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Abstract (English)

The world of football nowadays has become a multicultural and multilingual melting pot. Every team has at least one international player or coach in their ranks. This means that communication between these international players, their team and the media needs to be assured. The football industry overall is marked by inconsistencies when it comes to translating and interpreting. However, it is important that the messages the coaches and players want to convey in their interviews and press conferences are understood by the fans and audience.

This thesis focuses on the translation of football media coverage (players' interviews, press conferences) from English to Romanian. The translation policies of three major Romanian sport broadcasters, Digi Sport, Orange Sport and Prima Sport, when translating international players' and coaches' pre and after match conferences and interviews are analysed regarding the questions: How is this kind of media coverage of international, English-speaking players, interpreted on Romanian television? What is the common practice? Do they use professional interpreters or not? For this purpose, 30 recordings of previous interviews and conferences of only international players and coaches, recorded by the broadcaster, will be used as a corpus of source texts in order to assess how the translation process was conducted. The length of the interviews ranges between 3 and 15 minutes.

The analysis focuses on a broad range of interviews that span over multiple football seasons. Internal competitions like the *Superliga* and international competitions like *Champions League* and *Europa League* will be taken into account. The main questions concerning the translation relate to the person doing the interpreting, the content and the quality of the content produced. It is important to determine if this person is a professional interpreter, a commentator or the host of the TV show who discusses the matches and conducts the player interviews and conferences. This step helps in being able to assess the quality of the translation produced in terms of accuracy and comprehensiveness of content.

The findings aim to highlight the translation process of football media coverage in a country where football is the best loved and most watched sport, in an age where football brings together people from various nations and therefore has a higher need of language support to facilitate messages being received by the audience and fans in their native language.

Abstract (German)

Die Welt des Fußballs heute hat sich zu einem multikulturellen und mehrsprachigen Schmelztiegel entwickelt. Jede Mannschaft hat mindestens einen internationalen Spieler oder Trainer in ihren Reihen. Dies bedeutet, dass die Kommunikation zwischen diesen internationalen Akteuren, ihrem Team und den Medien gewährleistet sein muss. Die Fußballindustrie insgesamt ist jedoch von Inkonsistenzen geprägt, wenn es um Übersetzung und Dolmetschen geht. Dennoch ist es von zentraler Bedeutung, dass die Botschaften, die Trainer und Spieler in Interviews und Pressekonferenzen vermitteln möchten, von Fans und Publikum verstanden werden.

Diese Arbeit konzentriert sich auf die Übersetzung von Fußballberichterstattung in den Medien (Spielerinterviews, Pressekonferenzen) vom Englischen ins Rumänische. Dabei wird die Übersetzungspolitik von 3 bedeutenden rumänischen Sportsendern, Digi Sport, Prima Sport und Orange Sport, bei der Übertragung von Vor- und Nachspiel-Pressekonferenzen sowie Interviews internationaler Spieler und Trainer analysiert im Hinblick auf die Fragen: Wie wird diese Art der medialen Berichterstattung über internationale, englischsprachige Spieler im rumänischen Fernsehen gedolmetscht? Was ist die gängige Praxis? Werden professionelle Dolmetscher eingesetzt oder nicht?

Zu diesem Zweck werden 30 Aufzeichnungen früherer Interviews und Pressekonferenzen ausschließlich internationaler Spieler und Trainer, die vom Sender aufgezeichnet wurden, als Korpus von Ausgangstexten herangezogen, um zu untersuchen, wie der Übersetzungsprozess durchgeführt wurde. Die Länge der Interviews variiert zwischen drei und fünfzehn Minuten. Die Analyse umfasst eine breite Auswahl an Interviews aus mehreren Fußballsaisons. Dabei werden sowohl nationale Wettbewerbe wie die Superliga als auch internationale Wettbewerbe wie die Champions League und die Europa League berücksichtigt.

Die zentralen Fragestellungen im Hinblick auf die Übersetzung betreffen die Person, die das Dolmetschen übernimmt, den Inhalt sowie die Qualität der produzierten Übertragung. Von besonderer Bedeutung ist die Klärung, ob es sich bei dieser Person um einen professionellen Dolmetscher, einen Kommentator oder den Moderator der Fernsehsendung handelt, der die Spiele analysiert und die Interviews sowie Pressekonferenzen führt. Dieser Schritt ermöglicht es, die Qualität der Übersetzung hinsichtlich Genauigkeit und inhaltlicher Vollständigkeit zu bewerten.

Die Ergebnisse dieser Arbeit sollen den Übersetzungsprozess der Fußballberichterstattung in einem Land beleuchten, in dem Fußball die beliebteste und meistverfolgte Sportart ist – in einer Zeit, in der der Fußball Menschen aus verschiedenen Nationen zusammenbringt und somit einen erhöhten Bedarf an sprachlicher Unterstützung schafft, um sicherzustellen, dass Botschaften vom Publikum und den Fans in ihrer jeweiligen Muttersprache verstanden werden.

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This master's thesis marks the culmination of many years of study and personal growth. The journey to this point has been anything but linear; it has included moments of excitement and achievement as well as periods of doubt and challenge. Each of these experiences has shaped not only this work but also who I have become along the way. I have learned a particularly valuable lesson on this journey: I have learned that I am capable of more than I ever thought I could achieve, and this thesis is the proof of it.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my professors, especially Prof. Hirschvogel Cinzia, who encouraged me to sign up for this master's studies and whose guidance, critical insights, and encouragement have been invaluable throughout my studies.

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Table of contents

List of tables.....	9
Introduction.....	10
1 Communication in Sports	12
1.1 English as Lingua Franca.....	14
1.2 English as Lingua Franca in Football Communication.....	16
1.3 Interpreting in Sports	18
1.4 The Role of the Football Interpreter	21
1.4.1 Challenges and Techniques when Interpreting in a Sporting Context.....	22
1.4.2 Skills required of a Sports Interpreter.....	24
1.5 Intercultural Aspects.....	24
2 Media Interpreting	26
2.1 Historical Intersections between Media and Translation.....	27
2.2 Media Interpreting in Romania.....	28
2.3 Interpreting Modalities	30
2.4 Quality in (Media) Interpreting	30
2.5 Approaches to the Topic of Quality.....	32
2.6 Stress Factors in Media Interpreting.....	33
2.7 Non-professional Interpreting in the Media.....	34
2.7.1 NPIT Research.....	35
2.7.2 Interpreting on Television.....	37
2.7.3 Sports Journalists as Interpreters	39
3 Football.....	41
3.1 Football on the International Level.....	43

3.2	Football in Romania	44
3.3	The Relevance of Media and Language in Football	46
3.4	Interviews and Press Conferences.....	47
4	Methodology and Corpus	50
4.1	Corpus-based Interpreting Studies	51
4.2	Corpus Design	52
4.3	Transcription.....	57
4.4	Quality Criteria.....	57
4.4.1	Accuracy	59
4.4.2	Coherence	60
4.4.3	Terminology	61
5	Analysis.....	63
6	Interview	94
6.1	Interview with Sports Interpreter Ioana Klammer	95
6.2	Interpreting Practices in Romania	96
6.3	Preparing for an Interpreting Job as a Sports Interpreter	97
6.4	Challenges faced by Sports Interpreters	98
6.5	External and Internal Stress Factors	99
7	Conclusion	101
	Bibliography.....	109
	Appendix	114
	Transcription Interview Ioana Klammer.....	114
	Transcription Corpus Videos	130

List of tables

Table 1: Overview of the interviews with FCSB coach Elias Charalambous and Rapid București coach Neil Lennon.....	53
Table 2: Overview of the interviews with Universitatea Craiova coach Filipe Coelho and Manchester United coach Ruben Amorim.....	54
Table 3: Overview of the interviews with Dinamo coach Zeljko Kopic.....	55
Table 4: Overview of the interviews with players and their respective teams	56
Table 5: Criteria for evaluating the quality of translation	64
Table 6: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (11 December 2023, Digi Sport).....	66
Table 7: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (20 May 2024, Digi Sport).....	67
Table 8: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (22 October 2025, Digi Sport)	69
Table 9: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (25 January 2026, Digi Sport).....	70
Table 10: Analysis of the interview with Neil Lennon (13 July 2024, Prima Sport)	72
Table 11: Analysis of the interview with Neil Lennon (30 July 2024, Digi Sport).....	73
Table 12: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (12 November 2025, U Craiova)	74
Table 13: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (21 November 2025, Prima Sport).....	76
Table 14: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (27 November 2025, Prima Sport).....	77
Table 15: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (11 December 2025, Orange Sport).....	78
Table 16: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (22 February 2026, Digi Sport)	79
Table 17: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (4 March 2026, Prima Sport)	80
Table 18: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (13 March 2026, Prima Sport)	81
Table 19: Analysis of the press conference with Ruben Amorim (31 January 2025, Digi Sport)	82
Table 20: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (19 January 2025, Prima Sport)	83
Table 21: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (3 October 2025, Prima Sport).....	85
Table 22: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (23 January 2026, Digi Sport).....	86
Table 23: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (4 February 2026, Farul vs Dinamo, Orange Sport)	87
Table 24: Analysis of the interview with Željko Kopic (5 February 2026, Farul vs Dinamo, Digi Sport).....	88
Table 25: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (16 February 2026, Digi Sport).....	89
Table 26: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (5 March 2026, Metalul Buzău vs Dinamo, Prima Sport)	90
Table 27: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (5 March 2026, Metalul Buzău vs Dinamo, Digi Sport)...	91
Table 28: Analysis of all 8 players	93

Introduction

In today's world, media and sport play a pivotal role in shaping cultural norms, influencing public opinion, and driving social trends. Beyond their function as sources of entertainment, both domains act as powerful communicative systems that construct meaning, identity, and collective experience. Their increasing convergence has fundamentally transformed the way audiences engage with content, creating a globalized media landscape in which sporting events transcend geographical and cultural boundaries. Through live broadcasting, digital platforms, and multilingual coverage, sport has evolved into a shared global phenomenon that connects millions—if not billions—of viewers in real time. This interconnectedness also amplifies the importance of accessibility and clarity in communication, particularly in linguistically diverse contexts.

Football represents a prime example of such a global phenomenon. As one of the world's most popular sports, it operates within a highly internationalized environment in which players, coaches, journalists, and audiences come from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. In this context, the interplay between language and media becomes especially significant, as it directly shapes how football-related content is produced, transmitted, and received worldwide. With the ongoing globalization of football, media coverage increasingly crosses linguistic and cultural borders, which makes competent interpreting an essential component for ensuring accessibility, inclusivity, and accurate understanding.

Within this framework, the English language holds a central position, as it functions as a lingua franca in international football communication, with interviews, press conferences, expert discussions, and media coverage frequently conducted in English, regardless of the participants' native languages. As a result, interpreting practices play a crucial role in mediating between English-speaking and non-English-speaking stakeholders, particularly in national broadcasting contexts, where audiences rely on translations to fully engage with the content.

Taking these considerations into account, the present thesis addresses the following research questions: What interpreting practices can be identified in Romanian sports broadcasting channels with regard to football interviews, both pre- and post-match, as well as press conferences involving international players and coaches? What similarities and differences exist between the

interpreting practices of different television broadcasters? To what extent do these interpretations meet the criteria of comprehensibility for the Romanian audience?

In order to answer these questions, the thesis uses both theoretical and empirical approaches. The theoretical framework, presented in chapter 1, provides an introduction to communication in sport, with a particular emphasis on English as a lingua franca as well as on the role of the sports interpreter. Chapter 2 focuses on media interpreting, addressing key issues such as quality assessment and research in non-professional interpreting and translation (NPIT). chapter 3 offers an overview of football at both international and national levels, examining the sport in relation to language use and translation processes.

As for the empirical part, chapter 4 outlines the methodology and describes the corpus that forms the basis of the analysis presented in chapter 5. This includes a detailed account of the research design, data collection, and selection criteria. The empirical study is based on a transcribed corpus consisting of 30 recordings of interviews and press conferences featuring international players and coaches from the Romanian professional football league (Superliga). These recordings include both pre- and post-match contexts and involve interpreting from English into Romanian and vice versa. The data were collected from three Romanian sports television channels – Digi Sport, Prima Sport, and Orange Sport. Television was chosen as the primary medium of analysis because it remains the main platform for football-related interviews and reaches the largest audience.

The analysis focuses on evaluating the quality of interpreting practices by addressing the following questions: Is the content conveyed accurately and sufficiently for the target audience to understand? Is the message coherent? Is appropriate terminology used, particularly concerning football-specific expressions?

To complement the corpus-based analysis, chapter 6 presents an expert interview with a Romanian sports interpreter who specialises in football-related conference interpreting. The aim of this analysis is to provide deeper insights into interpreting practices in football conference settings in Romania and Austria, as well as to explore the challenges associated with sports interpreting, including time pressure, stress management, and other demands of live broadcasting.

The thesis concludes with a summary and discussion of the key findings in the concluding chapter, highlighting the implications of the study and suggesting directions for future research.

1 Communication in Sports

Communication constitutes a fundamental component of sports, shaping performance, coordination, and interaction across all levels of athletic activity. Whether occurring between players, coaches, and staff within a team, or between athletes, media representatives, and fans, effective communication is essential for achieving optimal performances, as it facilitates the transmission of tactical instructions, supports team cohesion, and enables the expression of strategic and emotional dimensions that are intrinsic to competitive sport. In highly dynamic environments, where rapid decision-making and mutual understanding are required, communication becomes a decisive factor in determining success.

Football in particular, as one of the most globalized and widely followed sports, exemplifies the centrality of communication. Within football teams, communication is indispensable for coordinating actions on the pitch, implementing tactical systems, and fostering interpersonal relationships among team members. At the same time, communication extends beyond the internal team environment, encompassing interactions with the media and fans, thereby contributing to the broader social and cultural significance of the sport.

Existing research highlights that communication in football is increasingly shaped by multilingual and multicultural dynamics. A review of the literature indicates that studies on sports interpreting in football have primarily developed in two ways: on the one hand, through case studies of individual international football clubs, and on the other, through analyses of the roles and challenges faced by sports interpreters. Despite these contributions, there remains a considerable need for further research, particularly since over the recent times only a few publications have been produced. Sports interpreting is frequently examined in connection with media interpreting, especially in highly mediatized sports such as football and tennis. While in the 1970s and 1980s there was significant academic interest in sports language and interpreting, this interest declined thereafter, only to be revived in the context of the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany (Burkhardt & Schlobinski, 2009: 10).

An important contribution to this field is the study conducted by the Innsbruck Football Research Group, entitled *Communication strategies in multilingual football teams: Achieving exemplary practice*. The authors investigate how multinational football teams manage linguistic and communicative challenges, focusing on questions such as how communication functions in multilingual teams, which factors contribute to successful or unsuccessful interaction, and which strategies and structures clubs have

developed to facilitate effective communication and integration. Based on a corpus of transcribed video recordings from various international football clubs, the authors of the study identify key characteristics of communication in multilingual teams and also propose strategies for improvement (Lavric et al. 2008: 376f.).

Within this framework, the role of interpreters emerges as a crucial element of long-term communication strategies in football clubs. Interpreters can support players in adapting to new linguistic and cultural environments and facilitate their integration into the team. A distinction is often made between “official” and “unofficial” interpreters, the latter typically being experienced players who possess strong language skills and assist teammates ad hoc (Lavric et al. 2008: 381). This distinction is particularly relevant for the present study, as it reflects similar dynamics observed in the Romanian football media context, where both professional and non-professional interpreters are involved in communication processes. These parallels between club and media environments provide valuable insights into the roles, expectations, and challenges associated with sports interpreting.

Further insights into communication in professional football are provided by qualitative interviews conducted with the Austrian referee Konrad Plautz and the former professional player and coach Dietmar “Didi” Constantini. These interviews highlight the complexity of communicative practices from both officiating and coaching perspectives. Plautz emphasises the importance of language – particularly English as a *lingua franca* – and mentions nonverbal and semiotic forms of communication during international matches. Within referee teams, communication plays a crucial coordinating role, and organisations such as UEFA ensure that refereeing teams share a common native language in order to minimize misunderstandings. While English generally allows effective communication with players, situations still arise in which individuals rely on teammates as ad hoc interpreters, especially in time-sensitive match contexts.

Regarding coaching, Constantini underscores the challenges posed by linguistic and cultural diversity within international teams. Having managed squads composed of players from multiple linguistic backgrounds, he identifies communication barriers as a central concern in coaching practice. Although clubs may provide language training and interpreting support, the responsibility for ensuring effective communication often falls on the coach. Coaches often develop functional multilingualism over the course of their careers, partly to reduce dependence on interpreters and avoid potential translation errors. Constantini also notes that interpreters do not always possess sufficient knowledge of sport-specific

terminology, which may result in inaccuracies, or may overstep their role by adding personal interpretations. Furthermore, he highlights the difficulty of conveying emotional nuances through interpreting, as well as the practical limitations caused by time delays in high-pressure situations such as in-game tactical communication.

Overall, a globalized football team can be conceptualized as a multilingual ecosystem that warrants further sociolinguistic investigation. The increasing reliance on both professional and informal interpreting practices underscores the complexity of communication in this environment. While collaboration with interpreters offers clear advantages, it also presents challenges that must be addressed through improved training and clearer role definitions. These insights contribute to a more nuanced understanding of communication in football and open new avenues for research on the role of interpreters in different linguistic and cultural contexts.

Building on these considerations, this thesis focuses on the role of interpreting within the Romanian football context, with particular attention to media settings. By examining how communication is mediated across languages, this study aims to contribute to the broader understanding of multilingual communication in sport and to advance research in the field of sports interpreting.

1.1 English as Lingua Franca

In the context of the increasing globalization and medialization of sports outlined in the introduction, English as a lingua franca has emerged as a central element in both football communication and interpreting practices. English is widely regarded as the most spoken second language worldwide. Notably, it is now more frequently used as a foreign or second language than as a native language. Furthermore, the most significant growth in language proficiency has been observed in English, while competence in other foreign languages tends to be declining. Against this backdrop, English can be considered an almost indispensable prerequisite for participation in international communication, particularly for conference participants, business professionals, politicians, and academics (Reithofer-Winter 2014: 43). Consequently, the global dissemination and media representation of sports – especially football – would hardly be conceivable without the widespread use of English.

As has been highlighted by Albl-Mikasa (2010), English has in recent years consolidated its role as a global lingua franca. This development poses specific challenges to the traditional professional profile

of interpreters, while simultaneously creating new opportunities and fields of application. The dual nature of this phenomenon is particularly evident in multilingual media environments. As will be further illustrated in section 1.3, a considerable proportion of the Romanian population does not possess sufficient English language skills. As a result, access to media content – especially when provided exclusively in English – may remain limited for certain audience groups. In such contexts, interpreting assumes a crucial mediating function, ensuring that information is accessible and comprehensible in the audience's native language. Despite these reservations, the global establishment of English as a *lingua franca* can be regarded as one of the most significant linguistic developments of the 21st century (Albl-Mikasa 2010: 126).

Albl-Mikasa (2010) uses both quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate the implications of this development for the profession of conference interpreting. Based on responses from 32 experts, Albl-Mikasa (2010) demonstrates that the increasing use of English as a *lingua franca* in international conference settings has led to substantial changes in interpreters' working conditions and professional practices. These transformations are not limited to traditional conference environments but are also likely to extend to other domains, including sports interpreting. Against this backdrop, examining such developments within the specific context of international sports communication appears particularly relevant.

Similarly, Reithofer-Winter (2014) characterises the evolution of English as a *lingua franca* as a highly dynamic process that entails both diverse opportunities and notable challenges. One recurring concern raised by interpreters is related to the reduced comprehensibility of non-native speakers (Reithofer-Winter 2014: 76f.). This issue is especially pronounced in the domain of sports communication, where a large proportion of speakers, such as international players and coaches, use English as a second language. Their interviews and other interactions with the press often require mediation through interpreting in order to be fully accessible to non-English-speaking audiences.

Building on these considerations, in the following chapter the role of English as a *lingua franca* within the sports industry will be explored in greater depth, with a particular focus on its function and implications in the field of football.

1.2 English as Lingua Franca in Football Communication

In an era in which football is increasingly dominated by English as a lingua franca, and in which athletes and coaches frequently leave their home countries to pursue international careers, interpreting plays a crucial role in ensuring smooth and effective communication. This holds not only within teams and sports organisations but also in communication with audiences who follow events remotely. The majority of viewers engage with their favorite teams and players via television broadcasts or digital platforms, accessing matches, press conferences, and interviews through various media channels. In many cases, these interactions are conducted in English. Consequently, in countries where a significant proportion of the population does not understand English very well, accurate interpreting becomes essential for enabling audiences to fully comprehend and engage with the content.

In order to further examine the widespread use of English in the context of football, it is necessary to consider both the advantages and disadvantages of this practice. A key advantage lies in the global communicative function and accessibility that English provides. Within football teams, communication between players, coaches, and staff is facilitated by the use of a common language. Given the diverse linguistic backgrounds of team members, English serves as a common tool that enables clearer coordination, more efficient training processes, and improved tactical execution during matches. Moreover, English facilitates the interaction with a global fan base. Through social media and international broadcasting, fans are able to follow interviews, commentaries, and discussions in English as well as interact with other supporters worldwide.

Another significant advantage is the global reach of the English language in international sports media. As the most widely used language in global sports broadcasting, English contributes to the ability of football to attract a vast international audience. This, in turn, leads to increased viewership, expanded sponsorship opportunities, and higher revenues for clubs and leagues. English-language commentaries further enhance the accessibility and global appeal of football, making the sport more accessible to broad audiences. In this sense, English often functions as a bridge that facilitates the dissemination of football-related values, traditions, and knowledge, allowing fans to engage with different football cultures across the world.

Despite these benefits, the dominance of English also entails notable disadvantages. One of the most significant concerns in this context is the linguistic barrier it creates for non-English speakers. For players and coaches who lack sufficient English proficiency, this can result in feelings of exclusion or in additional pressure to perform linguistically, potentially affecting their concentration and performance. Even when English is mostly successfully used as a common language, misunderstandings may arise, particularly when language proficiency levels vary among participants. Such communication issues can lead to mistakes on the field, misinterpretations of tactical instructions, or tensions within teams.

A frequently cited example is that of Darwin Núñez at Liverpool FC, who acknowledged difficulties in understanding his coach Jürgen Klopp due to the absence of a shared language: Núñez did not speak English, while Klopp did not speak Spanish. In such situations, interpreters play a vital role in mediating communication and ensuring that tactical instructions are conveyed accurately. Without this support, effective participation on the field would be significantly hindered (cf. O’Keeffe & Naylor 2022). These challenges will be more difficult in teams which lack players who share the same language and can assist informally.

Another potential drawback is the gradual erosion of local linguistic and cultural identities. The dominance of English may contribute to the marginalization of regional languages and dialects, thereby reducing the visibility and significance of local cultures within football. In certain contexts, this shift may lead to a sense of cultural detachment among both players and fans. Furthermore, the widespread use of a single dominant language may limit the diversity of voices and perspectives within global football discourse, potentially leading to a more homogenized communicative environment.

In light of these considerations, maintaining a balance between global communication and linguistic diversity is essential. While English as a *lingua franca* facilitates communication, commercialization, and global interconnectedness in football, it also carries the risk of excluding non-English speakers and diminishing local cultural identities. In this context, sports interpreting plays a crucial mediating role. For both players and coaches, it facilitates effective integration into international team environments, while for non-English-speaking audiences, it ensures access to football-related content and enables meaningful participation in the global football discourse.

Building on these insights, the following chapter will examine the phenomenon of football in Romania, with a particular emphasis on the popularity of the sport and its strong presence in television media, as it is reflected in high audience engagement.

1.3 Interpreting in Sports

Sports interpreting represents a subfield of interpreting studies that has, to date, received only limited systematic scholarly attention. It is characterized by specific communicative demands as well as complex situational conditions. In an increasingly globalized sporting context where athletes, coaches, officials, and media professionals from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds interact, professional interlingual and intercultural mediation assumes a central role. The growing international fan base of sports organisations such as the National Football League (NFL), the English Premier League (EPL), and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) necessitates the interpretation of various types of content, including commentaries, match reports, advertising campaigns, and interviews.

Moreover, the globalization of sports media has led to a rising demand for immediate interpreting services. Sporting events are often broadcast live to global audiences, requiring real-time interpretation for viewers who do not speak the language of the host country. Without efficient interpreting, the global reach of sport would be significantly limited, and audiences would be excluded from essential information and entertainment.

Within this context, interpreters play a key role by bridging not only linguistic but also cultural differences, thereby enabling effective and seamless communication. Despite the increasing relevance of this professional field, sports interpreting has thus far received only little attention in academic discourse, which indicates the need for further research.

According to Uyanik (2017), sports interpreting can be seen as a specialised field within translation studies that encompasses all forms of linguistic mediation in the context of sport. It includes interpreting services for various actors within the sports industry and may simultaneously be regarded as a specific manifestation of community interpreting (Uyanik, 2017: 101). On the other hand, sports interpreting may also be classified as a subcategory of conference interpreting when it takes place in a conference-like setting and involves simultaneous interpretation. The

distinction from community interpreting therefore lies primarily in the target audience for whom the interpreting service is provided, as well as in the situational context (Uyanik, 2017: 106).

As noted by Kootz (2015), interpreters are employed across a range of sports disciplines, although their role is particularly prominent in football. One explanation for this can be found in the increasing commercialization of football, which enables clubs and associations to allocate greater financial resources to professional interpreting services. In contrast, other sports are more likely to rely on cost-effective solutions, such as the use of non-professional or ad hoc interpreters (Kootz, 2015: 88).

As a scientific foundation for this study, a corpus analysis conducted by Annalisa Sandrelli (2012) is used. The FOOTIE (Football in Europe) corpus consists of simultaneously interpreted press conferences held during the UEFA Euro 2008 in Austria and Switzerland. It covers all pre- and post-match press conferences, with a specific focus on those involving the Italian national team and its opponents during the tournament, namely the Netherlands, Romania, France, and Spain (Sandrelli 2012: 79). For the purposes of this master's thesis, the focus lies on the Romanian data included in the corpus.

Press conferences held during major football tournaments are designed to provide journalists with direct access to coaches and key players both before and after matches. The EURO 2008 press conferences can be described as instances of institutional interaction within a multilingual, international speech community, consisting of journalists, football officials, players, and media representatives. Notably, these events were not accessible to the general public and were neither broadcast live nor recorded for later transmission, meaning that no primary or secondary audience was present. However, the information exchanged was rapidly disseminated through media reports, ultimately reaching a global audience (Sandrelli 2012: 85). In contrast, the present study focuses on press conferences that are publicly accessible, with the aim of analysing the comprehensibility of interpreting for Romanian audiences. This shift highlights a gap in existing research, which this thesis seeks to address.

The FOOTIE corpus was originally compiled to conduct an observational study on simultaneous interpreting in the context of international football press conferences, with a particular emphasis on interpreting strategies and challenges (Sandrelli 2012: 86). While Sandrelli's (2012) study focuses exclusively on simultaneous interpreting, the corpus analysis in this thesis also incorporates consecutive interpreting. According to Sandrelli (2012), previous

findings have identified key challenges, such as high speech rates, and evaluate interpreting performance in terms of completeness, accuracy, and stylistic adequacy. They further emphasise the importance of thorough preparation and subject-matter expertise in football-related interpreting contexts. This is supported by the existence of specialised translation agencies offering services tailored to football teams and organisations. Building on these findings, the present study evaluates interpreting performance based on criteria such as accuracy, coherence, and the use of appropriate terminology.

Further contributions to the field of sports interpreting are provided by Kootz (2015), who examines the language of sport from a football perspective in German-speaking countries. His work highlights the prominent use of metaphor, the importance of phraseology, and specific syntactic features relevant to interpreting practice (Kootz 2015: 45). In addition, Kootz (2015) emphasises the necessity of linguistic preparation, including mastery of sport-specific terminology and familiarity with both domestic and international sports media discourse (Kootz 2015: 50).

In the empirical part of his study, Kootz (2015) conducted an online survey with 51 interpreters specialising in sport and football, aiming to gain insights into an area that remains under-studied. The results show that interpreting demands are particularly high in football, followed by motorsport, basketball, cycling, and tennis. Interpreters typically work across multiple sports and are most frequently employed in press conferences, interviews, and conferences, underlining the strong link between sport and media. Simultaneous interpreting emerges as the dominant mode, although most practitioners work only partially in the sports sector. The findings also confirm the existence of a distinct sports language, characterized by idiomatic expressions, metaphors, and colloquial elements.

Overall, the study provides valuable insights into both the practical demands and linguistic challenges of sports interpreting, particularly in the context of the increasing commercialization and mediatization of sport. The relevance of this analysis for the present master's thesis lies in its role as a methodological and conceptual basis for a planned interview, which should generate deeper insights into interpreting practices within Romanian football. In doing so, the study contributes to addressing the existing research gap in the field of sports interpreting.

1.4 The Role of the Football Interpreter

Football is widely known as the sport that relies most extensively on professional interpreting services, due to its global nature and the frequent interaction between international players, coaches, and the media. Within this context, a variety of interpreting modes are employed, with simultaneous and consecutive interpreting being particularly prominent.

Simultaneous interpreting is commonly used during international press conferences, when coaches or players are interviewed by journalists immediately after a match. This setting demands a fast, precise, and culturally sensitive transfer of meaning, as both specialised sports terminology and spontaneous, often emotional statements must be conveyed in real time. The high level of media visibility further increases performance pressure on interpreters, introducing additional stress factors that must be managed effectively. Section 2.4.2 will provide a more detailed discussion of the stress-inducing factors encountered in the context of media interpreting.

Consecutive interpreting, by contrast, is frequently employed in internal communications between players and coaches, medical staff, or during contract negotiations. Whispered interpreting, a form of simultaneous interpreting conducted for individual participants, is also used in specific game situations, such as tactical instructions or short-term strategy discussions during matches. These diverse modes highlight the interpreter's central role in ensuring that critical information is accurately transmitted, facilitating understanding not only between speakers of different languages but also among team members who rely on this communication to perform effectively.

As it is also the case in other translation domains, the role of the interpreter in football extends beyond the mere transfer of words. Interpreters act as linguistic and cultural mediators, navigating differences in language, context, and communication style. They must possess exceptional listening and concentration skills, a deep knowledge of specialised football terminology, and the ability to process and reproduce complex information almost instantaneously. Cultural awareness is also crucial: interpreters must accurately convey not only the meaning but also the tone, intent, and emotional nuance of the original speaker, especially in high-pressure environments such as live broadcasts or post-match press conferences.

1.4.1 Challenges and Techniques when Interpreting in a Sporting Context

A central challenge lies in the use of highly specialised terminology. Football possesses its own distinct lexicon, which extends beyond technical terms such as “offside,” “zonal marking,” or “transition play” to include idiomatic expressions, jargon, and even slang. Interpreters must be familiar with these terms both in their source language and in the target language. In addition, identical terms may carry different connotations across linguistic and cultural contexts, requiring an additional level of semantic sensitivity (Becker, 1988: 23f.). Interpreters working within a football context are therefore expected to possess a comprehensive knowledge of sport-specific terminology. For this reason, the use of appropriate terminology has been selected as one of the criteria for the planned quality analysis of the interpreting corpus (see section 4.4).

Beyond linguistic complexity, cultural aspects emerge as a central challenge in the football context. Football is not merely a sporting event but a global cultural phenomenon with diverse social and communicative dimensions. Players and coaches exhibit different communicative patterns and stylistic conventions, which vary considerably across cultures. While some cultural contexts favor a direct and emotionally expressive communication style, others emphasise restraint and formal politeness. Interpreters are therefore faced with the demanding task of conveying not only the semantic content of an utterance but also its pragmatic intent and cultural embeddedness, without distorting the speaker’s intended meaning or disrupting the communicative framework.

In this regard, nonverbal communication, such as gestures, facial expressions, and intonation, also plays a significant role. These elements are often context-dependent and cannot always be directly transferred to the target language; nevertheless, they require conscious interpretation and, where necessary, the application of compensatory strategies on the part of the interpreter. Despite their importance, the role of nonverbal signals in sports interpreting has thus far received hardly any attention in academic literature, representing a gap to be addressed in future research.

Another distinctive feature of interpreting in football is the emotional intensity that characterizes many situations, particularly in the context of international competitions. Post-match press conferences are often conducted under considerable media pressure, and critical or provocative questions directed at players and coaches are not uncommon. In such situations, interpreters must demonstrate not only linguistic precision but also a high degree of diplomatic

sensitivity. The ability to render potentially conflictual or emotionally charged statements in a manner that avoids escalation is of central importance. Recent studies, such as Özsöz (2024), indicate that interpreters in these contexts deliberately employ discursive strategies of so-called facework in order to mitigate communicative tension and maintain a cooperative interactional climate (Özsöz, 2024: 224f.).

Furthermore, the role of interpreters in football is by no means limited to media settings, as they also contribute significantly to the social and linguistic integration of foreign players into new club environments. In such cases, interpreters function not only as linguistic mediators but also as intercultural intermediaries between different social systems, training cultures, and sporting mentalities. Effective communication in this regard can have direct impacts on both individual performance and overall team cohesion (Lavric et al., 2008: 375).

Despite this, sports interpreting in football is often marginalized in professional practice. In many clubs, interpreting-related tasks are delegated to bilingual team members or staff who lack formal training in interpreting. This practice entails the risk of errors and misunderstandings, which may have not only sporting but also media-related or legal consequences. Academic engagement with this topic remains limited, although more systematic approaches, such as that of Özsöz (2024), have begun to emerge in recent years. In particular, empirically grounded studies analysing interactions between interpreters, athletes, and media representatives are still largely lacking.

Interpreting in professional football thus constitutes a highly specialised field that extends far beyond mere linguistic transfer. In addition to excellent language skills, it requires an in-depth understanding of sport-specific dynamics as well as strong intercultural communicative competence. Against the backdrop of the ongoing globalization and professionalization of international football, it appears essential to formally recognize the role of professional sports interpreters within football institutions and to promote their targeted training. Academic research in this field should therefore be further expanded in order to contribute to the development of standardized training frameworks and quality criteria.

1.4.2 Skills required of a Sports Interpreter

A sport reporter's work requires flexibility, adaptability, and stress management skills. The fast-paced nature of the sport, combined with unpredictable events and emotionally charged situations, places significant cognitive and emotional demands on interpreters. They must maintain accuracy while simultaneously responding to unforeseen developments, such as spontaneous questions from journalists or tactical updates from coaching staff.

Ultimately, interpreters play a critical role in shaping the accessibility of football content for audiences, both in the media and within professional teams. Their work ensures that fans, journalists, and team members can access information in their mother tongue, enabling engagement, understanding, and participation. In many ways, the interpreter serves as a bridge between languages, cultures, and contexts, allowing football to be experienced and understood on a truly global scale.

Interpreters play a central role in football communication and need a high level of professionalism, skill, and adaptability, which are all required in this field. By recognizing the interpreter as an active mediator rather than a passive conduit, the study frames the subsequent analysis of translated interviews and press conferences, demonstrating how these roles manifest in practice and influence audience comprehension.

1.5 Intercultural Aspects

One important aspect of sport is its function as a melting pot of players from different countries and cultures, who come together when joining a team. They have to communicate with each other in order to function and perform well as a team in a game as well as in practice. In this thesis, the focus lies on football, which is a globalized multicultural sport. There are very few teams in all the leagues around the world that have mainly local players, coaches and staff in their ranks. As shown in section 1, the study conducted by the Innsbruck Football Research Group showed that long-term communication between players and staff from different cultures and their team members is vital for their successful integration. Interpreters can thus support players in adapting to their new cultural and linguistic environments, which can lead to better performance and overall adaptability of the players and staff.

