For years there has been a continuous Anglo-Saxonization and Americanization of many aspects of today's worldwide legal profession. This applies of course in particular to all European legal professionals and academics. Not only the Pan-European Anglification process but also the growing American hegemonism and predominance of Anglo-American legal thinking and legal practice are facing lawyers in the International Practice of Law which are exposed to the challenges of these new realities in their day-to-day professional lives.

For the legal practitioner the function of professional legal English has fundamentally changed in recent years as English has become their lingua franca.

In this essay the authors attempt to outline what they believe to be the more important issues in this regard. The chosen approach is mainly from the perspective of legal professionals in a practical context.

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The following volumes of this new series Transatlantica – Culture, Language and Law in a Transatlantic Context will start to appear in Winter 2002/2003:
