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PRESS RELEASE
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XII INTERNATIONAL FORUM IN LIMA

FIT as catalyst to Regional and International Success

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES TRADUCTEURS
La voix des associations de traducteurs, d’interprètes et de terminologues à travers le monde

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSLATORS
The voice of associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world

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Opening Ceremony of XII Forum; Keynote Address; Roundtable on Indigenous Languages in Legal Settings
From 7-9 October, Lima, Peru became the focal point for the Translators, Interpreters and Terminologists across the world when over 550 experts, colleagues and students from 15 countries gathered at the XII International Forum on Legal Translation and Interpreting to discuss the latest research and trends in the ever-changing landscape of legal translation and court interpreting.

The Forum was opened by Liese Katchinka, former Chair of the FIT Legal Interpreting and Translation Committee, standing in for the current Chair, Monique Rouzet-Lelièvre who was unfortunately delayed en route. Outlining the history of this Forum, Liese congratulated joint local organisers - Colegio de Traductores del Peru (CTP), one of two FIT members in the country, our host Universidad Femenina del Sagrado Corazón (UNIFÉ), with its long history of translation and interpreting degrees, and Universidad Ricardo Palma (URP), Universidad César Vallejo (UCV) and Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) on organising the biggest gathering in the Forum’s history.

Following a celebration of Peruvian culture in front of a packed auditorium, President Henry Liu gave the topical keynote entitled ¿Disruption in Court!? - The Changing Face of Legal Translation and Court Interpreting where he touched on key challenges legal systems face in a globalised, mobile world. He also highlighted the critical roles professional legal translators and interpreters play in local, regional and international legal settings including refugee determination. He concluded by emphasising the leadership role local professional associations must play, with international and regional backing from FIT, in advocacy and maintaining standards in legal translation and court interpreting thus ensuring due process for all.

Of particular interest was the Roundtable on legal translation and court interpreting for indigenous languages - the first and timely gathering of this nature for all stakeholders.
This important area will feature prominently in the XXI FIT World Congress in Brisbane in 2017. FIT President also held talks with some of the stakeholders during the Forum.

In a parallel event, all members of FIT LatAm signed a declaration, to be known as the Lima Declaration, calling on regional governments to support and foster education and recognition for translators and interpreters (see separate Press Release).

Active social media interest on Facebook and #FOROFIT reflected the XII International Forum’s overwhelming success. FIT congratulates the Colegio de Traductores del Peru, Universidad Femenina del Sagrado Corazón, Universidad Ricardo Palma, Universidad César Vallejo and Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas on hosting a dynamic and rewarding event showcasing the strength of the industry in Peru and Latin America.