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Legal translators/interpreters

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Netherlands

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This page provides information on the registration of sworn interpreters and translators in the Netherlands and the extension of that registration.

Sworn Interpreters and Translators Act (*Wet beëdigde tolken en vertalers*)

The [Sworn Court Interpreters and Translators Act \(Wbtv\)](#) applies in the Netherlands. It governs the rules and regulations for sworn interpreters, who provide an oral translation of speech made in another language, and for sworn translators, who provide a written translation of text written in another language.

Interpretation and translation are liberal professions, which means that, in principle, regardless of training or background, anyone can set up as an independent interpreter or translator. You do not need to be registered in the ([Register of Sworn Translators and Interpreters \(Rbtv\)](#)) in order to do so. The Rbtv is a database containing the details of sworn interpreters and translators in the Netherlands managed by the [Office of Sworn Interpreters and Translators](#). You must be registered in the Rbtv in order to be able to work as a sworn interpreter or sworn translator. Registering is subject to certain requirements. Check the website of the [Office of Sworn Interpreters and Translators](#) for more details.

What information is held in the Dutch register?

In accordance with [Article 2 of the Wbtv](#), the Register of Sworn Interpreters and Translators contains the following details for each interpreter or translator registered there:

1. contact details;
2. whether the person is an interpreter or translator;
3. the source or target language(s) in which the interpreter or translator works; and
4. any other specific skills that the interpreter or translator deems useful to have recorded in the register.

Who is responsible for the register?

Although ultimate responsibility for the register lies with the Minister for Justice and Security, it is managed by the Office of Sworn Interpreters and Translators (Wbtv Office).

Is access to the Dutch Register of Sworn Interpreters and Translators free of charge?

No, enrolment in the Register of Sworn Interpreters and Translators is subject to costs. Check the website of the [Office of Sworn Interpreters and Translators](#) for more details.

How to find a legal translator in the Netherlands

Searches in the database may be performed by name or language combination(s).

Related links

[Office of Sworn Interpreters and Translators](#)

[Register of Sworn Interpreters and Translators](#)

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