

In case of difference between the English and Dutch version of the grant scheme, the Dutch source text shall prevail

Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translators

The board of the Dutch Foundation for Literature,
mindful of the Dutch General Administrative Law Act,
mindful of Article 10, Section 4 of the Dutch Cultural Policy Act,
mindful of the General Regulations of the Dutch Foundation for Literature
has decided to adopt the following Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translators

Article 1: Definitions

In these regulations, the below terms are defined as follows:

- a. *advanced translator*: a natural person who at the moment of submission of the application has completed a minimum of two translations in accordance with a Model Contract, of which at least one has already been published
- b. *beginner*: a natural person who applies for a project grant based on these regulations for a first, second or third literary translation, or for a translation from a language or language combination for which the applicant has not previously applied for a project grant
- c. *board*: the board of the Nederlands Letterenfonds|Dutch Foundation for Literature
- d. *Caribbean*: the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, consisting of the countries Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten and the three public bodies Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba
- e. *English*: the English language as used by native English speakers in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- f. *Foundation*: the Nederlands Letterenfonds|Dutch Foundation for Literature
- g. *Model Contract*: an agreement between a translator and a publisher regarding the exploitation rights in the publication, in which as a minimum the fee, terms of the royalty percentages and the license have been agreed

upon, as laid down by the Literaire Uitgeversgroep (LUG; Mediafederatie) and Auteursbond in their [Model Contract](#) for Literary Translations.

h. *Papiamento*: Papiamento and Papiamentu

i. *publisher*: a legal entity that on a continual basis is engaged in business activities for the purpose of publishing literary works, and that complies with the following conditions:

- has at its disposal an independent, expert editorial staff that supports the translator in the creation of the translation
- presents the translation or translations to be published to the book trade on a regular basis and distributes paper book publications to the mainstream book trade
- supplies its translations with an ISBN

j. *total taxable income*: the sum as defined in Article 2.18 of the Income Tax Law 2001 and as definitively determined by the inspector of the Dutch Tax Authorities in the definitive income tax assessment

k. *translation*: a literary translation in paper or electronic book form of a literary work in Dutch, Frisian or Papiamento, or for publication in English on Bonaire, Sint Maarten, Saba or Sint Eustatius

l. *website*: the website of the Nederlands Letterenfonds|Dutch Foundation for Literature, to be found at www.letterenfonds.nl

Article 2. Objective of these regulations

Based on these regulations, the Foundation can provide project grants for beginners and advanced translators for the creation of a literary translation.

Article 3: Requirements of the translation

The translation for which application is made for a grant must comply with the following conditions:

- a. at the time of application, the translation is still at an early stage
- b. the translation is made directly from the source language and does not come into being via an intermediate language
- c. the translation is made by no more than two translators
- d. the translation to be made complies with the same conditions as are laid down in Article 4, Section 2, under Subsection d, parts i to vi, with regard to the already published translation by the advanced translator, except that, contrary to those stipulations, the translation must be a minimum of 10,000 words in length

- e. in the translation, the name of the translator must appear on the copyright page and on the cover.

Article 4. Requirements of the applicant

1. If the applicant is a beginner, the applicant must comply with the following conditions:

- a. the average taxable income of the applicant in the period for which the grant is awarded is predicted to be no higher than an income limit to be determined by the board
- b. the applicant has signed a Model Contract as defined in Article 1, Section g, with the publisher of the translation the applicant is to make
- c. the application has been submitted a maximum of one month after the signing of the Model Contract, or, if the translation is to be published in the Caribbean, a maximum of one month after the compiling of a publishing plan as referred to in Article 5.