However, football fosters a unique form of intercultural communication that extends far beyond the boundaries of the pitch, creating meaningful connections among supporters across the globe. Fans engage with one another through various channels, whether by attending matches in stadiums, participating in fan events, or interacting on digital platforms and social media. These interactions enable individuals from diverse cultural, linguistic, and social backgrounds to form a shared identity rooted in their support for a particular team. For example, a supporter of Manchester United from India may experience a strong sense of connection and unity with a fellow fan from Italy, despite differences in geography and culture. This shared allegiance facilitates a common communicative space, where emotions, values, and experiences related to football are exchanged and mutually understood. Consequently, intercultural communication in football is not limited to players, coaches, or institutional actors, but also emerges dynamically among supporters, highlighting the sport's capacity to bridge cultural divides and foster global communities.

Overall, communication plays a fundamental role in enabling sport to function as an intercultural phenomenon. It facilitates interaction not only among players, coaches, and officials, but also among supporters worldwide, allowing shared meanings, emotions, and identities to emerge across cultural boundaries. Without effective communication, the global and unifying nature of sport would not be possible.

Sports are still the ultimate shared experience. Sport draws the attention of people from all walks of life in ways that few other things can. People now receive information and entertainment from niche outlets on television, radio, the Internet, and more, but big sports events are still much broader based. For all its flaws and issues, sports at its best can still be a shared experience that bonds individuals, groups, and even nations. (Bob Costas, NBC Sports and MLB Network) (Billings et al. 2014)

2 Media Interpreting

Media interpreting is a form of interpreting commonly encountered on television and radio, particularly in interviews, press conferences, and talk shows. Its primary aim is to make foreign-language content accessible to audiences by rendering it into their native language, thereby enabling viewers and listeners to fully understand the conveyed information in full. According to Pöchhacker (2010), “media interpreting, also known as broadcast interpreting, is a form of language transfer in the media (or audiovisual translation [...] in the broader sense) used primarily for live mass media broadcasts.” (Pöchhacker 2010: 224)

In an increasingly globalized world, media interpreting plays a crucial role in fostering connectivity and broadening access to international content. From a functionalist perspective, the primary objective of media interpreting is therefore less about facilitating direct understanding between the original speakers, such as the interviewer and interviewee, and more about mediating communication between the media outlet and its audience in a way that is accessible and engaging for as wide a public as possible (Pöchhacker 1995). It is generally understood as the practice of interpreting simultaneously, consecutively, or dialogically across various media formats, between spoken and/or signed languages (Castillo 2021: 336).

A broader definition of media interpreting also encompasses cross-language, interpreter-mediated communication within the domain of audiovisual translation, alongside practices such as subtitling, dubbing, audio description, and webcasting. In this sense, it can be regarded as the most inclusive term, covering all interpreting activities – whether in spoken or signed languages – carried out in broadcast mass media (Fovo 2020).

According to Biesla (2021), studies on media translation have been the fastest growing area of research in the last two decades. This has led to the creation of specialised undergraduate and postgraduate modules and courses, offering a wealth of new approaches to a multitude of practices and forms that expand the boundaries of the discipline. However, the field is currently characterized by fragmentation and a lack of adequate theoretical output. Audiovisual translation and news translation are now separate subfields, and there is little communication between them in terms of theories, methodologies, and research. Empirical examinations of a multitude of practices and forms in specific contexts have tended to predominate in detriment of theory development. For this reason, current research has often failed to effectively communicate theoretical

and methodological findings and their more general implications more broadly within and beyond the field of translation studies. For this reason, the use of translation in the media in the digital age could compel researchers to reevaluate some of the preconceived notions about translation and may present a chance to solidify the importance of translation as transformation. (Bielsa 2021).

The next two sections will focus on the historical intersections between media and translation, as well as on the different interpreting modalities used in media interpreting settings, before moving on to the complex topic of quality in media interpreting.

2.1 Historical Intersections between Media and Translation

The rapid advancement of technology has prompted translation studies in recent years to shift their focus towards the intersection between translation and media. However, theories of understanding how the medium impacts the role and form of translation go back to the 1950s and 1960s. The idea that the medium of communication was merely a container, a tool for storage and transmission, started to face challenges as scholars like Marshall McLuhan (1992, 1967), whose argument was that “the medium is the message,” forwarded the idea that the media technology used to store and/or transmit the content has the biggest effects on society and culture and should be given careful consideration (McLuhan 1962, 1967). He made the well-known claims that the media's significance extended beyond the content it conveyed and that the form's technicity and mediality influenced both the content's transmission and reception (O'Connor 2021).

Later in the 1980s, as O'Connor (2021) has gathered in her research, McGann (1988) and McKenzie (2002) emphasise the significance of “non-authorial textual determinants,” arguing that texts must be understood as complex constructs shaped by both their formal and material presentation (McKenzie 2002). McKenzie's influential claim that “forms effect meaning” has had a lasting impact on media studies and remains highly relevant in contemporary scholarship (McKenzie 1999). Similarly, McGann (1988) highlights the collaborative and social nature of literary production, underscoring the roles of publishers, editors, designers, and printers in shaping texts.

In more recent years, Littau (2016) strongly advocated for greater attention to the material dimensions of communication and translation, arguing that media actively shape perception and thought not through their content, but through their material and technical properties (Littau 2016: 87).

In his study of translation and globalization, Cronin (2003) highlights the need to consider translation in relation to material objects, rather than focusing solely on texts or people, arguing that it cannot be understood independently of its object world (Cronin 2003: 10). He raises questions about the ways technology shapes human practice and emphasises the central role of tools in translation, advocating, similarly to Littau's later work, for an understanding of media carriers as constitutive.

In light of ongoing transformations and disruptions within the media ecosystem, alongside its increasing technological saturation, the impact of these developments on all forms of communication, including translation, needs to be considered. While media have influenced translation since the earliest tools were employed, critically assessing this influence remains essential to an integrated understanding of materiality, mediality, and technicity in translation studies (O'Connor 2021).

2.2 Media Interpreting in Romania

Research on media interpreting in Romania is relatively limited and is most often embedded within the broader field of audiovisual translation (AVT). Nevertheless, several studies provide valuable insights into how interpreting functions within Romanian media contexts. This section reviews three relevant contributions that address this topic from complementary perspectives.

The first study by Sinu (2018) investigates the use of audiovisual translation practices in Romanian television news, with particular attention to the role of interpreting. The research is based on an analysis of news broadcasts from Romanian public television and examines how different translation modes, such as voice-over, subtitling, and interpreting, are employed in journalistic contexts. The study highlights that interpreting is primarily used in situations involving foreign-language speakers, especially in international news coverage. It further explores the factors influencing the choice of transfer mode, including time constraints, audience accessibility, and editorial conventions. The findings suggest that interpreting in Romanian news media is shaped by

both practical and institutional considerations, and that it often coexists with other forms of audiovisual translation rather than functioning as a standalone practice.

The second study by Varga (2020), offers a broader perspective on the development and current state of audiovisual translation in Romanian television. While not exclusively focused on interpreting, the study situates it within a wider ecosystem that includes subtitling, dubbing, and voice-over. The research outlines Romania's status as predominantly a subtitling country, while also acknowledging the presence of other translation modes depending on genre and audience. Interpreting is discussed as part of live or semi-live media contexts, particularly in news and public broadcasts. The study emphasises the diversity of practices and the evolving nature of the field, pointing to technological changes and increasing demands for accessibility as key drivers.

A third relevant contribution by Şimon et al. (2022) shifts the focus toward accessibility and inclusion, offering a more recent perspective on the role of interpreting in media and public communication. This study examines how translation and interpreting practices contribute to linguistic accessibility, particularly for individuals with hearing impairments and other communication needs. It highlights the growing importance of sign language interpreting and other accessibility-oriented services in Romanian media, especially in televised content and public broadcasts. The research underscores existing gaps in implementation, including inconsistencies in quality, visibility, and standardization of interpreting services. At the same time, it points to emerging trends, such as increased institutional awareness and alignment with European accessibility policies. By framing interpreting within the broader concept of accessibility, this study expands the understanding of media interpreting beyond traditional news contexts and emphasises its social and ethical dimensions.

By mapping the overall landscape, this work provides important contextual grounding for understanding the relatively limited but significant role of interpreting in Romanian media.

Together, these studies demonstrate that media interpreting in Romania, although not extensively researched as an independent domain, constitutes an integral component of audiovisual translation practices. They also highlight the need for further empirical research focusing specifically on interpreting processes, professional norms, and audience reception within media settings.

2.3 Interpreting Modalities

Media interpreting modalities are not standardized; despite identifiable trends, practices, and viewpoints regarding which modalities are used or should be used in various broadcasts, differ among researchers. The most common interpreting modalities found in media interpreting are simultaneous, consecutive, dialogue and a form of mixed dialogue and simultaneous interpreting.

According to Pöchhacker (2010), live-broadcast simultaneous interpreting “is still regarded as the prototypical manifestation of media interpreting, which nevertheless includes other scenarios, modes and modalities as well.” (Pöchhacker 2010: 224) Whether or not this “prototype” is representative in quantitative terms or deemed professionally ideal, it nonetheless highlights the significant influence of conference interpreting, in which simultaneous interpreting is the dominant mode (Pöchhacker 2010: 224f.). Other researchers like Mason (2018) include “voice-over, consecutive and simultaneous modes” (Mason 2018: 86) as interpreting modalities within the media interpreting setting.

In practice, simultaneous interpreting is the most commonly used mode. However, depending on the format and requirements, consecutive and whispered interpreting (chuchotage) are also regularly employed. The work of interpreters in the field of media interpreting is of high societal relevance, as their assignments via broadcast media reach a broad and diverse audience. (cf. Schmol 2021: 10)

Accordingly, the demands placed on interpreters are very high, as the discerning audience – often consisting of millions of viewers – expects an error-free product from the media. However, high-quality interpreting is frequently impaired by unfavourable working conditions. Such conditions arise, for example, when interpreters do not work in a booth as they would at conferences, but instead are placed in improvised spaces, lack a direct view of the speaker, or have to contend with poor sound quality (Kootz 2015: 13). This aspect will be further discussed in the following section.

2.4 Quality in (Media) Interpreting

In interpreting studies, quality is an important yet difficult-to-define concept for professionals, providers, and audiences. Although further research is needed in different contexts, existing studies

allow for a more systematic and multidimensional approach to understanding and assessing quality in media interpreting.

Research on interpreting quality is extensive, and numerous models exist for assessing the quality of both written and oral translation. In the present study, however, quality is understood primarily as “successful communication between participants within a given interactional context” (Pöchhacker 2002: 97). The main objective of this study is therefore to examine whether indirect communication between fans and their preferred players or coaches is effectively facilitated and maintained by the language mediators involved.

According to Kalina (2002), factors relevant to interpreting quality can be divided into four groups, depending on when they take effect in relation to the interpreting event. The first group includes factors determined prior to the interpreting process (pre-process or upstream factors). The second group comprises conditions present immediately before and during the interpreting process (peri-process conditions). The third group relates to requirements and conditions during the interpreting process itself, while the fourth group includes factors that become relevant after the event (post-process or downstream factors). (Kalina 2002: 126)

Kalina’s (2002) corpus analysis primarily examines interpreting performances by non-professional language mediators, the focus is placed on factors operating during the interpreting process. These include prior knowledge and assumptions, the nature of the source text, its mode of delivery, requirements related to the target language, and interactional competence.

In order to make interpreting performance measurable, Kalina (2002: 125f.) proposes a framework consisting of three categories through which various parameters capture the quality of the interpreting output: semantic content, linguistic realization, and presentation. Kalina (2002) focuses on accuracy and coherence, which fall under semantic content, as well as terminological appropriateness, which is part of linguistic realization.

Kalina’s (2011) model is adopted as the framework for evaluating interpreting quality for two main reasons. First, it represents a relatively recent contribution to research on quality in interpreting studies. Second, the model is particularly differentiated, as it not only evaluates the interpreted target texts but also incorporates an analysis of the corresponding source texts, thereby enabling a systematic comparison between the two.

2.5 Approaches to the Topic of Quality

Early research on interpreting quality was largely theoretical in nature, with only limited attention given to the diverse settings and situational factors in which interpreting actually takes place. Moreover, despite the development of numerous systems and criteria for assessing interpreting quality over the years, there remains a notable lack of standardization in the field.

According to Pöchhacker (2002), there are, however, “concepts such as accuracy, clarity or fidelity which are invariably deemed essential” (Pöchhacker 2002). According to Gile (1998: 198), these criteria are associated with the product-oriented perspective and focus on the interpretation as a “faithful image” of the original message. There is also a “listener oriented” perspective which encompasses a second aspect of quality, the notion of clarity (Viezzi 1996: 100). Another approach to quality focuses on the “process of communicative interaction as such,” where “quality means successful communication amongst interacting parties in a particular context of interaction.” As mentioned above, the different criteria used to analyse interpreting quality focus on different views of an interpreter's task—from processing the original message, to producing a message for a specific purpose, to more broadly helping people communicate with each other (Pöchhacker 2002).

In her study, Bühler (1986) identified key criteria for evaluating quality in conference interpreting, distinguishing between linguistic (semantic) and extra-linguistic (pragmatic) aspects. Linguistic criteria include accuracy, completeness, and correct terminology, focusing on the faithful rendering of the source message. Extra-linguistic criteria, on the other hand, relate to clarity, coherence, fluency, and the interpreter's ability to adapt the message to the communicative context and audience needs. Bühler's (1986) framework highlighted that high-quality interpreting depends not only on precise language transfer but also on effective communication and the successful conveyance of meaning in context. Bühler's (1986) study laid the foundation for much of the research on interpreting quality that developed in the following decades.

Lastly, to form a link to the topic of quality in media interpreting settings, reference is made to research conducted by Kurz (2000) in which she argues that media and videoconference interpreting constitute distinct modes of interpreting shaped by technological mediation and public exposure. Unlike traditional conference interpreting, these settings involve remote conditions in which interpreters rely on audio-visual input while lacking full access to contextual and non-verbal cues. This results in increased cognitive load, higher stress levels, and greater dependence on

anticipation strategies. At the same time, technical factors such as sound quality and transmission delays significantly influence performance. Kurz (2000) further demonstrates that quality criteria shift in media contexts: delivery, fluency, and audience perception become as important as accuracy, as interpreters are part of a broadcast product and visible to a wide audience. Overall, her work highlights how technology transforms both the interpreter's role and the definition of interpreting quality.

2.6 Stress Factors in Media Interpreting

The challenges in the field of media interpreting do not arise exclusively from unfavourable working conditions, but to a considerable extent also from psychophysiological strain, particularly acute stress.

In interpreting studies research, stress is typically analysed along three central components: stressors, stress responses, and performance, complemented by intervening variables that modulate the relationship between strain and performance (Kurz 2002: 195f.). While stressors and immediate reactions in the interpreting process are directly observable, the collection of intervening variables generally requires additional methods such as standardized questionnaires or physiological measurement techniques (e.g. skin conductance, heart rate variability) (Kurz 2002: 196ff.).

Within the framework of the planned master's thesis, as well as the associated expert interview, these variables will also be systematically taken into account. The aim of the survey is to identify potential correlations between identified stress factors and their influence on the quality of interpreting performance. Furthermore, the interview will address practice-relevant strategies and methods for coping with stress within the specific field of sports interpreting.

According to Kurz (2002), stressors can be differentiated into three main categories: mental, social, and environmental factors. Mental stressors include in particular the simultaneous processing of information under high time pressure, as well as the necessity to maintain a high level of cognitive readiness over extended periods. Social stressors arise, among other factors, from hierarchical dynamics, competitive situations, and the need to assert oneself in a professional environment. Environmental stressors, by contrast, are of exogenous origin and include, for example, disruptive acoustic conditions, insufficient recovery (e.g. lack of sleep), or physiological impairments such as oxygen deficiency due to inadequate ventilation.

The focus of the master's thesis will be on mental factors, as the interview allows for the collection of concrete experiences and perceptions of a professional interpreter (cf. Kurz 2002: 197ff.).

Media and sports interpreting exhibit a number of specific characteristics that distinguish them from traditional conference interpreting and further increase stress levels. In particular, live broadcasts impose the requirement for continuous, simultaneous language mediation, which generates significantly heightened cognitive pressure (Kurz 2002: 197). Unexpected interview requests, sudden shifts in the direction of a conversation, and the occurrence of unpredictable events (e.g. interruptions in play or emotional outbursts) demand a high degree of flexibility, rapid cognitive adaptability, and strong stress resilience on the part of interpreters (Kurz 2002: 198).

Another factor that intensifies this strain is the immediate visibility and audibility of potential errors. Unlike in conference settings, where reception by a specialist audience is often delayed and less emotionally charged, feedback in media contexts is instantaneous – whether from the audience, the press, or social media. This public exposure can create additional performance pressure. Moreover, interpreters frequently face inadequate technical conditions, such as the absence of soundproof booths, poor audio quality, or improvised working environments, all of which further increase cognitive load (Kurz 2002: 200).

A further objective of the expert interviews is to examine the extent to which this existing performance pressure affects the quality of interpreting output. In addition, strategies for coping with stress will be addressed and analysed.

Kurz (2003) states that there are notable interindividual differences in how stress is processed. Factors such as professional experience, familiarity with live situations, and targeted preparation for potential topics and communicative scenarios have been shown to reduce stress. Thorough content-related and technical preparation can also enhance the sense of control and contribute to maintaining the quality of interpreting performance (Kurz 2003: 51).

2.7 Non-professional Interpreting in the Media

In recent years, increasing scholarly attention has been paid to non-professional interpreting and translation (NPIT), particularly in media contexts (cf. Antonini & Bucaria 2015). NPIT refers to linguistic mediation carried out by bilingual or multilingual individuals who typically lack formal

training in translation or interpreting and are often not remunerated for their work. These aspects are also what separate non-professional interpreters from professional interpreters and translators. This type of practice occurs across a wide range of settings, including institutional, community, and media environments, and has gained prominence due to globalization, migration, and the expansion of digital and broadcast media. Antonini and Bucaria (2015) provide the following definition:

Its scope encompasses all those linguistic and cultural mediation activities performed by people (bilingual speakers) who have no formal training and who are often not remunerated for their work as an interpreter/translator. (Antonini & Bucaria 2015: 7)

In the Romanian media landscape, a notable example of NPIT can be observed in sports broadcasting, particularly in coverage of the Romanian football league. In this context, journalists and television hosts frequently assume the role of ad hoc interpreters when interviewing foreign players and coaches, translating their responses into Romanian for the audience. This form of mediation is typically performed without formal interpreting training and under real-time broadcasting constraints, aligning closely with the characteristics of NPIT described in the literature. Despite its visibility and frequency, this practice has not yet been systematically examined in academic research. The present master's thesis aims to address this gap, aiming to analyse how NPIT functions in Romanian sports media and to contribute to a better understanding of interpreting practices in a context that has so far remained underexplored.

2.7.1 NPIT Research

In recent years, increasing scholarly attention has been paid to non-professional interpreting and translation (NPIT), particularly in media contexts. NPIT can be defined as linguistic mediation carried out by bilingual or multilingual individuals who lack formal training in translation or interpreting and who are typically not remunerated for their work. Such practices occur across institutional, community, and media settings and have gained visibility due to globalization, migration, and the expansion of digital and broadcast media.

Translation in the Media (Antonini & Bucaria 2015), which represents one of the first systematic attempts to conceptualize NPIT within media environments. The volume brings together

case studies on interpreting, fansubbing, fandubbing, and other participatory practices, highlighting the diversity of non-professional mediation. It emphasises that NPIT in media contexts is often shaped by time pressure, multimodality, and audience expectations, and that it frequently coexists with professional practices.

In addition, the introductory chapter of the volume outlines central challenges of NPIT, describing the field as difficult to define due to its broad scope. It identifies key concerns such as the lack of standardized norms, issues of quality and reliability, and the hybrid roles of individuals who combine interpreting with other media functions (e.g. journalists or presenters). The study also underlines the increasing role of participatory culture, particularly in digital media, where non-professional contributors actively engage in translation and interpreting activities.

A further important contribution is the volume *Introducing NPIT Studies* (Antonini et al. 2017), which expands the theoretical and methodological foundations of the field. This work positions NPIT as a distinct area within Translation and Interpreting Studies and provides a more structured framework for its analysis. It highlights the wide range of contexts in which NPIT occurs, including migration settings, public services, and media, and stresses the need for interdisciplinary approaches.

Antonini et al. (2017) also emphasise the social relevance of NPIT, particularly in relation to accessibility and inclusion. The volume discusses how non-professional mediators often play a crucial role in facilitating communication in multilingual societies, especially where professional services are unavailable. At the same time, it raises concerns about ethical issues, power dynamics, and the potential risks associated with untrained interpreting in sensitive contexts, including media communication.

Taken together, these studies establish NPIT as an emerging and multifaceted field of research. They demonstrate that non-professional interpreting in the media is not an isolated phenomenon but part of broader socio-cultural and technological developments. At the same time, they highlight the need for further empirical research, particularly in specific national contexts, to better understand how NPIT operates in practice and how it interacts with professional interpreting.

Beyond media contexts, NPIT has also been explored in several other domains. In migration and community settings, research on language brokering by Orellana and Phoenix (2017) as well as Antonini (2016) examines how children and other bilingual individuals mediate communication for family members, highlighting the social and developmental dimensions of non-professional

interpreting. In institutional contexts, a study by Baraldi and Gavioli (2017) focuses on interactional dynamics and coordination in non-professional interpreting, particularly in healthcare and public service encounters, emphasising issues of communication management and role negotiation. Regarding digital environments, research on fansubbing and online communities, Xiao and Ma (2025) investigate the practices, skills, and motivations of non-professional subtitlers, underlining the importance of participatory culture and technology in shaping contemporary NPIT practices.

2.7.2 Interpreting on Television

Non-professional interpreters are most visible in radio and television, a prominence amplified by global media that dissolves geographic and linguistic barriers (Antonini 2015: 149). Focusing on radio, Antonini (2015) analyses live multilingual interviews and maps a tripartite interaction among guest, host, and non-professional interpreter (Antonini 2015: 156). The study suggests that the host retains the presenting role and deliberately shapes the interpretation to engage listeners (Antonini 2015: 157). Interpreters switch between languages, and boundaries between host and interpreter often blur as extra information is added to entertain the audience, producing a colloquial, entertainment-oriented register rather than strict accuracy (Antonini 2015: 157ff.). In television contexts, anchors or hosts can also take on interpreting duties, with the choice influenced by linguistic and professional backgrounds (Chiaro 2015: 36).

Expanding on these findings, Chiaro (2015) establishes the phenomenon of “journalist-interpreters,” who render headlines from foreign newspapers and translate online news content live on air. A comparable practice can be observed among radio hosts who conduct interviews with pop stars speaking different first languages, simultaneously assuming the role of interpreter. In contrast to journalist-interpreters, whose primary function is to inform, hosts in entertainment shows appear to translate largely for performative or entertainment purposes rather than for audience comprehension. As a result, the focus of an interview may occasionally shift away from the guest and towards the inadequacies of the interpretation itself (Chiaro 2015: 32f.).

Journalists, radio presenters, and television hosts without formal training in interpreting, who mediate both their guests’ speech and their own, face several significant challenges. Beyond

expected translation errors and linguistic limitations, issues also arise at the level of presentation: inappropriate tone, register, and communicative behaviour can undermine the interaction.

Fundamentally, the task of interpreters is to convey the speaker's message from the source language into the target language as accurately and effectively as possible. Audiences who lack proficiency in the source language are therefore dependent on the interpreter in order to follow the broadcast. As Chiaro (2002: 224f.) demonstrates, the less competent viewers are in a language such as English, the more they must rely on the interpreter, and consequently, the more positively they tend to evaluate the interpreter's overall performance.

In television contexts, entertainment constitutes a central value shaping communicative practices. This orientation inevitably affects interpreting. Elements such as humour, charm, and laughter are strategically employed, sometimes compensating for deficiencies in translation quality. For instance, in a case documented by Chiaro (2015), an interpreting performance on an Italian television channel was marked by omissions and inaccuracies that were effectively masked through humour. Such strategies are not exceptional but rather characteristic of the medium, where entertainment value often takes precedence (Chiaro 2015: 37f.).

In summarising non-professional interpreting on television, Chiaro (2015: 40) offers a critical assessment, noting that interpreters in talk show settings are frequently unreliable both in terms of message accuracy and delivery. In some cases, the task is not treated with the necessary seriousness, and mistranslations are transformed into comic performances. This suggests that, within such formats, translation serves less as a means of conveying information and more as a device for entertainment.

Taken together, the findings from Antonini (2015) and Chiaro (2015) highlight a fundamental tension in media interpreting performed by non-professionals. While these practices increase accessibility and enable cross-linguistic interaction in globalised media environments, they simultaneously blur the boundaries between informing and entertaining. As a result, accuracy, neutrality, and fidelity, i.e. core principles of professional interpreting, are often subordinated to audience engagement and performative appeal. This shift not only affects the quality of the interpreted message but also shapes audience perception, reinforcing the hybrid role of interpreters as both mediators of meaning and agents of entertainment.

2.7.3 Sports Journalists as Interpreters

As mentioned above, in Romania, one of the most prominent contexts in which non-professional interpreting can be observed is within football-related media, including television shows, post-match interviews, and press conferences. In these settings, sports journalists frequently assume the role of interpreters, mediating between athletes, coaches, and audiences across linguistic boundaries. Given the visibility and frequency of such practices, the present master thesis focuses specifically on football as a key site for examining interpreting performed by professionals outside the field.

The phenomenon aligns with broader patterns identified in media interpreting, where individuals without formal training undertake interpreting tasks as part of their professional responsibilities. In their study, Ghignoli and Torres Díaz (2015) examine interpreting carried out by sports commentators in MotoGP and Superbike settings, highlighting how journalistic and interpretative roles intersect in live sports broadcasting. Their findings suggest that commentators often engage in spontaneous and partial translation, prioritising immediacy and audience engagement over completeness and accuracy.

A key characteristic of this type of interpreting is its embeddedness within the primary professional activity. Sports journalists do not function as neutral language mediators but rather as active commentators who shape discourse. As a result, their renditions frequently include summarisations, reformulations, and evaluative additions, reflecting both time constraints and the expectations of sports media audiences. This aligns with observations by Antonini (2015), who notes that non-professional interpreters in media contexts often blur the boundaries between reporting and interpreting.

Furthermore, Ghignoli and Torres Díaz (2015) emphasise that sports commentators tend to prioritise communicative effectiveness over linguistic fidelity. In fast-paced environments such as live matches or press conferences, journalists selectively translate information deemed relevant or interesting, occasionally omitting less engaging content. This practice results in a form of mediated communication that is tailored to audience expectations but may diverge significantly from the original utterance.

The dual role of sports journalists as both commentators and interpreters also raises questions regarding accuracy, neutrality, and professional responsibility. Unlike trained

interpreters, they are not bound by established norms of fidelity or impartiality. Instead, their interpretations are shaped by narrative framing, personal style, and the entertainment-driven nature of sports media. This can lead to distortions, simplifications, or the amplification of particular viewpoints, especially in emotionally charged contexts such as post-match reactions. At the same time, this form of interpreting fulfils an important communicative function. In multilingual sporting environments, journalists enable access to otherwise inaccessible content, allowing audiences to engage with international players and coaches. Their role is therefore both facilitative and transformative, bridging linguistic gaps while simultaneously reshaping the message.

In conclusion, the case of sports journalists as interpreters illustrates the broader dynamics of non-professional interpreting in media contexts. As shown by Ghignoli and Torres Díaz (2015), interpreting in sports journalism is characterised by hybridity, shaped by the demands of immediacy, audience engagement, and narrative construction. While it enhances accessibility in globalised sports communication, it also challenges traditional notions of accuracy and neutrality, reinforcing the need to critically assess the role of non-professional interpreters in contemporary media

3 Football

The present master's thesis employs a corpus-based analysis to examine interpreting within the context of professional football. Consequently, this chapter offers a general overview of the sport and outlines the particular difficulties faced by interpreters in this domain. The content presented here serves as foundational knowledge for comprehending the sporting elements of the subsequent analysis.

Football, also known as soccer in certain regions, has a long and complex history. The modern form of the game emerged in England during the mid-nineteenth century. A key milestone occurred in 1863, when the first Football Association was established in London. During this meeting, it was formally decided that handling the ball would not be permitted, and initial efforts were made to standardize aspects such as the size and weight of the ball.

Nevertheless, the sport continued to evolve significantly in the following decades, with considerable flexibility in its rules. For instance, the number of players on the field has not yet been established, and teams did not wear standardised uniforms to distinguish themselves. Players often wore caps, as heading the ball had not yet become an established element of the game.

In its early stages, football primarily served as a form of entertainment for the British working class. By the late nineteenth century, major matches attracted unprecedented crowds, sometimes reaching up to 30,000 spectators. The sport soon spread internationally, largely through British migration and colonial expansion, gaining particular popularity in regions such as South America and India (Footballhistory n. d.).

Today, football is one of the most prominent and widely followed sports globally, driven in part by extensive media coverage and substantial financial investments. However, this commercial dimension developed gradually; in its origins, football was played mainly for enjoyment, physical fitness, and passion rather than as a professional career. Over time, the economic landscape of football has transformed dramatically. Elite players can now earn substantial incomes through salaries and sponsorship agreements, achieving global recognition. Even players in lower-tier leagues are often able to earn a stable income from the sport.

Although football clubs have existed since as early as the fifteenth century, they were initially informal and lacked official organisation, making it difficult to identify the first club. Some historians point to the Foot-Ball Club founded in Edinburgh in 1824, while others highlight later

developments. Early organised clubs were often formed by former school students, such as Sheffield FC, established in 1855. Notts County, founded in 1862, is widely regarded as the oldest professional football club still in existence. Industrialization played a crucial role in the development of football teams, as it facilitated the gathering of large groups of people in factories, pubs, and churches. This led to the formation of teams in urban centres, while the expansion of railway networks enabled intercity competition (Footballhistory n. d.).

In contemporary football, Europe is widely considered the dominant continent, hosting many of the world's strongest leagues, including the English Premier League, Germany's Bundesliga, Spain's La Liga, Italy's Serie A, and France's Ligue 1. European club competitions, such as the UEFA Champions League, Europa League, and Conference League, further reinforce this dominance. At the same time, players from outside Europe benefit from competing in these highly competitive environments, which contributes to the strength of their national teams in international tournaments such as the FIFA World Cup.

Football is played between two teams of eleven players over a standard duration of 90 minutes. In knockout competitions, if the match is tied at the end of regular time, it may proceed to an additional 30 minutes of extra time, followed, if necessary, by a penalty shootout to determine the winner. Historically, football was a male-dominated sport, with women largely excluded from participation. It was not until the late nineteenth century that women began to engage in the game, with the first recorded official women's match taking place in Inverness in 1888 (Footballhistory n. d.).

In summary, football has evolved from a loosely organised recreational activity into a highly structured and globally influential sport. Its development has been shaped by social, economic, and cultural factors, ultimately leading to the establishment of professional leagues and international governing bodies. Today, football's global reach is most prominently reflected in its international competitions, which bring together the highest level of talent and national representation.

The following section shifts focus to a presentation of major international football competitions. It explores their historical development, organisational structures, and global significance, while also highlighting the most successful national teams and clubs that have shaped these tournaments over time. Particular attention is given to recurring champions and dominant footballing nations, whose performances have left a lasting impact on the international stage.

3.1 Football on the International Level

At present, there are three European-wide club competitions: the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Europa League, and the UEFA Conference League. Among these, the Champions League is widely considered the most prestigious and competitive tournament, followed by the Europa League and, subsequently, the Conference League (FIFA n. d.).

These competitions should not be confused with a domestic league pyramid system, as there is no promotion or relegation between them. Instead, qualification is determined primarily by a club's performance in the previous season. In most cases, participation is based on final league standings, although domestic cup competitions can also provide an alternative route to European tournaments. The number of available qualification spots for each country depends on its UEFA coefficient, which is a ranking system based on the performance of clubs from each national league in European competitions over a defined period. Leagues with higher coefficients are allocated more qualification places (FIFA n. d.).

Depending on the allocated berth, some teams gain direct entry into the main stage of a competition, while others must progress through multiple qualifying rounds, sometimes up to five, to reach it. Consequently, qualification for European competitions may involve an additional qualification process. It should also be noted that the format of the Champions League underwent significant changes in 2024, including an expansion of the competition (FIFA n. d.).

In general, the Champions League includes the title holders and the winners of the previous Europa League, alongside the domestic champions of the highest-ranked national associations. These are joined by top-placed teams from leading leagues, such as runners-up and other high-ranking finishers, depending on the association's coefficient ranking. If the title holders have already qualified through their domestic league position, additional places may be reallocated, allowing other clubs to enter the competition directly. The remaining spots are filled by teams that successfully navigate the qualification rounds (FIFA n. d.).

The record of the most Champions League titles won is held by the Spanish Club Real Madrid, with a total of 15 titles to their name. In second place follows the Italian club AC Milan with 7 titles, and in third place, with 6 titles each, stand English club Liverpool tied with German club Bayern München (FIFA n. d.).

In addition to these competitions, it is important to mention the existence of so-called “Super Cups,” which exist at both domestic and continental levels. At the European level, the UEFA Super Cup is a single match played at a neutral venue between the winners of the Champions League and the Europa League, typically held at the beginning of the following season. Regardless of the outcome of this match, the Champions League winner represents Europe in the FIFA Club World Cup. (Bundesliga n. d.)

In addition to club competitions, international football is shaped by major tournaments at the national team level. The most prominent of these is the FIFA World Cup, which brings together the best national teams from around the globe and is widely regarded as the pinnacle of international football. At the continental level, Europe’s leading tournament is the UEFA European Championship, while other regions host similarly significant competitions, such as the Copa América in South America, the Africa Cup of Nations in Africa, and the CONCACAF Gold Cup in North and Central America. These tournaments not only highlight regional footballing strengths but also contribute to the global development of the sport by providing platforms for international competition, cultural exchange, and the emergence of new talent on the world stage.

3.2 Football in Romania

Football has a long-standing tradition in Romania and remains the most popular and widely followed sport in the country, a phenomenon that the author of this thesis has personally observed. For generations, it has occupied a central place in Romanian culture, shaping childhood dreams and community identities alike. Almost every young boy grows up aspiring to become a professional footballer, inspired by past legends and contemporary role models. The sport also commands a vast audience, with millions of supporters who passionately follow their favorite teams, creating an atmosphere of intense loyalty and emotional investment both in stadiums and through media broadcasts.

The Romanian football league system is well structured and operates on a hierarchical pyramid model, which ensures both competitiveness and mobility between divisions. Teams can be promoted to higher leagues or relegated to lower ones based on their performance each season. At the top of this system is Liga I, followed by Liga II and Liga III, with additional regional leagues completing the structure. Liga I consists of 16 teams that compete in a regular

season of 30 rounds, where each team plays against every other team twice, once at home and once away. Following the regular season, the league splits into two groups: the play-off and the play-out. The top six teams advance to the play-off, where they compete for the championship and European qualification spots, while the remaining ten teams enter the play-out, battling to avoid relegation. The league champion qualifies for the UEFA Champions League preliminary rounds, while the second-placed team secures a spot in the UEFA Conference League qualifiers. The third-placed team faces an additional play-off against one of the top teams from the play-out group for another chance at Conference League qualification. Alongside the league competitions, all teams participate in the Romanian Cup, which offers an additional pathway to qualify for European competitions, specifically the UEFA Europa League (FRF n. d.).

Romanian football has been shaped by several clubs with rich traditions and strong fan bases. Among them, FCSB, historically known as Steaua București, stands out as the most successful club, having achieved international recognition by winning the European Cup in the 1985/86 season. This remarkable achievement remains one of the most significant moments in Eastern European football history. Legendary players such as goalkeeper Helmut Duckadam, who famously saved four consecutive penalties in the final, and Gheorghe Hagi, widely regarded as the greatest Romanian footballer of all time, were associated with this golden period. Other historically significant clubs include Dinamo București, Rapid București, and Universitatea Craiova, all of which have contributed to the development and popularity of football in Romania while maintaining fierce rivalries that energize domestic competitions.

