

Accessible Europe

ICT 4 ALL - 2019

Importance of harmonized standard for ICT Accessibility

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Organized within the framework of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development



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About me – Roberto Scano



European activities

- WADEX Member for Italy

Standardization activities

- WCAG 2.0 (working group member / support in editing)
- WCAG 2.1 (support in errata identification)
- ATAG 2.0 (Working graft editor)
- EN 301549 (Support in development)
- Chairperson UNI/CT 531 “eAccessibility ”
- Expert of ISO JTC 1/SC 35 “User Interfaces”
- Expert of CEN/CLC/ETSI/JWG “eAccessibility ”

National law activities

- Technical support in Italian accessibility law development
- Technical support for Italian accessibility law technical rules
- Technical support in ensuring “accessibility compliance” in the Italian law

Translation activities

- Lead organization representative for WCAG 2.0 and WCAG 2.1
- Translator for EN 301549 v. 2.1.2 (08-2018)

UNINFO

TECNOLOGIE INFORMATICHE
E LORO APPLICAZIONI

Ente di normazione Federato all'UNI



Italian accessibility law and international standards

2004 - Stanca Act

- Accessibility law requirements for ICT

2005 – Technical rules

- Accessibility requirements for:
 - Web (WCAG 1.x)
 - Usability for people with disability
 - Hardware, software, support documents (section 508)

2008-12-11 – WCAG 2.0

- WCAG 2.0 official Italian translation (2009-12-21)

2010-2012 – Technical rules

- Accessibility requirements for Web (web sites, intranet, extranet) updated to WCAG 2.0.
- Requirements for accessibility of “**non web documents**”.
- Official WCAG 2.0 translation adapted (e.g. from “guidelines” to “requirements”, from “success criteria” to “checkpoint”)

2016 – WAD

- National Law WAD transposition (2017-10-25)

2018 – WCAG 2.1

- WCAG 2.1 official Italian translation (2018-09-13)

2018 – Stanca Act update

- Transposition of WAD into the Italian legislation (2018-08-10)

2018 – EN 301549 v. 2.1.2

- EN 301549 v. 2.1.2. (08-2018) official translation as UNI EN 301549:2018 (2018-11-30) – **FREE AVAILABILITY**

2019 – Technical rules

- Sept. 2019 – Published as draft



The importance of localization and availability of standards



Local language: better understanding

- Interpretation errors are avoided with official translation.
- The legislator can (should) avoid adapting the recognized texts as an official translation.



Free availability: more widespread knowledge-sharing

- Allows developers and public sector bodies to learn about implementation and verification techniques at no additional cost.
- It is useful for collecting suggestions for future implementations of the European harmonized standard.

UNI is the Italian Standardisation Body



- Established in 1921 as a private association, its activity has kept evolving ever since: from technical drawing and terminology to industrial products specifications, then consumer products, management systems, services and standards for “non-regulated professions”...
- UNI has recently focused on social impact of standardization (social responsibility, sustainability, circular economy...), also at governance level in both vision and mission (Council decision 18.10.2017).
- Because of the social importance and impact of accessibility, UNI agreed with AgID for the free downloading of the Italian translation of UNI EN 301549 (in an accessible format, of course) to foster its dissemination and use: standards are not walls, they are bridges...



The importance of collaboration



Italy: an example for Europe of collaboration between legislator and national standardization body

- AGID requested the Italian standardization body (UNI) to allow the public availability of the Italian translation of the EN 301549 v. 2.1.2. free of charge, because of its fundamentally social purpose and compulsory compliance required by all public administrations.
- UNI has accepted the request despite this leading to a missed revenue.
- AGID and UNI hope that the European Commission will support the initiatives of publishing free of charge official translation of technical standards referenced by laws for the ICT sector.



AGID

Agenzia per l'Italia Digitale



ENTE ITALIANO
DI NORMAZIONE



Next steps



Activities for Italian national guidelines

- AGID is producing the guidelines (technical rules) for the technical transposition of the provisions of the Web Accessibility Directive:
 - Directly referencing to the UNI EN 301549:2018 standard for hardware, software, web and non-web document requirements for implementation and evaluation.
 - Definition of the accessibility statement.
 - Definition of the monitoring methodology.
 - Definition of workstation requirements for people with disabilities.
 - Definition of guidelines for usability testing involving people with disabilities.
 - Definition of guidelines for disproportionate burden.

What about discrimination?

Law 1 March 2006, n. 67 - "Measures for the judicial protection of people with disabilities who are victims of discrimination"

What about discrimination in ICT field?

Beyoncé's Parkwood Entertainment sued over website accessibility

A lawsuit claims beyonce.com violates the Americans With Disabilities Act by failing to accommodate visually impaired users



Blind man sues Domino's Pizza over website accessibility

Guillermo Robles was permitted to file a lawsuit by the Supreme Court in light of the Americans with Disabilities Act

By Humza Aamir on October 8, 2019, 6:41 AM | 22 comments



Thank you!



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<http://itu.int/go/Accessible-Europe-19>

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