed the sentences and declination isn't always that. They're quite subtle differences there.

Mod: Yes.

S13: And also a little bit older, I grew up in a Muslim. And we all had to learn sort of operation so that everyone speaks the same language in a way but but for example, younger colleagues they don't speak for they don't necessarily speak Croatian because they have to learn/

Mod: /and what's your opinion about that? Having to speak Croatian?

S13: Well, I mean, if I need to speak because (.) Yeah. (.) Just about nobody actually speak so in our courses so we have to use our languages.

Mod: Yeah, yeah. Okay. Thank you. I mean I can relate because we had Russian as the main language at school and I didn't like it

S13: yeah I mean that was just was just something but you know even if you watch TV here then he desperation channels and this kind of normal to use the language but it's not an official language, I mean status. No, just an added thing. Because we're so close and we have zero Official official languages? Yes. And the border errors.

Mod: Oh, wow. I didn't know that. That's very I think that's very good. And that's very useful in general. Okay. So we got, how many years? Have you worked in the NGO sector? Roughly 15?

S13: 15 years.

Mod: Okay. And could you describe your role in the organization?

S13: Oh, yeah, currently I’m in charge of the Climate Change program and also work on the energy policy and a little bit but as well as on all administrative procedures that we are involved in. So the legal stuff

Mod: yhm, okay, okay. Thank you, I thought you was just cut out. So what languages do you use in your role on a daily basis?

S13: Oh, it's coming in English.

Mod: And in what circumstances?

S13: Where if it's something totally national, then of course Slovene, and in particular like the relation to EU policy then English

Mod: and which languages do you prefer to have?

S13: Don't say I have a preference of course, it's the easier to use for me, I guess. But also sometimes, especially in the climate change issues to some sometimes. It's difficult for me easier in English than in Slovene because they're just Simply no words in Slovene for some things. And you been like abbreviations or general words. Yeah, just like you know this new terms that are being developed every day.If for example in the climate negotiations planning about that and this thing and the other thing of this thing as they go, and then it has to translate them into Slovene while there is no Slovene words for these

Mod: Okay, thank you. Um So would you describe how you think working in two languages, or three languages in your case, affects your work?

S13: No,

Mod: so you said you would you prefer to work in English when it comes to say areas like climate change, because there are different words, new words, when you acronyms that are here, but do you think it makes you more in a way effective in your work by having two languages rather than just having maybe one?

S13: I don't know, European, just easier, you know? But it's good. I can use both languages. And I know how simple (.) it is, you know, like if I wouldn't (.) use Well, obviously, it's something you can I cannot use English here. So we know because we go for a meeting with the decision maker. Speak slowly. But when I can use English, it's fine for me. I mean, I don't I don't think me []

Mod: Okay. So you have no problems working in either of the languages that some of the translations in your organization to does your organization ever do translations of any documents or any pieces of information?

S13: Yes.

12:25

Mod: And who normally does the translations?

S13: So, sometimes it's the person that is dealing with the thing itself, but sometimes you also outsource it.

Mod: And that would be to a professional translator.

S13: Yes.

Mod: And do you? Do you have any funding for that?

S13: Like, for hiring professional translators [] happening again, then we do all sorts of [] their finances. We don't have funding and an The policy stuff that is not linked to specific project fueling doesn't have passports translation. So then we have to do it ourselves. We get kind of operating on something and then it's up to us.

Mod: Could you tell me why?

S13: Because we don't have fast for working on policy issues, you know, they today cause issues.

Mod: And so you do not have an in house translation or services, interpreting services? Now, when you outsource, the documentary translated to someone isn't normally the same person or is it different people.

S13: Once we find someone that can do well because it's been cold also, you know, something It is not into the issue. And you can feel that it's been translated from English it is, you know, (1) how to explain it. And it's difficult to find someone to be able to translate (.) no good translation just like that, you know. So if we find out someone did this presentation to them English and requested and so that would be translations for documents from English to Slovenian or via text. But if you have for example, we need simultaneous translation or the whispering installed and we have also one company that we work with.

Mod: Okay. But that would be on a national level. I guess what is

S13: Yeah.

Mod: Okay. Thank you. And so, when you do translations yourself, do you have any rules as to how a translation should be done? (.) For instance, it has to be edited by a native speaker of the language that the document is translated.

S13: We do yeah, we don't have to of course we have before publishing it because we usually do translations to publish or to send to someone. So first you want to the documents to be you know, good and not mistakes and we also checks that we have

Mod: Yeah. Okay, and he stopped Working in a different field in a (environmental) linguistics and translations purely or is it someone who works you know, in the same environment but knows the language and he's a native speaker?

S13: No, he's just holding a linguist.

Mod: Yeah, okay. Okay, thank you. Right. So let's suppose you receive a relevant policy document in English from Can Europe Secretariat, what do you normally do with it?

S13: Yeah. Well I see first check, what kind of the document is it? Is it something that is for wider audience Or, or is just, or like should it be be addressed to the minister or something like that. And in that case, I would consider translating. And but if it's just something that is, like a more useful thing to know. And I know that there would be couple of people here in Slovenia interested in reading anything, I'll just send them to me.

