

Collaborative Easy Language in Higher Education

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■ Accessibility in Higher Education

Training in translation changed a lot in the last 20 years.

Students started studying accessibility.

Accessibility in translation includes:

- subtitling for the deaf and hard of hearing
- audiodescription
- sign languages
- plain language
- and easy language.

These are part of Media Accessibility.

But many Higher Education institutions do not teach Media Accessibility to their students of translation.

In Portugal

only 4 Higher Education institutions offer some modes of accessibility.

The Polytechnic Institute of Bragança is one of these institutions.

■ The Polytechnic Institute of Bragança

The Polytechnic Institute of Bragança has a master degree in translation.

Bragança is a city in Portugal.

Our students learn about subtitling, audiodescription, plain language and easy language.

Plain language and easy language are part of the course in Revision and Edition in the 2nd year of the master. This started in 2021/2022.

■ The class projects

In 2021/2022 students of the master in translation started working in easy language.

They worked in group to translate texts into easy language.

These were the projects translated:

- COVID manual of the School of Education in Bragança
- and 8 guides written by the National Institute of Rehabilitation in Portugal.

These guides were about:

- How to help a blind person
- How to help a person in a wheelchair
- How to adapt a house to a Deaf person
- How to use a wheelchair
- Technical aids for the bath
- Language acquisition
- Hearing disability
- And mental health.

Students collaborated in group to simplify their texts.

The professor helped them solve their problems.

Then the students validated their texts with people with intellectual disability from Academia dos Santos Mártires.

This was done in 2 rounds.

■ Acknowledgments

We wish to thank the Academia dos Santos Mártires in Bragança.