2. If the applicant is an advanced translator, the application must comply with the following conditions:

- a. the average total taxable income of the applicant in the period for which grant is awarded is predicted to be no higher than an income limit to be determined by the board
- b. with a view to the publication of the translation, the applicant has signed a Model Contract with a publisher, or alternatively the applicant has a declaration of intent from a publisher in which it is laid down that such a contract will be concluded
- c.
- c. no more than four translations by the applicant that have been subsidized by the Foundation are as yet unpublished
- d. at least one translation by the applicant that complies with the following conditions has already been published:
 - i. the translation was made from the same source language as the text that forms the basis for the application
 - ii. in the case of a translation into Dutch, the translation was published in a print run of at least 500 copies, and the translation is at least 20,000 words in length

- iii. in the case of a translation into Frisian, Papiamentu or English, the translation was published in a print run of at least 200 copies, and the translation is at least 20,000 words in length
- iv. in the case of a translation of a collection of poetry, the translation was published in a print run of at least 200 copies, and the translation is at least 20 pages in length
- v. in the case of a paper publication, the translation was distributed through the mainstream book trade, with the exception of translations published in the Caribbean
- vi. in the case of a digital publication, the translation was or will be available to the public for at least five years through various electronic channels
- vii. in the case of a translation debut, the translation was published no more than four years before the time of submission of the application.

3. The income limit as referred to in Section 1, Subsection a, and in Section 2, Subsection a, is published in the *Staatscourant* and on the Foundation's website.

Article 5. Publications in the Caribbean

If the translation is to be published in the Caribbean, there is no requirement for a Model Contract as defined in Article 1, Section g, with a publisher, nor for a declaration of intent by a publisher. Instead, the following conditions apply:

- a. the editing, publication and promotion are laid down in a publishing plan that is compiled in collaboration with a minimum of one external (publishing) partner
- b. a minimum of one external (publishing) partner provides, based on the aforementioned publishing plan, one or more of the following services: editing, publication or promotion
- c. an expert editorial staff is in place
- d. the agreements between the translator and (publishing) partners include a license; the translator therefore does not cede the entire copyright on the translation
- e. the translation will be published in a print run of at least 150 copies in the case of a paper publication
- f. the translation has a minimum length of 5,000 words in the case of prose and 10 poems in the case of poetry and

g. the translation will be published in book form within two years of the announcement of the awarding of a grant by the Foundation by those partners responsible for publication according to the agreements laid out in the publishing plan

Article 6. Grounds for rejection

An application for a grant can be rejected:

- a. if the applicant has not demonstrably complied with the obligations imposed in relation to earlier grants awarded by the Foundation, or has culpably fallen short in complying with one or more of the obligations attached to an earlier grant awarded by the Foundation
- b. if for the activities for which application is made for a grant, a grant has already been awarded by the Foundation
- c. if the application relates to the same activities as an application that has earlier been rejected on grounds of testing against the assessment criteria as defined in Article 10
- d. if the translation is to be self-published, with the exception of a translation that will be published in the Caribbean
- e. if the translator contributes to the costs of production, promotion or distribution, or if the translator purchases a number of copies for a fee, with the exception of a translation that will be published in the Caribbean, or
- f. if the planned schedule for the translation is based on more than 40,000 words per month.

Article 7. Application

1. An application consists of the following mandatory elements:

- a. a fully completed application form, as made available on the website, along with all the mandatory attachments
- b. a copy of a Model Contract as defined in Article 1, Section g, or a declaration of intent from a publisher in which it is laid down that such a contract will be concluded and which makes reference to reasonable remuneration for the translator to be laid down in the Model Contract. In the case of a declaration of intent, a copy of the Model Contract must be submitted before the board decides upon the application.

2. As an exception to Section 1, Subsection b, an application for a translation to be published in the Caribbean must include evidence that the conditions laid down in Article 5 will be complied with.
3. An application by a literary translator residing in Belgium can be submitted only to Literatuur Vlaanderen.
4. A beginner can submit an application based on these regulations a maximum of three times in total.
5. A translator can submit an application based on these regulations a maximum of four times in one year.
6. If another application by the applicant has been rejected on grounds of the quality of the translation, as defined in Article 10, Section 2, Subsection a, then a new application can be made only if new work can be assessed according to that criterium.

Article 8. Application period, apportioning system and budget ceiling

1. The Foundation deals with applications from beginners continually in the order in which they are received.
2. The Foundation deals with applications from advanced translators in the order in which they are received in a maximum of three funding rounds per year.
3. The Foundation publishes the opening and closing dates of the funding rounds, as defined in Section 2, in the *Staatscourant* and on the website.
4. The date on which the Foundation has received a complete application is regarded as the date of receipt of the application.
5. The annual budget ceiling for project grants is 1,911,000 euro of which 50,000 euro is for beginners and 1,861,000 euro for advanced translators. Changes to the budget ceiling are published in the *Staatscourant* and on the website.
6. If the budget ceiling has not been reached for one of these two categories in the year concerned or the funding round concerned, the board may decide to add the remaining sum to the budget ceiling of the other category.

