

KICK-OFF MEETING INTERVIEW

Francesca Raffi (FR): Francesca Raffi for Fred. We are here in Milan to know more about the kick-off meeting of the Live Text Access project, LTA. A project cofounded by the Erasmus+ Program of the European Union. The main objective of the project is to design an effective and certified curriculum for real-time intralingual respeakers and velotypists. The team of the LTA project has planned six face-to-face transnational meetings. We are here in Milan for the first one and we are here with the coordinator of the project Rocío Barnabé and with Pilar Orero, one of the partners of the LTA project. Hi Rocío, hi Pilar. Thank you for being with us today on Fred.

Rocío Barnabé (RB) and Pilar Orero (PO): Hi, thank you for having us.

FR: So, the consortium has come together for the first time here in Milan. First of all, why did you decided to have your first face-to-face meeting here, Rocío?

RB: In Milan? It was a very practical decision, actually. And because we didn't know it was going to be so hot here.

FR: It is.

RB: The practical reason was that one of our partners, Mr Eugeni, representing SSML... They are holding a conference, a respeaking conference, here in Milan tomorrow. So coming here and having the meeting here is a great opportunity to present the project at the conference. That's it. That's why we decided to come to Milan for the kick-off.

FR: Pilar, what is the main aim of this kick-off meeting? What are you going to discuss here? What are the main items on the agenda?

PO: The kick-off meeting is done first of all to meet all the partners, because not everybody knows everybody. That's interesting. It's the first time. We met this morning. We saw each other for the first time. We've been in contact for the past few months, so that was very nice. First of all you meet and you see each other, and you understand who is each other. Once the human bit has been coordinated, more or less, then we have to coordinate very basic things of the project. When are we going to meet? How many times are we going to meet? Every month? Is it going to be online? How is it going to be done? One of the partners is deaf, so having teleconferences is not a choice. So how are the online meetings going to be? These sort of things. It's just basically the very first meeting, where we are going to agree on how the project is going to work and how it is going to operate.

FR: And to decide the various steps, I suppose.

PO: Yes, the next steps. What kind of social networks are we going to use? All of

them? Not all of them? Very basic.

FR: Rocío, have you already identified the potential issues and possible remedial actions?

PO: Well, the first issue is that one of the partners is deaf. That actually was... We made a provision for meetings, for face-to-face meetings, but not for online meetings.

FR: For online meetings...

PO: So, that's been the first blow, I think.

RB: It's hard. We have to find a good solution for this. We will talk about it. I think one of the risks of any project is not having a good teamwork. You can only build teamwork if you get people together.

FR: Together, yes. Physically, possibly.

RB: One of the main aims of this kick-off meeting. We have to get to know each other, and have to learn to understand each other, and how we are going to be working together. Once we are cohesive in that sense, we can go home and start working. We have to set the foundation, and that's part of this meeting.

FR: So, this is basically the first of a series of events and meetings. Where are you planning to have your next meetings, Pilar?

PO: The next meeting is going to be in Munich.

FR: Ah, OK.

PO: We've planned something, but again not everything is perfect. You asked, "What issues do you have?" The next issue that we've planned... We always plan a meeting next to an event. For example, tomorrow there is this conference, which has been organised by Carlo Eugeni on respeaking. That is the idea. Once we travel somewhere, we go somewhere for a double purpose.

FR: Yes, to optimise resources.

PO: One of the meetings was not allowed because it was organised in Poland next to a conference called Intermedia. It was not allowed because Poland is not one of the countries in the consortium.

FR: OK.

PO: That's been a blow because we'd have liked to participate and we would like to go to Poland, but we can't organise the meeting in Poland. Anyway, the next meeting is going to be in March and it will be in Munich. Hopefully it won't be as hot as it is today.

FR: Hopefully. OK. Rocío and Pilar thank you very much. We are very much looking forward to hearing more about the LTA project. Thank you for being with us today.

RB and PO: Thank you.

FR: And thank you to all of you. Stay with us to know more about the LTA project. This is Francesca Raffi and this is Fred Film Radio, the festival insider.

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