

Workflow and Resources for ACA Translations

This guide outlines the recommended workflow for ACA translation teams, from formation to publication. All resources are linked for easy reference.

Phase 1: Team Formation & Licensing

Initiate:

- Members decide to translate ACA literature and contact ACA WSO and the [Translations Subcommittee](#).
✉ translations@acawso.org / pubsupport@acawso.org
- They are invited to participate in the monthly Translation Subcommittee meetings and to join the [ACA WSO slack channel](#), where they have a dedicated space for questions and exchange between translators and committee members.

Verification of Existing Teams:

- **No team exists:** Members are encouraged to gather at least two or three people to form a [group conscience](#). Contact with the [Intergroup](#) or [local meeting](#) is recommended. If no meeting exists yet, starting with the Foundational Literature helps place materials on the [WSO website](#) and supports [new meetings](#).
- **A language team exists (but not for the publication):** New members are encouraged to connect with the existing team, use the glossary and style guide, and seek shared guidance.
- **An active team exists (language and publication):** The interested member is connected with the team so efforts remain coordinated.

Note: [WSO does not license multiple groups for the same publication](#); therefore, each team is asked to designate a *point of contact* (often called the **Language Coordinator**).

Licensing:

- Each team member should request a [Translation License Agreement](#) for the publications they intend to translate and will receive access to the **English master files** for the items they have signed for.
 - Licenses are **valid for 12 months**. Teams must *renew expired licenses* to remain active and maintain access to the files and the system. We ask that any changes in members and/or contact information be communicated promptly to avoid access problems.
 - At least quarterly, teams are asked to submit the status of work in progress through the [Translation Status Form](#).
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Phase 2: Glossary, Foundational Literature & Style Guide

1. Glossary

Teams begin with the [TMS Glossary Template](#), which is the starting point for translation consistency. It includes terminology from ACA's Foundational Literature and Core Concepts.

- Additional terms can be added gradually, in line with the publications being worked on.
- For reference, consult the [Foundation Glossary](#) for meaning, context and ideas of other terms that might be useful to include.

2. Foundational Literature

After the glossary, teams translate the [Foundational Literature](#) directly in the TMS or provide an **Alignment document** (excel file with English and translation side by side) so it can be imported.

- o These texts are short (usually one page), quick to translate, and provide training and familiarity with the system (for those that will use it).
- o Translating them first helps build the **Translation Memory (TM)**, since this content is repeated across many ACA publications.
- o They also provide essential material to carry ACA's message early in the process.

3. **Style Guide (optional but recommended)**

Once the Foundational Literature has been translated, teams can begin creating or expanding their current [Style Guide](#), if this has already been developed. At this stage, many stylistic decisions will already have been made, so documenting them ensures consistency across publications.

- o The Style Guide becomes a reference point for all translators and later serves as the basis for the [Translator's Note](#).

Note: Both the glossary and the style guide are **living documents**. They should be updated continuously as new challenges, terms, and style decisions arise during the translation process.

Phase 3: Main Publication Translation

Access to Licensed Files

Once the Glossary and the Foundational Literature have been translated, the team receives access to the licensed publications inside the TMS.

If the team decides to work offline (outside the system) we provide an alignment document containing the English content and the **Machine Translation (MT)**, side by side, for post-editing.

- Whether working inside or outside the system, access is granted one chapter at a time. Once a chapter is delivered (submitted), another one is released.
- After the submission of each chapter, the team is granted access to the generated PDF for final review.
- Any modifications identified during this review phase must be re-imported into the system so that a new corrected PDF can be generated and approved for publication. (This review cycle may be repeated as many times as necessary until final approval is achieved)

Note: Teams are also encouraged to translate the additional [Free Literature](#) pieces. These short texts help spread the ACA message quickly.

Importing Partial, Completed and Legacy Translations

- Teams that began translating before contacting WSO Publishing will need to import their work into the system in order to complete the process there and benefit from the pre-formatted output.
- Teams that already have a published translation may also choose to import it. Doing so helps build the Translation Memory (TM), allowing content reuse when the same material appears in other publications.

In all cases, the team will need to provide an alignment document in an excel file, with the source and target languages side by side. WSO can supply the template with the source column prefilled, following the standard workflow (one chapter at a time).

- This step is optional for previously published materials but strongly recommended.
- For manual translations (partial or completed), routing the content through the system becomes necessary.

From this point forward, typesetting is managed within the TMS. Centralizing the process allows WSO to reduce external production costs, increase consistency, and make better use of limited resources.

Phase 4: Preparation for Publication

1. After the translation stage is completed, the teams are expected to translate the [Accessible Documents](#) related to the publication. These include metadata, image descriptions, and alt text.
 2. At this point, teams may also prepare a [Translator's Note](#) (optional but recommended). The Translator's Note usually presents important linguistic decisions, cultural adaptations, or clarifications that may help readers understand how the translation was approached.
 3. For books that contain an **index** (such as the BRB and SMR), page numbers are finalized during this phase. **Important:** *when a Translator's Note is included, it needs to be completed before the index is finalized, as it may affect pagination.*
 4. Once all required materials are ready, they are submitted with the translated manuscript through the [Publishing Intake Form](#). / For Free Literature, please use the [Free Literature Intake Form](#).
 5. A confirmation email is then sent to the person who submitted the form with instructions for the typesetting phase. During this stage, typeset reviewers are invited to sign an NDA and examine the formatted drafts according to a defined schedule. At this point, content changes are no longer possible; only minor typographical corrections can be made. More info: [Final Review of Typeset Document](#)
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Phase 5: Publication & Distribution

1. **Production Confirmation format e-book production**
 - o All main publications are produced as e-books.**Printing & Proof Approval**
 - o Printing preparation may occur in parallel with the completion of the typeset review and e-book production.
 - o For the print phase to proceed, approval of the first proof of the cover, spine, and sample pages is required.
 2. **Fellowship Review and feedback submission:** Once the book is published, members of the Fellowship are welcome to review the content and submit suggestions for future editions using the [Translations Feedback Form](#).
 3. **Publication on the ACA WSO Website**

Obtaining bulk stock for Local Intergroups/Meetings: Registered intergroups receive a 60% discount on the first 300 printed copies. After that, a 30% discount remains available on future orders. Orders can be placed through the [International Literature Order Request Form](#).

Online Sales for individual copies: Individual copies can be purchased directly through the [ACA WSO Shop](#).

Publications may also be available through online retailers, including Amazon, depending on the country.
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Optional: [International Literature Fund \(ILF\) Request](#)

Meetings and Intergroups may apply for ILF support to help:

- subsidize initial literature purchases for emerging groups;
- adjust prices to improve global affordability;
- hire professional proofreaders and indexers to strengthen translation quality.

For questions about TMS: tms@acawso.org / for questions about typesetting: pubstaff@acawso.org / and for feedback on any publishing process: pubadmin@acawso.org