Article 9. Size of grant

1. The amount awarded as a grant is as follows:
 - a. a doubling of the rate per word or per line/poem in the case of poetry as laid down in the Model Contract as defined in Article 1, Section g, if the applicant is a beginner
 - b. a rate per word, or per line/poem for poetry, as specified by the board in the *Staatscourant* if the applicant is an advanced translator.
2. A supplementary allowance, expressed as a percentage, can be awarded as follows:

- a. 15% to the advanced translator in recognition of an above-average degree of difficulty of the translation
 - b. 30% to the advanced translator in recognition of a high degree of difficulty of the translation
 - c. 30% to the advanced translator in recognition of selection and editing tasks
 - d. 100% to two translators who collaborate on a joint translation according to the terms of a Model Contract in the case that:
 - i. the pair is made up of a junior translator who has previously made a maximum of 8 literary translations and a senior translator who has made a minimum of 7 translations more than the junior translator
 - ii. the translators jointly translate a maximum of 20,000 words per month, and
 - iii. the most recent application by the senior translator for a project grant was not refused on grounds of the quality of the translation.
3. The amount granted as calculated based on Section 1 and Section 2 is supplemented for the advanced translator with a sum equal to 150% of the fee that the publisher makes available for the foreword or afterword, on condition that such a fee is set down in writing.

Article 10. Assessment criteria

1. An application from a beginner is evaluated based on the persuasiveness of the described motivation.
2. An application from an advanced translator is evaluated based on the following criteria, such that for a grant to be awarded, a positive evaluation is needed for each of the assessment criteria:
 - a. the translation quality, which is to say the quality of the literary translation oeuvre of the applicant, including in particular the quality of recently published translations
 - b. the literary quality or literary importance of the source text
 - c. the degree to which sufficient time is allocated in the planning for there to be a reasonable expectation that a good translation can be made.
3. If the translation quality of an applicant's work has been assessed as positive by the Foundation during a previous application process, the Foundation can take that assessment as a starting point.

Article 11. Advice procedure

1. Applications from beginners are evaluated based on the assessment criterium of Article 10, Section 1.
2. An advisory committee composed of members of the Advisory Board as defined in the [Huishoudelijk reglement](#) (General Regulations) of the Foundation, advises the board about the degree to which an application from an advanced translator meets the assessment criteria in Article 10, Section 2, and gives advice on the amount of the grant. The advisory committee can call upon the help of one or more external advisors.

Article 12. Distribution of the budget

1. A grant application from a beginner will be refused if awarding the grant would mean exceeding the budget ceiling for beginners.
2. If the budget ceiling is insufficient for all applications from advanced translators to be honoured for which the advisory committee has given a positive assessment in the funding round concerned, the advanced translator who in that round has submitted more than one application will have only one application honoured and the other application(s) will be transferred to the next round.
3. If after the implementation of Section 2 the budget ceiling for advanced translators is still insufficient to honour all positively assessed applications, then as an exception to Article 8, Section 2, these applications from advanced translators will be dealt with simultaneously and honoured according to classification into the following groups, such that within each group the ranking is determined based on the delivery date laid down in the Model Contract as defined in Article 1, section g:
 - a. group A: applications from applicants who have not received more than ten project grants for translations
 - b. group B: applications for translations of poetry, children's and young adult titles, graphic novels, essays, plays, short stories and anthologies
 - c. group C: applications for translations from a source language other than English
 - d. group D: applications for translations from English
4. If after the implementation of Section 3 in the funding round concerned a sum still remains, the board takes the applications that were honoured in the current year as a guide. Applications from applicants who have received the fewest projects grants in the past are given priority.
5. If after the implementation of Section 4 a sum still remains, the board shares out that amount over the remaining positively assessed applications from advanced translators in proportion to the number of words to be translated.