Mod: Okay, so there's generally no problem in sending document or forwarding document in English in Slovenia.

S13: No.

Mod: Okay. So this is an additional question to the previous one. Would you prefer to do the translations yourself, or to receive that, that document from CAN Europe Secretariat as a ready-made product so already in your language

S13: to already be in the language and then it would be better, you know, so I don't have to do this additional step of taking care of translations. But also, as I said before, we don't always (.) go to erm (.) translations because we don't feel it's needed. (.) So if for the documents that are (.) that (.) didn't minister should see, your MP should see, and stuff like that would be of course better (.) than producing 20 languages or so even more because it's not only in European Union that they cover.

Mod: Okay, and let's move on to the intra-network communication.

S13: Um,

Mod: so you said you worked in the NGO sector for about 15 years. I assume you were there when your organization was joining CAN Europe network? If not, then Are you finding the language practices in CAN Europe network a different experience from what you expected prior to joining the network? Could you tell me a little bit more about that? Or?

S13: Well, I know Well, can it can English.

Mod: How did you? How did you know there's no statement of it in documents saying things like that?

S13: Oh, well, well before I start looking for protection, same thing, you know, using English. So I was in a car also in concert with 10. And then my English

Mod: from practice, from your experience?

S13: Yeah.

Mod: And How does your organization deal with the fact that English is the main language for general communication within the network?

S13: Were you fine with it.

Mod: And would you describe what you think about English being the dominant language for communication and what is your opinion about that?

S13: I think it's because the English is I think most widely taught in schools all over the place. So it's kind of natural and the institutions you know, working languages also English bag, the council You have official languages, therefore the ministers to call it? What is the working level stuff? It's all in English?

Mod: Yeah. Okay. And do you ever feel at a disadvantaged position because of the fact that English is the language for communication in the network? []

21:21

Mod: Well, right. Have you ever had instances when you could not get access to relevant information that you needed? But you couldn't access because of the language barrier?

S13: No.

Mod: Okay. And since you said you have no problems of English, I assume I know the answer to this question. But let's have a look. How would you describe what you think the idea of English practice in CAN Europe network would be like?

S13: Oh, (.) well (.) ,I think (.) It's fine as this the English is good because, yeah, I think there's still more people speaking, or are able to communicate in English and in our European language and know to operate. One organization offered in several languages No, just I think it's not very practical. One, well, it could work could it be but then it's just requires more people and more funding I guess.

Mod; Ok. And now let's think about the network as a structure in general and what could you tell me what you think about languages role in structures like networks, CAN Europe. So, for instance, let me help you because I've had that doubt for instance, do you think language may pose a big barrier to the communication within the network or do you think maybe its culture or cultural differences within the network itself or not in general what what do you think about the role of language in such networks like CAN Europe?

S13: I think this you just have to use the most practical life because like the character of this concentrated of your forces, so use the language that is The policies are made. In fact,I would understand the needs of CAN to translate some stuff with into French or Spanish or something like that. They would do a lot with organizations from other parts of the world at all.

Mod: Yeah.

S13: So first thing is there's a need for but it doesn't need for more translation. Is that No, I don't think there is.

Mod: Okay. Okay, just to confirm that you think English is fine for for the network as it is.

S13: Yeah. Yeah.

Mod: Okay. And. Right. So I think we've covered that. So I think it's nearly the end of the, the question that I had. Let me just quickly Have a look through Okay, and right so I've got one last question which is just general question about anything else that hasn't been covered anything is important or relevant for you or your organization in terms of language language in network or how you communicate with with them or within your region.

S13: I er We don’t have er issues with communication with CAN Europe

Mod: uhm

S13: so it’s er fine as it is. within the region and we use a lot of Croatian, so er well, I mean, obviously,

Mod: uhm

S13: because it's maybe easier for the people we talk to

Mod: So, you’d say you use language pragmatically. So what works for you best.

S13: yes

Mod: Yeah, yeah. Okay. Anything else that comes to mind? Any specific examples maybe, maybe/ / you had some experience of I don’t know, erm meeting people don't want that weren't from CAN Europe or not necessarily really, you know. You could really see that they struggle with getting some information maybe from your region, or I don't I

S13: I didin’t see anyone who wasn't able to get the information that they need, but at some CAN E. meetings you can hear people that have difficulties expressing themselves with yeah good er, but I don’t know. Maybe for them, that's an issue but yeah.

Mod: Okay. Thank you, Barbara, that was very useful for me. Thank you for input, I cannot say how much I do appreciate your willingness to participate in my project. That's very, that means a lot to me. So just to let you know that I am in the middle of collecting the second phase of data collection for me for this project. The first phase was, as I wrote in my previous emails, was the interviews with can Europe, Secretariat staff, and that was back in 2015. But I had other commitments. So things got really long. So I am hoping to have the data analysed by within the next week. Because we have a baby on, you know, on the way, so we have to take that into consideration. So I think the final result and reports will be sent window. But if you want me to send you a report, the same report to them, feel free to contact me I have the same email address, and I'll probably have it for another four or five years. And yeah, just let me know and I'll send it to you as well if you're interested. Okay, great. Thank you, Barbara. Thank you.

S13: You're welcome.

Mod: Thank you all the best Bye bye.