At the international level, Romanian football experienced its golden era from the 1980s through the early 2000s. During this period, the national team consistently qualified for major tournaments and achieved notable successes. Prominent players such as Gheorghe Hagi, Adrian Mutu, and Cristian Chivu not only excelled for the national team but also represented some of the most prestigious clubs in European football, including FC Barcelona, Chelsea, and Inter Milan. The national team's most remarkable achievements include reaching the quarter-finals of the 1994 FIFA World Cup and the quarter-finals of the UEFA European Championship in 2000, performances that solidified Romania's reputation on the global football stage (FRF n. d.).

It is important to note that football occupies a deeply rooted and cherished position within Romanian society. Its rich history, competitive league structure, and legacy of outstanding players have cultivated a passionate fan culture that continues to thrive. Despite challenges in recent years, there remains a strong sense of hope and anticipation among supporters for the emergence of a new generation of players capable of restoring Romanian football to its former glory.

3.3 The Relevance of Media and Language in Football

The relationship between sport and media has become increasingly intertwined over the past decades. As previously outlined, football in particular has developed into a global phenomenon that captivates millions of people around the world on a daily basis – not only in stadiums, but above all through media coverage. However, this development cannot be fully understood without also considering the crucial role of language, which functions as the primary medium through which football-related content is produced, mediated, and received.

Owing to the expansion of television, the internet, and social media, football has become omnipresent in contemporary society. Major tournaments such as the FIFA World Cup and the UEFA Champions League are broadcast live across the globe, reaching highly diverse and multilingual audiences. Broadcasting rights have evolved into a multi-billion-euro industry, generating substantial revenue not only for football associations but also for media companies. In this global media environment, language plays a decisive role in ensuring that content is accessible and comprehensible to audiences across different linguistic contexts.

Media outlets perform a dual function in this process. On the one hand, they report on matches, players, and events; on the other hand, they actively shape how football is perceived by audiences. This process is inherently linked to language use, as commentary, interviews, and narratives construct specific interpretations of the sport. Prominent figures such as Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo exemplify how athletes are not only presented as sports professionals but also as global brands –

an image that is largely constructed and amplified through media discourse and strategic communication.

At the same time, digital platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok are transforming the ways in which football content is produced, distributed, and consumed. Short video clips, highlights, and user-generated fan content are particularly effective in reaching younger audiences and contribute to making football more accessible. These developments further emphasise the importance of language in multimodal communication, where meaning is conveyed not only through visuals but also through commentary, captions, and interaction in different languages.

In this context, the role of language mediation, particularly interpreting, becomes increasingly significant. As previously discussed, English frequently serves as a *lingua franca* in international football communication, while local audiences often rely on translation and interpreting to access content. This underscores the importance of examining how language is managed within media environments and how effectively communication is adapted to the needs of different audiences.

Given the centrality of media and language, one of the most prominent sites where these dynamics become visible is in interviews and press conferences. These interactions provide not only information about matches and players but also insights into team strategies, personal perspectives, and broader narratives in football. The following section will therefore focus specifically on interviews and press conferences, exploring the linguistic and interpreting practices that enable audiences to access content produced in English or other foreign languages.

3.4 Interviews and Press Conferences

Interviews and press conferences constitute a central element of football media, offering audiences direct access to the perspectives of players, coaches, and other stakeholders. These interactions not only provide information about matches, tactics, and team dynamics but also allow fans to engage with the personal views, strategies, and insights of their favorite athletes. From an analytical perspective, interviews and press conferences—also referred to as news conferences—can be understood as forms of institutional interaction, as they exhibit many of the defining characteristics identified in the literature. In both communicative settings, the

interaction is oriented toward an external objective that largely determines participants' roles, regulates turn-taking, and shapes power relations as well as topic selection. Furthermore, these interactions typically occur within a deliberately structured spatial arrangement, often carrying symbolic significance, and involve the use of specialised, context-dependent language (Sandrelli 2012).

Although interviews and press conferences share similar overarching communicative purposes, they differ in structure and interactional dynamics. Both formats aim to disseminate information and provide access to the views of public figures whose actions or opinions are of interest to audiences. However, interviews are typically conducted by a single journalist engaging directly with one interviewee, thereby constituting a “one-to-one” interaction. In contrast, press conferences are often initiated by public figures themselves or organised as routine events in which information is communicated to the public through multiple journalists simultaneously, resulting in a “one-to-many” interactional setting. Consequently, press conferences tend to involve a greater number of participants and a more complex management of turn-taking and discourse (Clayman 2004).

In a globalized sporting environment, where English frequently serves as a *lingua franca*, the accessibility of such content to non-English-speaking audiences depends heavily on effective language mediation. In Romania, a significant proportion of the population does not possess advanced English proficiency. Without proper translation or interpreting, these viewers would be unable to fully understand the nuances, tactical explanations, or personal statements conveyed during interviews and press conferences. As such, translation is a critical tool that enables audiences to follow the game and connect with the ideas and narratives shared by coaches and players in their mother tongue.

However, the practical implementation of interpreting in Romanian sports broadcasting presents notable challenges. Unlike formal conference settings, where professional interpreters are present to ensure accuracy and clarity, football interviews and press conferences on Romanian television are rarely supported by trained language professionals. In most cases, the interpretation is performed by the journalist, presenter, or reporter conducting the interview. While this practice allows for immediate access to translated content, it also introduces potential risks to the accuracy, completeness, and coherence of the

message. Misinterpretations, omissions, or the use of imprecise terminology may occur, potentially affecting audience comprehension and engagement.

This particular issue represents a key motivation for the present study. By systematically analysing translated interviews and press conferences, the thesis aims to evaluate the strategies employed in language mediation and identify potential strengths and weaknesses in the interpreted content. Understanding how translation is currently conducted, and its implications for audience understanding, provides valuable insights into the role of media language in football, as well as the broader dynamics of multilingual communication in sport.

The following chapter will outline the methodology adopted for this study, describing the selection of the corpus, the analytical approach, and the quality criteria used to evaluate the translated content. Subsequent chapters will then present a detailed analysis of the interpreted material, highlighting patterns, challenges, and best practices in the translation of football interviews and press conferences for Romanian audiences.

4 Methodology and Corpus

The transcribed corpus consists of 30 recordings of interviews and press conferences featuring international players and coaches from the Romanian professional football league (Superliga). The recordings were obtained from three different Romanian sports broadcasters: Digi Sport, Prima Sport, and Orange Sport.

The selection of recordings included in the corpus was based on the following criteria:

- 1) All interviewed players and coaches must be affiliated with a Romanian football club competing in the top national division (Superliga).
- 2) The interviewees must be foreign players or coaches whose only language of communication is English.
- 3) All interviews must be conducted in English and include a Romanian interpretation. If questions are posed in Romanian, they must also be rendered into English. Both directions of interpreting are included in the analysis.
- 4) In all cases, a language mediator (professional or non-professional) must be involved—either on-site during interviews or press conferences, in the studio during live broadcasts (simultaneous), or retrospectively during the transmission of the spoken content (consecutive).

The aim of the corpus analysis is to find answers to the following research questions: What interpreting practices can be identified in Romanian sports broadcasting channels with regard to football interviews, both pre- and post-match, as well as press conferences involving international players and coaches? What similarities and differences exist between the interpreting practices of different television broadcasters? To what extent do these interpretations meet the criteria of comprehensibility for the Romanian audience?

All recordings are transcribed and analysed based on three quality criteria: accuracy, coherence, and terminology. These criteria will be discussed in detail in section 4.4.

4.1 Corpus-based Interpreting Studies

Corpus-based approaches play a central role in the systematic study of interpreting, as they enable the empirical analysis of authentic language data. According to Straniero Sergio and Falbo (2012), the primary aim of corpus analysis in interpreting studies is to identify recurrent patterns, strategies, and features of interpreted discourse through the examination of naturally occurring data. Such an approach allows researchers to ground their findings in verifiable evidence, thereby contributing to a more nuanced understanding of interpreting practices across different contexts and modalities.

A corpus is defined by Bernardini and Kenny (2020) as “a collection of texts [...] that are the object of literary or linguistic study.” (Bernardini & Kenny 2020: 110) The selection of an appropriate corpus requires the establishment of clearly defined parameters, the most important of which is the overall aim of the study and the extent to which the chosen corpus can contribute to achieving this aim. In addition, the corpus should be representative of the phenomenon under investigation.

Interpreting situations that may serve as the basis for corpus compilation can be described according to five key factors: the interpreter, the mode, the situation, language and directionality, and the type of interaction. As outlined by Straniero Sergio and Falbo (2012: 12f.), these categories can be further subdivided into more specific parameters. For instance, the factor “interpreter” can be refined to distinguish between different types of practitioners, such as professional or non-professional interpreters. Such a framework allows for a more precise and systematic description of interpreting events and helps to capture the diversity of interpreting practices.

These five categories will also be applied to the present study. The corpus consists of instances of non-professional interpreting performed in both consecutive and simultaneous modes within a television context. The data comprise football interviews and speeches interpreted from English into Romanian and broadcast on the Romanian television channels Digi Sport, Prima Sport, and Orange Sport.

4.2 Corpus Design

This chapter describes the design of the corpus used for the present analysis, with particular emphasis on the temporal scope, contextual background, participant composition, source distribution, and translation modality.

The first aspect concerns the temporal range of the data. The interviews included in the corpus were conducted over a period extending from December 2023 to March 2026. This timeframe allows for the inclusion of relatively recent and comparable discourse, while also capturing potential developments in communication practices over multiple competitive seasons.

The second aspect relates to the context in which the interviews were conducted. A total of 26 interviews and press conferences were recorded in the periods immediately preceding or following matches in Romania's top-tier football league, the Superliga. Within this subset, one video addresses the qualification of Dinamo București for the Romanian Cup semifinals. The remaining four videos consist of interviews conducted in the context of European competitions, namely before and after matches in the main phase of the UEFA Conference League and the group stage of the higher-ranked UEFA Europa League.

The third aspect concerns the participants included in the corpus. The dataset comprises interviews with both coaches and players. Specifically, it includes 7 interviews with Filipe Coelho, the Portuguese head coach of Universitatea Craiova, and 8 interviews with Željko Kopić, the Croatian head coach of Dinamo București. Additionally, there are 4 interviews with Elias Charalambous, head coach of FCSB, and two interviews with the Irish head coach of FC Rapid București, Neil Lennon, as well as one interview with Ruben Amorim, the Portuguese head coach of the English Premier League club Manchester United.

At the player level, the corpus includes one press conference interview with Macedonian player David Atanaskoski from FC Politehnica Iași as well as two interviews with Gonçalo Teixeira and Shayon Harrison from the same team. Furthermore, the corpus contains three interviews with Moroccan player Malcom Edjouma from FCSB and one interview with South African player Siyabonga Ngezana, also representing FCSB. Lastly, there is a post-match interview with French player Steven Nsimba from Universitatea Craiova.

The fourth aspect addresses the distribution of the data across broadcasting channels. The corpus includes 11 interviews sourced from Digi Sport, 11 from Prima Sport, and 4 from Orange

Sport. In addition, four press conferences were obtained from the official YouTube channel of the clubs FC Politehnica Iași and Universitatea Craiova. All corresponding YouTube links are provided in the appendix alongside the transcriptions.

The fifth and final aspect concerns the interpreting modality employed in the interviews. Two primary modes of interpreting are represented in the corpus: simultaneous and consecutive interpreting.

The interviews broadcast on Digi Sport are interpreted consecutively by the football show's moderator and sports journalist Radu Naum. In contrast, the interviews conducted by sports journalists and moderators Valentin Moraru and Dan Filoti, on the same channel, are interpreted simultaneously. The interviews aired on Prima Sport and Orange Sport all feature simultaneous interpreting, carried out by the moderators and sports journalists Emil Grădinescu, Costi Mocanu, Alex Rădulescu, Dan Udrea and Silviu Tudor Samuilă.

Regarding the press conferences sourced from the official YouTube channels of FC Politehnica Iași and Universitatea Craiova, the interpreting is performed on site by the team's spokesperson, using the consecutive mode.

Table 1: Overview of the interviews with FCSB coach Elias Charalambous and Rapid București coach Neil Lennon

Date of Interviews	Context	Broadcaster	Participants	Modality
11 December 2023	Superliga (CFR Cluj vs. FCSB)	Digi Sport	Elias Charalambous (FCSB)	consecutive
20 May 2024	Superliga (FCSB vs. Rapid)	Digi Sport	Elias Charalambous (FCSB)	simultaneous
22 October 2025	Europa League (FCSB vs. Bologna)	Digi Sport	Elias Charalambous (FCSB)	simultaneous

25 January 2026	Superliga (CFR Cluj vs. FCSB)	Digi Sport	Elias Charalambous (FCSB)	consecutive
13 July 2024	Superliga (UTA Arad vs. Rapid)	Prima Sport	Neil Lennon (Rapid)	simultaneous
30 July 2024	Superliga (Petrolul Ploiești vs. Rapid)	Digi Sport	Neil Lennon (Rapid)	consecutive

Table 2: Overview of the interviews with Universitatea Craiova coach Filipe Coelho and Manchester United coach Ruben Amorim

Date of Interviews	Context	Broadcaster	Participants	Modality
12 November 2025	Coach official presentation/press conference	Universitatea Craiova	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	consecutive
21 November 2025	Superliga (FC Argeș vs. U Craiova)	Prima Sport	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	simultaneous
27 November 2025	Conference League (U Craiova vs. Mainz)	Orange Sport	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	simultaneous
11 December 2025	Conference League (U Craiova vs. Sparta Praga)	Orange Sport	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	simultaneous
22 February 2026	Superliga (U Craiova vs. Unirea Slobozia)	Digi Sport	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	consecutive

4 March 2026	Superliga (U Craiova vs. CFR Cluj)	Prima Sport	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	simultaneous
13 March 2026	Superliga (U Craiova vs. FC Argeş)	Prima Sport	Filipe Coelho (U Craiova)	simultaneous
31 January 2025	Europa League (FCSB vs. Manchester United)	Digi Sport	Ruben Amorim (Manchester United)	simultaneous

Table 3: Overview of the interviews with Dinamo coach Zeljko Kopic

Date of Interviews	Context	Broadcaster	Participants	Modality
19 January 2025	Superliga (U Craiova vs. Dinamo)	Orange Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous
3 October 2025	Superliga (Unirea Slobozia vs. Dinamo)	Prima Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous
23 January 2026	Superliga (FC Hermannstadt vs. Dinamo)	Digi Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	consecutive
4 February 2026	Superliga (Farul Constanţa vs. Dinamo)	Orange Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous
5 February 2026	Superliga (Farul Constanţa vs. Dinamo)	Digi Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous
16 February 2026	Superliga (Dinamo vs. Unirea Slobozia)	Digi Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous

5 March 2026	Cupa României (Dinamo vs. Metalul Buzău)	Prima Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous
5 March 2026	Cupa României (Dinamo vs. Metalul Buzău)	Digi Sport	Zeljko Kopic (Dinamo)	simultaneous

Table 4: Overview of the interviews with players and their respective teams

Date of Interviews	Context	Broadcaster	Participants	Modality
14 March 2022	Superliga (FCSB vs. Farul Constanța)	Prima Sport	Malcom Edjouma (FCSB)	simultaneous
5 February 2023	Superliga (CFR Cluj vs. FCSB)	Prima Sport	Malcom Edjouma (FCSB)	simultaneous
12 February 2023	Superliga (FC Voluntari vs. FCSB)	Prima Sport	Malcom Edjouma (FCSB)	simultaneous
7 November 2024	Superliga (FC Politehnica Iași vs. Sepsi Sfântu Gheorghe)	FC Politehnica Iași	Goncalo Teixeira (FC Politehnica Iași)	consecutive
22 November 2024	Superliga (FC Politehnica Iași vs. FC Botoșani)	FC Politehnica Iași	Shayon Harrison (FC Politehnica Iași)	consecutive
28 November 2024	Superliga (Gloria Buzău vs. FC Politehnica Iași)	FC Politehnica Iași	David Atanaskoski (FC Politehnica Iași)	consecutive
18 December 2024	Cupa României (FCSB vs. U Craiova)	Prima Sport	Siyabonga Ngezana (FCSB)	simultaneous

11 December 2025	Conference League (U Craiova vs. Sparta Praga)	Orange Sport	Steven Nsimba (U Craiova- player)	simultaneous
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4.3 Transcription

In order to make spoken data accessible for corpus-based research, it must be converted into written form. This requires transcription, which can be a highly time-consuming process (cf. Straniero Sergio & Falbo 2012: 9f.). However, due to rapid technological advancements, numerous tools are now available that allow for the automated transcription of spoken content, thereby saving valuable time that can be devoted to analysis.

4.4 Quality Criteria

The analysis of the corpus in this study is guided by established quality assessment frameworks in interpreting studies, which provide systematic criteria for evaluating interpreted output. As proposed by Kalina (2002), quality in interpreting can be examined through a set of clearly defined parameters that focus primarily on the observable product of the interpreting process. Such frameworks enable a structured and transparent evaluation of performance, allowing for comparisons across different interpreting instances and contexts.

Kalina (2002: 125f.) distinguishes three main groups of parameters for assessing interpreting quality. The first group concerns semantic content, encompassing aspects such as logical consistency, coherence, internal unity, completeness, clarity, and accuracy. These criteria address the extent to which the meaning of the source message is correctly and fully conveyed in the target language.

The second group relates to linguistic performance, including grammatical correctness, comprehensibility, and the appropriate use of terminology. This dimension evaluates the formal quality of the interpreted output and its adequacy in terms of language use.

The third group focuses on presentation, which covers elements such as voice quality, pronunciation, simultaneity, behaviour, and technical competence. These factors are particularly relevant in media contexts, where delivery and performative aspects play a crucial role in audience perception.

It is important to note that these three groups and their associated parameters are concerned exclusively with the output of interpreting. They do not account for external or process-related factors that may influence performance. Such factors include stress management, concentration, subject-matter knowledge, professionalism, and the ability to work in teams. While these factors affect interpreting quality, they lie beyond the scope of output-oriented evaluation models.

Rather than operating in isolation, these parameters are closely interrelated and continuously influence one another. The challenge for interpreters lies in maintaining an effective balance between these dimensions during the communicative event, while remaining flexible enough to adjust and adapt their performance in response to changing demands and conditions (cf. Kalina 2002: 125).

Semantic content	Linguistic performance	Presentation
consistency	grammatical correctness	voice quality
logic, coherence	adherence to TL norms	articulation
completeness	comprehensibility	public speaking
accurateness	stylistic adequacy	discipline
unambiguity	terminological adequacy	simultaneity
clarity	discretion	technical mastery
reliability	lack of disturbances	conduct

Figure 1: Measurable parameters of interpreting (Kalina 2002: 125)

The quality parameters relevant to the empirical part of this study are discussed in greater detail in the following subsections. In particular, the analysis focuses on the criteria of accuracy, intertextual coherence, and terminology.

4.4.1 Accuracy

Accuracy is widely regarded as a central criterion in assessing interpreting quality; however, it is inherently difficult to measure because interpreting involves real-time cognitive processing, context-dependent meaning transfer, and varying communicative conditions, all of which challenge the application of fixed or purely linguistic standards.

Both Pöchhacker (2012) and Kurz (2012) address the role of accuracy in assessing interpreting quality, while also highlighting the limitations of treating it as a standalone or easily measurable criterion. Pöchhacker (2012) reconceptualises accuracy as sense consistency rather than word-for-word equivalence, arguing that quality should be evaluated in terms of whether the interpreted message enables comparable understanding for the target audience. He further emphasises the need for empirical approaches, such as audience comprehension testing, to move beyond purely subjective judgments of quality (Pöchhacker 2012).

Similarly, Kurz (2012) demonstrates that while accuracy remains a central expectation among audiences, it is significantly shaped by situational constraints inherent to live interpreting, including time pressure, technical limitations, and cognitive load (Kurz 2012). As a result, both authors suggest that the measurement of accuracy must be contextualized within real communicative conditions, leading to a broader understanding of interpreting quality as the outcome of successful communication rather than strict linguistic fidelity.

Two recent studies further illustrate the conceptual and methodological challenges of treating accuracy as a measurable criterion in interpreting. Albl-Mikasa and Gieshoff (2022), for instance, revisit the notion of accuracy and argue for a more differentiated analytical framework. Rather than viewing accuracy as a binary category of correct versus incorrect rendering, they propose breaking it down into various types of shifts, omissions, and additions, each of which may have different effects on meaning. Their approach highlights that interpreting performance must be assessed on a continuum, where deviations are evaluated in relation to their communicative impact. This refined perspective demonstrates that accuracy is not a single, easily quantifiable variable, but a multi-layered construct requiring detailed qualitative and quantitative analysis (Gieshoff & Albl-Mikasa 2022).

A similar rethinking of accuracy can be found in the work of Major and Napier (2021), who examine how accuracy is understood in healthcare interpreting. Their findings suggest that interpreters frequently engage in strategic modifications, such as condensation, expansion, or reformulation, which

may deviate from the source text on a surface level but still preserve, or even enhance, communicative effectiveness. Consequently, the authors argue that accuracy should not be equated with strict equivalence, but rather understood as a context-sensitive and functional concept. This challenges traditional evaluation models and underscores the difficulty of establishing fixed metrics for accuracy, as what counts as “accurate” ultimately depends on situational demands and communicative goals (Major & Napier 2021). In the present study, measuring accuracy in interpreting could best be approached not as strict verbatim equivalence, but as the faithful and effective transmission of key information, such as scores, important occurrences during a game, and speaker intent, under real-time constraints. Accordingly, accuracy can be evaluated by assessing whether the audience receives the essential content correctly and comprehensibly, while taking into account the time pressure, spontaneity, and communicative purpose typical of live sports coverage.

4.4.2 Coherence

In the evaluation of interpreting quality, coherence constitutes a key criterion, particularly in fast-paced domains such as sports media coverage. Drawing on the foundational definition by De Beaugrande and Dressler (1981), coherence can be understood as the set of relations that render the elements of a text mutually accessible and meaningful within a shared textual world. In interpreting, this implies that the target text must form a logically and semantically connected whole, enabling audiences to follow the unfolding message without disruption. In sports contexts, where utterances are often fragmented, spontaneous, and emotionally charged, maintaining such coherence is particularly challenging yet essential for successful communication.

Breakdowns in coherence may arise when interpreters produce grammatically or semantically inappropriate constructions in the target language, thereby hindering comprehension. As noted by Ivars (2011), such inconsistencies can lead to misunderstandings or cause audiences to lose track of the message altogether. This is especially critical in live sports coverage, where listeners rely on immediate clarity to grasp key developments, such as match results, player statements, or tactical explanations. Consequently, coherence is not merely a linguistic feature but a functional requirement for ensuring that the intended message is effectively conveyed under time pressure.

The importance of coherence is also reflected in user expectations and quality assessment models. Studies by Bühler (1986) as well as Kurz and Pöchhacker (1995) consistently rank coherence among the

most important criteria for evaluating interpreting performance. High coherence facilitates the accurate transmission of meaning, allowing audiences to reconstruct the intended message even in complex or rapidly evolving communicative situations, such as post-match interviews or live commentary.

Closely related to coherence is the notion of completeness, as omissions or distortions can significantly disrupt the logical structure of the interpreted message. As argued by Pöchhacker (1997), interpreters must constantly decide which elements can be condensed or omitted without compromising the overall meaning. In sports interpreting, this decision-making process is particularly salient, given the density of information and the need for brevity. However, excessive or poorly judged omissions may weaken coherence and lead to gaps in understanding, especially when crucial contextual or referential information is lost.

To systematically assess coherence and completeness, several analytical models have been proposed. Barik (1994) introduces a classification of omissions, additions, and substitutions, providing a framework for analysing how source text elements are rendered in the target text. Similarly, Wadensjö (1998) develops categories that describe different types of renditions, including the notion of *non-renditions*, which refer to target utterances that do not correspond to the source text and may introduce extraneous information. These models offer valuable tools for examining how coherence is maintained or disrupted in interpreting.

In the context of sports media, applying such frameworks allows for a nuanced assessment of interpreting quality by focusing on how well the interpreted output preserves the logical and semantic continuity of the original discourse. Coherence, therefore, emerges as a central and measurable quality criterion, as it directly impacts audience comprehension and the effectiveness of communication in high-pressure, real-time environments.

4.4.3 Terminology

Another central aspect of linguistic performance in interpreting is the use of appropriate terminology, including the handling of domain-specific expressions and borrowed terms such as Anglicisms. In interpreting practice, terminology plays a crucial role, as it directly affects both comprehensibility and professional credibility. A high level of subject-matter knowledge enables interpreters to select precise and contextually appropriate terms, thereby facilitating audience understanding. Conversely, inaccurate or inconsistent use of terminology may lead to confusion or misinterpretation. As De Quesada (2011)

points out, terminology as a quality parameter is conceptualized in different ways across the literature, and no single, universally accepted definition exists. Moreover, the correct use of terms is not merely a matter of subject domain, but also depends on their contextual embedding within a specific communicative situation, which ultimately shapes their meaning and appropriateness (De Quesada 2011).

In sports interpreting, particularly in interview settings, terminology assumes heightened importance due to the highly specialised and internationally standardized nature of sports discourse. This is especially evident in tennis, where English functions as the dominant language of communication across tournaments, media coverage, and player interactions.

As a result, English terminology has been extensively integrated into other languages, including German, often replacing or coexisting with native equivalents. In this context, interpreters must make rapid and informed decisions about whether to retain English expressions or to use established target-language equivalents. The ability to navigate this interplay between loanwords and localized terminology is essential for maintaining both authenticity and clarity in sports interviews, where audiences are typically familiar with specific jargon.

The relevance of terminology as a quality criterion is further supported by empirical research. Studies by Bühler (1986) and by Kurz and Pöchhacker (1995) consistently identify terminology as a highly valued parameter in the evaluation of interpreting performance. Notably, findings from Kurz and Pöchhacker (1995) indicate that stakeholders such as media professionals and conference participants often rate the correct use of terminology as even more important than other criteria, including grammatical accuracy, completeness, or fluency.

In sports media contexts, this prioritization reflects the expectation that interpreters accurately reproduce the specialised language of the field, thereby ensuring that the content remains both technically precise and accessible to the target audience.

5 Analysis

In professional interpreting, ensuring quality poses several inherent challenges. Interpreting is a highly complex and multidimensional task that takes place in real time, often under demanding circumstances, and is only valuable in the specific moment in which it occurs. Consequently, the nature of an interpretation is also immediate and short-lived. For this reason, it cannot be monitored or assured in the same manner as written translation (Kalina 2011: 162).

Since this thesis focuses on analysing the work quality of non-professional interpreters, this aspect becomes even more significant. Unlike trained interpreters, non-professional interpreters often lack formal education, established interpreting strategies, and experience in managing time pressure and high-stakes communicative situations. In the context of live television broadcasts, they are required to produce immediate and accurate interpretations within a very limited timeframe while performing under considerable pressure, knowing that their output is being received by millions of viewers. These circumstances may further increase the difficulty of delivering high-quality interpretations and must therefore be taken into account when evaluating their performance.

As outlined above, this thesis does not aim to assess all dimensions of interpreting quality, but rather focuses specifically on coherence, accuracy, and the use of appropriate terminology in the interpretations. Accuracy and terminological appropriateness are examined as aspects of source text correspondence and semantic content, while coherence is considered part of target audience orientation and comprehension. Accordingly, Kalina's (2011) model of interpreting quality and the corresponding evaluation table were adapted to fit the specific purpose of this analysis. Other quality-related factors, which were part of the original model, were excluded, as they fall outside the scope of this thesis.

The following table includes, in the left column (1), the main criteria that are typically expected from an interpreting performance. These criteria are divided into three categories: correspondence with the source text (coherence), linguistic correctness (accuracy) and choice of suitable terminology. Column 2 shows the direction of evaluation, usually from left to right. Column 3 presents the possible rating scale. Negative values indicate lower interpreting quality, while positive values represent higher interpreting quality. In Column 4, the actual evaluation of the interpretation is entered. Column 5 contains the final average sum result for each individual criterion (Kalina 2011: 170).

Table 5: Criteria for evaluating the quality of translation

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4		
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4		
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4		

Each interpretation in this thesis will be analysed using the adapted evaluation table presented above. The analysis will focus specifically on coherence, accuracy, and terminological appropriateness, as these criteria form the central scope of this thesis. Individual interpreting decisions will be examined and discussed in relation to these categories, taking into account both the linguistic choices made and their effect on the overall quality of the interpretation.

After each analysis, the corresponding score will be recorded in the evaluation table in order to ensure a structured and transparent assessment of the interpretation. A higher score indicates a higher level of interpreting quality, whereas a lower score reflects lower overall quality. In Kalina's (2011) original model, the maximum achievable score was 108. However, since her model includes a significantly broader range of evaluation criteria, this maximum score is not suitable for the purposes of the present thesis. As this study focuses exclusively on coherence, accuracy, and terminological appropriateness, the evaluation table has been adapted accordingly, resulting in a reduced scoring range that better reflects the specific scope of this analysis. Therefore, the final score of each translation is the average result of all three quality criteria categories. The overall findings of the analyses, as well as the conclusions drawn from them, will be summarised and discussed in the final chapter of this thesis.

The first interview of Elias Charalambous on Digi Sport in December 2023 was interpreted consecutively by the host and journalist Radu Naum. The host attempted to render the coach's statements

for the Romanian-speaking audience; however, the result resembled more a summary or commentary than an accurate interpretation of the original message.

At the beginning of the interview, the coach expressed pride in his team's performance and in the way the players reacted after conceding a goal: *"First of all, I want to congratulate my players because they showed a very good reaction today. What we wanted in this kind of games. And I repeat that the reaction that they showed, especially when you receive a goal, and then they showed this, what they showed. I can feel only proud for them."* This entire section was omitted by the host during the interpretation. The omission is significant because it removed the emotional and motivational dimension of the coach's discourse, which focused primarily on encouraging and praising his players after the match.

Charalambous then addressed the refereeing decisions and suggested that player Florinel Coman may have been treated unfairly: *"And I feel sorry for Florinel and for the team because he scored an amazing goal. And I don't know who decides and how they decide. Maybe some people are bad with Florinel because he spoke some things last week. But he's a national team player and they have to respect him more."* Although this part was partially rendered, the host introduced an ironic tone and added a personal comment: *"[...] he practically accuses a conspiracy against Florinel Coman. Charalambus, hoppa, he went out to fight, Charalambus. My brothers, he accuses a conspiracy, because he probably swore at the referees, he says, who decided, how did they decide, something like this."*

In this case, the non-professional interpreter inserted subjective opinions into the rendering, which altered the intended meaning of the interviewee's statements. The use of colloquial expressions such as *"my brothers"* and vague wording such as *"something like this"* further contributed to the unprofessional character of the interpretation and suggested uncertainty regarding the original message. Moreover, the host omitted the coach's explicit statement that, in his opinion, the cancelled goal should have been validated – an important aspect of the interview that was not conveyed to the audience. As a result, the interpretation failed to accurately reproduce both the content and the tone of the original speech.

A final point to not is that, following this interview, the Italian coach of CFR Cluj, Andrea Mandorlini, gave an interview in Italian that was interpreted in consecutive mode by an on-site translator, unlike the English-language interview with Charalambous. This contrast highlights inconsistencies in interpreting practices in Romanian sports media, particularly regarding the use of professional interpreters for foreign-language interviews.

Based on the three criteria used for analysing the quality of the interpretation, this example scores rather low overall. In terms of accuracy, the interpretation fails to convey several important details from

the original interview, which resulted in only an average level of accuracy. While the interpreter did mention the main names involved, such as Florinel Coman, many of the coach's ideas and nuances were either omitted or altered through paraphrasing and personal commentary. Regarding terminology, the interview contained a limited use of football-specific language. However, terms such as "*VAR*," which were relevant to the coach's criticism of the refereeing decisions, were not included in the interpretation because the entire idea surrounding the cancelled goal was omitted.

Aside from these omissions, the terminology that was rendered remained generally accurate. Finally, at the level of coherence, the interpretation also receives a low score, as the audience was provided with only a limited amount of information from the original interview, and even that information was not always rendered fully and accurately. Consequently, the viewers could not gain a complete or reliable understanding of the coach's intended message. The following table shows the score for each of the three categories for this particular interview interpretation and an average total sum in the result column.

Table 6: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (11 December 2023, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	Total: -1

The interview with Elias Charalambous after the Superliga match between FCSB and Rapid București was interpreted simultaneously by sports journalist Valentin Moraru. Compared to the earlier consecutive interview interpreted by Radu Naum, this example demonstrates a more controlled and more accurate output. Nevertheless, several omissions and simplifications can still be observed throughout the exchange.

At the beginning of the interview, Charalambous emphasised that the most important achievement of the season was the fact that the players became champions and proved to be the best team in the Romanian league. Valentin Moraru rendered the central idea correctly, namely that the coach wanted to highlight the success of the players and the importance of the title. However, some nuances were simplified and Charalambous' remark that he wanted to keep this interview short because he spoke his mind in the last interview was left out.

Another relevant example appears when the coach discussed the use of younger players during the match. The interpretation conveyed the main information accurately, but the details regarding the players' ages and the long-term objective of integrating them slowly into the first team were shortened considerably. Furthermore, the journalist also asked about a certain young Player called Popa, asking if he was in the first eleven. Then Charalambous proceeded to talk about Popa and his performance, but the host did not get the name of the player and proceeded with the following statement: *"I don't know who he was referring to who also scored a goal with the youth team. We are happy with the way they entered."* This shows a clear omission that results in the recipients missing important information.

There were also some inconsistencies when it came to translating the questions posed by the journalist, as one question was not translated. This might have been mainly due to the fact that at this time the host was not yet done interpreting the coach's previous answer.

Table 7: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (20 May 2024, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	Total: 2

The Europa League interview with Elias Charalambous before the match against Bologna was interpreted simultaneously by sports journalist Dan Filoti. This interview illustrates several difficulties associated with live simultaneous interpreting in sports broadcasting, particularly in situations where the interpreter also fulfills the role of television moderator and football commentator. Although the interpretation is successful in conveying the general meaning of the coach's discourse, numerous omissions, simplifications and acoustic problems reduce the overall quality of the output.

At the beginning of the interview, Charalambous explained that the atmosphere within the team was affected by recent poor results. He acknowledged the criticism coming from supporters and emphasised that the team needed to regain balance through better performances and victories. Dan Filoti rendered the main ideas relatively accurately; however, the interpretation simplified several emotional nuances from the original speech. The coach's detailed reflections regarding the relationship between criticism, pressure and the responsibility toward supporters were condensed into shorter motivational statements focused primarily on overcoming the crisis.

One of the most problematic aspects of the interview concerns acoustic overlap and interruption. On several occasions, the host continued interpreting while the journalist had already started asking the following question. As a result, some questions became partially or completely unintelligible for the television audience and there was also no interpreting done by the host. This significantly affected the coherence of the interaction because viewers could not always distinguish clearly between the original question, the interpretation and the beginning of the next exchange. The simultaneous overlap also created moments of confusion that interrupted the natural rhythm of the interview.

Another relevant example occurred when Charalambous discussed his relationship with the club management, the players and the owner. The coach insisted that personal relationships and trust were more important than contractual obligations and stated that he would leave the club voluntarily if he ever felt unable to contribute further to the team. Although Filoti transmitted the essential meaning of this answer, many repetitions and emotional nuances were omitted. The Romanian version therefore was shorter, more concise and less personal than the original discourse.

Furthermore, the interpreting host commits a severe content error. Charalambous congratulates the youth team for their victory: *"I want to congratulate our youth team, because we were just informed that they won the game, 3-2 as Kata says, and this is very important for our club."* The host, however, unsure who the speaker was congratulating interpreted the following: *"He is congratulating someone, but I don't understand who he is congratulating, honestly. Ah, Man (a player who used to*

play at FCSB, Dennis Man) for his success yesterday, yes. He was a very important player for us and I want to congratulate him for what he did.” He misinterpreted the whole message and delivered an entirely inaccurate output.

