

ACCESS SERVICES EXPERTS MEETING 2023

Date: 15-16 June 2023

Venue: RTS Gallery, Takovska 10, Belgrade, Serbia

EBU contacts: Francesca Scott and Paul Harrison - Contact details below

AGENDA

PRE-EVENT: THURSDAY 15 JUNE 2023

16:30	PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
17:00	PRESENTATION: RTS ACCESS SERVICES (EBU MEMBERS ONLY)
17:45	GUIDED TOUR OF RTS HEADQUARTERS (EBU MEMBERS ONLY)
19:00	COCKTAILS (OPEN TO ALL)

PLENARY MEETING: FRIDAY 16 JUNE 2023

08:30	PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
09:00	WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS EBU, EBU Access Services Bureau and RTS
09:15	KEYNOTE – “AI: WHAT BENEFITS? A TURBO-CHARGE FOR ACCESS SERVICES IN PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA?” Presentation followed by Q&A with the audience. Ruth Kühn, Senior Technology Manager, Deutsche Welle Kay Macquarrie, Innovation Manager, Deutsche Welle
09:55	FRANCE TELEVISIONS’ SUBTITLING QUALITY EVALUATION AND SPORTS ACCESSIBILITY PLANS France Télévisions will share its methodology to assess its subtitling quality, techniques and the role of AI subtitling in its workflow. The presentation will look at FTV’s preparation for making major sporting events accessible such as the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Tour de France. Presentation followed by Q&A with the audience. Mathieu Parmentier, France Télévisions Access manager
10:15	COFFEE BREAK

10:35

RTVE'S NEW TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

RTVE presents two new technology solutions in this session.

RTVE has developed SIGALSE (Sistema Inteligente de Gestión Automatizada de la Lengua de Signos Española). A new tool that allows deaf viewers to adjust the size, position and background of sign language interpreters. Allowing personalization to each viewer's requirements during RTVE programming.

RTVE has also developed a SIGAS subtitling system to adjust to last-minute schedule changes and live programming on its sports channel, Teledporte, to ensure the subtitling runs effectively.

Presentation followed by Q&A with the audience.

[Francisco Armero, Technical Director of Broadcasting & Head of Access Services, RTVE](#)
[Angel García Crespo, Carlos III University](#)

10:55

VPRO TYPECAST - PODCASTS FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING AUDIENCE

VPRO has developed TypeCast, a podcast player for deaf and hard-of-hearing audiences. Making podcasts more accessible for all audiences. VPRO will describe the tool, share their experiences, challenges and insights.

[Ines Van Den Adel, Journalism Coordinator, VPRO](#)

11:15

VRT AUDIO DESCRIPTION FOR BLIND FOOTBALL FANS

A case study in live audio description for blind football fans. VRT carried out a pilot project during the 2022 World Cup to provide a live in-stadium experience for spectators who are blind.

[Jan-Willem van Hoof, Team lead, Audio description, VRT](#)

11:35

AVATAR-BASED JAPANESE SIGN LANGUAGE GENERATION SYSTEM

NHK unveiled its innovative sign language generation system, featuring computer-generated sign language avatars. NHK will outline their technology and workflow for creating sign language animation using AI and computer-generated content.

[Tsubasa Uchida, Researcher, NHK - STRL \(Science Technology Research Laboratories\)](#)

11:55

[W3C TIMED TEXT GROUP UPDATE](#)

Opening up dubbing and audio description

If you commission or write audio description or dubbing scripts, what format do they need to be in? The W3C Timed Text group is developing an open standard format. This session will describe the tool, what problems it solves and who it is for.

Accessibility Standards

An overview of work done in the EBU Timed Text group looking at the accessibility aspects of working in the EBU. Insights and recommendations for more accessible and inclusive workplaces."

[Nigel Megitt, Executive Product Manager, BBC, & Chair of the EBU Timed Text Group](#)

12:15

SESSION WRAP-UP

12:220

LUNCH

- 13:45** **EASY LANGUAGE SELSI PROJECT**
RTVSLO will present its collaboration with SELSI. A project, co-funded by the European Union, to develop strategies and recommendations for the implementation of spoken Easy language in audiovisual content.
- Presentation by [Andrej Tomazin, RTVSLO](#)
- YLE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION PROGRAMS IN EASY FINNISH**
As part of its election coverage Yle produced programs in easy Finnish to present the themes of the elections in plain language to audiences with cognitive and learning disabilities and from migrant backgrounds.
- Presentation by [Minna Pöntys, Strategic Head of Accessibility, YLE](#)
- The session will conclude with a roundtable conversation & Q&As
- Panel discussion, moderated by [Siri Antonsen, Head of Accessibility & Diversity, NRK](#)
- 14:40** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15:00** **FOCUS ACCESS SERVICES AT EBU MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (MEMBERS ONLY)**
- A nominee from each member organization is invited to share in a 3-minute presentation on key access services and accessibility priorities for their company by addressing:
Current Focus, Challenges, Future Focus & Nice to Have.
- Kindly submit presentations and speaker name to harrison@ebu.ch
by close of business **5th June 2023**
- Speakers running order: TBA
- 16:15** **PLENARY SUMMARY**
- 16:30** **END OF THE EVENT**

Contact details:

EBU Event coordination: Paul Harrison - harrison@ebu.ch / **+41 79 565 16 78** (WhatsApp text messaging only)
Please note that he will work with two British Sign Language interpreters during the event.

RTS On-Day event logistics: Nevena Popović - +381 64 861 13 24
Nevena speaks fluent English & French