Article 13. Decision

1. The board makes its decision within 8 weeks of receipt in full of an application from a beginner.
2. The board makes its decision within 13 weeks of the end of the period in which applications from advanced translators can be submitted.
3. The period specified in Section 2 is extended to 22 weeks if advice has been obtained from an advisory committee or if further investigation has taken place.
4. In awarding a grant, the board immediately decides upon the specifics of the said grant.
5. That decision includes the specifics of the way in which the grant will be paid.

Article 14. Obligations of those in receipt of a grant

1. The grant is spent by the recipient on the realization of the translation described in the application.
2. The recipient of the grant informs the Foundation without delay of any substantial changes to the information supplied in the application.
3. If the recipient of the grant is unable to complete the translation within the period specified in the application, or will not complete it, the recipient reports this immediately to the Foundation, making known the underlying reasons.
4. The information given to the Foundation by the recipient of the grant is always correct and truthful.
5. The recipient of the grant does not violate the copyright of third parties.
6. If the recipient of the grant has received grants or financial support from third parties for the translation, the recipient notifies the Foundation of this.
7. The grant recipient sends one copy of the translation to the Foundation immediately upon publication.
8. In the translation the Foundation is mentioned, in the way indicated by the Foundation, as having provided a grant.
9. If the income limit, as defined in Article 4, Section 1, Subsection a and Section 2, Subsection a, is exceeded in the period for which the grant has been awarded, the recipient of the grant informs the Foundation of this immediately after receipt of the definitive total tax assessment for the year(s) covered by the period concerned.
10. The recipient of the grant collaborates in research by or on behalf of the Foundation that is aimed at providing the Foundation with information for the purpose of developing its grants policy.

Article 15. Grounds for withdrawal of and alterations to the terms of a grant

1. The board can withdraw a grant or alter the terms on which it has been awarded if the recipient of the grant has not complied with the obligations attached to that grant.
2. If the Foundation establishes that fundamental changes have occurred with respect to the information provided in the application, the terms of the grant can be altered or the grant withdrawn.
3. The board is entitled to change the terms of a grant or to withdraw a grant if the period it covers, as defined in Article 14, Section 3, has been exceeded and the recipient of the grant has not, in the judgement of the board, been able to provide well-founded reasons for this.
4. The board is entitled to alter the terms of a grant or to withdraw a grant if the income limit, as defined in Article 4, Section 1, Subsection a, and Section 2, Subsection a, has been exceeded.
5. The board is entitled to change the terms of a grant or to withdraw a grant by virtue of the death of the recipient of the grant.
6. The sum by which the grant may be reduced will either be set against any parts of the subsidy yet to be paid or reclaimed from the recipient.

Article 16. Hardship clause

The board can, mindful of the interest that these regulations aim to protect, decline to apply an article or deviate from it insofar as its strict application would lead to gross unfairness.

Article 17. Final provisions

1. In all cases not provided for in these regulations, the decision lies with the board.
2. The Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translations are repealed.
3. As an exception to Section 2, the Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translations continue to apply to grants awarded before the time at which these regulations come into force, and to objections and appeals lodged in a timely manner.

Article 18. Coming into force

These regulations come into force as of 10 September 2025.

Article 19. Official title

These regulations are to be cited as Regeling Projectsubsidies voor literair vertalers (Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translators)

These regulations shall be placed in Dutch in the *Staatscourant* with their explanatory notes and published on the Foundation's website (www.letterenfonds.nl).

The board of the Dutch Foundation for Literature,
As represented by,
R.N. de Bildt, managing director

Explanatory notes

Starting from the first round of applications for 2026 (deadline 15 December 2025) the Dutch Foundation for Literature is implementing a revision to the Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translations. This has been prompted by changes and new aspirations in the field, and by ambitions for the policy plan 2025-2028. These ambitions are focused on the one hand on the strengthening of the position of all literary translators – from talented beginners to advanced translators – and on the other on the simplification of regulations, so that the process of applying for a grant becomes more accessible. To simplify the regulations for literary translators, two earlier sets of regulations, the *Starters- en ontwikkelbeurzen literair vertalers* (Beginner and Development Grants for Literary Translators) and *Projectsubsidies voor literaire vertalingen* (Project Grants for Literary Translations) have been revised in conjunction with each other.

