Barcelona Manifesto
on good contractual practices in translation
for the publishing industry

The International Federation of Translators (FIT), the European Council of Associations of Literary Translators (CEATL), the Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters of Catalonia (APTIc) and the Association of Writers in the Catalan Language (AELC), as the group promoting this manifesto:

• Declare that, although the vast majority of publishers comply with intellectual property law and sign legal contracts with translators assigning them rights, some still do not, especially when it comes to children's literature and comics. We urge them to abide by the law.

• Remember that children's literature and comics are not minor forms of literature but works of art, food for creative minds, and powerful educational tools. We therefore issue a reminder of the obligation to sign legal assignment contracts, to send translators annual statements, and to pay the resulting translation royalties when they reach a positive balance.

• Encourage the publishing sector to continue working with translators' and authors' associations to ensure fair conditions and to jointly develop model contracts. We also demand that the industry offer translators decent rates and that these keep pace with the rising cost of living.

• Encourage States to establish legal frameworks promoting respect for the moral and intellectual rights of the authors of derived works.

• Urge public bodies to include in the rules for grants for publishing translated works the obligation that there be a contract complying with intellectual property law which respects the rights of translators as authors, and to promote good practices, including fair remuneration.

Signed in Barcelona, on April 21, 2023 by:

Alison Lucre Rodríguez, FIT President
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