



DEONTOLOGICAL CODE OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS AND GUIDE-INTERPRETERS OF CATALONIA.

INTRODUCTION

The Deontological code of ethics developed and approved by ACiLS (Association of Sign Language Interpreters and Guide-Interpreters of Catalonia) sets the course of action for sign language interpreters and guide-interpreters (SLI-GI) who carry out their work in Catalonia.

Any professional in possession of the corresponding qualification or accreditation, obtained through regulated training or relevant professional certificate, is considered a SLI-GI.

The current code is mandatory for all professionals who practice this profession in Spain.

The internal rules that regulate possible violations of the deontological code of ethics will also be applied to this group of professionals.

DEONTOLOGICAL CODE

The SLI-GI must always act in a professional manner and will assume responsibility.

Therefore, during the exercise of their functions:

1. They must always maintain an impartial attitude with their actions and behavior. They will reflect the neutrality that corresponds to their task, avoiding procedures that presuppose custody, advice or control. For the same reason, they must not assume functions that are not derived from the profession, and the necessary professional distance must be ensured.

The SLI-GI must maintain a neutral and acceptable personal presence for each situation, avoiding any type of connotations.

2. They must absolutely respect the confidential nature of their activity. This principle may be void if:
 - a. They are required as a witness or accused of certain events in a judicial situation.
 - b. During the interpretation, a conflict of verbal or physical violence arises, where the professional SLI-GI does not want to participate, considering that he/she must be able to justify his/her non-participation.



3. They must transmit the message and the intention of what is expressed in it, so that the result faithfully adheres to the original message. They must carry out their work by promoting complete communication and they must adapt their discourse in each case to the communication skills of the users.
4. They must be aware of their professional capabilities and, therefore, they must decline those services that they consider to be beyond their abilities. If they cannot provide the service, they must inform the users and/or the contracting party with a reasonable amount of time in advance.
5. They must consider the established ethics and those of the profession, therefore:
 - a. They must maintain a flexible attitude in situations of interpreting and guiding for deafblind interpreting.
 - b. They need to show respect for their dignity and the users' dignity.
 - c. They must avoid their personal benefit and/or advantage and they must not express their personal and/or academic merits.
 - d. They may refuse to provide a service if their personal values dictate so.
 - e. Their training has to be continuous, permanent and updated.
6. In the context of an interpreting service, the professionals must:
 - a. Inform about the necessary conditions for a suitable interpreting service, and about the profession in general, if necessary.
 - b. Go by the established market rates, the contracting party must be informed in advance, and must avoid entering into unfair competition with other professionals.
 - c. Provide, if possible, a substitute in case of justified impossibility to provide an interpreting service.
 - d. Prepare the interpretation service adequately.
 - e. Save a reasonable time for the service execution.
 - f. Respect punctuality standards.
 - g. Know the identity of their colleagues and the users, if that is the case, but they must always act professionally and maintain the confidentiality of what is interpreted even if they know the involved and interested parties.
 - h. They have the right to give up interpreting tasks if a verbal or physical violent conflict arises, and the professional SLI-GI does not want to participate.
7. They must ensure the profession's honorability and prestige, always maintaining a critical, respectful and supportive attitude towards other colleagues.