The new Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translators cover translators in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and all translators with a Model Contract as defined in Article 1, Section g, of the new regulations. This means that even translators with a first Model Contract can apply for support. The new regulations also offer more opportunities for the entry and advancement of beginners, such that advanced literary translators are explicitly given recognition for sharing their knowledge and expertise with beginners.

With the extension to cover the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the regulations are widened to include translations into the languages Papiamentu and English as spoken by native speakers in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. Papiamentu is taken to mean both Papiamentu and Papiamentu.

One new requirement included in the regulations is that the name of the translator must appear both inside the published edition and on the cover.

With this revision, the Foundation aims to ensure greater accessibility within a quickly changing field, so that existing expertise in literary translation is retained and there will be good translators of sufficient quality in the future as there are now.

Objective of the regulations

By means of the Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translators, translators are supported in the creation of high-quality literary translations into Dutch, Frisian, English or Papiamentu. The grants supplement the fee paid by the publisher, so that the translator can make sufficient time, space and attention available to achieve a high-quality result. The regulations therefore contribute not just to the quality but (indirectly) to the breadth and diversity of literature available in the languages concerned.

Beginners and advanced translators

Dutch literature benefits from a rich variety of voices, literatures and cultures. At the same time, the breadth and diversity of the language courses available at (Dutch) universities can no longer be taken for granted. Other developments in the field too, such as the rise of generative forms of artificial intelligence, are having an impact on translation culture in the Netherlands. The Foundation is dedicated to the preservation of excellent quality in literary translation and therefore strives to create more opportunities and space for the transfer of expertise.

Within the Project Grants for Literary Translators, therefore, a low-threshold opportunity for beginners has been introduced, so that without a test of the quality of their translations, they can apply for a project grant for their first two or possibly three translations, in order to increase their knowledge, experience and capacities. Whereas beginners could previously submit one application, they can now make application for their first three literary translations. The precondition for an application as a beginner is a Model Contract as defined in Article 1, Section g (or for the Caribbean: a publishing plan as defined in Article 5 – see also page 14 below) . The application must be submitted within a month of the signature of the contract.

In applying for a third translation with a Model Contract (or publishing plan), the applicant can choose whether to apply as a beginner or as an advanced translator. In the latter case the quality of a recently published translation made with a Model Contract is assessed. This translation must be no older than four years and be translated from the

same language (or in the same language combination), and preferably also be in the same genre as the book for which the application is submitted. If the first application as an advanced translator is for a solo translation, an earlier solo translation will be assessed. If the first application as an advanced translator is for a joint translation by two people, then an earlier literary translation by the same pair needs to be available for assessment.

In the case of advanced translators who will be working from a language that is ‘new’ for them, the first application should be made as a beginner. The route is then the same as given above. After publication of this first translation the applicant will continue as an ‘advanced translator’ for the ‘new’ language.

As before, applications can be assessed continually. Applications from beginners are dealt with as quickly as possible (and within a maximum of eight weeks after receipt of a complete application). Applications from advanced translators are presented to an advisory committee and, as before, dealt with in three rounds per year.

Requirements of the translation

All literary genres are eligible for a grant, from poetry and prose to children’s books, and from graphic novels and nonfiction to works for the stage in book form. Application can be made only for translations of literary works made directly from the original language, the source language. Translations that come about via an intermediary language will not be considered. Furthermore, applications must always be made before the translation work is carried out (or when it is in the early stages).

Given the objective of the Regulations Governing Project Grants for Literary Translators, it should be self-evident that the Foundation does not support rushed translations. Applications that involve plans to translate more than 40,000 words per month will not be considered. For the same reasons, literary translations made by more than two translators do not qualify for a project grant. (Please note: this is a threshold value. To make a good and meticulous translation, the Foundation assumes that a translator can translate a maximum of 200,000 words per year.)

The Foundation aims to strengthen the position of professional literary translators, including with regard to their visibility. Hence the new precondition for a grant that the name of the translator appears both on the copyright page and on the cover. The translation to be published must also comply with minimal conditions regarding the

number of words, the print run and the form and duration of distribution as specified in the regulations.

