

Chapter 11

11. National Institutions and Authorities

Learning Objectives

In this unit, you will

- work with websites of Czech national authorities and institutions
- look up various documents
- do a research and create a glossary
- translate a document from Czech into English

Key words

- national authorities and institutions
- key terms
- glossary

Constitutional Court

National institutions provide important information on their websites in both Czech and English languages. This can be useful for translators as they can use databases with translated documents, research particular topics or create glossaries. To be able to take advantage of the published mirror texts, you must be able to search for particular documents. In this unit, you will be asked to work with websites of the Constitutional court to find mirror texts of decisions on the topic you worked with in the previous unit.

Task

Go to the Constitutional Court website and locate both the English and Czech versions of the decisions concerning the judgment of The Treaty of Lisbon.

Now you know

- that most Czech national institutions have their websites in both Czech and English language
- that you can find translations of decisions made by the national authorities in Czech and English translations on their websites
- where to look for documents on the Constitutional Court websites

Key

The following two decisions are to be found on the website both in Czech language and its English translation.

Pl.ÚS 29/09 Lisabonská smlouva pozměňující Smlouvu o Evropské unii a Smlouvu o založení Evropského společenství II

2009/11/03 - Pl. ÚS 29/09: Treaty of Lisbon II

<http://www.concourt.cz/view/pl-29-09>

Pl.ÚS 19/08 Lisabonská smlouva pozměňující Smlouvu o Evropské unii a Smlouvu o založení Evropského společenství

2008/11/26 - Pl. ÚS 19/08: Treaty of Lisbon I

<http://www.concourt.cz/view/pl-19-08>

Using Ministries' Webpages

Most national institutions and agencies run the English version of their websites. These can be very useful reference sources when translating from English into Czech. You can use them as reference, to look up a definition of a particular term, to look up a name of a document in the TL or to create a glossary of terms for a particular more or less specific topic that the national institution or agency may address. In this unit, you will look up documents in both SL and TL and you will create a glossary of terms for a specific topic.

iDevice Task I

Read the following situation and complete the task.

Situation:

You were assigned a translation of a legal action against your client concerning a damage caused by a product which your client produces.

Before translating the assigned document, you have decided to consult the relevant legislation. Find the English version of the MoIT website and look for an act dealing with Liability for Damage. After locating the English version of the Act, find its Czech counterpart.

Before you go over to task II, read the following feedback. In case you did not manage to complete the task, it will help you to do so.

Feedback to task I:

As you should have found out, the download of the Czech version of the Act is missing. In your situation, you would have several options of what to do.

1. You can use n-lex database <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/n-lex>
2. You can use <http://portal.gov.cz>
3. You can use other websites such as <http://www.uplnezneni.cz/>
4. You can use a search engine to locate the act on the internet
5. You could contact the MoIT

Task II

Find the corresponding Czech version of the Act on Responsibility for Damage Due to Defect of a Product and create a glossary of terms that you might need for your translation.

Now you can

- use the English websites of Czech national authorities to look up a document addressing a particular topic
- use several ways to locate a document online
- create a glossary for a specific topic

Government Site

As most Czech national institutions use translators to provide Czech into English translations, in this unit, your task will be to do a short Czech into English translation.

Task

You will be given a link to an attached document which you will translate. It is a document produced by Committee for EU, which is the government's advisory body. You can use the following link to explore the governmental webpages before you start translating. You can also use any other relevant websites and/or tools to complete your translation.

[Government site](#)

Now you can

- use the government site to find relevant information
- use such information in your translation