Words and Images:
International Symposium on Comics and/in Translation

13-14 May 2027 (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)



Comics, manga and graphic novels create meaning through the interplay of words, images, lettering and layout. Translating them, therefore, involves negotiating not only language but also visual relationships, cultural references and material constraints. The international symposium **Words and Images** invites contributions on the translation of comics from theoretical, historical, professional and pedagogical perspectives, with a particular interest in how translation reshapes the text-image relationship and how comics circulate across languages, cultures and media.

We welcome proposals from scholars, translators, educators, publishers and other professionals, and especially those that bring academic research and translation practice into dialogue.



Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- **Multimodality:** text-image relations, lettering, typography and layout.
- **Translation strategies:** humour, wordplay, onomatopoeias and cultural references.
- **Circulation and reception:** international publishing, localization, fan translation and scanlation.
- **Ideology and representation:** identity, gender, censorship and the translator's agency.
- **Adaptation across media:** comics and film, series, anime and video games.
- **Accessibility and inclusion:** accessible formats and audio description of comics.
- **Technology:** machine translation, AI and digital tools.
- **Professional practice, history and pedagogy of comics translation.**

Languages and format

Presentations may be given in **English**, **Spanish or Catalan** and will last **20 minutes**, followed by 10 minutes of discussion.

Submission guidelines

Please send the following by **31 January 2027**:

- Title of the presentation
- Abstract (200-300 words) outlining the topic, objectives and main focus
- Name and institutional affiliation (if any) and short bionote (100-150 words)
- Contact email
- Preferred presentation language (English, Spanish or Catalan)

Proposals should be sent through this **form**.

- **Notification of acceptance:** 5 March 2027
- **Deadline for registration:** 19 March 2027 (speakers) | 15 April 2027 (other participants)

Confirmed keynote speakers

Diego Bernardo Álvarez (Disney comic artist and graphic designer)
Scheherezade Surià (freelance translator)

Scientific Committee

Federico Zanettin (Università Ca' Foscari) | Diana Castilleja (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) | Beatriz Moriano (Universidade Nova de Lisboa) | Soledad Díaz Alarcón (Universidad de Córdoba) | Miquel Pujol-Tubau (Universitat de Vic-UCC) | Jorge Català-Carrasco (Newcastle University) | M. Cecilia de la Vega (Universidad Nacional de Córdoba) | Noriko Hiraishi (University of Tsukuba) | Auba Llompart Pons (Universitat de Vic-UCC) | Katherine Kelp-Stebbins (University of Oregon) | Halise Gülmüş Sırkıntı (Marmara Üniversitesi) | Sergio España (Universidad Pablo de Olavide) | Timothy Sirjacobs (University College Leuven-Limburg) | Dorothy Kenny (Dublin City University)

Organising Committee

Paula Igareda, Esther Gimeno Ugalde, Mariazell Eugènia Bosch
(Department of Translation and Language Sciences, Pompeu Fabra University)

Contact: comictranslation@upf.edu

Venue: Department of Translation and Language Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Campus Poblenou, Carrer Roc Boronat, 138, 08018 Barcelona Room: 55.309 (Tànger building)