As far as terminology is concerned, the interview did not contain specialized tactical terminology, but football-related concepts such as team atmosphere, crisis management, supporters and club relationships, which were rendered correctly overall. However, coherence remained one of the weaker aspects of the interpretation because of the frequent interruptions and overlapping speech. In terms of accuracy, the interpretation preserved the central meaning of most statements, but several contextual details, key names and emotional dimensions are simplified, omitted or simply replaced by inaccurate information.

Overall, this interview demonstrates the difficulties of simultaneous interpretation in live sports television, especially when the interpreter must simultaneously coordinate broadcasting, interviewing and interpretation tasks.

Table 8: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (22 October 2025, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-3	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-3	Total: -1.67

The Digi Sport interview with Elias Charalambous after the match between CFR Cluj and FCSB was interpreted in consecutive mode by sports journalist Radu Naum. As in the previous interviews interpreted by the same host, the rendering frequently moved away from faithful interpretation and resembled a mixture of summarisation, commentary and personal reaction. The interview therefore illustrates once

again the difficulty of drawing a clear distinction between journalism and interpretation within Romanian sports broadcasting.

At the beginning of the short interview, Charalambous discussed the team's current situation and emphasised that the players needed patience in order to regain their previous form. He also spoke about the trust existing between himself, the players and the club management.

Although Radu Naum conveyed the central idea that the coach still believed in the team's recovery, many parts of the original discourse were condensed or reformulated into simplified summaries. The emotional dimension of the coach's statements regarding loyalty, responsibility and confidence in the squad was significantly reduced.

A particularly important section of the interview focused on the coach's relationship with the club owner and management. Charalambous explained that his commitment to the club was based primarily on trust and mutual respect rather than contractual obligations. He explicitly stated that he would never remain at the club solely because of a contract if he believed he could no longer contribute to the team. This idea was rendered only partially in the interpretation, which focused mainly on the general conclusion that the coach would leave if he no longer felt useful. As a result, the Romanian audience did not receive the full nuance and emotional complexity of the original answer.

Regarding terminology, the interview did not contain highly specialised football vocabulary, but references to team management, contracts, recovery and internal club relationships were translated adequately overall. In terms of coherence, the audience was generally able to follow the interaction without major confusion; however, the interpretation consistently prioritized summarisation over complete transfer of information. Accuracy, therefore, remained moderate because the central themes were preserved, although important nuances and emotional elements were omitted or simplified.

Table 9: Analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous (25 January 2026, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	

Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-3	Total: -1
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The following Prima Sport interview with Neil Lennon after the Superliga match between UTA Arad and Rapid București was interpreted simultaneously by sports journalist Silviu Tudor Samuilă. In comparison to several interviews interpreted on Digi Sport, this example demonstrates a more balanced and more professional approach to live sports interpretation, although certain omissions and simplifications still occur throughout the exchange.

At the beginning of the interview, Lennon discussed Rapid's failure to capitalize on opportunities created during the first half of the match. He explained that the team should have scored several goals before the break and he admitted that the players were punished for their lack of efficiency in front of the goal. The interpreter rendered the general meaning correctly and conveyed the coach's critical but controlled tone. However, several details regarding the emotional frustration expressed by Lennon were reduced or summarised.

Another important aspect of the interview concerned the psychological condition of the players and the pressure resulting from the team's negative results. Lennon referred to the previous season's unsuccessful play-off matches and suggested that some players were still mentally affected by those experiences. The interpretation conveyed this central idea accurately, although certain repetitions and explanatory nuances were omitted. Furthermore, there were small omissions regarding the question the journalist asked about "*a lot of young players on the bench*" and the coach's philosophy; the interpreter left out the part that the players who were left on the bench were young players. Nevertheless, the Romanian audience nevertheless a coherent understanding of the coach's concerns regarding confidence and mentality.

In terms of terminology, football-related concepts such as counter-attacks, transitions, pressure, and goalkeeping responsibilities were rendered adequately. However, the names of the players the coach mentioned when talking about his strikers were left out of the interpretation. The host instead chose to mention only the fact that the speaker was enumerating his players, without further clarification as to which players he was referring to. Overall, the interpretation remained understandable and coherent for the Romanian-speaking audience despite the speed and the complexity of the coach's answers.

Table 10: Analysis of the interview with Neil Lennon (13 July 2024, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	Total: 1

Neil Lennon was also interviewed by Digi Sport after the Superliga match between Petrolul Ploiești and Rapid București. This interview was interpreted in consecutive mode by Radu Naum and it illustrates several problems associated with non-professional interpreting in Romanian sports media as observed so far, particularly the tendency to combine interpretation with personal commentary and entertainment-oriented intervention.

One of the most notable moments of the interview occurred when Radu Naum openly admitted that he could not fully understand Lennon’s English pronunciation. The host humorously stated that not everyone was born in Belfast and joked about the coach speaking “*with his mouth half closed.*” Although these remarks were intended humorously, they interrupted the communicative flow of the interview and shifted attention away from the actual content of the coach’s statements. What would be noteworthy to mention is the fact that Prima Sport host Silviu Tudor Samuilă had previously interpreted an interview of the same coach and was able to deliver an adequate interpretation, as has been shown in the previous analysis.

After these remarks Naum attempted to summarise Lennon’s statements regarding the match. The coach had discussed Rapid’s missed chances, defensive mistakes, tactical transitions and the pressure surrounding the team’s poor run of results. While the host conveyed several important points, the interpretation lacked precision and often relied on vague formulations such as “*I think he also mentioned*”

or “*I think so, at least.*” These expressions reveal uncertainty regarding the original message and reduce the reliability of the interpretation also from the audience’s perspective.

Another problematic aspect concerns the structure of the interpreted discourse. Rather than reproducing Lennon’s answers systematically, the host condensed multiple responses into long explanatory summaries mixed with his own observations. This made it difficult for viewers to distinguish between the coach’s actual statements and the host’s interpretations or assumptions. As a result, the communicative transparency of the interview was significantly reduced.

At a terminological level, several football-specific concepts such as transitions, counter-attacks, red cards and goalkeeping decisions were rendered correctly. However, the overall accuracy of the interpretation remained relatively low because many details were reformulated imprecisely or presented with visible uncertainty. Coherence was also weakened by the host’s interruptions and humorous commentary, which disrupted the natural flow of the interview.

Overall, this interview further demonstrates how non-professional interpreting in sports television can evolve into a hybrid form of mediation combining translation, summarisation and journalistic performance rather than accurate interpreting.

Table 11: Analysis of the interview with Neil Lennon (30 July 2024, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-3	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-3	Total: -1.33

The official presentation press conference for Filipe Coelho at Universitatea Craiova was interpreted in consecutive mode by the club spokesperson. Compared to the interviews interpreted by television

journalists, this example demonstrates a more neutral and more faithful interpretation. The spokesperson generally attempted to reproduce the coach's statements accurately and avoided inserting subjective commentary or personal opinions into the discourse.

At the beginning of the press conference, Coelho expressed his happiness and motivation to join Universitatea Craiova and emphasised the importance of building something special with the supporters and the city. The interpretation transmitted these ideas accurately and preserved the positive tone of the original speech. Minor lexical adjustments appeared throughout the rendering, such as replacing “*city*” with “*team*,” but these modifications did not significantly alter the intended meaning.

A further relevant section occurred when Coelho discussed the history of Universitatea Craiova and referred to the famous Craiova Maxima generation from the 1980s. The spokesperson who interpreted rendered these historical references correctly and maintained the informational content of the original statement. The explanation regarding the club's semi-final against Benfica in European competition was also reproduced accurately for the Romanian-speaking audience.

The interpretation further remained coherent during the discussion about the coach's objectives and the preparation before arriving in Romania. Coelho explained that he had watched numerous matches in order to familiarize himself with the players, the city and the atmosphere surrounding the club. These ideas were conveyed adequately and without major omissions. Unlike many examples from sports television broadcasting, the spokesperson avoided excessive summarisation and allowed the coach's discourse to remain relatively complete.

In terms of terminology, football-related concepts connected to club history, team preparation and coaching responsibilities were rendered accurately. Coherence also remained strong because the interpretation followed the structure of the source speech closely and avoided unnecessary interruptions. In addition, accuracy was relatively high overall, particularly in comparison to the more informal interpreting practices identified in live television interviews.

Table 12: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (12 November 2025, U Craiova)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	3	

Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	4	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	Total: 3.33

The Prima Sport interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between FC Argeş and Universitatea Craiova was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Silviu Tudor Samuilă.

At the beginning of the interview, Coelho discussed his personality and coaching mentality, emphasising the importance of maintaining balance both during victories and during difficult moments. Samuilă rendered the general message correctly and preserved the calm tone of the coach's discourse.

A significant part of the interview focused on the upcoming Conference League match against Mainz. Coelho insisted that he preferred to focus exclusively on the next opponent rather than analysing the entire Romanian championship teams. The interpreter conveyed this idea accurately and maintained the repetitive sequential structure that was used by the coach. However, certain explanatory details regarding match preparation and tactical analysis were condensed considerably.

Overall, the interpretation remained coherent and avoided the excessive personal commentary observed in several of the interpretations on Digi Sport. The host focused on transferring the coach's ideas rather than transforming them into entertainment-oriented commentary. This contributed to a more professional atmosphere and allowed the Romanian audience to follow the discussion without major confusion.

At a terminological level, concepts related to opponents, tactical preparation and match analysis were translated adequately. Accuracy remains relatively strong as the main ideas were preserved consistently throughout the interview, although certain details and repetitions were omitted.

Table 13: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (21 November 2025, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	Total: 2

The Conference League interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Universitatea Craiova and Mainz was interpreted in simultaneous mode by sports journalist Silviu Tudor Samuilă.

At the beginning of the interview, Coelho explained that the victory was deserved because the players managed to implement the tactical plan successfully. He emphasised both the importance of strategy and the role played by the supporters during the match. Samuilă reproduced the essential message accurately and maintained the positive tone of the coach’s discourse.

Another relevant section occurred when Coelho discussed substitutions and the physical condition of the players. The coach explained that several footballers were fatigued and that the team was beginning to lose the capacity to maintain possession. The interpretation conveyed the general tactical reasoning correctly, but several explanatory details connected to positioning, possession management and physical fatigue were simplified considerably. The interpreter also failed to mention one player’s name, “*Steve*”, but mentioned the name of the other player brought up by Coelho, “*Baiaram*.” The Romanian audience nevertheless received a coherent understanding of the coach’s strategic decisions.

The interpretation also remained relatively accurate during the discussion concerning VAR decisions. Samuilă reproduced the coach’s statement faithfully and preserved the neutral and composed tone of the original speech. This contrasts with other interviews in the corpus where interpreters transformed neutral comments into dramatic or emotionally charged television moments.

Towards the end of the interview, the journalist asks Coelho about the next rounds and if he thinks they can go further. The host adds information that was not mentioned by the journalist: “*You have 7 points in the group in this moment.*” However, this information is relevant to the topic and might be useful to the audience, giving them more insight into the team's situation at the moment.

As far as terminology is concerned, football-related concepts such as strategy, substitutions, possession, VAR and physical condition were interpreted adequately. Coherence remained strong because the host avoided excessive interruptions and allowed the interaction to progress naturally.

Table 14: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (27 November 2025, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	Total: 2.67

The interview conducted after the Conference League match between Universitatea Craiova and Sparta Praga was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Dan Udrea. This interview was interpreted relatively coherently, although several simplifications and omissions can still be identified throughout the output.

At the beginning of the interview, Coelho explained that the team’s tactical preparation had been appropriate despite the defeat. He stated that the team had created important opportunities after surviving a difficult opening phase of the match. Dan Udrea rendered the central ideas accurately and maintained the logical structure of the coach’s answer and also found good solutions for interpreting certain ideas, for example, using “*scape goat*” as Coelho talked about finding the “*guilty one.*”

A relevant section involved the discussion regarding substitutions and physical fatigue within the defensive line. Coelho explained that the coaching staff attempted to preserve the result because several

players were no longer physically fresh. Udrea summarised certain details but maintained the overall logic and tactical coherence of the answer. In this instance, he added a player's name, a name that the speaker did not mention when talking about players that were fatigued. But compared to other interviews in the corpus, the omissions did not significantly distort the intended meaning.

Regarding terminology, football-specific expressions connected to penalties, substitutions, technical staff, physical preparation and tactical management were translated correctly overall. Coherence also remained relatively strong because the interview progressed naturally without major interruptions or overlapping speech.

Table 15: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (11 December 2025, Orange Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	Total: 2.67

The Digi Sport interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Unirea Slobozia and Universitatea Craiova was interpreted in consecutive mode by sports journalist Radu Naum. Similar to other interviews interpreted by the same host, this example illustrates the tendency to combine interpretation with personal commentary and entertainment-oriented mediation rather than maintaining strict fidelity to the original discourse.

At the beginning of the interview, Coelho explained that his team faced a defensively compact opponent that did not allow much space in central areas. He also stated that Universitatea Craiova improved significantly during the second half because the players focused more on their tactical tasks. Instead of systematically reproducing these explanations, Radu Naum started with the end of the

interview, condensed the coach's answers into a simplified summary containing mainly the final result and a few isolated tactical observations.

A particularly noteworthy aspect of the interview is the host's repeated insertion of personal remarks and interpretations. During the discussion regarding Screciu's goal and the importance of collective effort, Naum added comments such as "*we know this because he says it every time*" and joked about not wanting to offend the player. These interventions were not present in the original discourse and shifted the communicative focus away from faithful interpretation toward television commentary.

Another important element is the host's open admission regarding his own limitations as an interpreter. Naum stated that he was "*not very talented at translating,*" presenting the remark humorously. Nevertheless, this comment reflects the informal and highly hybrid nature of sports interpretation within Romanian television broadcasting, where the interpreters frequently act simultaneously as journalists, commentators and entertainers.

Regarding terminology, several football-specific concepts such as transitions, open spaces, focus and tactical organisation were partially transferred into Romanian. However, many tactical nuances and explanatory details disappeared through summarisation and paraphrasing. Accuracy therefore remained relatively low as several ideas were condensed or altered through subjective intervention.

Table 16: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (22 February 2026, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	-1	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-3	Total: -2

The Prima Sport interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Universitatea Craiova and CFR Cluj was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Silviu Tudor Samuilă.

At the beginning of the interview, Coelho discussed the red card he had received after celebrating with his players. The coach openly admitted that he was unhappy with his own behaviour and apologized both to the CFR players and to his own team. Samuilă reproduced this section accurately and maintained the self-critical tone of the original discourse. However, one translation mistake was made when Coelho mentioned other coaches receiving a yellow card for the same actions for which he received a red card. This was interpreted by the host as Coelho also receiving a yellow card.

Compared to several other interviews in the corpus, this interpretation shows relatively few occurrences of subjective additions or unnecessary interventions by the host. The interpreter focused primarily on reproducing the coach's statements.

From a terminological perspective, football-related concepts such as red cards, emotional control, coaching staff and match celebrations were translated appropriately. Accuracy remained relatively high as the central ideas and emotional nuances of the coach's speech were preserved successfully. Coherence was also strong due to the clear structure of the interpretation and the absence of major interruptions or overlapping speech.

Table 17: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (4 March 2026, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	Total: 2.67

The Prima Sport interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Universitatea Craiova and FC Argeş was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Emil Grădinescu.

In the beginning, Coelho discussed the importance of maintaining concentration and tactical discipline throughout the match. He emphasised that the team needed to continue improving gradually. The interpretation preserved the central meaning and maintained the calm and pragmatic tone of the coach's discourse.

Another relevant aspect of the interview involved discussions regarding player fatigue, squad management and tactical adaptation during different phases of the match. The interpreter generally conveyed these ideas accurately, although several detailed explanations regarding positioning and decision-making on the field were simplified in the Romanian version. These reductions did not significantly affect the comprehensibility of the interview, but they did reduce some of the tactical precision present in the original speech.

At the very end of the interview, there was a content mistake made by the interpreter. Coelho said: *"[A]ll the teams are good. Different ways to play. Good coaches that prepare well the teams. Very good players, as well."* This was interpreted as: *"FC Argeş has very good players, a good coach who prepares the team."* It does not count as a severe mistake, but it does affect the accuracy and overall meaning of the source speech.

Regarding terminology, football-specific expressions related to tactical discipline, physical preparation and match management were translated adequately.

Table 18: Analysis of the press conference with Filipe Coelho (13 March 2026, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	1	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	Total: 1.67

for target audience, information content				
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The interview with Ruben Amorim in the Europa League context was interpreted in simultaneous mode by journalist and host Vali Moraru. Although the interview itself was shorter and less emotionally charged than many of the Superliga interviews included in the corpus, it still reveals several characteristic features of sports-media interpretation in Romanian broadcasting.

Throughout the exchange, Amorim focused primarily on tactical preparation, squad mentality and the importance of maintaining concentration in European competitions. The interpretation generally preserved the central ideas of the coach's discourse and did not contain excessive subjective commentary.

Nevertheless, several simplifications occurred when the coach discussed tactical organisation and the physical condition of the players. Longer explanatory sequences were condensed into shorter versions designed to maintain fluency during the live broadcast. Although the Romanian audience was still able to understand the general meaning, some of the analytical depth of the original speech was reduced through summarisation.

An important aspect is the interpreter's omission of most of the players' names that Amorim mentioned during his interview. Amorim mentioned players such as Amad Diallo, Garnacho, Kobe Mainoo and Bruno Fernandes. The host only mentioned Bruno. Amorim was talking about these players in relation to the game tactics of the team, so it would've been an important part of the speech to be mentioned in the translation as well.

Regarding terminology, football-specific concepts related to pressing, tactical balance, squad rotation and European competition were translated adequately. The interpretation remained coherent overall and avoided major interruptions or overlaps. The level of accuracy was, however, pretty low due to the omission of several players' names.

Table 19: Analysis of the press conference with Ruben Amorim (31 January 2025, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	-1	

Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	Total: 1

Zeljko Kopic's interview after the match between Dinamo București and Universitatea Craiova was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Silviu Tudor Samuilă on Prima Sport. Overall, the interpretation conveyed the tactical structure of Kopic's discourse relatively accurately, although several detailed explanations were condensed.

A relevant example occurred when Kopic explained that Dinamo lacked balance during the first half and that Craiova was dangerous in transition because of Dinamo's pressing arrived too late. Samuilă reproduced the central tactical message correctly but shortened some nuances connected to defensive positioning and the final twenty meters.

Another important example concerned Kopic's explanation regarding internal rotations and the tactical adaptation required from player Pop. The interpreter transmitted the main idea accurately, especially the references to spaces between the lines and possession, but omitted several details related to communication problems on the left side.

The terminology was accurately translated through the whole interpretation. Football-specific concepts such as pressing, transitions, and possession were translated correctly and remained understandable for the Romanian audience. Coherence also remained relatively high despite the complexity of the tactical explanations.

Table 20: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (19 January 2025, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many bad to good	-4 to +4	1	

Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	Total: 2.33

The interview following the victory against Unirea Slobozia was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Silviu Tudor Samuilă. Compared to other interviews in the corpus, the interpretation remained coherent and preserved most of the emotional and tactical dimensions of Kopic's discourse.

Kopic explained that he introduced stronger midfield players in order to dominate duels and control possession higher on the pitch. The interpreter preserved the main tactical idea, although some details regarding physical endurance and midfield balance were shortened. The interpreter also failed to include some names, which could cause confusion about who the journalist or the coach is referring to when speaking. The coach was talking about Musi's goal, and then the journalist proceeded with asking about player Stipe and his entrance on the pitch. The host just used the pronoun "*him*" in the interpreted output, which could be understood as referring to Musi rather than Stipe.

A particularly important moment concerns the references to Căţălin Hildan. Kopic emphasised that everybody at the club understood the emotional importance of commemorating the former captain. Samuilă successfully preserved the emotional tone and the symbolic connection between mentality and the memory of Hildan.

Another relevant example relates to Armstrong's yellow card situation. Kopic carefully explained that he never criticizes referees publicly and that his substitution decision was made only to protect the player, because he already had a yellow card. The interpreter made a content mistake by translating: "*he would have never been changed if he had gotten the yellow card,*" which was supposed to mean the opposite. In general, the interpretation remained accurate, though some nuances regarding pressure from the media were simplified.

Table 21: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (3 October 2025, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	Total: 2.33

The interview after the victory against FC Hermannstadt was interpreted in consecutive mode by Radu Naum. Compared to the simultaneously interpreted interviews, this example shows increased summarisation and explanatory commentary.

Kopic initially explained that Hermannstadt defended very well and that the pitch conditions complicated Dinamo's passing combinations. Naum transmitted the central idea accurately but reduced the detailed tactical explanation considerably.

A notable example concerns Raul Oprut's two goals. Kopic humorously referred to him as "*our Raulinho, our Brazilian*." Naum preserved the humorous tone and even added his own stylistic commentary by comparing the player to Roberto Carlos.

Another important moment concerns the coach's discussion about team chemistry and synchronization. Although Naum summarised several reflective elements, the interpretation still preserved the central message that mental connection between players is essential for Dinamo's style of play.

Table 22: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (23 January 2026, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	1	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	Total: 1.66

The interview after the match against Farul Constanța on Orange Sport was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Silviu Tudor Samuilă. Overall, the interpretation remained accurate and coherent, especially regarding tactical explanations about one-versus-one defending and team mentality, but lacked a few key details.

Kopic described Farul's aggressive approach and Alibec's role in creating dangerous situations behind Dinamo's defensive line. Samuilă interpreted the central tactical explanation correctly, though some details concerning two-versus-two situations were not rendered in the target output.

Another relevant example concerns the discussion about Matteo Duțu and the newly integrated players. The interpreter successfully preserved the coach's positive tone and his emphasis on professionalism and cohesion inside the squad, but failed to mention all the players that were brought up by the coach.

The discussion regarding celebrations and tensions between benches was also translated coherently. Kopic repeatedly emphasised his respect toward Farul and their staff, and the output preserved this conciliatory tone accurately.

Table 23: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (4 February 2026, Farul vs Dinamo, Orange Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	1	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	Total: 2

The Digi Sport version of the Farul interview was interpreted by Vali Moraru. Compared to the Orange Sport version, this interpretation showed more summarisation and simplification.

Kopic's tactical explanation about Farul's aggressive pressing and Alibec's ball possession was summarised considerably. Moraru focused mainly on the idea that Dinamo improved progressively throughout the match and showed a strong mindset after conceding from the penalty.

A particularly relevant example concerned Dinamo's difficulties against defensive blocks. Kopic explained that strikers are often isolated against many defenders and that players like Alex Pop become decisive in such situations. Moraru transmitted the general idea but omitted several details regarding numerical superiority and attacking spaces. Similar to Samuilă's rendering for Orange Sport, Moraru failed to mention all the players' names.

Another difference appeared in the discussion about tensions between benches. While Kopic repeatedly stressed respect and denied any conflict, Moraru reformulated the explanation into a shorter and more categorical answer.

Table 24: Analysis of the interview with Željko Kopic (5 February 2026, Farul vs Dinamo, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	-1	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	1	Total: 0.66

The interview after the match against Unirea Slobozia was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Vali Moraru. Overall, the interpretation conveyed the central tactical ideas relatively accurately, although, similar to the previous interpretations by Morau, several details were simplified.

A relevant example occurred when Kopic discussed the attacking role of full-backs against deep defensive systems. He explained that Dinamo pushes full-backs high in order to create numerical superiority in the final twenty-five meters. Moraru transmitted the main idea correctly but omitted some details regarding positioning and attacking dynamics and made small content errors by translating the number of meters inaccurately (25-30 meters, instead of 20-25 meters). Several omissions were made when mentioning the exact players that were injured and out of the next match.

Another important moment concerned the discussion about George Pușcaș potentially joining the team. Kopic emphasised the striker's experience and honesty regarding his physical condition. The interpreter preserved the central message accurately, despite a brief moment of confusion regarding the player mentioned.

The interview also included references to Claudiu Niculescu and Dinamo's history. Moraru maintained the respectful tone of Kopic's statements and also preserved the positive atmosphere of the exchange. Overall, the translated output falls short in accuracy and coherence.

Table 25: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (16 February 2026, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	-1	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	Total: -0.33

The Romanian Cup interview after the match against Metalul Buzău on Prima Sport was interpreted in simultaneous mode by Silviu Tudor Samuilă. The interpretation remained coherent and relatively accurate throughout the exchange.

Kopic initially described the difficulties caused by the artificial pitch and the constant adaptation required from the players. Samuilă preserved the main idea correctly, although some details regarding physical adaptation and movement on different surfaces were simplified.

Another important moment concerns Dinamo's objectives in both competitions. Kopic openly admitted that the players felt pressure after several negative results and that the team occasionally lost balance on the pitch. The interpreter successfully maintained both the emotional and tactical dimensions of the statement. The discussion regarding the yellow card criteria was also interpreted effectively.

On the other hand, the last idea about Mărginean being ready to play in 10 days got translated inaccurately, because Kopic said the exact opposite, which is that in 7-10 days he will not be ready to play.

Table 26: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (5 March 2026, Metalul Buzău vs Dinamo, Prima Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	Total: 2.33

The Digi Sport version of the interview after the match against Metalul Buzău was interpreted by Vali Moraru. Compared to the Prima Sport version, this interpretation once again involved more summarisation and occasional uncertainty.

At the beginning of the exchange, Kopic defended the importance of the victory and emphasised the difficult playing conditions. Moraru conveyed the essential ideas accurately but reduced several details concerning tactical adaptation and physical effort.

A particularly relevant example concerns Mărgineanu's possible return from injury. Kopic's original answer was fragmented and difficult to follow, and Moraru openly admitted that he did not fully understand whether the coach referred to the league match or the cup semifinal. This demonstrates the spontaneity and practical difficulty of live sports interpreting, but also the necessity to have trained interpreters with the proper tools and coping strategies to be able to provide fully accurate and coherent outputs.

Another example relates to the explanation regarding the yellow card criteria. While Kopic referred specifically to consistency in officiating, Moraru generalized the criticism into a broader statement about balance in refereeing decisions.

Table 27: Analysis of the interview with Zeljko Kopic (5 March 2026, Metalul Buzău vs Dinamo, Digi Sport)

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	-2	Total: -0.66

The analyses of the final 8 player interviews have been summarised and condensed into an overall analysis and the average result has been summed up in a single table. This is due to the fact that the player interviews were significantly shorter in duration and also lacked the detailed tactical insights from the coaches' interviews.

The analysed player interviews demonstrate several recurring characteristics of interpreting practices in Romanian football media. Across both simultaneous and consecutive interpreting settings, the interpreters generally succeeded in conveying the main ideas of the players' discourse while maintaining overall comprehensibility for the Romanian audience. The interviews reveal that accuracy, coherence, and football-specific terminology were usually preserved successfully, although reductions, omissions, and summarising strategies frequently appeared due to the time pressure and spontaneity typical of sports broadcasting.

A common tendency observable throughout the corpus is the simplification of emotional or explanatory elements in order to maintain fluency and rhythm during live broadcasts. In the simultaneous interpretations, especially those involving Malcom Edjouma and Siyabonga Ngezana, interpreters often condensed repetitive structures and contextual clarifications while preserving the principal communicative intention of the speaker. This demonstrates a prioritisation of accessibility and immediate audience

comprehension over strict linguistic fidelity. Nevertheless, despite these reductions, the interviews remained coherent and understandable for viewers.

The corpus also illustrates differences between television-based simultaneous interpreting and club-based consecutive interpreting. The interviews conducted by club spokespersons in press conference settings, such as those involving David Atanaskoski, Gonalo Teixeira, and Shayon Harrison, generally displayed a more neutral, structured, and less entertainment-oriented style. These interpretations contained fewer interruptions and reduced subjective intervention, which contributed to greater coherence and a more structured transfer of information. In contrast, live television interpretations prioritised speed and fluency, occasionally leading to the omission of details or emotional nuances.

With regard to terminology, the interpreters across the analysed interviews generally demonstrated adequate knowledge of football-specific vocabulary. Expressions related to tactical adaptation, concentration, defensive organisation, teamwork, attacking transitions, and match preparation were translated competently in most cases. This suggests that even non-professional interpreters working within Romanian sports media are often sufficiently familiar with football discourse to ensure communicative efficiency.

At the same time, the analysis confirms findings from previous NPIT research, according to which non-professional interpreters tend to favour summarisation and communicative effectiveness over complete fidelity to the original discourse.

Overall, the player interviews reveal that interpreting in Romanian football media functions primarily as a tool of audience accessibility rather than strict linguistic equivalence. The interpreters successfully mediated communication between international players and Romanian-speaking audiences, ensuring that viewers could understand the main informational and emotional content of the interviews. Although omissions and simplifications occurred frequently, the overall level of comprehensibility remained relatively high, particularly due to the interpreters' ability to maintain coherence and use appropriate football terminology.

Table 28: Analysis of all 8 players

Parameter (1)	Direction of evaluation (2)	Rating scale (3)	Value (4)	Result (5)
Accuracy – details, nuances, numbers, names	few to many / bad to good	-4 to +4	2	
Terminology – correctness, appropriateness	bad to good	-4 to +4	3	
Coherence – comprehensiveness for target audience, information content	bad to good	-4 to +4	2	Total: 2.33

6 Interview

Interviews have long held an important position in interpreting studies, both because it represents a method of systematic data collection and because a large proportion of available research material exists in the form of recorded interactions, particularly in public service contexts such as police work, social services, healthcare, or educational settings. In the present context, however, the focus is not on the analysis of already conducted interpreter-mediated interactions, but on the targeted use of interviews to gain insights into the professional self-concept, working practices, and experiences of translators and interpreters (Saldanha & O'Brien 2014: 223).

Interviews are used considerably less frequently in research on written translation than in interpreting studies. While interviews are particularly common in research concerning community interpreting, there is a notable lack of research employing this method in the field of sports interpreting, especially with regard to interpreters' working practices and experiences in this domain (Saldanha & O'Brien 2014: 224). The main advantage of interviews lies in their ability to provide direct access to an individual's thoughts, assessments, and attitudes towards a particular topic – dimensions that are difficult, if not impossible, to capture solely through the observation of externally visible behaviour (Saldanha & O'Brien 2014: 225). Accordingly, the aim of the present study is to gain insights into the experiences of a sports interpreter, particularly in relation to interpreting practices in Romanian media.

However, this method inevitably entails certain limitations. When individual or group interviews are primarily used as a means of gathering factual information, a key methodological challenge arises from the potential bias introduced by the relationship between interviewer and interviewee. Factors such as researcher bias, social desirability in responses, and strategic self-presentation on the part of participants may affect both the validity and reliability of the collected data. In addition, there is the risk that researchers may over-identify with participants and thereby lose professional distance. From a positivist epistemological perspective, such risks are typically addressed through methodological strategies aimed at ensuring maximum neutrality on the part of the interviewer, for example by minimising intervention in the flow of conversation or by employing standardised and structured interview guides (Saldanha & O'Brien 2014: 226).

The aim of the interview in this study is to understand the role and experiences of a sports interpreter and the challenges that come with this setting. It begins with general background information, followed by questions about training and professional context before moving into more specific areas of

practice. It is important to note that the interpreter's experience is limited to Austria, where she interprets from German to Romanian and vice versa. This contextual detail frames her responses and situates her insights within a specific linguistic and cultural environment.

The final section of the interview explores her work as a sports interpreter. Here, particular attention is given to her first-hand experiences in this specialised field. She highlights the dynamic and fast-paced nature of sports interpreting, where time pressure, emotional intensity, and the need for immediate accuracy create unique challenges. In addition, the interviewee discusses difficulties such as dealing with spontaneous speech, sports-specific terminology, and the expectations of athletes, coaches, and the media. This section provides valuable insight into the practical realities of sports interpreting and underscores the complexity of the role, emphasising both the skills required and the challenges encountered in real-world settings.

6.1 Interview with Sports Interpreter Ioana Klammer

This interview constitutes an additional component of the research process, an idea developed during the preparatory phase following a discussion with one of the author's professors, who suggested contacting Ioana Klammer, a specialist in sports interpreting at football press conferences and interviews in Austria. Based on this recommendation, this element has been included in the study due to the valuable insights an expert would offer to this thesis research. It should be noted, however, that this interview serves as a supplementary rather than a central component of the thesis.

The primary methodology employed in this thesis is corpus analysis. This approach was selected due to the lack of alternative methods suitable for the given research context. A particular challenge arises from the requirement to focus on Romania, as the topic of sports interpreting in Romanian football has not yet been extensively researched. This gap, however, also presents an opportunity to contribute original findings to the field.

In the process of data collection, 30 press conferences and interviews from the Romanian football domain, which include interpreted segments, were selected from online resources. These recordings are relatively short, averaging around five to ten minutes each. A notable difficulty encountered during analysis concerns the identification of the interpreters' roles and professional status. In many instances, interpreting appears to take place directly in the studio, making it unclear

whether the interpreter is a trained professional or, alternatively, a journalist who both poses questions and provides interpretation.

Furthermore, clear instances of simultaneous interpreting are rare within the collected material. Most examples involve consecutive interpreting, which complicates the establishment of a consistent analytical framework. This interview is therefore also meant to shed some light on some of the best practices in Romanian sports interpreting in football contexts.

An excerpt representing the introductory segment of the interview has been omitted from the final transcription. This decision was made because the content primarily consists of the researcher providing contextual information about the thesis, including an explanation of the research focus, methodology, and the rationale for conducting the interview.

This initial exchange served to inform the interviewee about the purpose of the research, the use of corpus analysis, and the process through which the interview was conceived, including the recommendation that led to establishing contact. As such, it does not contain data relevant to the analytical objectives of the study but rather functions as a preliminary orientation for the participant. For reasons of clarity, conciseness, and relevance, this introductory portion has been excluded from the transcribed dataset and subsequent analysis.

The following chapters present and discuss the key findings from the interview. Particular focus is placed on preparation practices, challenges encountered in the field, and external and internal stress factors associated with sports interpreting in football contexts.

6.2 Interpreting Practices in Romania

The interview provides only limited but nevertheless valuable insights into interpreting practices in Romanian football. The interviewee explicitly states that she has no direct professional experience in this context and is not familiar with specific interpreters or agencies operating in Romania. This lack of direct knowledge already points to a broader issue, namely the limited visibility and transparency of the profession within this setting.

Based on indirect information obtained from a journalist, it appears that interpreters are not consistently present throughout all stages of competition. Instead, interpreting services are reportedly required only from the play-off stage onwards, particularly during press conferences. Even in these

cases, it remains unclear whether the individuals providing interpretation are professionally trained interpreters or rather ad hoc language mediators.

Furthermore, the interview confirms that in many situations journalists take on the role of interpreters. This practice raises questions regarding the quality and completeness of the interpretation, as journalists may not employ professional interpreting techniques such as note-taking or may provide summarised rather than fully accurate renditions of the original speech. The interviewee implicitly contrasts this with professional standards, emphasising the importance of training, preparation, and methodological rigor.

Overall, the Romanian context appears to be characterized by a lower degree of professionalization compared to the Austrian or German-speaking context. The reliance on non-professional interpreters and the apparent lack of structured recruitment mechanisms suggest that interpreting has not yet been fully established as a specialised profession within Romanian football. At the same time, the requirement to provide interpretation at later competition stages indicates a growing recognition of its importance, particularly in ensuring accessibility for audiences who may not understand widely used foreign languages such as English.

6.3 Preparing for an Interpreting Job as a Sports Interpreter

Preparation for interpreting assignments in the field of sports, particularly football, is revealed through the interview as a highly demanding and multifaceted process that extends well beyond linguistic competence. The interviewee explains that assignments are typically mediated through specialised agencies, in this case a UK-based agency operating across Austria and the wider German-speaking region. These agencies require interpreters to have formal academic training, especially when they are deployed at high-profile events such as international competitions, where simultaneous interpreting may be expected and only trained conference interpreters are considered suitable.

Preparation begins well in advance of the assignment and involves extensive research into both the linguistic and the contextual aspects of the event. The interpreter must familiarize themselves with team compositions, player names, recent transfers, injuries, suspensions, and overall team dynamics. In addition, continuous monitoring of sports news is necessary in order to stay informed about current developments, including rumours, controversies, and interpersonal relationships within and between teams. This type of preparation also extends to the acquisition of specialised

terminology, including technical football vocabulary as well as medical terminology related to common sports injuries.

