

Bridging the Language Gap

From AI to Z: Exploring new collaboration models
between Interpreters and AI



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Your language \neq My language



1950s Machine Translation

When Machine Translation was first introduced, many believed it would soon replace human translators

Seventy years later, we're still here...

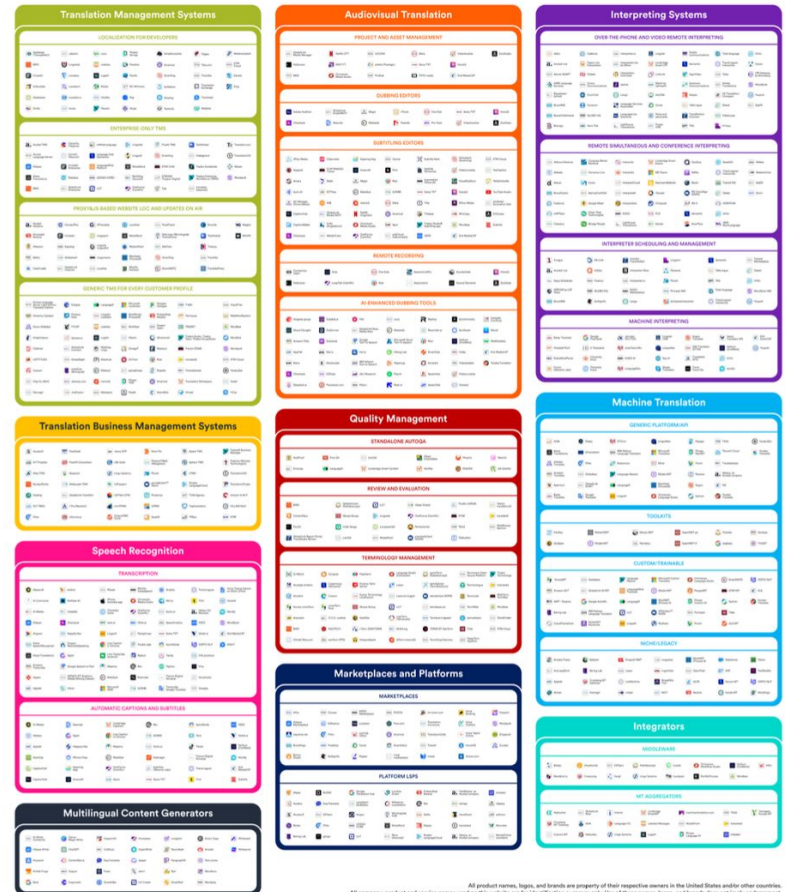
But are we still safe?

> 30 years accelerated progress

Internet, cloud computing, mobile,
software as a Service, Big Tech

Language Tech Landscape

Dynamic, growing, ever evolving



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Large Language Models (LLMs)

If MT has not replaced us, neither will LLMs

LLMs were not designed for translation but offer broader applications for collaboration:

- **Quality estimation**
- **Automated post-editing**
- **Terminology extraction**
- **Transcreation**
- **Custom model training**

Media Localization

Synthetic voice technology

in corporate training and event interpretation.

01

AI-driven dubbing

Platforms like Deepdub and Voiseed used in corporate videos, documentaries, and international broadcasts.

02

Voice cloning

Ericsson and Meta AI are advancing voice cloning for authenticity in conference interpretation and video dubbing,

Remote Simultaneous Interpreting (RSI)

Machine interpreting

KUDO and Interprefy introduced machine interpreting (MI), for cost-effective, automatic interpretation—mainly for low-stakes settings.

Computer-Assisted Interpreting (CAI)

Tools like smarterp&me and INTERPRETBANK assist interpreters by providing real-time translations, names, numbers, and conversions during live interpretation sessions.

Repetitive, low-complexity tasks



Speed and scalability



Nuance, precision and cultural sensitivity



Trust and quality assurance



Replicating industry expertise



Imagine a world...