The principle of fair pay is as ever an important starting point. The Model Contract, as defined in Article 1, Section g, therefore remains an important precondition for the submission of an application. When making an application, the advanced translator can submit a declaration of intent from the publisher, but a copy of the Model Contract must be submitted before the board decides upon the application.

The precondition of a Model Contract applies to all applicants except those applying for publications in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom; for them, conditions are laid out (in Article 5 and) below that fit better with the literary infrastructure of the Caribbean.

In the period for which the grant is awarded, the translator's total taxable income must be no higher than an income limit determined by the board. The definitive income tax assessment from the Dutch Tax Authorities serves as proof of the total taxable income.

Application for publications in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom (Article 5)

Because the literary infrastructure in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands is different from that of the European Netherlands, the Foundation has defined specific requirements for applicants for literary translations that will be published in the Caribbean. In their case a Model Contract with a publisher or a declaration of intent by a publisher is not required. For these applicants, therefore, other requirements are laid down in the regulations.

In the case of a publication in the Caribbean, a minimum of one organization must be involved that provides editing, production or promotion of the work to be translated. This might for example be a library or a literary festival, or an organization dedicated to reading promotion or talent development. The agreement with this organization must include arrangements regarding editing, production, promotion and a license, such that the translator does not cede the entire copyright in the translation. The applicant submits, along with their application, a publishing plan that covers these aspects, and a copy of the agreement with the organization or organizations concerned.

The following requirements are also applicable:

- An expert editorial staff is in place
- The translation will be published in a print run of at least 150 copies in the case of a paper publication
- The translation has a minimum length of 5,000 words for prose, or 10 poems in the case of poetry
- The book will be published within two years of the announcement of the awarding of a grant by the Foundation by those responsible for publication according to agreements laid out in the publishing plan.

Size of grant and supplementary allowances (Article 9)

In determining the size of the grant, the number of words to be translated as laid down in the contract (or: publishing plan) is paramount. In the case of a joint translation by two translators, the size of the subsidy is naturally determined by the number of words the applicant undertakes to translate.

The rate per word for beginners is double the rate per word or per line in the Model Contract as defined in Article 1, section g. For advanced translators, the rate per word or per line/poem is higher. These rates are published in the *Staatscourant* and on the Foundation's website.

For translations from some languages, such as for example agglutinative languages or Chinese and Japanese, it is the custom, for the sake of fairness, to increase the number of words in the source text as given in the contract (or to use the definitive number of words in the target language as the basis for this calculation).

An additional amount can be awarded for the writing of a foreword or afterword to be published with the translation. The Foundation supports forewords and afterwords by translators because they contribute to the visibility of the art and craft of literary translation. A precondition is that the translator and publisher have agreed and laid down in the Model Contract (or publishing plan) a fee for the said foreword or afterword.

In addition to the grant, one or more supplementary allowances can be awarded. Application must be made for these. If no application has been made for a supplementary allowance, it cannot be awarded by the Foundation.

There are three different supplementary allowances. New is what is known as the 'junior-senior allowance'. With this new allowance the Foundation intends to stimulate and recognize the sharing of knowledge between experienced and less experienced translators. Because collaboration and knowledge transfer place real demands on the time of both parties, this allowance provides for a doubling of the grant.

1 – An allowance in recognition of the above-average or exceptional degree of difficulty of the translation (15% or 30%). Application for this supplementary allowance cannot be made by beginners.

2 – An allowance in recognition of selection and/or editing tasks of the translator, for example the compilation of an anthology (30%). Application for this supplementary allowance cannot be made by beginners.

3 – An allowance in recognition of collaboration between an experienced and a less experienced translator in the form of a joint translation. This is known as the 'junior-senior allowance' (100%).

The junior-senior allowance can be applied for in cases where the planning provides sufficient time for the transfer and exchange of knowledge; the Model Contract (or: publishing plan) is therefore in the name of both translators. The planning of the translation project must not involve more than 20,000 words in total to be translated per month. The experienced translator must be of proven quality; their most recent application must not have been rejected on the basis of the quality of their literary translation work. Furthermore, the 'senior' must have published more literary translations with a Model Contract than the 'junior'. The junior must have made no more than eight translations with a Model Contract (or: publishing plan). The senior must have made at least seven more literary translations with a Model Contract than the junior (at the time of application).