A central component of preparation is the development of anticipatory strategies. The interviewee emphasises that the ability to anticipate content significantly enhances both confidence and accuracy during interpretation. To support this process, interpreters often compile structured notes, such as lists of players organised by position or alphabetically, as well as annotations regarding injuries or other relevant contextual information. These preparatory materials are then actively used during the assignment.

On the day of the event, preparation continues on-site. Interpreters are typically present from the opening of the stadium until after the post-match press conference. Observing the match itself is considered essential, as key events such as goals, substitutions, and critical moments are frequently referenced during subsequent press conferences. In some cases, interpreters are also required to translate live announcements during the match, which further increases the need for constant attention and rapid information processing.

6.4 Challenges faced by Sports Interpreters

The interview highlights that sports interpreters face a wide range of challenges that can be categorised as linguistic, contextual, interpersonal, and professional. From a linguistic and also cognitive perspective, interpreters must process spoken language in real time and produce an accurate rendition in another language without the possibility of revision. This task is complicated by the need to operate in multiple language combinations, sometimes within the same event.

One of the most significant challenges arises from the unpredictability of the communicative situation. Journalists are free to ask questions on a wide variety of football-related topics, including tactical issues, player performance, transfers, and even personal or historical matters. Occasionally, questions may extend beyond the immediate scope of the match, introducing unexpected references that the interpreter may not have anticipated. This unpredictability increases the cognitive load and requires a high degree of flexibility.

Interpersonal factors also play a crucial role. The interviewee reports frequent difficulties related to the way journalists communicate, including poor diction, inadequate use of microphones,

and physical distance from the interpreter. In such situations, the interpreter must intervene promptly to request clarification, which requires both professional judgement and assertiveness.

In addition to these immediate challenges, sports interpreters operate in a context of high professional vulnerability. Their performance is highly visible, as they are physically present alongside coaches and players and often appear on camera. Errors or perceived inaccuracies can be immediately noticed and may be reported in the media, thereby affecting the interpreter's professional reputation. The interviewee provides an example in which an interpreter was publicly blamed for inconsistencies that originated from the speaker rather than from the interpretation. Such situations illustrate the extent to which interpreters may be exposed to unfair criticism.

Working conditions further contribute to the complexity of the task. While most press conferences involve consecutive interpreting, certain high-level events require simultaneous interpreting, sometimes under suboptimal technical conditions. Factors such as the lack of proper equipment or an unfavourable physical arrangement of the space can have a direct impact on performances.

6.5 External and Internal Stress Factors

The interviewee describes stress in sports interpreting as both intense and qualitatively distinct from other interpreting contexts. External stress factors are primarily related to the high level of visibility and the public nature of the task. Interpreters perform in front of large audiences, including journalists and, in some cases, television viewers. The awareness that their output may be immediately quoted in the media significantly increases the pressure to perform accurately. Live broadcasts further amplify this pressure, as there is no margin for error.

Technical and environmental conditions also represent important external stressors. The quality of audio input is identified as a critical factor, as poor sound can severely hinder comprehension. Additional environmental challenges include unfavourable physical conditions within the stadium and, in some cases, limited access to relevant information, such as the live broadcast of the match.

Another source of external stress lies in the interaction with journalists. As already mentioned, unclear speech and inadequate microphone use can complicate the interpreting process. They may even require the interpreter to manage communication breakdowns in real time.

Internal stress factors are closely linked to the interpreter's psychological response to these external demands. The interviewee emphasises the role of performance pressure and perfectionism, which are inherent to the profession. Even minor errors can have a disproportionate emotional impact, particularly in a context where performance is publicly visible and subject to scrutiny.

The experience of stage fright and heightened adrenaline is described vividly in the interview. The interpreter has to perform in moments of complete silence and under the focused attention of the audience. This creates an intense sense of responsibility. At the same time, the cognitive demands of the task remain extremely high, as the interpreter must – often simultaneously – listen, process, take notes, and reformulate speech.

The emotional consequences of mistakes or corrections are also significant. Being corrected publicly by a speaker, even in minor matters, can undermine confidence and contribute to long-term stress. The interviewee stresses the importance of developing resilience and the ability to accept imperfection as essential qualities for sustaining a career in this field.

The interview demonstrates that sports interpreting in football is a highly specialised and demanding professional activity that requires extensive preparation, advanced cognitive skills, and strong psychological resilience. Despite its association with a seemingly less formal domain, it involves considerable pressure, high visibility, and significant professional risks. The findings highlight the importance of both technical competence and emotional adaptability in successfully navigating the challenges of this interpreting context, while also revealing notable differences in the degree of professionalization across national contexts.

7 Conclusion

The present thesis set out to examine interpreting practices in Romanian football media, with particular focus on interviews and press conferences involving international players and coaches from the Romanian Superliga and European competitions. Starting from the observation that football has become an increasingly globalized and multilingual environment, the thesis explored how communication is mediated between English-speaking football professionals and Romanian-speaking audiences through non-professional interpreting practices. By combining a corpus-based analysis of 30 interpreted interviews and press conferences with an expert interview conducted with sports interpreter Ioana Klammer, the thesis aimed to answer two central research questions: What interpreting practices can be identified in Romanian sports broadcasting and what similarities and differences exist between broadcasters? And to what extent do these interpretations fulfil the criteria of comprehensibility for Romanian audiences?

The findings of the study demonstrate that interpreting in Romanian football media occupies a hybrid position situated between journalism, entertainment, and language mediation. In the majority of the analysed examples, the individuals responsible for interpreting were not trained interpreters but rather sports journalists, television hosts, moderators, or club representatives. As a result, the interpreted output frequently diverged from strict linguistic fidelity and instead reflected the communicative conventions of sports broadcasting, where immediacy, audience engagement, and entertainment often take priority over completeness and precision.

At a broader level, the analysis confirms many of the tendencies discussed in previous research on non-professional interpreting in media settings. Similar to the observations made by Antonini and Chiaro (2015), and Ghignoli and Torres Díaz (2015), the Romanian football context reveals that journalists who take on interpreting tasks frequently combine translation with commentary, summarisation, reformulation, and personal evaluation.

This tendency was particularly visible in several Digi Sport interviews interpreted in consecutive mode by sports journalist Radu Naum, where the interpretation often resembled a paraphrased commentary rather than a faithful transfer of meaning. In these cases, the audience did not always receive the complete communicative intent of the original speaker, but rather a filtered and condensed version shaped by the host's own narrative style and television persona. This

subsequently yielded the lowest mean scores across the dimensions of accuracy, coherence, and terminology.

The analysis further demonstrated that the quality of the interpreted output varied considerably depending on the broadcaster, the interpreting mode, and the interpreter. In general, interviews interpreted by club spokespersons or individuals whose sole task was language mediation tended to achieve significantly better results than interviews interpreted by television hosts who simultaneously managed broadcasting responsibilities. This distinction became particularly visible in the official Universitatea Craiova and Politehnica Iași club press conferences interpreted in consecutive mode by the club spokespersons. Unlike many television interviews, these interpretations remained relatively neutral, coherent, and complete. The interpreter generally avoided inserting personal opinions or humorous commentary and focused instead on reproducing the coaches' statements as accurately as possible.

The adapted evaluation framework based on Kalina's quality model ensured a systematic assessment of the corpus. By focusing specifically on accuracy, coherence, and terminology, the study identified recurring strengths and weaknesses across the material. The results indicate that terminology was consistently the strongest aspect of the interpretations, while coherence and especially accuracy were more problematic. This could be attributed to the fact that the hosts in charge of interpreting are sports journalists and have a strong grasp on football-specific terminology, while they lack the tools and strategies that professional interpreters use in order to deliver accurate and coherent content under significant time constraints.

One of the most important findings concerns the relative stability of football terminology across almost all analysed examples. Even when major omissions or simplifications occurred, football-specific expressions such as "VAR," "counter-attack," "transition," "tactical discipline," "play-off," "squad management," or "physical preparation" were generally rendered correctly into Romanian. This suggests that journalists and hosts possess strong passive knowledge of football terminology due to their professional familiarity with the sport. Since football language has become highly internationalized and strongly influenced by English, many expressions already exist in stabilized forms within Romanian sports discourse. Consequently, terminology often remained one of the strongest dimensions of interpreting quality throughout the corpus.

By contrast, accuracy represented the most unstable and problematic quality criterion. Across many interviews, especially in live television settings, interpreters frequently omitted contextual

details, emotional nuances, explanations, names, numbers, and longer tactical observations. In some cases, the central meaning of the message was still preserved despite these omissions. In others, however, important information was distorted or lost entirely.

The first interview with Elias Charalambous on Digi Sport in December 2023 illustrates these problems particularly clearly. The interview received a total average score of -1, with low evaluations for both accuracy and coherence. The host omitted several emotionally important passages in which the coach praised his players and expressed frustration regarding refereeing decisions. Moreover, subjective commentary was inserted into the interpretation, fundamentally altering the communicative tone of the original speech. Instead of simply mediating the coach's statements, the journalist transformed the interview into a performative television moment shaped by irony and personal reaction. This example strongly reflects the hybrid role of sports journalists as both interpreters and entertainers.

Similarly, the interview with Neil Lennon in July 2024 received one of the lowest total scores in the corpus, namely -1.33. Here, the interpretation was characterized by visible uncertainty, vague reformulations, and frequent interruptions. Expressions such as "I think he also mentioned" demonstrated that the interpreter himself seemed unsure about parts of the original message. This uncertainty negatively affected both the reliability and the coherence of the interpreted discourse. The audience was often unable to distinguish between the coach's actual statements and the host's own assumptions or interpretations.

Other interviews also revealed how live simultaneous interpreting under media pressure can lead to significant losses of information. In the analysis of the interview with Elias Charalambous from October 2025, the interpretation received a total score of -1.67. The interpretation suffered from overlapping speech, interruptions, and inaccurate renderings of emotionally charged content. One statement was even completely misinterpreted. This demonstrated how difficult it can be to maintain accuracy under the cognitive pressure of live sports broadcasting.

Nevertheless, the findings also show that non-professional interpreting in football media should not simply be dismissed as unsuccessful or ineffective. Despite the frequent inaccuracies and omissions, most interviews remained largely intelligible to Romanian audiences. The audiences generally received the essential information concerning match results, tactical explanations, player performance, and emotional reactions after matches. In this respect, the interpretations fulfilled an important communicative function. As emphasised throughout the theoretical framework, quality in

interpreting cannot always be reduced to strict linguistic equivalence. Especially in the context of sports media, communicative effectiveness and audience accessibility are often more relevant than complete fidelity.

This observation aligns with the more functional approaches to interpreting quality discussed in the thesis. The findings from the Romanian football media context confirm that interpreting in live television environments should be understood as a highly situational activity shaped by time pressure, technical conditions, audience expectations, and performative demands. Interpreters are often forced to prioritise speed and comprehensibility over completeness.

At the same time, the analysis also demonstrated that there are clear limits to acceptable simplification. While moderate condensation seldom hindered comprehension, excessive omissions, inaccurate paraphrasing, or the insertion of personal commentary often weakened the communicative transparency of the interviews. In several cases, emotional dimensions of the original speech almost entirely disappeared in translation. Coaches' expressions of frustration, pride, disappointment, or tactical reasoning were reduced to short summaries lacking nuance and complexity. As a result, Romanian audiences frequently received a more simplified and less emotionally rich version of the original discourse.

An important pattern emerging from the corpus concerns the distinction between simultaneous and consecutive interpreting. Consecutive interpretations, particularly those performed by club spokespersons, generally achieved higher levels of coherence and completeness because interpreters had more processing time and could structure the information more carefully. Simultaneous interpretations, especially those carried out live in television studios, tended to contain more omissions, reformulations, and interruptions.

However, the findings also suggest that the interpreting mode does not determine the quality of the interpretation, the professional role and communicative priorities of the interpreter being at least equally important. Simultaneous interpretations performed by experienced sports journalists were often fluent and terminologically competent, even if they involved condensation. In contrast, some consecutive interpretations still suffered from summarisation and subjective intervention when journalists treated the interaction primarily as a television performance rather than as an interpreting task.

The interviews with Filipe Coelho provide particularly valuable insights into these differences. Several of his interviews received relatively strong evaluations compared to the rest of

the corpus. The interview analysed in Table 17, for example, achieved one of the highest overall scores, with a total average of 2.67. The interpretation preserved the coach's calm and analytical tone, conveyed tactical discussions accurately, and maintained coherence for the Romanian audience despite a few simplifications. This example demonstrates that even within non-professional interpreting contexts, relatively high-quality interpretations are possible when interpreters focus on faithful transmission and avoid excessive intervention.

In addition, the findings highlight substantial differences between Romanian broadcasting channels, which suggests that there is no common practice guide to interpreting in football related media contexts. Digi Sport interviews often displayed the strongest tendency toward hybrid forms of interpretation involving summarisation, commentary, and entertainment-oriented intervention, Prima Sport generally presented more stable and controlled interpretations, while Orange Sport interviews often achieved relatively balanced performances despite the pressures of simultaneous interpreting. However, these tendencies should not be generalized, as considerable variation also existed within each broadcaster depending on the individual journalist and communicative context.

The expert interview with Ioana Klammer further corroborated several of the patterns identified in the corpus analysis. Although her professional experience is situated primarily within Austria and the German-speaking context, her observations provide important comparative insights into the degree of professionalization within sports interpreting.

One of the most important findings of the interview concerns the extensive preparation required for professional sports interpreting. According to the interviewee, successful interpreting in football contexts requires far more than linguistic competence. Interpreters must familiarize themselves with team structures, tactical systems, player names, transfers, injuries, club histories, and current sporting developments. This level of preparation contrasts sharply with the Romanian media context observed in the corpus, where journalists often seemed to rely primarily on spontaneous summarisation rather than systematic interpreting strategies.

The interview also highlighted the highly stressful nature of sports interpreting. The visibility of interpreters, the pressure of live broadcasts, poor audio conditions, and the unpredictability of sports communication all contribute to intense cognitive and emotional strain. The interviewee emphasised that interpreters frequently work under conditions where mistakes become immediately public and may affect professional reputations. These observations strongly support the theoretical discussion of stress factors in media interpreting developed earlier in the thesis.

Particularly significant is the contrast between the professional standards described by the interviewee and the relatively low degree of professionalisation observed in Romanian football media. The findings suggest that interpreting in Romanian sports broadcasting is still largely treated as a secondary activity attached to journalism rather than as an independent professional specialisation. While there appears to be increasing recognition of the importance of interpreting, especially during later stages of competitions and international matches, structured recruitment mechanisms and professional standards remain limited.

At the same time, the Romanian context also reveals why non-professional interpreting has become so widespread. The football broadcasting landscape is an extremely dynamic and fast-moving media environment. Journalists who already possess football expertise and communicative authority are often viewed as acting as the primary agents of immediate language mediation. Since the audiences themselves may prioritize accessibility and entertainment over strict accuracy, these hybrid forms of interpretation continue to function effectively within the logic of sports television.

The author of this thesis therefore does not argue that all non-professional interpreting in Romanian football media should necessarily be replaced by professional conference interpreters. Rather, the findings suggest the need for greater awareness regarding the communicative consequences of these practices. The use of trained interpreters, particularly during press conferences, major international matches, and high-profile interviews, could significantly improve accuracy and coherence while reducing the distortions introduced by subjective commentary and excessive summarisation.

The thesis also contributes to filling an important research gap. As demonstrated throughout the literature review, sports interpreting remains an under-studied area within interpreting studies, especially in relation to football media and non-professional interpreting practices in Eastern European contexts. Existing research focused primarily on conference interpreting, institutional multilingualism, or international tournament settings such as the FOOTIE corpus. By examining publicly accessible football interviews in Romania, this thesis introduces a new perspective that combines media interpreting, sports communication, and NPIT research.

Nevertheless, several limitations of the thesis should be acknowledged. First, the corpus was restricted to 30 interviews and press conferences involving English-Romanian interpreting. While this material was sufficient to identify important tendencies, a larger corpus covering additional broadcasters, competitions, and languages would yield more comprehensive insights. Second, the

study focused exclusively on the interpreted product and did not include audience reception studies. Future research could therefore investigate how Romanian viewers themselves perceive interpreting quality in football broadcasts and whether they prioritize entertainment, accuracy, fluency, or terminology.

Another limitation relates to the difficulty of clearly distinguishing between interpreting and journalistic mediation in many examples. Since journalists frequently combined both functions simultaneously, it was not always possible to apply traditional interpreting quality criteria without considering the broader media context. However, this ambiguity also represents one of the central findings of the study: sports media interpreting in Romania often exists exactly within this blurred space containing translation, summarisation, commentary, and entertainment.

Future research could therefore explore this hybridity in greater detail. Comparative studies regarding professional interpreters and sports journalists would be particularly valuable, the same applies to audience-oriented analyses examining how viewers evaluate credibility, comprehensibility, and authenticity in interpreted football interviews.

In conclusion, the findings of this thesis demonstrate that interpreting in the Romanian football media is a highly dynamic and multifaceted phenomenon shaped by globalization, media logic, and linguistic accessibility. English functions as the dominant lingua franca of football communication, while Romanian audiences continue to rely heavily on language mediation in order to access interviews and press conferences involving international players and coaches. Within this context, journalists and hosts frequently assume the role of non-professional interpreters, producing hybrid forms of communication that combine translation with summarisation, commentary, and entertainment.

Although these practices often lead to omissions, inaccuracies, and reduced coherence, they nevertheless succeed in fulfilling their most immediate communicative function: making football discourse accessible to Romanian audiences in real time. At the same time, the study demonstrates that greater professionalization and stronger awareness of interpreting strategies could substantially improve the quality and reliability of these interactions.

Ultimately, football interpreting represents far more than just the transfer of words between languages. It functions as a bridge between cultures, media systems, players, coaches, and supporters. In a sport followed passionately by millions of people, interpreters, whether professional or non-professional, play a crucial role in shaping how football is understood, experienced, and emotionally

connected to by audiences. The Romanian football context therefore offers a particularly valuable case study for understanding the evolving relationship between language, media, and global sport.

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Appendix

Transcription Interview Ioana Klammer

The following transcript presents an interview originally conducted in Romanian, subsequently transcribed, and translated into English for the purposes of this study. The transcript is organised according to speaker turns, with time stamps included to facilitate reference and analysis. To preserve confidentiality while ensuring clarity, the two speakers are identified through acronyms: SB, representing the researcher, and IK, denoting the interviewee.

As mentioned in chapter 6.1, the introductory part of the interview was taken out of the transcription since it does not contain data relevant to the analytical objectives of the thesis but rather functions as a preliminary orientation for the participant.

SB [13:33]:

[...] And that's why I want to ask you, well, first of all, in general, how it happens in sports interpretation, what does a day look like, how do you receive orders and so on. Are there certain agencies for which you work, so I can write it down.

IK [13:50]:

Yes, yes, yes.

SB [13:51]:

Yes, and then it would be great if you could tell me whether you have any knowledge on interpreting practices in Romanian football and how they compare to Austria.

SB [13:58]:

About how interpreters are chosen for orders or how is decided where a professional interpreter goes to translate.

I found it quite difficult to find these answers online or elsewhere.

IK [14:11]:

Yes, well no, because I understand. I understand. I was looking now to see how exactly the agency is called.

SB [14:32]:

We could also make some kind of comparison, if you are working in Austria too, you could tell me roughly how you interpret in Austria, meaning how...

IK [14:43]:

I've never interpreted in a football context in Romania.

SB [14:46]:

Is it possible to interpret, that was also another question, if as a sports interpreter you specialise in a certain sport or do you have to familiarize yourself with multiple sports?

IK [14:58]:

For me, so far it was only football.

I don't know how it would be for someone else.

I was actually thinking, it would be really cool to have other sports, I would really like it.

Yes, so far it was only football.

SB [15:08]:

Ok.

SB [15:16]:

Yes, and this was a question as well. Where do you usually carry out your activity?

So in Romania you said that you never interpreted football topics.

IK [15:25]:

No.

SB [15:26]:

Would you roughly know someone who also works in Romania, a sports interpreter in the football world?
Or some agency that hires interpreters?

IK [15:34]:

I really don't know how it works in Romania because at one point really, I asked a journalist how things work there and he said that, indeed, I think from the play-offs onwards, they are obliged to provide interpreters and they always have someone at press conferences, they are interpreted, but I don't know anyone personally.

IK [16:00]:

I don't know... I can't tell you if the people there are professional interpreters or not.

SB [16:06]:

Yes, that's the thing, I don't really have a way to find out for certain.

Only if somehow I come into contact with, I don't know, the people there.

IK [16:15]:

Do you know who you could ask? The FRF (Romanian Football Federation), maybe.

SB [16:17]:

Ok. I could send them an email.

IK [16:21]:

I don't know if they will respond, but try it. It's worth a shot.

SB [16:29]:

And in Austria? Or in Germany? Or where exactly do you interpret?

IK [16:33]:

I should have gone once to Germany, but in the end, things did not work out.

But in Austria and basically all this German-speaking space, the orders are through an agency from the UK, which only hires professional interpreters, so only people who have studied interpretation.

IK [17:05]:

In certain contexts, at press conferences of very important matches, for example in the Champions League, as far as I know, I hope I'm not saying something inaccurate, only simultaneous interpretation is expected and required.

And they make sure that the person in question is a trained conference interpreter, that they have experience in this area.

IK [17:27]:

In contexts like this, there is only one person who is in a mobile booth and does simultaneous interpreting. I haven't had this situation yet. The rest is interpreted consecutively.

IK [17:48]:

I can tell you how it was in my case, except for one match, how it was at all the others, namely, how you have a podium of four chairs in front of you, on the left was the team spokesperson of the team, the coach, at the pre-match press conferences, there is also a player present, usually the team captain, but not necessarily, the player, and then me, the interpreter.

At the post-match press conferences, the formation is smaller, it's only the spokesperson, the coach and the interpreter, the players are no longer there.

It's interpreted consecutively, it depends a lot on the team, everyone organises differently, some spokespersons

prepare a script beforehand, and they give it to you before the conference, so you can look at it.

IK [18:42]:

They start with an introduction, they say what match it's about, in what context, in what competition, etc. After that, there might be questions from fans, questions asked on Instagram, for example, or like that, and you receive this script.

This was just one team that had such a plan to receive questions from fans.

So, there was the introduction, then followed a statement from the coach, a statement from the team captain, one or two questions from the fans, and then it was the journalists' turn.

This was the most, let's say, common development of the conference.

IK [19:30]:

Then you have spokespersons who don't have a script, they simply give the floor to the coach, and then move directly to the journalists' questions.

IK [19:47]:

On the day before the match there are two press conferences, you probably know this, around noon, the hosts' press conference, then in the afternoon, around five, six o'clock, the visitors' press conference.

After the game, depending on how it ends, it's quicker to prepare.

The post-match press conferences are always shorter, as people are tired, it's midnight, people are more tired, well, the team comes and no longer feels like it so doesn't want to talk too much anymore.

IK [20:30]:

So far, at several matches, I've been next to the stadium moderator, because the team wanted some initial interventions to also be translated into Romanian.

There was also a match where I wasn't allowed to enter the stadium.

They would have sent me to a grandstand quite far away and I said, ok, I prefer to stay inside, as it was quite cold outside.

And inside I had to ask someone to display the match on the screen, as a different match was being broadcast.

Because I explained, it's super important to know what's happening in that particular match.

SB [21:24]:

Did you go to each match, that is, are you at the match or do you watch the match before the post-match press conference, how is it?

IK [21:31]:

Well, I am there from when the stadium opens until after the match.

And it is ideal to...

For example, I had a team, the one I was telling you about where I was next to the moderator, where when a goal was scored or when players were changed, I would also interpret this and had to be really attentive, with a note in hand, to pay attention to each player.

Which numbers are out, which numbers are in, you need to watch each player's name, to interpret the whole situation.

Or to remember, in what minute the goal was scored.

Well, and all the important moments, it's quite likely they will be mentioned in the post-match press conference.

And that's what I tried to explain to those who didn't have the game on screen.

The match was not being broadcast on TV, so it was without commentary.

It was such an interesting situation.

It was a silent match.

SB [22:39]:

And do you always translate from German to Romanian or do you translate from German to English as well?

IK [22:43]:

I've done German to English, English to German a few times, but not often.

And the first, the first conference was all three languages because the coach of the Romanian team spoke English.

So, all three languages were used in all possible directions.

That was a special situation.

But otherwise, German to Romanian or English to German, German to English.

SB [23:15]:

Another question that I wanted to ask, because we talked a little bit about this when we met, but what are, in your opinion, the most stressful aspects of the job as a sports interpreter?

Because I also wrote a chapter on this in my thesis and it would help if you could tell me from your perspective, what are the factors, external and internal, i.e. The place where the conference is held, because

many said that if the booths are not, or, well, in your case there is no booth or whatever, but what are the external and internal factors that seem to cause you the most stress?

IK [23:52]:

One factor, that even the colleague who recommended me to the corresponding agency mentioned, was audio quality. She said, I beg you to make sure when you enter the conference room to speak with the technician and make sure the sound is of good quality, meaning you can rely on the sound quality, make sure you hear everyone properly.

I haven't had problems like this so far, I've been fortunate to have very good technicians and, well, modern technology so that I can hear as well as possible.

IK [24:38]:

Stressful factors, well, I've interpreted in many contexts in my life so far and some, how should I put it, were very stressful, but, in my opinion, in this context stress is on a completely different level.

I mean, adrenaline is a reality.

Let me think where to start.

First of all, it's about being in front of many journalists.

It depends on the match.

At most, there were about 50 journalists.

If a live broadcast is also involved, it increases your tension by a notch.

This has only happened once.

Somehow, you realize that what you say will be quoted in the press before you leave the conference room.

If you say something noteworthy in a negative way, it won't go unmentioned.

IK [26:00]:

I think that, in this context, even though you are thinking oh it's only a sports context, what nuances can possibly appear, there are nuances in this context, and what interpreting decisions you make in that moment are essential.

It seems to me that it's a context in which, well, as an interpreter in general, you always have to make decisions and take responsibility for them.

But in this context, if it turns out to be a bad decision, you will see it in the press forever.

SB [26:35]:

So do you mean by that, that there is very high visibility, you can't really hide so to speak?

IK [26:37]:

Yes, so if you have stage fright, I don't think it would be advisable to take on such a task.

Because you are there on the podium with so many eyes on you, with the cameras on you.

Like in those high-performance sports movies, where the background noise fades away, time stops, everything goes into slow motion, that's exactly the feeling you get when the player beside you or the coach stops talking, you have your notes in hand, a deathly silence descends, and it's go time, you know? That's pretty much the feeling.

IK [27:21]:

Another factor that often stresses me out.

Fortunately, at the last press conference it wasn't a problem, but generally, it's a problem in my opinion.

There are actually two factors and both have a connection with the journalists, both factors that I'm talking about.

The fact that they don't open their mouths properly.

That is, just because they are journalists doesn't automatically mean they have appropriate diction.

I've had cases where an older gentleman held the microphone very far from where he spoke.

And he was in the back of the room.

SB [28:04]:

And there's no way you can tell him in that moment, that you can't hear him?

IK [28:06]:

The truth is, you really want to tell him and want to tell him as soon as possible, not let him talk for like 3 minutes and then ask him to repeat.

You tell him right away, please speak into the microphone, please speak louder, I didn't understand you, immediately signal this.

Yes, so the fact that they don't have a good diction, the fact that they don't always speak close enough to the microphone and last but not least the fact that they can ask you questions about anything that has to do with football.

At one point I was preparing for a very important match and of course, I was very stressed during that time and a friend of mine asked at one point but do you have something to learn?

And I was like no, no, nothing, ironically of course.

You have to learn about the players themselves, besides the terminology, which obviously plays a major part.

I mean, I for one, I was learning which players had recently transferred, which ones were about to leave, where, from where, what the market value of the players was approximately.

I don't know, I read everything that appeared in the press daily, exactly, rumours, dramas.

If at some point in his career the coach had crossed paths, even briefly, with a player from, at the time, the opponent team, I don't know, if the coach was planning to retire, if there were discussions at the federation level, absolutely everything.

IK [30:13]:

I thought about my colleague who recommended me then, the first time, before she recommended me, I was talking with her at one point. She was interpreting Champions League and she was telling me, even before the first order, she even knew the names of the footballers' girlfriends.

You know, and I found it so, wow, but I perfectly understand, because absolutely everything can come up.

And, on the sharp edge of this elaborate preparation, I would say, yes, there is always not the possibility, but the probability a question will come up that isn't even on the fringe of your radar, you understand?

And the thing is, this means that names can come up which you, if you haven't heard them before, would surely not catch.

And you know, anticipation is essential in interpretation. The more you anticipate, the better you interpret, the more confident you are, the less you stress, which means you can concentrate better.

IK [31:15]:

Yes, and I remember preparing at one point for a match, in fact for the same important match, I interpreted all the press conferences that I could with the people in question and at one point a question comes from

a journalist and I think he was talking about the sports gala and why Ceausescu's son or what does the coach think about the fact that Ceausescu's son was invited by X person to the Romanian sports gala. You understand?

Come on, with Ceausescu's son if it clicks, you understand.

But the other name was a foreign name.

And somehow this frustrated me a lot because people don't realize, especially if they, I don't know, are not often enough dealing with interpreters, they don't realize how big the difference is between their degree of specialisation in that field and what you can do as an interpreter.

Anyway, over time you get into a routine of reading the daily sports news and so on but they don't realize hey, if you keep mentioning a lot of names or ask a question from a completely different field, I don't know, speak more clearly and slowly, you know?

Because otherwise, if you ask every journalist, what was that? Can you please repeat that, I didn't understand.

Then you seem clueless but sometimes there are honestly situations where humanly it is not possible and somehow you have to accept this, and this is very hard because interpreting seems to me a very elitist field, a field in which you are forced, if you aren't already from growing up, to become a perfectionist and you feel afterwards very frustrated with yourself, you know? Somehow you have to accept ok, I did everything I could, I don't know, the journalist was speaking from the back of the room without a microphone, that's all I could do, that's it, but of course the idea is aiming for as complete and professional interpretation as possible.

SB [33:50]:

Ok yes, thank you. I think you gave me all the answers I was looking for and maybe I should somehow do this interview more on this side, if I know this is how I did it on the theory side with the stress factors ,because I thought it would be hard for me to find out things about Romania if they don't answer me from the Romanian Football Federation or so, I wouldn't be able, no matter how interesting it would be.

And so I didn't know how to find out what's happening there plus I don't even know how many professional interpreters there would be I'm convinced that there are very few who are professionals.

That's what I also wanted to ask because I know you also work for other agencies, you're not just doing sports interpreting. I imagine many interpreters can't live just from sports interpreting.

IK [34:43]:

I don't really know, but what I could tell you, about a situation, I know an interpreter and he is brilliant, in my opinion.

I think he has 5 working languages and is absolutely flawless in all 5 languages I think 5, let me think 4 or 5, yes, and at one point he also interpreted in football. A coach liked him very much and he took him everywhere with him, it was a team that played very often, that's also a thing with Romanian, unfortunately you don't have many contexts, but it wasn't the same with him, it was a team that actually had many matches and the coach, as I said took him with him but at one point the coach said...

IK [35:46]:

...you know there are those backstage interviews that are not with an interpreter, at least with me there has never been but there are situations, I don't know if you've seen with ORF are often translated simultaneously by someone from here, but there is not an onsite interpreter...

IK [36:08]:

And in that interview the coach said one thing after which at the press conference he said something else and journalists said but one doesn't match the other and although interpreter interpreted correctly, he was the one who fell badly.

And it appeared in the press even with his picture which I thought was a cruelty. He also interpreted for a language how to say, a linguistic combination where fans and journalists are very critical and it was a very ugly situation in conditions where that interpreter at that time I think was the only source of income of the family, a large family, was the only source of income, and he still said, forgive me, but I don't need such situations and such dramas that jeopardize my reputation as an interpreter.

IK [37:16]:

So he gives it up and since then he never interpreted again in football and he is not the man who, I don't know how to say it, who would be afraid or would not want to risk anything, absolutely not, he is such a zen man few people are so zen and few interpreters seem to me, so zen and he is one in a million but he said, no, thank you I stop here because it's not worth it.

SB [37:49]:

I find it unjust, because he only did his job. I want to ask this because this was one of the triggers because I read a study done in Innsbruck in Austria where a study was conducted inside a club about how important the communication with players is, especially with foreign players who, for example, don't know German and if they hire a professional interpreter to be just inside the club, to be there at training sessions.

SB [38:29]:

It is very rare but they had an interpreter. However, the coach said that there are positive and negative sides to it. Then they interviewed the coach and so usually players who are from inside the club who know both languages, they know German and let's say Spanish, if a Spanish player comes.

IK [38:42]:

Then the coach speaks directly in English these days.

SB [38:45]:

Yes, but there are some examples, let's say Nunez at Liverpool, who doesn't know English, he has an interpreter.

IK [38:53]:

Well, it's Liverpool.

SB [38:55]:

Yes, it's Liverpool indeed, but they said that this small team at one point had an interpreter, but the coach didn't like it because first of all he knew tactics and so they didn't have a trust in him about such things as tactics or they said that, what else did they say, that it's not direct communication with the player and coach or they don't like that it's not, maybe the coach can be interpreted differently by the player, it's like they didn't really trust the interpreter, it seemed very strange to me.

IK [39:33]:

To be honest, with what they need, I guess it's about explaining to the player various tactics I don't think things can be interpretable. It's strictly a lack of confidence and if you don't trust the interpreter or if the interpreter is not trustworthy it seems to me that everything falls apart and it's not worth interpreting.

Listening to you now, I remembered a situation. I was at one point at a German-English interpretation. It was a foreign coach, I mean he spoke in English, I interpreted in German and he looked at me and says 'very good' in German, you know?

IK [40:23]:

And I was amazed because the pressure is there, and the pressure is much higher in English, because everyone feels like they know English.

Nobody takes into consideration that you have a fraction of a second to hear something, to record it, to note it down. Nobody thinks that you only have one attempt to get it right. Nobody thinks about all the stress factors, you know? And everyone sitting on the bench has a relaxed mind and everyone has advice to give on how you could've done better.

IK [40:58]:

And when you see that the coach next to you knows German too, the stress doubles, but then everything was fine.

SB [41:09]:

I think there was a situation that went viral with Jürgen Klopp when it was the same from German to English or what it was. He interpreted I don't know how he expressed himself in a way where maybe he didn't express the idea properly. Then he corrected him immediately, I don't know if you know the video or the respective situation. Klopp corrected the interpreter during the interpretation.

IK [41:33]:

And I had the same thing happening to me. Oh! Speaking of the confession of an interpreter. It was a match, I was so stressed out like I haven't been since my maths test, so I was shaking, I saw how my knees were shaking. Gosh!

And it was a situation where I thought, if you continue to stress like this, we stop. We find another career, because otherwise you really will get sick, if you consume yourself like this. But, I was at the pre-match conference where there was also the player present, and this is what I mean, you have to know a lot of stuff. The more you can anticipate, the better for you.

IK [42:15]:

It was the idea that both teams had the same colours and that the guests needed to choose a different colour. And I translated it backwards as in the host must choose a different colour.

And the player corrects me. Oh Gosh!

And I say, oh yes, sorry. But I will never forget this, even until this day, it stayed with me. It wasn't even a vital information, but at that moment, you take it very personally, and you feel like you've lost your way in general, you know?

Like you start wondering about all the important decisions in your life. But I got over it.

I think, I don't know, to stay an interpreter in the sports field, you have to be able to get over those moments where you made a goof, where, you weren't a hundred percent perfect, you know?

To get over them, to learn from them and to be able to continue and become better and better. This thing seems essential to me.

IK [43:22]:

I don't know, what else. If you still want to ask me.

