

## **In the beginning was the Word – Oral and Written Legal Discourses**

Under the motto "In the beginning was the word", this panel welcomes proposals on verbal productions in the various areas of Law in order to identify and reflect on the status and treatment of the word in oral and written Legal Discourses - with a special focus on linguistics and translation, and their various theoretical approaches.

The linguistic analysis of legal discourses in its multiple manifestations reveals syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features in the service of relevant aspects, such as abstraction, generality, neutrality and ambiguity. The same occurs with meaning and the power of the word in/of the legislative, judicial and academic areas, amongst others, where - in addition to what is stated - they import (linguistic and discursive) moods, context and recipient(s) into the plural construction of the legal effect and its application.

On the other hand, legal translation, as an activity of cultural and linguistic reformulation of the set of particularities and circumstances of the legal discourses, greatly enforces the relevance of the (original) word in the linguistic transcoding and/or in its creative appropriation with a view to its manifestation in the reality of the target language and culture. Its analysis provides us with a view of its effects as well as the underlying methods and strategies.