Criteria (Article 10)

The criteria for dealing with applications for a project grant remain:

1) the literary quality of the source text (i.e. of the book to be translated)

- 2) the degree of difficulty of the translation
- 3) the quality of earlier/recent literary translations made by the applicant and
- 4) the planning. Will sufficient time be allowed for the literary translation for which application is being made?

In dealing with applications from beginners, criteria 2 and 3 do not apply. If in the case of an application from an advanced translator the literary quality, translation quality and planning are judged to be sufficient or good, the grant will be awarded – unless the budget ceiling has been reached for that round.

1. Literary quality of the source text (i.e. of the book to be translated)

In assessing the literary quality and/or the importance of a source text, its narrative and stylistic characteristics will be considered along with the idea behind or subject of the book (its eloquence or imaginative power). The assessment is based on ideas and concepts that are prevalent in literary criticism, such as for example style, composition, subject matter, character development, layering, rhythm and the uniqueness of the literary voice. How these aspects manifest themselves can differ per genre. In addition, genre-specific features will be considered. The cultural or social importance of the text (both in the source language and in the target language) can also be of relevance to the assessment. If the Foundation has received earlier applications for work by the same author, earlier assessments of the oeuvre may be taken into account in the assessment of its literary quality and/or the importance of the source text concerned.

In the case of applications by beginners, the assessment is based only on whether these aspects are adequately and convincingly expressed in the description of the translator's motivation for undertaking this particular translation project, as given in the application. In the case of applications from advanced translators, advice about the literary quality of the source text may be sought.

2. The degree of difficulty of the translation

Based on the source text, an assessment is made as to whether the translation is of above-average difficulty or exceptionally difficult. This assessment may consider stylistic aspects (sentence structure; rhythm; wordplay; metaphor; dialect; sociolect; slang; archaisms; neologisms), linguistic aspects (specialised language; knowledge of particular domains and their terminology or jargon), literary aspects (quotations and allusions; intertextuality, such as for example references to the classics or to a country's own literature) and cultural aspects (real-world issues including cultural characteristics

of the country, its customs, institutions, gastronomy and the like; the opportunities available to the translator to keep these exotic or to naturalize them). Other factors too may be of importance, such as the distance between the source culture and the target culture.

3. The quality of earlier/recent literary translations made by the applicant from the same language

In dealing with applications by advanced translators, an assessment of earlier translations, whether financially supported or not, may be involved.

In the case of applications by beginners, the quality of their literary translation will not yet have been assessed. For all other applicants, there must exist at least one literary translation that was made with a Model Contract (or publishing plan) in order for the literary quality of earlier translations from the same language (or in the same language combination) by the applicant to be assessed. This publication must be no more than four years old. To enable a proper assessment of the quality of the applicant's literary translation work, it is important that in the case of an application for a solo translation, a published solo translation is made available; in the case of applications by a pair of translators, it is preferable that a publication by the same pair of translators is available for assessment.

The assessment of the quality of a literary translation is carried out based on the translation as a whole and on a comparison with an extract of around 20 pages from the source text. As a minimum, in assessing the literary quality of a translation, a judgement is formed about the degree of difficulty of the translation, the proficiency of the writing in the target language, the translation skills demonstrated and the way in which the distinctive characteristics, literary or otherwise, of the original text (such as style, tone, register, dialogue and idiom) are dealt with in the translation.

If an applicant is rejected based on translation quality, then in the case of a new application a new, which is to say recent and not yet assessed, published translation from the same language and preferably in the same genre must be provided.

4. The planning: is the planning for the literary translation for which application is being made realistic?

In assessing the planning, aspects to be considered include the delivery date given in the contract (or: publishing plan) and the planning for other recent applications. This

criterium concerns whether in the judgement of the Foundation the applicant has within reason made sufficient time available to justify the expectation that the translation work will be performed meticulously. To make a good and meticulous translation, the Foundation assumes that a translator can translate a maximum of 200,000 words per year.