SB [43:24]:

I somehow need to see, because all the videos I watched, I found 30 recordings, where they were interpreted simultaneously or consecutively at the conference and interviews of foreign players and coaches who speak in English, obviously, and the idea behind the thesis was that many Romanians, especially older ones, don't know English very well and need good interpretations. So the idea is that it must be interpreted properly.

And it seems to me that in some videos for example someone interprets consecutively or the commentator from the studio but he makes a summary meaning he leaves a lot of things aside, important things I would say, and that's why I found it interesting to do an analysis of the interpreter's quality as you said too, it's

very hard to be a sports interpreter and then if you put a journalist or a commentator who just says something to make a summary...

IK [45:16]:

There are certainly brilliant journalists who do a very good job, I'm convinced of this, but there are situations in which you bring someone who I don't know, doesn't take notes, for example. I've seen press conferences with seemingly very professional interpreters with studies in the field etc., who do not take notes. So for me, just the idea of standing in front of a camera without something to take notes on, I already know, it seems to me that I have nothing to help me, because I can't remember everything, the stress is much higher and I can't remember everything and at some point, I think after the first match, I had the coach come up from the podium and he came to me and says how do you remember everything, you know, because they talked a lot and I in turn talked a lot, you know, and of course, they didn't understand because it was towards Romanian, they didn't understand what I was saying, but basically appeared at about the same time interval the names they mentioned I don't know, all kinds of things you know and the player turns to me and looks at me and is surprised.

And then at some point the coach comes in the end and says, how do you remember everything and I say I take notes, and he looks over and says, amazing.

So probably not everyone takes notes I don't know.

SB [46:50]:

It would be impossible in my opinion, to accurately remember all the names and details without taking notes. I don't think there is a person who has this ability to remember everything.

It is more likely then without notes, that you do a mediocre performance and you simply do more or less of a summary.

IK [47:10]:

Apropos preparation, I also make a list of the players to know who the player is, who is on the reserve rack, exactly and I also look at who is injured, who is not allowed to play because he has, I don't know, a red card from a previous game, or so, because there was only one press conference where such things were not mentioned, only one and that's because the respective match was highly publicized and everyone already knew by heart what was going on.

But otherwise, at all pre-match press conferences, they discuss what X player is doing.

IK [47:51]:

A, and then come the medical terms that I didn't mention before. You need to know the injuries that may occur. I don't know, luxation, ACL tear which is mentioned very often and so on yes, yes, and that's a part of the preparation as well.

And at the press conference, I have the notebook and on a separate strip I write the names and I make beforehand marks that this player is injured and put them in alphabetical order or on, I don't know, on category defenders, attackers, because when they are mentioned they mention 4-5 very quickly. And you need to be very good prepared for that.

SB [48:01]:

I think we covered all the aspects. I want to thank you very much for taking the time to do this interview.

IK [48:06]:

With pleasure. Let me know if any other questions come up, I would be happy to answer them as well.

Transcription Corpus Videos

12/11/2023 Digi Sport Elias Charalambous Superliga interview after the match between FCSB and CFR Cluj

“J” stands for journalist, E.C. for Elias Charalambous and R.N. for host Radu Naum (interpreting consecutively):

J [3:34]: Good evening. One point tonight. The good part is that you maintained that difference in the round that Craiova and Rapid lost, but still you scored a beautiful goal, the second goal, it didn't count. How happy, or how unhappy are you after this result?

E.C. [3:52]: First of all, I want to congratulate my players because they showed a very good reaction today. What we wanted in this kind of games. And I repeat that the reaction that they showed, especially when you receive a goal, and then they showed this, what they showed. I can feel only proud for them. And I want, I don't know, I don't understand what they want to make. And I feel sorry for Florinel and for the team because he scored an amazing goal. And I don't know who decides and how they decide. Maybe some people are bad with Florinel because he spoke some things last week. But he's a national team player and they have to respect him more.

E.C. [4:42]: And what they did today for me, I don't have words to say. Because I saw it now two or three times and it was a clear goal, clear goal. And I don't know who decided. If the VAR made a mistake, the referee went again to the VAR, he saw the goal and he gave foul. I don't understand, really, I don't understand. And I feel sorry for the boys because we were the team that could win the game today. For me, we won the game, but somebody decided that we don't win the game today. This is very clear for me and I have no doubts.

J [5:15]: This is not the first time that your team maybe has something to say about the referees, including the cup game.

E.C. [5:23]: Look, I'm here, you know me, I'm here nearly one year, I didn't speak for referees, never.

But what happened today, I have to speak. Because if I don't speak, I will feel stupid.
And I'm sorry for the boys, because they gave everything, they gave their lives, they showed their reaction, and that's why you see me so nervous today.

R.N. [5:41]: [...] he practically accuses a conspiracy against Florinel Coman.

Charalambus, hoppa, he went out to fight, Charalambus.

My brothers, he accuses a conspiracy, because he probably swore at the referees, he says, who decided, how did they decide, something like this. If I didn't come out to say this, I would have felt like a fool, he said. I would feel stupid.

But we'll talk later, because now we have Andrea Mandorlini on.

05/20/2024 Digi Sport Elias Charalambous Superliga interview after the match between FCSB and Rapid București

“J” stands for journalist, E.C. for Elias Charalambous and V.M. for host Vali Moraru (interpreting simultaneously):

J [21:03]: Good evening. A defeat for you today. What are your thoughts at the end of the season?

V.M.: What are your thoughts at the end of this defeat today?

E.C. [21:12]: I said before the game that we wanted to close this amazing season with a win if possible. Today we didn't manage it, but we keep what these boys did all year. They are the champions, they are the best in the league. This is what we keep. I don't want to say too much because I said many things last week, when I had time to say.

E.C. [21:39]: We couldn't manage to close the season with a win today, but they are the champions and they were the best in order to win this league this year.

V.M.: We said also before the game that we want to close out this amazing season with a win today. I don't want to talk too much about because in the end the most important thing is that these boys are champions, they are the best in the Superliga.

V.M.: We couldn't manage to close out the season with a win, but we are champions.

J [21:50]: It was a feeling, a vibe of vacation?

V.M.: Were there thoughts of vacation?

E.C. [21:54]: Well, ok, it's these kinds of situations when it's not easy for the players, without using this as an excuse, but we wanted to rest many players today in order to give a chance for some young boys or some players who have many minutes on their legs. We wanted to see them and that was the situation today.

V.M.: In these kinds of situations, it's true, it's not easy to focus to the maximum. We don't want to use this as an excuse. We used many players who played less, many young players. We wanted to see them. This was the situation today.

J [22:19]: What were the moments that gave you satisfaction in this game and what do you think that they need to improve?

(no translation followed)

E.C. [22:27]: Ok, when you lose games I don't believe that there are many satisfactions and the only thing that I was happy that we saw many young players from Romania, 3-4 boys, 2007 born so 16 years old so we show that we are giving chances to the academy and we want these boys slowly, slowly to join the team.

V.M.: I am happy that we saw many young players, 3-4 players born in 2007, we showed that we give them chances. We want these players to slowly join the ranks of the team.

J [22:53]: Popa was in the first eleven?

E.C. [22:57]: He played 2 days ago with the youth and he played 90 minutes, they won the cup so he yeah scored the goal and he was like 2 days before wanted to give him more minutes and he did well, like the other boys that went in. We are happy for the performance so slowly, slowly we have to [...]

V.M.: I don't know who he was referring to who also scored a goal with the youth team. We are happy with the way they entered.

J [23:25]: What is your piece of advice for them, for the kids?

V.M.: What would be your advice for the youth?

E.C. [23:30]: To work hard and if they work hard the future is theirs.

V.M.: To work, to work hard.

J [23:35]: You are champion now you are expecting a holiday what's your future here?

V.M.: What is your future at FCSB?

E.C. [23:42]: Ok, now I'm going to holidays, yes, my future I don't know yet.

V.M.: I'm going on holiday. I don't know the future yet.

J [23:49]: Did you receive any offer?

V.M.: Did you receive any offer?

E.C. [23:52]: Not yet. Ok, we'll see we have to speak with the board with the people in the team, but ok, we'll see.

V.M.: Not yet. We'll see, we will speak with the board, we will see.

J [24:03]: What do you need to continue here?

E.C. [24:06]: First of all, I want to speak, I didn't speak yet with nobody. We'll have to speak and then we'll see.

V.M.: First of all, I want to speak with somebody on the board about this.

J [24:12]: Thank you so much.

E.C. [24:13]: Thank you too.

10/22/2025 Digi Sport Elias Charalambous Europe League interview before the match between FCSB and Bologna

“J” stands for journalist, E.C. for Elias Charalambous and D.F. for host Dan Filoti (interpreting):

J [4:42]: Mister Charalambous, how is the atmosphere in the team?

(no translation followed because question was posed in Romanian)

E.C. [4:45]: Ok, the atmosphere in the team is normal when you don't win the games. It could be a better atmosphere for sure, but we never stop. We are a team that we know we have to find the balance in the good moments and the bad moments. We are ready and it's normal to hear the criticism from everybody, especially from our fans, because this is the most important. This is what we want to have the most of, not from anybody else, but from our fans. And it's normal to be upset and we

will try to change this situation. This is it. The only way I always say nothing will change is by playing games, playing better and winning games. Whatever else they say, it's just to spend our time.

D.F.: The atmosphere in the team is like when you win matches it's ok. But we have experience, we know how to find the balance. We are here to make our players overcome this crisis and with our thoughts first of all on our fans and we should play for them. I know they are upset. It cannot change, this is how things happen in football. We need to play, to win games so we can change [unintelligible].

J [5:40] The question posed is unintelligible because the host is still interpreting and the question cannot be heard acoustically.

E.C. [5:43]: The most important thing is the game tomorrow. We are focused on the game tomorrow. I'm a person that I see always positive the next day. It's football, unfortunately, you have to understand that these boys made a lot for this club last years. For sure, we are not passing a good moment, but we don't have to forget what these boys made for this club. I can say with what I feel and what I can say that for sure you have to know that this team will recover and for this thing you have to be sure.

D.F.: I'm the type of person that always sees the positive side. I look to the next day, to what is to be done. This is football, unfortunately, when you lose, but these boys did a lot of good things last year. And of course we are not in such a good phase, but if you were to ask me how I feel and what I think, we can be sure of the fact that tomorrow the players will be different and they will get their revenge. This is the essence of what Charalambous said.

J [6:32]: The question cannot be heard again because the host wasn't done translating and was talking over the journalist asking the question.

E.C. [6:37]: I say this, before, before each game, who ever will play, because only from the history of this club and the t-shirt of this club, we can play, we can fight with this club. Tomorrow we will go there to win the game. Tomorrow is a game in Europe. And I know, maybe some people don't believe in us now, maybe some people underestimate us now, but the good things for this club will

come again. We are here, we will try to do the best, we will try to work and work and to try to improve, but this is football, guys. This is football, you can see on the highest level that all the teams pass from these moments. Maybe we pass a bit longer this moment, but you have to know that we never give up. We are a club where we will fight for everything, each game, and we understand, we are not stupid, we understand the situation very well. But all the games we will fight in the same way and we believe that we can win any game here.

D.F.: I say before each game, the t-shirt of this club, the history of this club is forcing us. Tomorrow is a game in Europe. I know that maybe some don't believe in us now, after the results. But I assure you that good days will come again for this club. I am here to work to make them raise their level, but we all go together through moments like these, maybe we do it longer, but we won't surrender, we won't quit. We are not stupid, just so you know, we know how things are. We believe that we can win the next game and we believe we can regain our form.

J [7:38]: unintelligible

E.C. [7:42]: There is no last chance here. There is no last chance, and I don't like when I hear it's last chance for Alibec, last chance for this player. This doesn't exist in us. We are not here to judge a player for one game or three games. This is not how I see things. Many times we speak too much for nothing, you know. It's no reason to speak like this, and we have to respect players, especially when they are, not about Alibec, generally. Because here everybody opens his mouth and say, speak free, you know. We judge people, we speak people. If they wake up in the morning, one player or one, we can say many things. And this is not fair. If we want to speak, always I say, that we can take criticism in a good way to improve, but how things are here, ok, I'm sorry, but how you speak, not you, generally for players or us, you know, is too much. I know we are not doing good, but people have to respect, not just our fans, generally, you have to understand.

D.F.: We are not put here to judge one player or another for their performance in one game. We have to respect each other. We speak too easily, we judge people too easily. Here we can say anything and I don't know if it's fair to do this. Criticism should be made in a positive way for us to evolve, we have

to be careful how we speak, not you, he is referring to a journalist, generally we have to be more careful when we use certain terms when we communicate.

J [8:49]: It's a big difference between Romania and Cyprus?

E.C. [8:50]: I don't speak about Romania or Cyprus, it's about football and how we treat people. You know, because I share two other things about the last game. Things that maybe you can go in court when you say these things. But nobody, so you have to respect, the players have families, there are people with families, with kids, with mothers, fathers, that they hear these things. So, it's too much, I think. It's too much. You understand what I mean, you understand what I say, and I just want to say.

D.F.: I'm not talking about Romania or about Cyprus, I'm talking about how people are and how we should treat each other. We have to respect each other, the players have families. (talking to the guests in the studio) This press conference is a little complicated. I think this is too much. (Again talking to the guests in the studio) I cannot tell, can you tell Mr. Lipovan?

(one journalist asked a question, but it wasn't audible)

E.C. [9:27]: I'm not referring about nobody. You are clever enough, and when you want to be clever, you are clever. So, I'm not referring about anybody.

D.F.: When you want to be intelligent, you are intelligent. I think you are intelligent enough to understand what I'm saying.

J [9:39]: question was not audible

E.C. [9:41]: Listen, for sure, it's a position that, I don't know what's going on, we are suffering, it's normal, but we cannot change anything now. We will find solutions, players that can play in this position, and this is what we'll try to do, to find solutions in this position.

D.F.: To be honest, I don't know what position he is talking about, but we are suffering in this position, that is what Charalambous is telling us. Ah yes, center back, we are suffering in the center back position and we will see how we will improvise.

J [10:01]: question not audible

E.C. [10:09]: I don't believe there will be a difference, the players are the same, but I don't believe that the coach will be there, I'm not sure, I don't know if you have, if, yeah, I heard something. Okay, first of all, I hope to the coach to be well, not have any issues, and to recover as fast as possible, but I don't believe one game will make so much difference.

D.F.: In regards to how the team will be set up by the opponent, I don't think there will be a big difference. I have heard something and about the Italian coach, I hope he will be well, but I don't think it will be so much different.

E.C. [10:42]: First of all, I don't know if you have something else, I want to congratulate our youth team, because we were just informed that they won the game, 3-2 as Kata says, and this is very important for our club. Congratulations to the players, to the staff, to everybody. And now, I don't know who will be our man, our man, I hope is to win the game tomorrow, this is the most important for us.

D.F.: He is congratulating someone, but I don't understand who he is congratulating, honestly. Ah, Man (a player who used to play at FCSB, Dennis Man) for his success yesterday, yes. He was a very important player for us and I want to congratulate him for what he did.

J [11:17]: question not audible

E.C. [11:18]: Okay, Italian, it's not a small one, they play Europe, I don't believe they are small. Yes. No, no, okay, generally I try to follow the Italian football, they are very good organised, tactically, it's very famous. Italian football is one of the most tactically organised teams. And analysing the

team, they are also very good organised, tactically, but also they have good individual players that can make the difference at any time. The most important is us to be in a good shape.

D.F.: I played against teams from Italy before, I like the Italian football, they have a tactically pronounced style in their game. They are organised very good. They also have very good individual players. But the most important thing is that we are in a good shape for our match.

J [12:00]: question not audible

E.C. [12:07]: Listen, first of all, I said it before, from the day I'm here, I believe that we made a lot of this team, not me, plus the players, plus everybody who is around the team. And I always say that, first of all, for me, I feel very nice here, my relationship with the players, with Mr. Gigi, with Meme, with all the guys here, is unbelievable. And I don't know when I will leave, and I always said it, when we signed contracts with this club, for me, it's not about contracts, it's about the relation, and this is the most important. When I feel that I'm not wanted in the club, or I feel that I cannot give anything more in the club, for sure, the contract doesn't count. I will never sit on a contract or discuss about these things, for me, these things doesn't count, but if I feel this, you have to be sure that I will be the first one who leave. I will be the first one to tell you that you will feel this.

E.C. [13:16]: We discussed, and I know very well what to say and what to discuss, but you have to be sure that my feeling is that this team will come back where we were. We need to be patient and we will be back to where we were.

D.F.: From my first day here, as I said before, my relationship with the owner, with the players, everything was great. I always said for me it's not about a contract that I signed, it's about the relationship with the people, the way I feel here. When I will feel that I cannot give more to this club, I will raise my hand. I will be the first to say that I have to leave when I will feel it. We discuss a lot, but you have to know that my feeling, what I believe is that this team will come back and will be like it was before.

J [13:33]: not audible question

E.C. [13:34]: It's not about true or false. What we say in the club, is in the club. This is what I said now. What I say here, is what I say here. But what I speak with the owner, and with Meme, and with myself, is something that we speak between us. Ok, thank you.

01/25/2026 Digi Sport Elias Charalambous Superliga interview after the match between CFR Cluj and FCSB

E.C. stands for Elias Charalambous and R.N. for host Radu Naum (interpreting consecutively):

E.C. [11:33]: I just want to say two, three things, that I'm here nearly the last three years, and we made many things with this club. We won many things, championships, did very good in Europe and I feel that we won many things, but now we pass maybe the most difficult moment from the day I'm here. The one who is number one responsible is for sure me, and I'm always a guy that takes his responsibility, and I really say it, and I'm really honest with this, that I'm the number one guilty for the image of the team in the last period, so the only thing that I want to say is that I'm sorry for the fans, and I am at the disposal of the club, so I'm open to hear from the club, and I take the responsibility. That's all. Thank you very much.

R.N. [12:41]: Yes, essentially, this is what he's saying, that it's the toughest time since he has been here. That he is guilty for what has happened in the last period, responsible for it, and he is at the disposal of the club for any kind of discussions. In fact, he is presenting himself as being prepared to leave [the club]. That is it, to be fired from the club by the owner. But is he right when he is saying he is the only responsible?

07/13/2024 Prima Sport Neil Lennon interview after the match between UTA Arad and Rapid București

“J” stands for journalist, N.L. for Neil Lennon and S.T.S. for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

N.L. [00:00]: But you always need the second goal, when you're on top, especially away from home. And then second half, I thought fatigue started to kick in. We got a little bit deeper and a little bit more inconsistent with the ball. But for the first game, you know, new formation, new players. I'm pretty pleased. It's a point in a difficult place away from home. We haven't lost, but it's a game that we probably should've won.

S.T.S : When you have 1-0, you need a second goal. In the second half we were tired. We defended too low, we weren't consistent with the ball anymore. But it's the first game, new formation, new system, new players. It is a point in a complicated match away from home. We didn't lose, but it was a match that we should've won.

J [00:31]: But about the formation, because it took me like 10 or 15 minutes to figure out how it had to be. Three defenders?

S.T.S: It took me a while to figure out the formation. Three in defense?

N.L. [00:35]: Yeah, three at the back, it's three players.

S.T.S.: Yes, three defenders, he confirms.

J [00:43]: Can you develop a little bit this formation?

N.L. [00:50]: Well, I like to have more strikers, and it's a waste to play just one. I have more strikers and it's a waste not to play with more than one striker. You know, we've got Rhahmani, we've got Burmaz, we've got Hasani, Cepoi. You want all of these guys in the team, but also the structure behind it, it gives us three in midfield and you know three strong at the center. But when we started this season I felt we were very open in the back, you know, very stretched, so it just makes us a little bit more compact defensively.

S.T.S.: I have more strikers and it's a shame not to play with more than one striker. And he is listing all of them. We have three in defense, three in the middle, then two in front and the wings. We're a little bit more compact defensively.

J [01:20]: High pressure, right? High pressure.

N.L. [01:22]: Yes.

S.T.S.: With pressure. We play with pressure in the upper side.

N.L. [01:23]: Yeah, like I said the first half we played really well. Sometimes you don't want half-time to come. And, obviously, things changed after half-time. And it took us a little while to settle in the game. We gave away a bit. But their reaction was good and their goalkeeper made a couple of good saves the second half. So, yeah, all in all we have to be satisfied.

S.T.S.: The first half I think we played well. I don't know what happened after the break, things changed. It took us a while to settle, after the goal received. And their goalkeeper had a good intervention at 1-1.

J [01:44]: Also a lot of young players on the bench, is this also included in your philosophy?

S.T.S.: You benched quite a few players. Is this also part of your philosophy?

N.L. [01:50]: Of course. Yeah, you know, we have El Sawy, we've got Jambour who is a young player, obviously not Romanian, we've got Gheorghe. So we've got talent. Bădescu.

S.T.S.: He is again enumerating all players. We have talent.

N.L. [02:04]: But also it's a tough goal when you're going for the championship or want to compete in the championship. We develop step by step.

S.T.S.: It's not easy when you're playing for the title to send a lot of young players on the pitch.

J [02:12]: One more question. Have you learned some Romanian words?

N.L. [02:16]: I have, yes.

J [02:17]: Can you tell us, not a swearing word, because those were the first.

N.L. [02:23]: Mulțumesc. Bine. And everyone calls me Mister, instead of coach.

J [02:33]: A little bit too little. But we will be patient with you.

N.L. [2:38]: Yes. I'm working on it. Thank you.

S.T.S.: Have you learned a few words in Romanian? Mulțumesc. Well, I don't have to translate this. Yes, we will be patient with you to learn a few more words.

07/30/2024 Digi Sport Neil Lennon interview after the match between Petrolul Ploiești and Rapid București

“J” stands for journalist, N.L. for Neil Lennon and R.N. for host Radu Naum (interpreting consecutively)

J [12:40]: Defeat for you today. What are the conclusions, explanations?

N.L. [12:43]: I'm very frustrated obviously, because, you know, we should've scored 2, 3 goals at least in the first half. But it's football, if you don't take your chances and you don't keep a clean sheet, you know, then you're going to make life difficult. I think there's a little bit of fragility about some of the players and we have to work through that. I didn't think we played poorly. We just lacked a little bit of creativity, particularly in the second half. I don't think we were helped by the officials either. I don't want to go too much on the officials, but I thought they did a very, very poor game.

J [13:22]: What do you mean by fragility of some players?

N.L. [13:26]: Just, you know, maybe off the back of last season as well.

There's still a bit of a hangover that we have to overcome. Because we dominated the game. You know, as I expected us to. But, you know, if you don't get that goal, or that, you know, lead, there just seems to be a little bit of lack of belief sometimes. I thought we had all the balls second half, and we didn't work the goalkeeper as much as we should have done.

But first half, like I said, we missed the easy chances. As a coach, it's very difficult to answer that.

J [14:03]: I'm very curious, and not only me. I think the supporters. What did you tell us, tell the guys in the locker now? Because you had a meeting there. I know you cannot tell us everything, but like something as you...

N.L. [14:15]: We have to improve. You know, we have to start winning games. We have to, both ends of the pitch, you know, take our chances.

And, you know, give, you know, Petrolul before had, you know, maybe one or two opportunities in the whole game. And they score with one, which is football. And they defended for their lives at times. They defended resolutely, which is their prerogative. And it's up to us to break them down.

And we have to be better and learn. You know, the talk is we're maybe better on transition. We're a better counter-attacking team. But, you know, there's no excuses from me on tonight. We should have done better. I apologize to the supporters who were here for the result. And our performances and results have to improve.

J [15:02]: Do you believe that Berisha's goal, Blasek misjudged the situation? Or who was guilty in that situation?

N.L. [15:10]: I think there's a combination of things.

First of all, you know, the way they got down the side. And then, you know, we should deal with the cross. You know, goalkeeper comes. If he comes, he's got to get there. Or Fil can cut the cross out. So I need to look at it again. But it's a very soft goal from our perspective. And it's symptomatic of the way things are going at the minute. We need to eradicate that.

J [15:35]: At Rapid, it's always pressure.

And I will ask you, even if you show some calmity, like I said, you feel the pressure, you started to feel the pressure of the results?

N.L. [15:48]: Results, yeah, of course. It's a results-driven business, my job. So I need to get us on, start winning games. You know, sometimes you'd rather play poorly and win the game.

But I want both. I want a good performance and I want wins. So we're going to have to work hard this week and correct what went wrong tonight.

J [16:11]: Disappointed about Gojković, about his red card?

N.L. [16:13]: Yeah, it's a ridiculous decision.

It's totally accidental. But that sums the referee up tonight. We should have had three corners in the second half that he completely missed. And some of the challenges in the first half that he let go was... And then when you want to speak to the officials, you can't.

I thought they were pretty rude, actually.

J [16:34]: Yeah? Were rude? The referees?

N.L. [16:39]: The officials.

J [16:42]: And I want to ask also about the conflict you had with Hanca, a player from Petrolul. What happened in the end of the game?

N.L. [16:49]: They were running in our technical area, celebrating a goal that wasn't there. So I told them to get out of our technical area. That should have been dealt with by the officials as well. If I did that, I would get a red card.

J [17:03]: He get a yellow card. He get a yellow card. He, Hanca.

N.L. [17:09]: Well, if it had been me, it would've been a red.

J [17:10]: As what I see now, you plan to do more changes in the next game.

N.L. [17:15]: As regard to what? The team?

J [17:18]: As what I saw in what you said until now, that you need something more.

N.L. [17:24]: Yeah, but it's difficult. I mean we tried everything. We made five substitutions.

We changed the formation at times. We tried to be flexible in the way we played. And we just couldn't get the goal that we deserved. But, you know, that's...We're here to win games.

So I'm bitterly disappointed. For the fans and for the players. So we have to get out of this run. We've not won a game since we beat Steaua 4-0 last season. So we have to change that and change it quickly.

J [17:56]: We are going to see Pașcanu in the next round? And also Rrahmani, because it was injured today.

N.L. [18:02]: I'm hoping Rahmani will be fit. But Pașcanu may need some work. Some physical work.

I'm hoping Siegrist will be close to playing as well. To challenge for the goalkeeping jersey. So, yeah. I must say, I thought Gojković was outstanding tonight. I thought he had a great game and didn't deserve to end the game the way it did. Cheers, thanks.

R.N. [18:28]: I honestly confess that I didn't understand everything he said.

It's my fault, obviously. There are moments when it's very difficult. I would like to ask the people at Rapid to ask Mr. Lennon to speak more clearly in English. Because we weren't all born in Belfast. And we can't all have all the...How can I say? To distinguish all the sounds he makes with his mouth half-closed. If possible. If not, we might misunderstand him. Which wouldn't be good.

R.N. [19:02]: Whatever, he said it's a big frustration. We should have scored 2-3 goals in the first half. But that's football. If you miss, you could be punished. Some players are fragile. Although I don't think we played badly, some players carry with them the problems from last season.

All those ten games in play-offs without a win. Continued with the three so far, also without a win. In the second half, we couldn't pose much threat on the side of the opponent, but in the first half, we should have scored.

We have to improve. We have to maintain the transition, the counter-attack. But we don't have an excuse. I apologize to the fans. The goal was scored due to a cumulation of mistakes.

We should have stopped the counter-attack. I think he also mentioned the goalkeeper that he should've come out, should have stopped the counter-attack if he was there. Anyway. I think so, at least. We have to get the results. He was asked about the pressure. Sometimes you play weak and win. We have to improve how we play.

The decision of the red card was ridiculous, he said. It was purely accidental. He said that you can't talk to referees here and it seems to me that they were rude, he says, rude, that's the word he used.

R.N. [21:04]: He also said about Rrahmani that he will come in. Pașcanu is not ready yet.

11/12/2025 Coach official presentation/press conference for Filipe Coelho at Universitatea Craiova (the first 10 minutes)

“J” stands for journalist, “S” for spokesperson, who is also translating consecutively, F.C. stands for Filipe Coelho.

S [01:54]: Mr. Coelho, welcome, welcome to the press conference, welcome in the big team of Universitatea Craiova. Tell us please how you feel in this moment.

F.C. [02:04]: I feel very happy. High motivation to be part of a big team like Craiova. And I hope that all together we can build something special for this city.

S [02:25]: I am very happy. I am motivated to be in such a big team like Universitatea Craiova. And I hope that together we can build something special for this team.

F.C. [02:29]: We need all the people to be with us to be much stronger together.

S [02:37]: We need all the people with us to be much stronger together. Questions, please.

J [02:44]: Mister, what did you know about Craiova before arriving here?

F.C. [02:50]: I did my homework, I know that it was in the 80s a very, very good team. I think the name is Craiova Maxima.

S [03:08]: I did my homework, I know that in the 80s it was a very big team and that it was called Craiova Maxima.

F.C. [03:13]: They played against Benfica in the semi-finals.

S [03:16]: They played against the guys from Benfica in the semi-finals of the European Cup.

F.C. [03:20]: I know that in the last years the team has invested a lot to try to be champions again.

S [03:33]: I know that in the last years the team has invested a lot to try to be champions again after a long time.

F.C. [03:37]: And I watched a lot of the team's previous matches in order to know the players, the team, the city, the atmosphere and all these things. But it's part of my job as a coach.

S [03:57]: I've watched before a lot of matches of the team to get to know the players very well, but also the team, the city, the atmosphere and all these things are part of the job as a coach.

J [04:10]: What is your objective in the team and what is the staff you are coming with?

F.C. [04:20]: So, about the staff, we are working on that and in a few days, in the right timing, we will announce all the staff.

S [04:33]: Regarding the staff, we are working on it and I believe that in a few days we will announce the full staff.

And the objective?

F.C. [4:42]: The goal is to work every day with high motivation to build something special in this club.

But I will not do nothing alone. As I said before, we need to be together, all the staff, all the players, all the fans, if you want to be a big, big team.

S [5:09]: Like I told you in the previous question, we need to be together a strong team, starting with the players, the owners, the supporters to be a strong team. And I am convinced that together we can achieve this with a high level of motivation.

J [4:25]: The people in Oltenia are waiting for the title in Craiova. After more than 30 years, are you able to bring the title to Craiova?

F.C. [5:38]: I will not promise these kind of things, but what I can promise is focus in the next match, win and work hard in order to reach the three points in the next matches and in the end we will see.

S [06:06]: I cannot promise you this. What I can promise you is that we will be focused, we will give everything in order to get the three points in the next matches and that we will give all in the next matches.

J [06:10]: Do you know about the rivalry between Craiova and FCSB, Rapid, Dinamo, as it is in Portugal with Benfica, Porto, Sporting?

F.C. [06:24]: Sure. I worked with some players before that year in these clubs, so I know very well. But to be honest with you, my focus is in our team and our performance, how we can build, how we can improve. And about other teams, they are doing their job and it's not my business, to be honest with you.

S [06:50]: Yes, I know about this rivalry. I have spoken to many players about this aspect, but the most important thing for us is to focus on our work, on what it means to develop the team, the club, and to be able to perform in this sense.

J [07:07]: From Romanian football, who do you know? And if you know, the first notable performance of CFR Cluj was made with players from Portugal. And after that, they came to Panduri Târgu Jiu and many Portuguese players came to Romanian football.

F.C. [07:30]: I will not talk about the opponents now. I will not talk about that, sorry. When we play against Cluj, we can talk about that, sorry.

S [07:40]: I will not talk about that, about other teams. When we play against CFR Cluj, we can talk about that aspect.

F.C. [07:47]: I'm not losing my energy about the other clubs, sorry for that, but my focus is only on Craiova and on our team.

S [07:55]: I don't want to waste my energy on this subject. I want to focus all my energy on what is happening here, in Craiova.

J [08:05]: Do you know that there is a coach with your name at Chelsea? Have you met him? Do you know him?

F.C. [08:14]: I know him, I know him. I never met him.

I know him, he was in Benfica before and in Sturgil as well. I know, I think he is in the under 23. I wish him all the best, but I never met him.

S [08:30]: I know him, I have never met him before. I know he worked in Portugal before and now I think he is at the Chelsea under 23 team.

J [08:46]: How hard is it to take on a team that was prepared by someone else during a regular season and with clear goals to win the championship?

F.C. [09:05]: Sorry, can you repeat?

S [09:07]: How hard is it for one coach that comes after another coach to continue his work in order to win the championship?

F.C. [09:14]: So, in our days it happens in the clubs. What I need to do is keep with the good things because the team did very good things before.

S [9:28]: I need to keep with the good things because the team also did very good things before. This happens in the life of a club.

F.C. [09:35]: And try to increase new ideas as well. And try to reach the goals.

S [09:49]: And try to come up with new ideas as well. And try to reach the goals.

J [09:52]: Did you manage to see the profiles of the players that you are going to coach?

F.C. [10:06]: Of course, I saw a lot of matches, the previous matches.

S [10:10]: Of course, I saw the other matches, from the past.

F.C. [10:13]: I will not talk about individual players. What I can tell you about the team is that it is a team with a lot of talent. Good players. Mix between young players and experienced players as well.

And I really believe that we can build something good together.

S [10:40]: I will not talk about the players on an individual level, but what I can tell you about the team is that it has a lot of talent and good players. There are young players and experienced players as well in the team. And I really believe that we can build something good together.

11/21/2025 Prima Sport Superliga Filipe Coelho interview after the match between Universitatea Craiova and FC Argeş

“J” stands for journalist, F.C. for Filipe Coelho and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

F.C. [00:01]: It was special because the players competed very, very well. The game was, as we expected, a difficult game against a team that is strong in set pieces and they fight a lot for the second ball as well.

We didn't start well, but after 20 minutes, I think we controlled the game. During halftime, we corrected some things. We controlled more the game defensively in the second half.

The opponent had a lot of corners, but the best opportunities to score in the second half was our opportunities. So it's a fair victory. I'm happy for the three points, but of course I'm especially happy for the players.

S.T.S: It was good, especially because the players played well. The match was hard, as we expected. Against a strong team in set pieces. They fight well for the second ball. We didn't start well. But after 20 minutes, I think we controlled the match. At halftime, we corrected certain things, we controlled the match defensively better in the second half. The opponent had a lot of corners, that's true, but the biggest opportunities were ours. I think it is a fair victory. I'm happy for the points, but I am especially happy for the players.

J [01:10]: When the opponent equalized, your team had immediate reaction. In the past, there wasn't this kind of reaction.

S.T.S.: Your team reacted right after you conceded a goal. In the past this didn't happen.

F.C. [01:23]: I think it's something that we want to build and be connected during all the time, all the game. Of course it's good immediately after we suffer, we can score, but we need to improve some things. So it's three points, I'm very happy, but it's only three points.

S.T.S.: We want to build this mentality, to be connected all the time. It is good that right after we suffer, we manage to score, but we need to improve certain things. It's three points, I'm very happy, but it's only three points.

J [01:46]: How much do you think the team understands what you really want to play. When some players didn't have trainings with you. How much do they understand your philosophy, your style? What potential are they now?

S.T.S.: How much do you think the team understand what you want, some didn't have time, some players came late. How much do they understand your style, your philosophy?

F.C. [02:05]: So, you need to understand that we only had one training session, so it's not easy. We changed the system, we changed some dynamics, we changed the set pieces as well. We changed a lot of things, because the guys are smart, clever, are good professionals.

S.T.S.: We only had one training, so it is not easy. We changed the system, the dynamic, the set pieces. The players are smart, intelligent, good professionals.

J [02:28]: Will you keep the construction from the keeper? To take the ball from the keeper. Because I saw today you kept this element.

S.T.S.: Will you keep the construction from the keeper? You kept this element.

F.C. [02:40]: We'll see. Now we'll analyse the game and check what we can do better. What we should correct and we'll see.

But I think we cannot forget that the last time that we won away for the league was on August 17th. And it's not easy to play against a team from fifth place. In a difficult stadium, with a good team. To come here and show the personality that the players showed.

S.T.S.: We will see. Now we analyse the game, see what we can do better, and we will see. But let's not forget that the last win away was on the 17th of August. And it is not easy to play against the fifth-seeded team. On a complicated stadium with a good team. And to show the personality that the players showed.

J [03:24]: How was your feeling in the stadium? In the match I saw you were pretty reserved when the team scored.