...where all interpreters take a day off
and global communications rely solely on AI

What would happen to diplomacy, business, and international relations?



But where we go from here requires a new perspective
On future collaboration models between interpreters and AI

The dark side of innovation

Disintermediation. Platformication. Commoditization.



Commoditization and pricing pressure

Lower rates = race to the bottom

vs

Increased earning potential for specialized work

Premium rates for high-skill interpreters

Quality concerns and reputation Risk

Who is accountable for AI-assisted interpretation and potential quality dilution?

vs

Steady stream of work

Platform-facilitated jobs and efficiency in matching Jobs

Intellectual property and data concerns

Loss of control over work output and limited client relationships

vs

Access to a global client base

Increased exposure and opportunities in diverse sectors

Gig economy drawbacks

Lack of benefits and guaranteed income

vs

Flexibility and remote work

Work from anywhere and better work-life balance

Increased competition from AI

Devaluation of routine work

vs

Upskilling and technological adaptation

Learning and collaboration with AI

?



Competition = Opportunity

Whenever there is risk of disruption, new opportunities arise.
Most of them we don't fully understand today

Reasons

to be cheerful and optimistic!

Today's **AI Paradox**

AI is getting better at understanding languages,
but it still doesn't understand what we mean

To improve **AI outcomes**

We need more humans
with the right context, skills and qualifications

Growing demand from AI Companies

AI model builders and companies using AI will increasingly need interpreters for training, maintaining, and controlling their models:

- Multilingual data annotation and curation
- Bias detection and cultural sensitivity
- Real-time monitoring and validation
- Training AI for complex language use cases
- Testing and fine-tuning AI across languages
- Collaborating on multimodal AI systems
- Ethical and regulatory compliance

Human-in-the-Loop

Maintaining human oversight in AI-driven interpreting, especially in high-stakes and nuanced scenarios, is what makes human interpreters essential.

01

Specialization and high-quality

Providing specialized human interpretation for industries where high levels of expertise, accuracy, precision, and trust are crucial are required.

02

Cultural Intelligence

Offering value-added services that emphasize the human touch, such as culturally sensitive interpretation and deep contextual understanding.

New Business Models and Services



Over 50% of language service agencies now use **machine translation (MT)** and AI tools in their services.

New Business Models and Services



SwissBERT

Multilingual NLP model provides advanced language understanding, enhancing business communication across languages.

Quazel

AI-powered personalized language tutoring for conversational fluency.

Aivia

Real-time speech translation into audio and captions.

New Business Models and Services



Personalisation and customization

Providers like **Text Shuffle** combine AI with language specialists to deliver brand-specific multilingual communication, allowing businesses to customize tone, terminology, and style.

New Business Models and Services



Upskilling and skillset evolution

Adapt by learning how to work alongside AI, focusing on areas where AI struggles (e.g., cultural and emotional context, industry specific domains, etc).

Training programs

AI literacy and data annotation skills are now critical for language professionals. Swiss initiatives will focus on training programs to align language expertise with AI technology.

When AI Outcomes Improve



Demand for Interpretation Services Will Grow Even More

6'000-7'000

Spoken Languages

Tech and Globalisation

will drive demand. Let's continue to make the world our oyster.

Democratizing access

AI will make interpreting services more affordable and accessible for Multilingual Conferences and Meetings and Live Broadcasting

Culture and Preservation

Let's collaborate to preserve the 40% of languages at risk of extinction

Key Takeaways

Congratulations

You are a part of one of the most dynamic
and most fascinating industries in the world

Competition = Opportunity

Whenever there is risk of disruption, new opportunities arise.
Most of them we don't fully understand today

Coexistence and Collaboration

AI products are tools, not substitutions. In hybrid models, AI can handle low-priority tasks while you manage complex scenarios

AI Literacy

Upskilling and skillset evolution are key to your sustained success

Stay curious. Be like a kid.

Adapt, own it, make it yours ❤️

Bridging the Language Gap

Thank you



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