

# Madoc Skinner

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**Nationality:** British/Swiss

**Date of birth:** 15 November 1976 in Reading, UK



## Education

### ***Tertiary education***

**1996 – 2005 University of Basel (Switzerland)**

*lic. phil.* in Russian, Slavonic Languages and Eastern European History (*insigni cum laude*, February 2005), equivalent to an MA. Dissertation: "Bomberjacketnprosa" – die "Skinhead-Attitude" in der kroatischen Prosa der Gegenwart

### ***Secondary education***

**1992 – 1996 Real Gymnasium Basel (Switzerland)**

B-Matur (Latin)  
(*school-leaving certificate and university entrance qualification*)

**1988 – 1992 Kreisschule Leimental, Bättwil (Switzerland)**

## Languages

English: mother tongue  
German: mother tongue  
Russian: fluent  
Ukrainian: good

Bosnian/Croat/Serbian: fluent  
French: good  
Czech: good

**Certified German/Russian to English translator, IoL certificate No. 023561**

## IT skills

I am fully proficient in all Office programs and Windows/Apple operating systems. I also have in-depth experience working with most CAT tools, such as Trados, Across, Passolo, Idiom or Star Transit and MemoQ.

## Experience

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### **April 2011 – present**

#### ***Freelance translator and sole proprietor of Skinner language services***

Having developed a strong network of contacts to agencies and direct clients around the globe, I decided to quit my role at eurosript Switzerland and set up my own business. I work for clients in many sectors ranging from finance, law, business and marketing to IT, transport and energy.

### **January 2012 – August 2013**

#### ***Private bank, Zurich***

Contracted via an agency to work on site for a major Swiss private bank as an external employee to provide translations in relation to the tax dispute with the IRS and United States Department of Justice. My tasks included translating general correspondence, legal documents (court judgments, applications, legal opinions, etc.), financial documents and newspaper articles.

### **August 2009 – March 2011**

#### ***Staff translator (German-English) eurosript Switzerland AG, Zurich***

As the in-house English language specialist, I translated and proofread financial, business, marketing and legal documents for our clients in the financial services sector as well as technical documentation for our clients from the manufacturing industries. I was the first point of contact for any English-related queries and also liaised with our freelancers to ensure smooth operations and the use of consistent terminology.

### **February 2008 – June 2009**

#### ***Staff translator (Russian-English) Gherson & Co, London***

My main task was to translate the varied documents required by the firm's solicitors and barristers for their day-to-day needs, as well as for applications, petitions, etc. with UK and EU courts, which also required certification. These documents were predominantly legal, as required by a law firm specialising in human rights, litigation, corporate defence and immigration. Other documents related to business, finance, accounting and included tax audit reports and political analyses. Another vital task was to monitor the press and translate any copy as related to the firm's cases. I was also occasionally required to interpret in client meetings.

### **July 2006 – February 2008**

#### ***Staff translator (German-English) The Language Technology Centre, London***

As an in-house translator, I translated and proofread principally from German into English and occasionally vice versa. I also translated from Russian, Czech/Slovak and Serbo-Croat into English/German. These translations were mainly of a technical and legal nature (contracts) and included a fair amount of press releases and documents relating to business, marketing, telecommunications, logistics, postal services and the energy industry.

### **Oct 2005 – July 2006**

#### ***Quality Manager Transperfect Translations, London***

My task was to proofread translations and manage their quality from and into English, German and Slavonic languages. This involved working to tight deadlines, maintaining a high level of performance under pressure, occasionally working overtime and generally being well organised. Liaising with external linguists and clients was also part of my day-to-day work as well as training new hires.

## Other activities

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### Stays abroad:

In addition to my many extensive private trips to Ukraine, Russia and the Balkans, I also participated in the following projects:

- **February 2002 to July 2002:** Grant from the Croatian government for a semester at Zagreb University.
- **September 2000:** Grant to attend the annual summer school of Belgrade University.
- **August/September 1999:** Grant to attend the annual summer school of Zagreb University held in Dubrovnik.
- **May 1999:** Grant to attend university courses at Kyiv University.
- **September 1998:** Private language courses in St Petersburg.
- **August 1997:** Summer course at Lomonossov State Moscow University.

### Publications:

- In the course of attending lectures on the topic of *Erinnerung* (commemoration) at Basel University, I wrote an essay *Krieg, Moral und Ideologiekritik – Kriegsverarbeitung im Film Boško Buha (1978)* on Yugoslavia's collective memory of WWII in the 1970s. This essay was published in Haumann H. (ed.), *Erinnerung an Gewaltherrschaft: Selbstzeugnisse – Analysen – Methoden*, Peter Lang, Berne 2010.