S.T.S.: I saw you were pretty reserved when the team scored.

F.C. [03:33]: Because I think it's my personality. I like to be balanced. Not to worry too much when things are not so good. And not to be too much happy when we score. So this is the idea. Be balanced so you can see what happens and that's it.

S.T.S.: This is my personality. I try to be balanced. Not to be too agitated when things aren't going good, but also not to celebrate too much when it's alright, when the situation calls for it. I have to see what happens and be attentive to what's next.

J [04:05]: Now, after you have time to see, I think some opponents that you will have. Who are the teams that impressed you in the Romanian Super Cup? What you saw, what you had time to see.

S.T.S.: Did you see, did you analyse the championship? What teams impressed you?

F.C. [14:19]: To be honest with you, I already told you I will be focused in the next opponent.

S.T.S.: I will be focused only on the opponent.

J [04:30]: You didn't see matches?

F.C. [04:32]: Yes, I saw a lot of matches.

S.T.S.: Didn't you see matches. Yes, I did, I saw a lot of matches.

F.C. [04:36]: But I'm only focused on this opponent. I can't focus on the rest of the opponents, because I only see one match from the other ones. You understand what I mean. So I don't have an idea, because I only watch one match. But in the league we have a lot of good players, good coaches, a lot of good teams. So that's it. Go step by step. Focus on the next opponent and that's it.

S.T.S.: But I'm only focusing on the next opponent. I cannot focus on the other opponents. Just seeing one or two matches, I can't create an idea about an opponent. But I see a lot of quality in the players, in the coaches. They are good teams. Let's take it step by step. Let's focus on the next opponent.

J [05:14]: The next opponent will be Mainz, in the Conference League.

S.T.S.: The next one will be from Germany, Mainz.

F.C. [05:19]: We have time to talk about that. Now it's time to rest. The guys rest. And we have time to talk about Mainz and prepare this, step by step. Thank you very much.

S.T.S.: We have time to talk about this match. Now we need to rest. But first, the guys need to rest.

11/27/2025 Orange Sport Conference League Filipe Coelho interview after match between Universitatea Craiova and Mainz

“J” stands for journalist, F.C. for Filipe Coelho and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

J [09:17]: Good evening! A victory for you. Aren't you happy after this victory?

S.T.S.: Good evening. Aren't you happy?

F.C. [09:22]: Of course I am happy. Especially because of the players because they deserve. I think it's a fair victory.

They worked hard, they tried to accomplish the plan, our strategy. And more than the victory, of course I am really happy, was the performance.

S.T.S.: Yes, I am happy. Especially for the players. It is a fair victory. They worked and they tried to implement the plan and of course I am very pleased for the points, for the victory and the game.

J [09:47]: It was an amazing night for your team. What was the key of this victory?

S.T.S.: Tell us what the secret was.

F.C. [09:52]: I think it was the strategy and with the fans and we mixed together and after that the players are enjoying on the pitch and that's it.

S.T.S.: A mix between strategy and fans. The players enjoyed being on the pitch and that was it.

J [10:08]: It was inspiration to send Assad in that moment?

S.T.S.: Were you inspired to send Assad and...to send Assad and...to send Assad on the pitch?

F.C. [10:15]: In that moment, I was thinking that how important we change, because Steve was a little bit tired, we are losing the capacity to keep with the ball and we need to put some people fresh on the front. Even Baiaram was a bit tired, because I already told the players are not machines. He was playing a lot in the last weeks and that's it.

S.T.S.: I thought it was important to win, that they [players] seemed a bit tired. That we were losing the capacity to hold the ball and we needed fresh feet in the front. Baiaram seemed a bit tired. I said players are not machines and that's it. I don't have much time, I have only a week I have to...

J [10:50]: What was the feeling when you scored and it took some minutes to review the goal?

S.T.S.: How did you find that certain phase with the disallowed goal?

F.C.[10:58]: Oh, it's part of the football, VAR, it's good for the football and we keep the victory and I think it's fair.

S.T.S.: It is part of football. It's good for football. We are happy for the victory and I think it's fair.

J [11:08]: You didn't went with the players to cheer with the fans, why?

S.T.S.: You didn't go celebrate with the fans, why?

F.C. [11:15]: I think it's the moment for the players because they deserve. Of course, I need to say many, many thanks to the fans and to the supporters, they are amazing, but it's my way. I think that moment is special for them, for the guys, not for me.

S.T.S.: I think it's the players' moment. Of course I want to thank the fans, but I think that moment is for the players, not for me.

J [11:37]: You have tears in your eyes instead of a big smile after this victory. How do you feel? It was a happy debut for you, it's a victory.

S.T.S.: Do you have tears in your eyes instead a big smile? It is after all a happy debut in the Conference League.

F.C. [11:47]: These guys working hard, they received me as a family and this is important for me.

S.T.S.: The players work hard. They are like a family. And this is important for me.

J [11:56]: In this moment, I don't know, you can achieve more and think to the next round?

S.T.S.: You have 7 points in the group in this moment. Can you get further?

F.C. [12:03]: We'll see, no, it's for the guys to enjoy until tomorrow, tomorrow we have training and we need to start to think on the next opponent, Universitatea Cluj, and that's it, game by game.

S.T.S.: Today we enjoy. And then we have to think about the next opponent.

J [12:18]: Thank you so much!

12/11/2025 Orange Sport Conference League Filipe Coelho interview after the match between Universitatea Craiova and Sparta Praga

“J” stands for journalist, F.C. for Filipe Coelho and D.U. for host Dan Udrea (interpreting simultaneously):

J [17:14]: Good evening, defeat for you today. What do you think didn't work in your game today?

D.U.: Good evening. Defeat this evening. What do you think didn't work?

F.C. [17:20]: I think the strategy was good. We tried to prepare some different dynamics. The game was difficult, especially during the first 20 minutes.

But after we balanced the game, we had our opportunities, clear opportunities as well during the first half.

D.U.: I think we played well. We prepared some different dynamics. The game was difficult, especially in the first 20 minutes. But afterwards we balanced it out. We had chances.

J [17:49]: A penalty? A missed penalty.

D.U.: About the penalty missed by Anzor.

F.C. [17:51]: It's part of the game. After we come to the second half, we suffered a goal, we kept trying.

At the end, I think we did a good game, we compete well. It's hard suffer a goal in the last minute, but it can happen. We did our best as well, but we are in a good way.

D.U.: It's part of the game. We suffered a goal in the second half and we tried to equalize. I think we did a good game overall. It's hard to concede a goal in the last minute, but it can happen.

J [18:20]: Who was in charge to take the penalty?

D.U.: Who was supposed to take the penalty?

F.C. [18:22]: It's my decision. If the people try to find guilty, it's me. Don't find the guilty. Don't put this pressure on the players. I am the guilty one, always.

D.U.: It is my decision. If you want to find a scape goat, I am the one. I am always guilty.

J [18:36]: As you said, you are guilty for the penalty. Do you think it was a mistake that you changed Bayram with Stefanovic?

D.U.: Do you think it was a mistake to replace Bayram with Stefanovic?

F.C. [18:48]: No, that time, it was my decision, I tried to keep with the result. We are not so fresh. Even our defensive line had some problems, physical. So the idea at that time is fresh, try to keep with the result. They put more players in front. So that was my idea.

Our idea from the technical staff, but I'm very happy with the players, they did everything, so I repeat, if you want to find a guilty, it's me, it's my fault, no problem.

D.U.: It was my decision. Baiaram wasn't so fresh, he had some physical problems. We tried to maintain the result. It was our principle as technical staff. I repeat, if you want to find a guilty person, it's me, it's my fault.

J [19:24]: Keep fighting for qualifying in the next round. How do you see and how many players are you going to receive after this game? Because you had some injured players.

D.U.: About injured players?

F.C. [19:34]: We'll see, but before the next European game, we have a very important game in the league.

So it's check tomorrow all the players. It's always the same, game by game.

We don't have too much time to think on the past. And I repeat, it's not good to think too much on the future.

We need to think on the present and go game by game.

D.U.: We will see. Before the game with AEK Atena, we have a very important game in the league against Hermannstadt. We have to check tomorrow the medical situation of the players. And we have to take it step by step. You don't have to think too much about the past or the future. You have to think about the present.

J [20:05]: Ok. Thank you so much.

02/22/2026 Digi Sport Superliga interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Unirea Slobozia and Universitatea Craiova

“J” stands for journalist, F.C. for Filipe Coelho and R.N. for host Radu Naum (interpreting consecutively)

F.C. [14:43]: We played against a team that defend well. Don't allow too much space to play. We know that spaces was outside in the corridors.

But during the first half, I think we could do much better, in my opinion. Second half, we come with different focus on the tasks and I think we finished the game as fast as possible. It's a fair result.

J [15:29]: What do you think about the goal scored by Screciu?

F.C. [15:30]: It's good. All the goals are good. For me, the most important is the team.

It's not, because if it's Screciu, last week was another player, and I hope in the next game can be another player, or if it's Screciu, for me it will be OK. I'm happy when we score goals, of course.

J [15:56]: It was an important moment for your team that they had to focus on this match because, on the paper, it's a weaker opponent. How was it for you to motivate them?

F.C. [16:10]: After the previous match, the three previous matches, of course, with all the respect, it's easy to motivate the players for that kind of matches. But we as a group, I think we always show motivation.

And it's not a problem of motivation, in my opinion, sometimes. It's more about focus on our tasks and keep doing because nothing is done until now.

J [16:53]: You won 75% of points that you are fighting for. Comparing to Rădoi, it was 60%. What does it mean for you?

F.C. [17:06]: Nothing. I'm not here to compare myself with the previous coach or to other coaches. I'm here to do my job. I respect a lot all the coaches, so I'm not here to compete against the previous

coaches. It's not my goal. It's not my way. I'm here to try to help the team and nothing more. Don't put me in this position because it's not my position.

J [17:34]: Do you know when was the last time that Craiova won also the title and the cup?

F.C. [17:41]: I think the league 1991 and the cup six years ago.

J [17:52]: It's time for Craiova to win both trophies in this year?

F.C. [17:56]: No. It's time to recover the players and think on the next opponent. Nothing more.

J [18:03]: Why not? You don't want to put pressure on these boys?

F.C. [18:08]: No, it's not a kind of pressure. A lot of teams are playing well, so you already told me that more than 30 years without winning the league, so a lot of teams are winning the league before, so the points are so close, the distance is so close, so if we think so far it will be a mistake.

We need to go game by game, and the next opponent will be difficult for sure because we draw against them. No easy games. We go game by game. I'm not thinking on the title, to be honest with you.

Thank you so much.

R.N. [19:00]: I'm going to start with the end. He was asked by the journalist if it is time for Craiova to win, after he got asked in which years the team won the title and the cup. If it's the moment to win both the championship title and the cup title, he said no, it's the moment to recover and to prepare for the next game. And he said something like it isn't about pressure, a lot of teams play well, a lot of teams have won the title in the meantime, since we haven't won the title. It would be a mistake to keep thinking this thing. So it would be a pressure to think about this. It would be a mistake. We take it game by game. Slobozia doesn't leave open spaces, Coelho said at the beginning. I think we could've been better in the first half, in the second half we were more focused and it is a fair result. Screciu's goal is good, all the goals are good. You know that for me the team is important. This we know, because he says it every time he is asked about a specific player. He says this thing that the

team is the most important. Other can score in other matches, but he said that he would be happy if it were Screciu who scores again, probably not to offend Screciu. It is not easy to motivate the players for games like these, for us the problem is not the motivation, but sometimes focus problems. I cannot compare myself with my predecessor Rădoi, that's not how I do it, you put me in this position. I told you I'm not very talented at translating, but I'm trying my best.

03/04/2026 Prima Sport Superliga interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Universitatea Craiova and CFR Cluj

“J” stands for journalist, F.C. for Filipe Coelho and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

F.C. [00:01]: It's a good opponent, compete well as well and I think it's a...it's a fair result.

S.T.S.: It's a good opponent. It's a fair result.

J [00:08]: Joking a little bit you showed some skills about athletics at the end. How was it to bring you anyway a red card after all.

S.T.S.: You looked good from an athletic point of view. You got a red card.

F.C. [00:20]: To be honest with you, I'm not happy with myself. I already said to some players from CFR sorry, because it was not my intention to do something wrong. I already said sorry to my players as well. And I saw sometimes some coaches and even in the first time we played against CFR the opponent coach go inside and celebrate with the players. I'm not sure. But they didn't receive a red card. But I should control my emotions and to improve, I have no problem with saying that. But sometimes I think it's a little bit unfair, because since I am here I saw these kind of things and some coaches didn't receive yellow card, for me it was red. But I need to accept and keep working on myself, because I'm not happy with me.

S.T.S.: I'm not happy with myself. I apologized to the ones at CFR. I apologized also to my players and to the players of CFR. It wasn't my intention to offend anyone. I celebrated with my players. I saw this things before and even the coach of CFR went on the field and celebrated and he didn't receive a card. But I have to control my emotions better and I want to improve myself, I don't have any problem with that. But I think it's unfair, because since I have been here I saw many times this kind of thing and some coaches didn't receive a yellow card and I did. But I need to accept and to continue to work and analyse myself. I'm not happy with myself.

J [01:40]: I want to ask you something else. Do you think that this match was won by your inspiration on some...?

S.T.S.: Did you win the match because of your inspiration?

F.C. [01:52]: No, no, match was won because the players that work hard. We went to the game with a lot of personality that I'm proud of and made the city proud and made the fans proud of the way we played all the time. So it's not me. The players for sure.

S.T.S.: No, but because the players work hard. And because we showed personality. Because they made me proud of them, the supporters, the city. No, it's not me. The players 100 percent.

J [02:12]: A lot of energy for your team still, because they have a lot of games still, they look good, they are well prepared physically.

S.T.S.: They have a lot of energy, your players, they look very good. They are very well prepared physically.

F.C. [02:38]: We'll see tomorrow. Today they look ok, of course they played well. Because we have a good technical staff. The guys that are here before I come. Guys that take care about this aspect. We try to manage the things. If you're fresh with the mind fresh we can run a little bit more, but we'll see tomorrow, because the worst part is we don't have too much time to recover the players to play

against Rapid. But is what it is, because we are in both competitions and we need to be ready for these kind of things.

S.T.S.: We'll see tomorrow. Today they looked good. Yes, they were competitive. We have a good staff and the ones who were before me here. They take care of the players, they take care of the physical aspect. We try to enjoy, ah, to manage the things. Of course, we can run more if we are fresh, but let's see tomorrow how the team looks like. Because we don't have much time to recover until we play against Rapid. But it is what it is. We are still in two competitions and we have to be ready for this type of program.

J [03:31]: You have good results with Craiova, but is disturbing for you that many people, including Pancu, they are saying this team is created by Rădoi and they don't give you credit for your work?

S.T.S.: Does it bother you that it is being said this team is created by Rădoi?

F.C. [03:40]: I respect the opinion of all the coaches. But for me, I don't care about this. I respect, I do my job, I already told you before that I didn't come here, I'm not here to compete against coaches. I'm here to do my job and help the team, that is what is important for me, the things that we need to improve our goals. I respect a lot the opinion of other coaches, but maybe I have different opinion.

S.T.S.: I respect the opinion of other coaches. I don't care about this, I respect. I do my job. I told you that I didn't come here to compete against other coaches, only to do my job and to train the team, this is what is important for me. I have to see what we need to improve, what our goals are. And I respect the opinion of other coaches, even though I have another opinion, Coelho says.

03/13/2026 Prima Sport Superliga interview with Filipe Coelho after the match between Universitatea Craiova and FC Argeş

“J” stands for journalist, F.C. for Filipe Coelho and E.G. for host Emil Grădinescu (interpreting simultaneously):

F.C. [00:01]: But the performance, our performance was not good, my responsibility. Even that we had one possibility to score as well.

But after in the second half I think we improve, we came with different body language with different attitude as well.

We try to score the goal, but at the same time the game stopped and stopped a lot of times.

We have some opportunities, we didn't score and the game stop and stop and stop.

F.C. [00:51]: And was one defeat and I assume all the responsibility.

E.G.: It wasn't a very good performance, we had at some point a chance to score. I think that in the second half we improved our game level, a different attitude, we tried to score. He says that FC Argeş fragmented the game, stopped the game. Again and again the match was stopped, stopped, stopped. And I assume all the responsibility. Eventhough he didn't stay on the bench.

J [00:52]: It was hard for you to find a way to score with a team like FC Argeş, that defend with a lot of players, try to close the ways.

E.G.: Is it hard to score against a team like FC Argeş, that defends with a lot of players?

F.C. [01:02]: It was hard. I think in the second half we have some good opportunities. It was hard to put rhythm on the game, because the game all the time stop and stop and stop and stop. It's hard to put rhythm on the game, that the team that wants to play for the goal. But I think we found some spaces and we created some opportunities, but we didn't score.

E.G.: I think that in the second half we had some good opportunities in the end. Stop and stop and stop. It's hard to maintain the rhythm of a game when the opponent fragments so much. We found some spaces at some point, but we didn't score.

J [01:40]: Even though you said that the absences doesn't matter, because you have a big squad. Do you think that today it was better with the players that you couldn't...?

E.G.: Do you think that your absence mattered? Would it have been better with the players that you couldn't line up, Anzor, Matei, Băluță?

F.C [01:51]: It's always better for the coach to have all the players. And it's good for the team as well to have the coach on the bench. But this is the rules, we need to accept. And it's not because we miss 3 players or 4 players that we lost.

E.G.: These are the rules, we need to accept them. Not because we couldn't play with 3 players.

J [02:16]: From the next game you will be on the bench, but do you feel that it will be tough?

E.G.: From the next match on you will be on the bench.

F.C. [02:21]: We'll see, we'll see. We'll see if I'm on the bench or not.

E.G.: He is not sure if he will be on the bench or not.

F.C. [02:29]: No, here we never know. We'll see.

Here, because I received two games, I don't know, maybe because today I said something wrong, maybe I'll receive more, I don't know.

E.G.: Ah, he's ironic. Because he said something wrong or because it's possible that what he said is wrong, maybe he'll receive another game suspension.

J [02:43]: No, but do you see now in the play-off, that it's very tough?

F.C. [2:49]: For sure. I told this before, all the teams are good. Different ways to play. Good coaches that prepare well the teams. Very good players, as well. All the games will be difficult. Was difficult until here and will be difficult on the future. But we need to analyse this game, check why we didn't come to the first half the way that we wanted, find solutions and prepare the next opponent.

Thank you very much.

E.G.: FC Argeş has very good players, a good coach who prepares the team. He talks about the future matches. We will have to analyse what happened this evening, why we played in the first half differently than how we wanted. We need to find solutions and to keep preparing.

01/31/2025 Europa League Digi Sport interview with Ruben Amorim after the match between FCSB and Manchester United:

“J” stands for journalist, R.A. for Ruben Amorim and V.M. for host Vali Moraru (interpreting simultaneously):

J [06:02]: Hello sir, congrats. First impression after this game?

V.M.: What are the first impressions?

R.A. [06:04]: I think it was a good game, with some chances for both teams. I think we controlled the game, more possession, we controlled quite well the transitions of the opponent. Just one very good shot from far away from the striker, but we created some chances, we controlled the game, we were really strong on set pieces, we created danger in set pieces, so it was a good game and a good win.

V.M.: It was a good game with some chances for both of the teams. We had more possession. There was that very good shot from the striker, but I think we controlled the game. We also had set pieces. It is a good victory.

J [06:33]: You were a little bit worried after the first half, that you, even if you controlled the game, you didn't score. I saw that you made some changes at the half time to have more space.

V.M.: You were a bit worried after the first half, because you didn't score? You made changes at the break.

R.A. [06:43]: Yes, to use the pace of our Amad and Garnacho. I felt also in the second half the opponent was a little bit tired, you can see it, more space, so it was good for us. Kobe has more space, Bruno has more space in the second half, and that was our goal. In the first half one team can cover all the spaces, but then in the second half you feel that you have more space to play.

V.M.: It was to use their rhythm of the game and the speed. Bruno also had more space in the second half. In the second half we had more spaces and that was our goal.

J [07:07]: You were in control of the game, did FCSB surprise you today in any way, or you expected to play like that?

R.A. [07:13]: I was expecting, because I watched all the games and they defend very well, they wait for the right moment, they have good transitions, they are good on set pieces, so I was expecting this kind of game.

V.M.: I expected FCSB to play like this. I studied the team, they have a good transition and are good in set pieces. I expected them to play like this.

J [07:25]: You said at the press conference that Miculescu is a player that impressed you. Tonight, who is the player that impressed you more?

V.M.: Did someone impress you?

R.A. [07:32]: It's hard. I was more focused on my players, but the striker run a lot, impressed a lot, fight a lot, so he is a very good opponent.

V.M.: I was more focused on my players. The striker impressed me. He is a very good opponent.

J [07:45]: Starting Manchester United to be on the good road that you wanted?

R.A. [07:48]: We'll see, the focus is on the next game, this game is in the past. Let's focus on the next game.

V.M.: We'll see if we are on the right track. We will see, we focus on the next game.

J [07:54]: Thank you very much and good luck.

01/19/2025 Orange Sport Superliga interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Dinamo București and Universitatea Craiova

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

J [33:41]: Good evening. First of all, your impressions about this game.

S.T.S.: Good evening. Impressions.

Z. K. [33:44]: First impression, important point. I think at the end somehow we deserved. First half we were unbalanced. We had some ideas, but we lose the, ok, we had possession, but we were not dangerous again in the last 20 meters and Craiova was very, very dangerous in transitions. Our pressure was not so good, we were late and they should score maybe 2-3 goals in the first half. But Roșca was also fantastic tonight. Congratulations to him. Second half we had a little bit of discussion in the dressing room, because some of our plans, some of our ideas, we didn't make it. I think with Mărginean in the middle we helped Edi to have more stability and more balance in the middle. With Milanov between the lines we stabilized the game, we controlled the game better. Pressing was better, energy was better. I think that second half we were closer to this, how we play let's say normally.

S.T.S.: Important point. I think that in the first half we didn't have balance. We had a few ideas, we had possession, but we were not dangerous in the last 20 meters. Craiova was very dangerous in counterattacks. Our pressure was not good, we were slow. They could've scored 2-3 goals in the first half. Roșca though was fantastic today. I congratulate him. At the break we fixed some things. Some

of our ideas we couldn't implement. I think we stabilized the game in the second half, we controlled it better, the pressing and energy were better. I think we were closer to the way we play normally and Mărginean played an important role, he stabilized things in the midfield.

J [35:05]: You changed Pop at half time, something has changed in your game.

S.T.S: You changed Pop. Something changed in your game, in your team's game.

Z. K. [35:09]: First of all, it's not, yes, you play for Dinamo, you need time for adaptation. It's not easy to adapt to our style of play. We want to play with a lot of internal rotations, with lot of creating space between the lines, attacking the space, keeping possession there and we were missing this little bit. Also on the left side we were not good and for us was also problem on left side on organisation with Răzvan, which was defensively good, but with right foot on the left, and we had there some miscommunication. We had our problems but I think that at half time we make something to deserve this draw at the end.

S.T.S.: You need time to adapt. Referring to Pop. It's not easy to adapt to our style. We like to create spaces between the lines, to have possession there and we missed these, we missed these things. On the left side we didn't have, we didn't have consistency on the left side. There was a lack of communication, we had some problems there. But I think that at the break we did something that made us deserve this draw.

J [35:54]: Do you congratulate yourself about Roșca, that you give credit to him even though...

S.T.S.: Do you congratulate yourself that you started Roșca?

Z. K. [36:01]: I cannot congratulate to myself. Ok, I have some principles. Again, I think that Adnan performed well, and after that Roșca was waiting for his chance, he was very positive in the dressing room, he was very positive in the trainings and he used in the best way his opportunity and there was no reason to make any changes. I'm happy that we have one more young player, young goalkeeper which I think is a hot prospect for the Romanian football and we have to care about him.

S.T.S.: I have certain principles. Adnan played well. Roșca waited for his chance, he was always very positive in trainings. He waited for his chance. And we didn't have any reason to change. I'm happy that we have an extra player, young. A young goalkeeper. He is one of the hopes of Romanian football and we have to take care of him.

J [36:45]: Boateng, he scored. He made a mistake in the first half.

S.T.S.: Boateng scored. He made a mistake in the first half.

Z. K. [36:52]: But it was tough for him. I think that Mitriță is very dangerous, a very dangerous player. And it's not easy when you lose the ball and when they have transition on big space, it's impossible to defend and this is where we were unbalanced. But again we scored from corner kick and I think it was also a better second half.

S.T.S.: With Mitriță I think it is very complicated, he is a dangerous player. I think it is very complicated when they have big spaces. And here we had a lack of balance. It is good that we scored from corner and I think overall the second half was much better.

J [37:21]: Which defenders will you use in the next game?

S.T.S.: Which defenders will you use in the next game?

Z. K. [37:28]: We will think about this tomorrow, from tomorrow, now...

S.T.S.: We will think about this from tomorrow on.

J [37:32]: But you are worried about the situation now?

S.T.S.: Does this situation worry you?

Z. K. [37:35]: I don't have nothing to be, I cannot get anything if I am worried. We need to find solutions, we need to accept situations, which is not easy, but it's not first time that it's tough situation for me from the moment I arrived.

S.T.S.: I won't get anywhere if I'm worried. We have to accept the situation, it's not easy. But it's not the first time that I go through a complicated moment since I took over Dinamo. We have to find a solution from tomorrow on.

10/03/2025 Prima Sport Superliga interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Unirea Slobozia and Dinamo București

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

Z. K. [00:01]: First half, we started very good, after that we lost some duels in the middle and my decision was to put in the middle players with stronger endurance to try to put the ball more there on the opponent half and did it well, after that this goal from Perica. We were the better team and we deserve these three points.

S.T.S.: We started good, then there were some duels in the middle. And my decision was to put in the middle some stronger players. Then I sent Perica on and the goal from Perica came. We were the better team and we deserved the points.

J [00:30]: It was a lucky goal in this situation?

S.T.S.: Was it a lucky goal?

Z. K. [00:34]: This kind of player which has this kind of reaction, this instinct. Ok, you need to be always a little bit lucky, but again we also had this goal from Musi, we get the situations, we were there and again we deserve these points.

S.T.S.: When you have these kinds of players, they have such reactions, this instinct. It was a little lucky, but we also had Musi’s goal. We were there. I think we deserved all the points.

J [00:55]: You were inspired to send Stipe 2 minutes before?

S.T.S.: Were you inspired to send him with 2 minutes before scoring on the pitch?

Z. K. [00:59]: Ok, we, we rotate, we know that Stipe had some problems during the beginning of the season. We have Alex Pop who bring us two very important goals and also Mamoudou there, Karamoko, and we are looking, trying to find the best option to every situation in the game.

S.T.S.: We know that Stipe had some problems at the beginning of the season. Alex Pop brought us important goals, 2 important goals. We also had Karamoko there. We try to find the best option for every situation during the game.

J [01:24]: Second place in the championship. How it is for you? Satisfied?

S.T.S.: Second place in the championship. How do you feel? Are you satisfied?

Z. K. [01:31]: We are good, I am very satisfied. We had a long period without losing a game. We are good, players working very well. For me today it was very important again to win the game. I am also very satisfied, very happy because of supporters on this. And commemorating also 25 years of our captain Cătălin Hîldan and when you put all this together, it was very important game for us, we go for national team break and start preparation for Rapid.

S.T.S.: Yes. He said that he is very happy because of the supporters. It was a game that we had to win and we did it. What happened today was in the memory of Cătălin Hîldan. They commemorated his death. It was a game before the national break and let's start the break for Rapid.

J [02:12]: An emotional moment before this game, as you said, 25 years without Hîldan.

S.T.S.: There are 25 years without Cătălin Hîldan.

Z. K. [02:16]: We speak about this. I don't like to put too much pressure on the players, but again, me as a coach with Florentin, with everybody. We know how important it is to finish a game in this way, especially in this kind of pitch with this mentality what we had today. I see some connection with everything that happened, it's important for us.

S.T.S.: I don't like to put too much pressure on the players, but we spoke about the death of Cătălin, me and Florentin, we know how important it is, the way a game ends in a moment like this and on this kind of pitch. The mentality we had today. I see a connection with what happened 25 years ago.

J [02:47]: You had a discussion with Armstrong, when he...

S.T.S.: You had a dialogue with Armstrong.

Z. K. [02:50]: I told him after the last game against Craiova, it was a lot of pressure about the referee decision about his red card and I told him that he needs to be careful because...

S.T.S.: I told him after the game against Craiova that there will be a lot of pressure. There were many discussions about that red card, I told him he needs to be very careful.

J [03:07]: He might be hunted?

Z. K. [03:10]: I did not say this. I never speak about referee decisions here in the media. They have to do their job and I have to do my job and to protect the team and he got yellow card, and my decision was to change him and I told him immediately that he played a very, very good game and I explained to him that I would never change him if he didn't get this yellow card.

S.T.S.: I told him to be careful, I don't talk about referee decisions, but I also need to do my job and they also. I warned him, the decision was to change him. But he played very well and I explained to him that he would have never been changed if he had gotten the yellow card.

Z. K. [03:36]: After the break, is it possible to see Mazilu in the team?

S.T.S.: After the break, is it possible to see Mazilu?

Z. K. [03:39]: No. No.

S.T.S.: No.

J [03:40]: But Karamoko?

S.T.S.: But Karamoko?

Z. K. [03:41]: Karamoko has a small problem. He played a few games in a row and also other facilities for the training are not in the best condition. Raining days. Everything. And he has some small problem and the decision was to... Again, I have full trust in Alex Pop, in Perica. They showed this today, again players working very good and there is no problem if somebody is missing to put some other player on pitch.

S.T.S.: Karamoko has a small problem. He played more matches in a row. And our training ground is not the best and we had small problems. And on the other hand I have high trust in Alex Pop, in Perica, they showed today that they deserve to play. They are players who work very well. It is not a problem if someone is missing to put another player on the pitch.

23.01.2026 Digi Sport Superliga interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Dinamo Bucuresti and FC Hermannstadt

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and R.N. for host Radu Naum (interpreting consecutively)

J [17:31]: [...] that was perfect, although maybe in the first half maybe weren't that satisfied because you couldn't find the goal.

Z. K. [17:37]: We were good but also Hermannstadt they were defensively, we knew that it would be like this, they played a very good game against Farul away and defensively very good and it was very, very tough to find the spaces, to be dangerous and when you have these 1,2,3 situations there, opportunities, you need to score. We didn't score and the pitch wasn't the best for this fast, fast

passing and it was better for the team which is defending, but second half, we made some changes, we made some adaptations in our game.

And at the end, Raul scored these two very nice goals. And it's also very important after this goal that we concede for 1-1 that our mentality, our morale was good and that we scored this second winning game.

J [18:36]: How about the two goals scored by Opruț? One was great, the other was greater. What do you think about those two?

Z. K. [18:43]: Yes. You know, when you play against, when you play these kind of games, all the time it's focused about offensive players, winger, striker, about our midfielders, you know.

And sometimes you need somebody to help the team to score the goal. It was two moments of great inspiration from Raul. Even I called him this week, I said that he's our Raulinho, our Brazilian in the team.

It's not coincidence. We are happy because of Raul. We are happy about the team, about the points and I have to say about our supporters. It was an amazing support here in Sibiu again. Congratulations to all our fans which came here to support us.

J [19:45]: By the way, Opruț said that it's not a surprise because it's the style of play that you do in trainings, made him come and then find that position to score. So you deserve also these goals.

Z. K. [20:01]: Ok, but let's give him all credit because it was really two very nice executions.

J [20:10]: Team chemistry, because we spoke before the game, Dinamo used only 26 players, so I don't think that any team in the Romanian Championship that used all list players. It's a little different from the other but I think this is the main quality, so it seems like that.

Z. K. [20:29]: Ok, we have our way how we work. We have our style of game. We have the way how we work on trainings. Week by week we take in consideration every player, his form, how he is doing.

Again, for me it's very, very important that players understand each other, that they are connected on this mental level, that they understand the movements in the team and this synchronization.

For me it's important part and of course when you have most of the minutes on the game same or same players or same profiles it's easier to make the game how we want.

J [21:23]: One last question is just regarding you, because in the last round of the regular season, you will have exactly the 100th game in Dinamo, as a coach, and I want to ask you, since you've started until now, do you feel satisfied? You're okay with you and your individual performances so far?

Z. K. [21:42]: I'm okay with myself but I cannot make anything alone and this is everything. It's about teamwork, it's about good quality decision making, it's about energy, it's again it's about chemistry between all of us and this is the only way. I have to be satisfied because I lead the team, but also I have important people around me and we are doing the things together.

And also I would like to use this opportunity to say happy reunion day for all Romanians for tomorrow and to all people to have a nice weekend.

J [22:25]: Thank you very much, I didn't expect you to know that, because it was the small reunion, not the big one, but thank you very much.

Z. K. [22:31]: Thank you.

R.N. [22:33]: Look, how cool. He knows more than maybe a lot of our compatriots. Tomorrow is the day of the small Union. The Union of the Romanian Principalities. Between Moldavia and the Romanian Land. The first Union, where the result shouldn't have been a land. This was the deal with the Ottoman Empire and the Tsarist Empire [...]

R.N. [23:17]: Yes, he essentially said that Sibiu played very good with Faru, so he knew that they would be hard to penetrate, to find the spaces and we didn't do it. The pitch was not very good for us to pass, what you said Gabi that it wasn't a good pitch for Dinamo. We had to adapt, after 1-1 morally and mentally we were good, we stayed high and we scored again. In these kind of games it's

always about strikers, midfielders, they have the load, so sometimes when they are blocked you need players from other areas and this is how Oprea came. This week I told him that he is our Brazilian, Oprea. Look how inspired he was. Our Brazilian, ok. Roberto Carlos from Ștefan cel Mare. The fans were by our side, congratulations to them. He was asked if, actually Oprea said that thanks to Kopačić's trainings he came into these areas to be able to score, but Kopačić said no, no, we leave him all the credit, he had two beautiful executions, he didn't take the credit for these moments. It's important for the players to focus, to connect on a mental level, he said, permanently. This is interesting, when you have the same, the same players or the same profile of players it is much easier to implement what you think about the game, yes. So not to change, taking into consideration the observation that he used few players, 26 or something like that, in the championship. We cannot, I cannot do anything alone he said as an auto evaluation. It is team work, it is the chemistry between us, I have important people around me permanently.

02/04/2026 Orange Sport Superliga interview with Zeljko Kopačić after the match between Farul Constanța and Dinamo București

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopačić and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

J [14:12]: Crazy game with a lot of changes.

S.T.S.: A game with a lot of changes.

Z. K. [14:16]: We spoke before the game that it will be tough. And as we expected that Farul will start the game very aggressive.

They were trying to create two-versus-two situations and Alibec did a great job in keeping possession making other players to play behind our defense. But again, this is the risk that we are trying to take to play one-versus-one. In our defense, we had some problems, but I felt that how the game is going and with the minutes that we are better and better. And first half, we scored this goal after the corner. And second half, my feeling was that from the beginning we started to dominate, that we were a

better team and again after this penalty and one-two, it was a very, very important mentality what we showed. This team spirit, cohesion, that we are ready to fight and to change things. For me, as a coach, this is very, very important.

S.T.S.: We spoke before the game that it will be hard. We expected Farul to start very aggressively. They created a few chances and Alibec held the ball well. But it is the risk we take when we play one-on-one. We had certain problems, but I felt that we are better and better while the game was progressing. We scored the goal from corner in the first half. I had the feeling that we are dominating from the start of the second half. Then the 2-1 goal came. The mentality that we showed was very important, the cohesion, the team spirit, all this is for me very important.

J [15:31]: How did you feel about the guys that played for the first time today? I mean, especially Duțu. How is he?

S.T.S.: Some players came on. Duțu played his first match.

