

## 4.11.4. Interpretation in the health system

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Interpretation in the context of health care was an area of focus in some EU+ countries. For example, in 2022 France continued to reinforce interpretation services for asylum applicants requiring health care,[947](#) and the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration in Italy announced a national project to define the training curriculum of the transcultural mediator in the health sector.[948](#)

The Health Service Executive in Ireland launched a public procurement to offer standardised translation/interpretation services in all health services in early 2022,[949](#) while in Switzerland, civil society organisations recommended that information is provided in a language understood by the applicant when accessing health and social services.[950](#)

Hospitals in Greece faced critical shortages in interpreting services to ensure communication with patients, especially for languages like Bangla, Tigrinya, Somali or other African dialects.[951](#) UNHCR provided support with interpretation at hospitals.

In support of interpreters, Translators without Borders and Oxfam published a tip sheet to address sociolinguistic barriers on sensitive topics and to support their mental health.[952](#)

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- [948](#)Ministry of the Interior | Ministero dell'interno. (2022, November 23). Pubblicazione atti relativi al progetto PROG 3857 - "Promozione della figura del mediatore transculturale specializzato in ambito sanitario all'interno del Sistema di accoglienza per i migranti" [Publication of acts related to project PROG 3857 - "Promotion of the role of transcultural mediator specialised in health care within the migrant reception system"]. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/amministrazione-trasparente/bandi-gara-e->

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- [949](#)Ministry of the Interior | Ministero dell'interno. (2022, November 23). Pubblicazione atti relativi al progetto PROG 3857 - "Promozione della figura del mediatore transculturale specializzato in ambito sanitario all'interno del Sistema di accoglienza per i migranti" [Publication of acts related to project PROG 3857 - "Promotion of the role of transcultural mediator specialised in health care within the migrant reception system"]. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/amministrazione-trasparente/bandi-gara-e-contratti/pubblicazione-atti-relativi-progetto-prog-3857-promozione-figura-mediatore-transculturale-specializzato-ambito-sanitario-allinterno-sistema-accoglienza-i-migranti>
- [950](#)humanrights.ch. (July 2022). Contribution of the Swiss NGO Platform for Human Rights. Universal Periodic Review of Switzerland, 4th Cycle. [https://www.humanrights.ch/cms/upload/pdf/2022/220720\\_UPR\\_Bericht\\_NGO\\_Plattform.pdf](https://www.humanrights.ch/cms/upload/pdf/2022/220720_UPR_Bericht_NGO_Plattform.pdf)
- [951](#)Network for Children's Rights | Δίκτυο για τα Δικαιώματα του Παιδιού. (2023). Input to the Asylum Report 2023. [https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-02/network\\_for\\_children\\_rights.pdf](https://euaa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-02/network_for_children_rights.pdf)
- [952](#)Oxfam International, & Translators without Borders. (2021). Six tips for humanitarians working with interpreters on sensitive topics. <https://translatorswithoutborders.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/TIP-SHEET-Interpretation-and-Sensitive-Topics-EN.pdf>