

## **Group of international students visiting a translation company**

**As a part of the international programme Erasmus+ LSTI taking place at ISCAP, a group of international students altogether with their professors visited a Portugal translation company – JABA Translation in their office in Vila Nove de Gaia. Joaquim Alves, the CEO of the company, and his team welcomed them in a good mood and was ready to answer all of their questions. Here is what Spanish, Portuguese, French, Latvian, Romanian, Czech and Slovak students found out about one of the biggest translation company on Portugal labour market.**

JABA Translation employs more than 70 full-time employees in three different departments: project managers, IT technicians and, of course, translators. Project managers take care of both, the clients and the translators. They make sure that everything goes smoothly and the projects are delivered on time. It is their responsibility to negotiate the best conditions for the company, such as financial issues and setting reasonable deadlines. Project managers need to be familiarized with the competences the translators in their teams possess so as to assign the projects to those most capable of completing the task.

The IT department looks after the proper working of the equipment and translation softwares. In addition to that, they are in the middle of developing their own software. JABA Translation provides translations in great quality and they are only able to do that thanks to the latest versions of CAT tools (e.g. MemoQ and

Trados), and XTM tools. Texts for translation are mainly, though not exclusively, of technical character, and are translated from the following languages: German, English, Spanish, French and Brazilian Portuguese towards European Portuguese. Since currently there are many more languages in demand in the translation market, JABA Translation sometimes contacts freelancers with the necessary skills to tackle that work and who are competent in unusual language pairs. They also require the help of freelancers during their peaks, when the volume of work they get is too much for their in-house translators to handle.

Overall it was a very enlightening experience for the students who are usually very removed from the real-life experience of the profession. This trip allowed them to have a better understanding of the realities at a translation business and help them think about their professional path.

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