



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR INTERPRETATION

PROVISION OF INTERPRETATION DIRECTORATE  
**Multilingualism and Interpreter Training Support**

## **YOUNG INTERPRETERS AWARD 2017**

### INFORMATION SHEET

The "Young Interpreters Award" - formerly known as the "Leopoldo Costa Prize" - was created in 2002 to honour the memory of Leopoldo Costa (1945-2000), Senior Interpreter at DG Interpretation, undoubtedly one of the most outstanding interpreters of his generation. (*See further details in the Background Information section below*)

#### **WHAT IS IT?**

SCIC's annual speech writing competition on a given theme – usually the theme of the annual SCIC-Universities Conference or related.

#### **WHO CAN APPLY ?**

The competition is open to all students in their final year of Masters in Conference Interpreting who are nationals of an EU or candidate country.

#### **WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?**

Once the theme is chosen, the competition is launched and students are invited to send their entries (+/- 5.500 characters) either in English, French or German, within a specific deadline. The entries are then examined by a Selection Committee formed of several experienced SCIC staff.

For this fifteenth edition of the contest the theme was "***Building capacities in a changing world***" and 32 entries were received (24 in EN, 4 in FR and 4 in DE) from students from 18 universities. The entries were assessed by a jury formed of seven experienced SCIC staff.

#### **AND THE AWARDS GO TO...**

The authors of the three best entries are invited on a three-day trip to Brussels, during which they are accompanied by an experienced SCIC staff interpreter (since 2015 Mr Giordano Spiga) and have the opportunity to:

- ✓ Visit SCIC and meet management representatives
- ✓ See the world's largest interpreting service at work
- ✓ Practice interpreting at one meeting of the European Union (dummy booth)
- ✓ Attend a preparatory session on communication and presentation skills
- ✓ Participate in DG Interpretation's annual conference and be presented the award certificates during a public ceremony. The First Prize winner is also invited to deliver his/her speech to the audience.

DG SCIC pays for the three winners' travel, accommodation and daily allowance (50 EUR per day for a maximum of three days).

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## THE WINNERS OF THE YIA 2017

### **1. Ms Julia Kleinenberg**

Age: 25

Nationality: Dutch

University: Bath University, UK

### **2. Ms Jennifer Röll**

Age: 26

Nationality: German

University: Heidelberg University, Germany

### **3. Ms Annika Schlesiger**

Age: 25

Nationality: German

University: Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz (Germersheim), Germany

## **Background information**

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With an extraordinary array of working languages, Leopoldo Costa was known for an unflagging commitment to quality, tempered by unassuming modesty and a dry sense of humour. These qualities made him an invaluable source of advice and assistance to the less-experienced interpreters and particularly to students to whom he gave unstinting support throughout his career.

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