

**Script for video message from Catherine Pollard  
for Award Ceremony for the 14<sup>th</sup> St. Jerome Translation Contest**

Greetings from New York. Thank you for allowing me to say a few words at the awards ceremony for the 14<sup>th</sup> St. Jerome Translation Contest. I'm so sorry that I cannot be there with you in Vienna.

As United Nations Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Coordinator for Multilingualism, it's a pleasure and honour for me to welcome you all to today's ceremony, hosted by the Conference Management Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna.

This year, we once again celebrate the creativity, imagination and dexterity that have become the hallmarks of the St. Jerome Translation Contest.

In addition to the many UN duty stations whose staff sent entries, we also have contestants from Bamako, Jerusalem, Buenos Aires, Tashkent and Melbourne.

More than 270 contestants from over 45 countries submitted translations in 7 languages.

They include current serving staff, retirees, current and former interns, colleagues from across the UN system and staff of permanent missions to the United Nations.

Students from 21 different partner universities also participated.

The popularity of this DGACM initiative continues to grow. What started in 2005 as a local home-brewed contest among English translators at UN Headquarters in New York, has now become a truly global competition.

The geographical reach of the contest also demonstrates how multilingualism, a recognized core value of the United Nations, can build on the UN's workforce to achieve its full potential and promote unity in diversity, international

understanding, tolerance and dialogue that are quintessential to our multilateral system.

Through events such as this, we demonstrate to the world our commitment to this core value and we hope to stimulate the desire to work in the field of languages.

As the number of contestants grows each year, so does the challenge for the judges. I wish to acknowledge their efforts. Without their expertise, dedication and diligence, the contest would not enjoy the prestige it has come to have.

I also wish to extend my appreciation to the Conference Management Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna for having organized the Contest this year.

I would like to thank all contestants for their enthusiasm and continuing interest. Without your active participation, there would be no contest.

Lastly, a hearty congratulations to all our winners. Well-done!