Z. K. [15:40]: Ok, all these guys, first of all, I speak all the time about transfers. I am really, really positive and satisfied with this group, that we have now. The players, they work very, very good in the trainings. And Matteo he is now already adapted and I have full trust on him. Ok, he is a young player and we can expect good things, bad things, but I have really good feeling, perception of him until now. Cristi, Mihai, they didn't play too much recently, but also work very good in the trainings. Alex Pop, we know, all substitutions, Valentin is getting better, long period of time without playing for him, but he is also very, very professional. And as a group we are good. In this today win it's about this connection in the group

S.T.S.: It's always talk about transfers. I am very satisfied with the group we have. They work excellently in the trainings. Duțu is already accommodated with us, I trust him. I know he is a young player and some fluctuations will appear, but he worked very well in the training. We know Alex Pop very well. He hasn't played for some time, but he is very professional. But today's victory is due to the connection we had in the group.

J [16:54]: Do you think Dinamo has enough to fight for the title?

S.T.S.: Do you think Dinamo has the weapons to fight for the title?

Z. K. [17:02]: This is tough to say. It's still many games and, you know, it was, we had two good performances against Cluj and Hermannstadt.

And after that, didn't do result, was not good, with Petrolul.

And this game for me was very, very important. This first game, in the first part of the season, after three rounds, without winning against FCSB, was very important. And this one, it's, when you see the ten games from the points, against very good team here. And here, it's very, very tough to play. This game, it's one of the most important.

S.T.S.: It's hard to say when there are many games left. We had good performances against Cluj and Hermannstadt. Then we didn't get a good result with Petrolul and this game was very important. This game I think is on the same level psychologically as the victory against FCSB, from the start of the season. Here it's very tough to play. It's one of our most important games.

J [17:57]: Is Pop your lucky charm this season? The third time he does this.

Z. K. [17:59]: Yes. Pop has this, you know, it's, for us, it's, we mostly play, mostly, I don't say all the time, but mostly we play against defensive blocks now.

We control most of the games, and for our strikers, it's not easy.

Because they are surrounded with a lot of players, and I understand that it's not easy to play.

But, you know, this, at the end, this makes difference when you have the player to score from this kind of situations. And you said it's already the third time, and I'm happy for him.

S.T.S.: Many times we play against defensive blocks and it's not easy for our strikers, because the opponents defend with many players. And it's not easy to play and it helps a lot when you have a player who scores in this kind of situation, already the third time he does it.

J [18:44]: I want to talk about the celebrations also a bit. There was a bit of a tension at halftime. I've seen Mr. Zicu celebrate the second goal in front of your bench. Also, I've seen you celebrate the second goal in front of their bench. There was a bit of a tension there.

S.T.S.: There was tension at halftime in regards to the way the goals were celebrated. Was there some tension there, at halftime?

Z. K. [18:58]: What you talking about at halftime? I don't know.

S.T.S.: At halftime, I don't know, no.

J [19:00]: It was a bit of a tension. In the locker rooms, nothing special, but it was more than just a crazy celebration?

Z. K. [19:07]: No, I have full respect about everybody, about the club. My celebration was only in the direction where we scored the goal. And at halftime I don't know. I have full respect about Mr. Zicu and all people here. It was a tough match. It was a lot of energy. Everybody wants to win the game. It's important.

It's only this, but no other tensions or something.

S.T.S.: I have respect for everybody. I celebrated only there where the goal was scored, nothing else. They have all my respect, Mr. Zicu as well as everybody here. There was much energy, but there was absolutely nothing else going on.

02/05/2026 Digi Sport Superliga interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Farul Constanța and Dinamo București (the same interview as the previous one, but at Digi Sport instead of Orange Sport, with a different host translating)

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and V.M. for host Vali Moraru (interpreting simultaneously):

Z. K. [16:02]: We spoke before the game that it will be tough. And as we expected that Farul will start the game very aggressive.

They were trying to create two-versus-two situations and Alibec did a great job in keeping possession making other players to play behind our defense. But again, this is the risk that we are trying to take to play one-versus-one. In our defense, we had some problems, but I felt that how the game is going and with the minutes that we are better and better. And first half, we scored this goal after the corner. And second half, my feeling was that from the beginning we started to dominate, that we were a better team and again after this penalty and one-two, it was a very, very important mentality what we showed. This team spirit, cohesion, that we are ready to fight and to change things. For me, as a coach, this is very, very important.

V.M.: We knew before the game that it will be very hard. Alibec did his job, he managed to keep the possession in the front, in their front. When we got into one-on-one situations in our defensive line we had a few problems. But as the game was progressing we felt that we became better, we played better and better. In the second half we started to dominate the game. But still it was 1-2 for them after the penalty. The mentality was very important, this team spirit, we are always ready to fight and this is a very important victory, also from this point of view.

J [17:14]: How did you feel about the guys that played for the first time today? I mean, especially Duțu. How is he?

Z. K. [17:20]: Ok, all these guys, first of all, I speak all the time about transfers. I am really, really positive and satisfied with this group, that we have now. The players, they work very, very good in the trainings. And Matteo he is now already adapted and I have full trust on him. Ok, he is a young player and we can expect good things, bad things, but I have really good feeling, perception of him until now. Cristi, Mihai, they didn't play too much recently, but also work very good in the trainings. Alex Pop, we know, all substitutions, Valentin is getting better, long period of time without playing for him, but he is also very, very professional. And as a group we are good. In this today win it's about this connection in the group

V.M.: It's always talk about transfers, but I'm saying again that I am very satisfied with the group I have here. Dușu accommodated, I trust him fully. Of course, he is a young player. I have a good feeling about him. Valentin is recovering, is getting better. He is very professional in his preparation. But today's victory is the victory of the relation between players, the connection between them.

J [18:50]: Do you think Dinamo has enough to fight for the title?

Z. K. [18:53]: This is tough to say. It's still many games and, you know, it was, we had two good performances against Cluj and Hermannstadt.

And after that, didn't do result, was not good, with Petrolul.

And this game for me was very, very important. This first game, in the first part of the season, after three rounds, without winning against FCSB, was very important. And this one, it's, when you see the ten games from the points, against very good team here. And here, it's very, very tough to play. This game, it's one of the most important.

V.M.: We had good performances with Cluj and Hermannstadt, but then we didn't get a good result with Petrolul. We had at the beginning of the championship 3 games without victory and the victory against FCSB was very important. This game was one of the most important. Here it is very hard to win.

J [19:46]: Is Pop your lucky charm this season? The third time he does this.

Z. K. [19:48]: Yes. Pop has this, you know, it's, for us, it's, we mostly play, mostly, I don't say all the time, but mostly we play against defensive blocks now.

We control most of the games, and for our strikers, it's not easy.

Because they are surrounded with a lot of players, and I understand that it's not easy to play.

But, you know, this, at the end, this makes difference when you have the player to score from this kind of situations. And you said it's already the third time, and I'm happy for him.

V.M.: Usually we control the games, we play against teams that defend. At the end this makes the difference, having this kind of player who can make it, in these situations.

J [20:30]: I want to talk about the celebrations also a bit. There was a bit of a tension at halftime. I've seen Mr. Zicu celebrate the second goal in front of your bench. Also, I've seen you celebrate the second goal in front of their bench. There was a bit of a tension there.

Z. K. [20:41]: But what about halftime? I don't know.

J [20:43]: It was a bit of a tension. In the locker rooms, nothing special, but it was more than just a crazy celebration?

Z. K. [20:51]: No, I have full respect about everybody, about the club. My celebration was only in the direction where we scored the goal. And at halftime I don't know. I have full respect about Mr. Zicu and all people here. It was a tough match. It was a lot of energy. Everybody wants to win the game. It's important.

It's only this, but no other tensions or something.

V.M.: There wasn't any tension, not even at halftime. I respect my opponent. I celebrated there on the pitch, with our supporters. Of course, everyone wants to win, but there wasn't anything like that, no tension or anything.

02/16/2026 Superliga Digi Sport interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Dinamo București and Unirea Slobozia

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and V.M. for host Vali Moraru (interpreting simultaneously):

Z. K. [24:04]: We deserve three points. We were dominating the game, we had a lot of shots, a lot of opportunities, clear chances. We scored a very nice goal and at the end we're proud about the game, about all efforts that we gave in this game and all players deserve these three points tonight.

V.M.: We won the three points, we dominated the game, we had many chances, we had a lot of shots on target. We scored a very nice goal. I am very proud of the way we played. The boys deserve these three points.

J [24:31]: He's working at the training? Because he started to score a lot.

Z. K. [24:36]: Ok, we want to push, you see that Max also had the chance there.

We want to push our full backs very high to be there, especially against many teams now against us play this deep zonal defending with all players behind the ball where it's not easy and you need some extra players which are coming from behind to make some superiority in numbers in the last 20-25 meters. And again when you have so many situations and don't score and then again Raul in some way save us, it's not coincidence anymore.

V.M.: You saw that Siviş also had chances, we try to push the full backs in these kind of positions, in these kinds of situations. Against us they played with a very low defense, with all players behind the ball. We are not talking about coincidence anymore when we have so many chances in the last 25-30 meters.

J [25:25]: The fact that the fullbacks are the most dangerous players from the opposite side, is this a good sign for Dinamo considering the attacking habits?

Z. K. [25:33]: Of course, I want to see from all our offensive players goals, but I cannot say that we were not there, that we were not trying, but also Slobozia was very well organised the first half time, they were trying from transitions to make something, but I felt that after 25-30 minutes that we are more and more over them and second half time we put Cristi Mihai, to be more aggressive, to not give them any opportunity to go out from our pressing zones and to take more and more risk and to score something.

V.M.: Of course I wish that the offensive players score, but I cannot blame my guys that they weren't in front of the opponents goal. After the first 25-30 minutes I felt that we were more over them and then in the second half this sensation was more acute.

J [26:18]: Epassy had some medical problems today, are you worried because next week is derby and Roșca got injured today?

V.M.: Next week is the derby against Rapid.

Z. K. [26:26]: No, it's this 2-3 days virus, what I said before the game we had already this experience in last 2 weeks, some of the players had this already and he will be fine.

V.M.: There were a few problems. Epassy has them now. I think he will be fine in 2-3 days.

J [26:41]: George Pușcaș, maybe it's almost certain that he's your new striker, are you happy first of all with it?

Z. K. [26:45]: I have very good opinion about him, he has a lot of quality, many games for national team, many games in strong competitions. Ok, he has some period without playing, without training with the team, I spoke with him after Hermannstadt cup game and he understand his situation, but I felt that he is ready to come, to join us and to put his career again in the right direction.

V.M.: I didn't understand who he's referring to, who he's talking about. A, he is talking about Pușcaș?

J [27:23]: But do you know his level? He could help?

Z. K. [27:25]: He was very honest and this is something that I appreciate, he said that he has some problems with some kind of injury but again, I really believe in my staff and everything what we are working together and if he finally arrive, we will make complete, we will analyse in which situation he is physically, everything, and I hope that we will solve all his problems in the best possible way.

V.M.: So he says that Pușcaș was very honest in their discussions, he said he has a few medical problems. We will analyse his physical situation. We hope that we will solve all his problems in the best possible way.

J [28:03]: Mr. Niculescu told us earlier that he sends you a lot of text that you talk often, how did you get in such a relation with him?

V.M.: How did you get to have a special relationship with Niculescu? He said you are conversing a lot.

Z. K. [28:12]: Ok, he is like many, many Dinamo players from the past, he is a big friend and I was very glad that he get the chance again to be in Superliga and I really have very, very good opinion about his abilities as a coach and you can see today also that the team was very well organised and I wish him a lot of success in this season.

V.M.: I am happy for him that he has this chance again to coach in the Superliga. Of course we got to know eachother, he is part of the Dinamo family. I wish him a lot of success this season. I appreciate how well organised his team was.

J [28:43]: Also, what it means to got with him to the fans, at the end, that you went together?

Z. K. [28:48]: No, Florentin was with him, but doesn't matter, but he is a very important player from Dinamo history and again I really appreciate him.

V.M.: Claudiu Niculescu is a big ex player of Dinamo, very important.

J [29:00]: Three points ahead Rapid, are you looking forward for this derby?

Z. K. [29:03]: Yes, of course we are, but our always is the same principle, game by game, training by training. Now it was important tonight to win this game, now to have a recovery, to have our players healthy and mentally ready to go on Saturday to fight for another points.

V.M.: Today it was important to win. Of course we await the game against Rapid. We always have the same principles to work, to train, to prepare well for the match. There is nothing left but to fight for another three points in the game against Rapid.

J [29:25]: Alright, thank you so much.

03/05/2026 Cupa României Prima Sport interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Metalul Buzău and Dinamo București

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

Z. K. [00:00]: It's very tough, it's tough to play, also players, they have problems with changing all the time from artificial grass to different kind of pitch.

We ran good, we fight, Alex Pop scored a good goal. We had 2, 3 more situations to score but we hit the post. It was good, very motivated. They had also a few situations and this is why it's a big opportunity for the teams from lower divisions to make something extra, something special and for us it was important to win the game, to get into the semifinals of the cup that is important in this moment.

S.T.S.: It is a, it is a pitch... We trained badly because we didn't have a good pitch, the players have problems when they change the pitch. Alex Pop scored, afterwards we hit the post twice. The team was motivated. The opponents as well, they played well, for them this was an opportunity and generally for teams from lower divisions it is an opportunity to show what they can do. For us it's important that we advanced to the semifinals, that's all that matters.

J [00:55]: How important is the qualification for Dinamo after the last two results?

S.T.S.: After the last two results, how important is this success?

Z. K. [01:01]: It's important, obviously. We put our targets before the season, that we want to fight in both competitions. We qualified in play-off three rounds, fourth rounds before end of the second part of the season. Out of these two games which we didn't make result what we wanted, this was important for us. And I felt also that the players were feeling this kind of pressure, that in some moments, we lose the balance on the pitch, but in the end we deserve this semifinal and I'm very proud about the players at the moment.

S.T.S.: Very. I said before the season that we want to be competitive in both competitions. We qualified in the play-off with three or four stages before the end of the regular season. After we had two games where we didn't have good results and I think it was a very important game for us. I felt that the players were feeling this pressure, I felt that we didn't always have the right balance on the pitch. But we are in the semifinals and I am proud of our players at the moment.

J [01:45]: Craiova at home, how do you see the game from the semifinals?

S.T.S.: Craiova at home, how do you see the semifinal?

Z. K. [01:49]: It's important for us that we have enough time until then and I believe that until then that Pușcas will be ready, that Karamoko will be ready, that some of our players which are not in the best shape at the moment, that we will be on the right level and for sure in that game we will go for the final.

S.T.S.: We have a lot of time until then, it's good. I think that until then also Pușcas will be ready, maybe also Karamoko. Some of the players who are not in the best shape will be on the right level. And surely in that game we will give everything for the final.

J [02:17]: You receive yellow card. What happened there?

S.T.S.: What happened there? What happened that you got a yellow card?

Z. K. [02:20]: I had the feeling that the criteria about yellow cards was not the same for a few situations. It was only about the criteria and nothing else.

S.T.S.: I felt that it wasn't fair how the yellow cards were given. I asked about the criteria and that is why I got a yellow card.

J [02:37]: How do you see the game against CFR Cluj?

S.T.S.: How is the match against CFR?

J [02:39]: And also what about Mărginean and Karamoko?

S.T.S.: And tell us about Mărginean and Karamoko.

Z. K. [02:44]: I didn't think about Mărgi but Mărgi will because, I didn't think about because he will be, very soon he will be on the pitch. I think in 7-10 days for this game, no, but he will be faster than the other two guys with us. CFR have very good results recently. We have to recover from this game. It's a tough opponent there but we will go there to give everything on the pitch.

S.T.S.: Mărginean will be on the pitch soon, in 10 days he will be on the pitch, but he will be faster with us, in comparison to the others. CFR had very good results until now. We have to recover after this match. It is a tough opponent there but we will give everything.

J [03:17]: Thank you so much.

03/05/2026 Cupa României Prima Sport interview with Zeljko Kopic after the match between Metalul Buzău and Dinamo București (the same interview as the previous one, but at Digi Sport instead of Prima Sport, with a different host translating)

“J” stands for journalist, Z. K. for Zeljko Kopic and V.M. for host Vali Moraru (interpreting simultaneously):

J [27:38]: Good evening. Honestly, are you happy after a match like this?

V.M.: Are you happy after this kind of match?

Z. K. [27:42]: Like what?

V.M.: In what way this kind of match?

J [27:44]: About the game, about how you struggled against a second division team? Are you happy about the outcome, about everything?

Z. K. [27:51]: Of course I am happy. We win the game. The game was exactly how we expected. The pitch is very tough. It's tough to play, also players, they have problems with changing all the time from artificial grass to different kind of pitch.

We ran good, we fight, Alex Pop scored a good goal. We had 2, 3 more situations to score but we hit the post. It was good, very motivated. They had also a few situations and this is why it's a big opportunity for the teams from lower divisions to make something extra, something special and for us it was important to win the game, to get into the semifinals of the cup that is important in this moment.

V.M.: Of course I am pleased, I am happy. The pitch is very hard. It was a game we expected. We ran well, we fought. There was some problems because of the pitch. We also hit the post twice. We were motivated. That is why the Cup is interesting, teams from lower divisions come and show that they can do more. The only important thing is that we are in the semifinals.

J [28:52]: How important is the qualification for Dinamo after the last two results?

Z. K. [28:54]: It's important, obviously. We put our targets before the season, that we want to fight in both competitions. We qualified in play-off three rounds, fourth rounds before end of the second part of the season. Out of these two games which we didn't make result what we wanted, this was important for us. And I felt also that the players were feeling this kind of pressure, that in some moments, we lose the balance on the pitch, but in the end we deserve this semifinal and I'm very proud about the players at the moment.

V.M.: Of course this was the goal before the season, to compete in both competitions. Obviously the qualification is important, especially after the two losses. This game was very important, after the two losses in the league. Sometimes we lost the balance on the pitch. I am proud of my players

J [29:43]: Craiova at home, how do you see the game from the semifinals?

V.M.: How will it be in the semifinals?

Z. K. [29:46]: It's important for us that we have enough time until then and I believe that until then that Pușcas will be ready, that Karamoko will be ready, that some of our players which are not in the best shape at the moment, that we will be on the right level and for sure in that game we will go for the final.

V.M.: There is still some time, we have enough time until then. Until then Pușcas will be ready. And some of the players who are now not in the best shape, I hope will be on the right level.

J [30:15]: You receive a yellow card. What happened there?

Z. K. [30:24]: I had the feeling that the criteria about yellow cards was not the same for a few situations. It was only about the criteria and nothing else.

V.M.: I felt that the handing out of yellow cards was not correct, there was no balance here. And that's why, I protested and I received a yellow card.

J [30:35]: How do you see the game against CFR Cluj?

J [30:37]: And also what about Mărginean and Karamoko?

Z. K. [30:40]: I didn't think about Mărgi but Mărgi will because, I didn't think about because he will be, very soon he will be on the pitch. I think in 7-10 days for this game, no, but he will be faster on the pitch than the other two guys with us. CFR have very good results recently. We have to recover from this game. It's a tough opponent there but we will go there with our ambitions.

V.M.: I understand that Mărginean could be on the pitch in 7 to 10 days. Yes, it will be a difficult opponent. I didn't understand here if he was referring to the game in the championship or the semifinals of the Romanian Cup.

03/14/2022 Superliga Prima Sport interview with player Malcom Edjouma after the match between FCSB and Farul Constanța

“J” stands for journalist, M.E. for Malcom Edjouma and C.M. for host Costi Mocanu (interpreting simultaneously):

J [00:01]: Edjouma, man of the match, congrats, how do you feel?

C.M.: Congratulations, man of the match. How do you feel?

M.E. [00:07]: It's a good thing, but the most important is the three points, we played well tonight. I'm happy to help win the match and we need to stay focused for the next game.

C.M.: It is a team...it is a good thing, but I am more happy for the three points, I'm happy to win and now we will focus on the next game.

J [00:21]: Did you get revenge after what happened two weeks ago?

C.M.: Did you get revenge?

M.E. [00:32]: No, no, it's not revenge, I'm just focused on the next game every time. And you know I came here from Botoșani and in two months I think I played 11 games or something like that, so I was a little bit tired. I think I'm not yet on my 100% level. So now I just need to stay ready and play football and when I'm 100% I will help the team more.

C.M.: No, no, I was just focused on this match. After all, I came here from Botoșani , in two months I played 11 games, I was a little tired. I still didn't show 100%, but I am happy that I got this chance today. I need to stay ready, to play the football I know and when I will be 100% I will help the team more.

J [01:01]: You scored two goals for FCSB. Are you feeling better and better?

C.M.: How is it at FCSB? Are you feeling better and better?

M.E. [01:05]: Yes, but we need to continue to score, to win and to help the team offensively, defensively. That's why I come here, you know, to help the team so I make what I need to do this.

C.M.: Yes, we need to continue on the same road, to score, that's why I came here to help the team both defensively and offensively.

J [01:20]: What about this competition with CFR Cluj, 7 points?

C.M.: About the title fight, 7 points difference.

M.E. [01:26]: Football is like this, we need to take it game after game, we don't see in the front or in the back, we just need to stay focused on the game, on this game, and in the play-off everything can happen.

C.M.: Football is like this, you need to take every game one by one. We need to focus only on the next game and in the play-off anything can happen.

02/05/2023 Superliga Prima Sport interview with player Malcom Edjouma after the match between FCSB and CFR Cluj

“J” stands for journalist, M.E. for Malcom Edjouma and A.R. for host Alex Rădulescu (interpreting simultaneously):

J [00:01]: You tried to go to be more and more offensive. Did you feel that during the game that maybe you deserved to win, but that wouldn't count because CFR defended it really well.

A.R.: You tried to be very offensive today. Did you feel that today you deserved to win? And how do you comment the defense of CFR Cluj? Because they defended a lot.

M.E. [00:16]: The most difficult against CFR is to score, because they defend very good and we knew it will be a tough game. But we tried and tried and I'm happy to score the victory goal.

A.R.: I knew it was going to be hard. I knew that we were going to fight a lot with CFR Cluj today. We tried to attack all the time and I am happy that we managed to score.

J [00:33]: What does this mean for your teammates' morale, this win? You won on champion's pitch and closed the gap a little.

A.R.: How much does this victory mean for the morale of your teammates for what is about to come in the championship? Especially in this kind of context on a frozen pitch. And now you also got 6 points closer.

M.E. [00:47]: Every game is important and now we need to stay focused on the next game and we'll see after what will happen.

A.R.: We knew that it will be hard. We are going to see what will happen from now on.

J [01:00]: How did you handle the cold?

A.R.: How did you manage the cold?

M.E. [01:02]: The?

J [01:05]: The cold outside. You are not used to the cold, are you? Also in Botoșani was this cold.

A.R.: You are not very used to the cold, are you?

M.E. [01:09]: It's very cold. Yes, yes, but I think here it's more cold.

A.R.: Yes, it was very cold. I am not used to it, but I tried to solve this situation with the cold.

02/12/2023 Superliga Prima Sport interview with player Malcom Edjouma after the match between FCSB and FC Voluntari

“J” stands for journalist, M.E. for Malcom Edjouma and D.U. for host Dan Udrea (interpreting simultaneously):

J [00:01]: Congrats, Malcolm, two goals for you and FCSB going well.

D.U.: Two goals for you and FCSB is going well.

M.E. [00:07]: Yeah, it's very good, we win this game, it was very difficult.

D.U.: It is very good, we won this game. It was difficult.

M.E. [00:12]: We need to continue and stay focused for the games that are difficult. So, we are on the good way.

D.U.: We need to continue, to stay focused.

J [00:20]: How do you feel after you brought two consecutive victories for your team?

M.E. [00:24]: Yes, I helped the team, but it's a victory from the team. And for myself, I don't think I made a good game because it was very difficult to play here on a small pitch and you know. But I'm happy to have the confidence of the coach, of the teammates and I can give everything and at this time I'm very good at finishing.

D.U.: Yes, I helped the team, but it's a victory for the team. But it was very difficult to play here, a small pitch. But I have trust from the coach from my colLeagues and I can give things to the team.

J [00:52]: Did you ever score two goals in a game in your career before?

M.E. [00:55]: No, it's my first double.

D.U.: It's my first double.

J [01:00]: And did you celebrate in a special way?

M.E. [01:03]: I don't have time to celebrate because everybody comes to me, but every time when I score one goal I say maybe I can make another one. This time something happened, so I'm happy.

J [01:15]: Malcolm, did all these discussions about you leaving, or maybe not leaving, motivate you? Did they motivate you to give more of what you have to offer?

M.E. [01:26]: No, just more confidence, I think. I have more confidence in the team and one time I'm here, so everybody knows me now, knows how I play. It's more easy for me and for them, for everybody.

So I think it was just the time to adapt and show what I can do.

D.U.: I have more confidence, more confidence in the team. It was just about the time needed to adapt.

J [01:47]: What do you think is your price after these three goals you scored in the last 2 games? Do you value more?

M.E. [01:54]: No, my price don't change.

D.U.: My price didn't change.

J [01:58]: Really? You don't think the owner changed it?

M.E. [01:59]: No.

J [02:02]: You are in third place now, five points away from first place. You beat CFR, Voluntari. Next up is Craiova. You are on the right track.

M.E. [02:12]: Yes, yes, we are good in this season.

We are very good at this moment, but we need to stay on this way, play good and take points. Take points every game is the most important, take three points and we'll see in the play-off.

D.U.: We are good at this moment, how we look at this point in the season. But we have to stay focused. We need to take points from matches.

11/07/2024 FC Politehnica Iași press conference interview with player Goncalo Teixeira before the match between FC Politehnica Iași and Sepsi Sfântu Gheorghe

“J” stands for journalist, G.T. for Goncalo Teixeira and “S” for spokesperson (interpreting consecutively):

G.T. [00:01]: So we know it's gonna be a difficult game. And of course we go to the game to, to win. We know we have quality on the team.

S: We know it's going to be a very hard game. Of course we want a victory. We have a team with quality players.

G.T. [00:25]: And of course we want to win another game at home.

S [00:30]: And of course we want to win another game at home. Any questions?

J [00:33]: Which one is your favorite position? Left wing, right wing or number 10?

G.T. [00:39]: For me it's, I don't know, where I can play, I play, but yeah, maybe on the left. Sometimes go inside. Yeah, that's my favorite spot.

S [00:52]: Regarding the favorite position on the field of Gonzalo Teixeira, he says he feels good on the left wing, but he also likes to play in the central area. Those would be his favorite places.

J [01:11]: Do you know the last result against Sepsi?

G.T. [01:19]: Yeah

J [01:20]: Do you know? The last result between Poli and Sepsi?

G.T. [01:22]: Yeah, we lose the game.

J [01:24]: Yeah. Do you know the score? The result exactly?

G.T. [01:28]: I think it's 2-1.

J [01:30]: How?

G.T. [01:32]: 2-1?

G.T. [01:33]: No, 1-0? I don't know, sorry, I don't remember now.

J [01:40]: It was a tough game for Poli, at the beginning of this year.

G.T. [01:44]: Yeah, yeah, it's my first game.

S [01:46]: It wasn't the last one, it was the first game of this season.

J [01:53]: Ok, first match of this year.

G.T. [01:55]: My first year?

J [01:56]: No, no, no, not your first match. First match of Poli.

G.T. [01:60]: Poli and my first game.

S [02:03]: He wasn't here.

J [02:05]: But I wanted to say in general, Poli lost 6-0 with Sepsi away.

S [02:14]: You weren't here.

G.T. [02:16]: No, no.

J [02:19]: But I forgot the match, the first match of this season.

J [02:34]: Yeah, four games here at home since the new coach came. And you won all of them. Why do you think the team is feeling better here at home?

G.T. [02:46]: I don't know, we believe in ourselves and we believe we can do the things right. And of course, like I said, we have a lot of quality, and we have quality too in the games. With the support of our fans, of course.

S [03:05]: About the four-game streak won here at home, since Emil Săndoi came, Goncalo Teixeira says that we have quality, we also have value and of course we have the support of our fans, which is very important at home games.

J [03:13]: It's a tough concurrence in the offensive. Many players are there, like on the left wing, in the striker position. How do you see this concurrence and your chances to start all the games?

G.T. [03:39]: It's like here and then a lot of teams. And yeah, I have to work, everyone have to work to play and yeah, that's it.

S [03:51]: Regarding the competition in the offensive, it's clear. Teixeira says that everyone wants to play and the competition is good for the team.

22.11.2024 FC Politehnica Iași press conference interview with player Shayon Harrison before the match between FC Politehnica Iași and FC Botoșani

“J” stands for journalist, S.H. for Shayon Harrison and “S” for spokesperson (interpreting consecutively):

S.H. [00:01]: Yeah, we know it's going to be a difficult game, especially at their stadium. We know what type of team they are, how aggressive they can be. And they've just come off the back of a very good result yesterday also. So, we know it will be a difficult game, but I think we are confident in ourselves and we will try to go there and stick to our game plan.

S [00:20]: We know it's going to be a very difficult game, especially because we are playing on their ground. We know their team very well. Good morale, especially after their last win against FCSB. So we expect a very, very difficult game.

J [00:36]: How do you feel now, after playing many more minutes in the last few games?

S.H. [00:54]: I feel good, you know. I think it's always important to be ready and I try to have that mentality always, even when I don't play. So now I feel like I just need to keep on improving, keep on trying to get as many minutes as I can and to start scoring some goals.

S [01:01]: I feel good. I'm happy I've played more lately. I've been patient, I've prepared very well. And I want to prove that I'm playing better and better and maybe even score some goals.

J [01:18]: Is this game against Botoșani special for you? Because, you know, last season we lost two games after we had 1-0.

S.H. [01:33]: Yeah, yeah. Not so much special. I think it's important, as every game is. You know, we try to get as many points as possible. We try to win every game. But like you said, we know last season, twice, we lost to them. So, I think it's very important now to make a statement and to show that we are improving from last season.

S [01:53]: It's not a special game, but it's a very, very important game. We all know what happened last season, when we had the lead and lost twice to them. We want to show that we can play better and that we can win.

Thank you very much, Shay.

11/28/2024 FC Politehnica Iași press conference interview with player David Atanaskoski before the match between FC Politehnica Iași and Gloria Buzău

“J” stands for journalist, D.A. for David Atanaskoski and “S” for spokesperson (interpreting consecutively):

S [00:01]: Good day, welcome to the press conference from our team before the match against Buzău.

The match is scheduled for Saturday at 5.30 p.m. The game will be pre-discussed, as usual, by the main coach, Emil Săndoi, and today by the player David Atanaskoski.

First of all, I give the floor to Mr. Emil Săndoi. Please, about the game and your questions.

(This part of the interview was left out because it was conducted in Romanian with a Romanian coach, therefore not needing any translation on-site. The continuation of the transcript will resume with the player interview.)

S [04:53]: Yes, so we move on to David, yes? David, please, a few words about the game in Buzău, but don't speak too much, because I have to translate, yes? So, please.

D.A. [05:04]: Yeah. So, we worked this week, we analysed the team of Buzău, we know that it's going to be a very hard game, like every game in Romania. So, we just want to be focused on ourselves, to continue with good result from Botoșani, from last game. So, I think we have a good team, we have good quality, and if we do everything on the pitch, what we training this week, we will get three points or positive results.

S [05:35]: We analysed their game, we know it's going to be a difficult game, we have faith in us, we hope to continue the series of positive results started away at Botoșani. We prepared for this game this week, and we hope to get a positive result away at Buzău.

J [06:00]: What did you know about Poli before coming to Iași?

D.A. [06:05]: To be honest, I didn't know too much, but I know like Poli is a team in Super league in Romania. But I ask a couple of friends and they tell me very good things about this club. So, I decide to come here to play in this league and I'm very satisfied with this decision. So I try to give maximum every game, every training, to play more as possible. The league is very good, every team has a different quality, every game is very hard, so you need to be focused 100%, because we know every mistake here is...

You are punished if you make a small mistake.

S [06:50]: Regarding the information he had about Poli before he got here, there was very little, almost not at all, but he took references from his friends, good references, about a first-level team, about the football in the Super league. He says it's at a high level, where you need attention, you need focus, because otherwise, any mistake is paid for.

(The last part of the interview ends with the Romanian coach intervening and adding some information about the player. He spoke Romanian, so no translation was needed.)

12/18/2024 Prima Sport Cupa României interview with Siyabonga Ngezana after the match between FCSB and Universitatea Craiova

“J” stands for journalist, S.N. for Siyabonga Ngezana and S.T.S for host Silviu Tudor Samuilă (interpreting simultaneously):

J [00:01]: Hello, it wasn't the greatest game of you guys tonight. What happened? What has happened tonight?

S.T.S.: It wasn't the best of your games. What happened?

S.N. [00:11]: I think, collectively, we tried to apply ourselves to win the game, obviously.

Some things didn't go our way, which we need to go back to the drawing board and we need to improve where we can improve, you know. Yeah.

S.T.S.: Collectively, we tried to be on a good level and to win. Things didn't go in the direction we wanted. We have to go back to training and get better.

J [00:35]: Too many matches, too many games in this season. You are tired, mentally, physically, after such a big season?

S.T.S.: Too many games this season? Are you tired mentally and physically after such a season?

S.N. [00:44]: Yeah, it's normal. It's a year of fatigue, actually, coming to December. We are playing every game after three days, you know, and we need to adjust. Now we are getting there, we are adapting. Every game, and it's not easy.

S.T.S.: It's normal. When you get to play so many matches until December, to play every three days. We always have to adapt and it's not easy at all to adapt to every game.

J [01:05]: Siyabonga what happened with you, why didn't you go to Constanța? The people from the club told the press that you will be fined. What happened?

S.T.S.: What happened? Why didn't you go to Constanța? They said you will be fined. What happened?

S.N. [01:19]: No, actually, as you know, I'm coming from injury. I was recovering. There was a misunderstanding on how they think and how I feel, you know. I love the team. I'm always want to give 110%, whenever I'm feeling very good. Cause it's very important for my health to feel full ready, to feel 100%. I don't want to cheat the game, you know. I need to give 110%, yeah.

J [01:50]: But after the match with Midtjylland, when you got injured, you played another match and then you didn't play another two. In Germany and in Constanza.

S.T.S.: But after the match with Midtjylland, you still played.

S.N. [02:01]: Yeah, it happened in the last game that I played.

I felt it in the same spot. So I felt like I needed time to recover.

Because it's really important for me to come to the games feeling 100%. Because it might take longer if I keep on going. I don't want to play with injury. Yeah, that's why I wasn't playing.

S.T.S.: It happened in the last game that I played. I took a hit in the same spot. And I needed time to recover. It's essential to come back 100%. I don't want to play with an injury.

J [02:22]: We insist a little bit, just the people don't understand what was the problem. The doctor said that you are ok and you didn't feel ok for the game. Where was the thing?

S.T.S.: We insist because the people want to know what happened. The doctor said you are ok. And you didn't feel ok? What is the truth?

S.N. [02:40]: Yeah, I said before, it was a misunderstanding, you know.

S.T.S.: It was a misunderstanding.

J [02:44]: Between you and the doctor?

S.N. [02:46]: I can say between the club. How they think and how I feel, you know. And that's why I said for me how I feel is important to play every game 100%. Cause in every team, if I'm not 100%, if there are other players that are 100%.

S.T.S.: Between the club and me. What they think and how I feel. For me it's essential to be 100%. I can't be the one playing if the other players are 100%.

J [03:09]: But the club said that you will be fined. What's your opinion?

S.T.S.: But the club says you will be fined. What is your opinion?

S.N. [03:12]: My opinion...I tried to speak to Meme about the incident. He knows that I am honest. And I also hate what happened. How they think. And for me, the decision is in their hands. Me, as well, as a player. What I do on the pitch is the most important thing. What is happening off the pitch, it's not into my hands. I can control what I can control.

S.T.S.: I tried to speak to Meme about the incident. He knows I am a fair person. And I feel sorry for how they think. It is their decision. I am a player. The most important thing is what I do on the pitch.

I can only control a few things. What happens in the office, I can't control.

J [03:51]: But are you upset?

S.T.S.: Are you upset?

S.N. [03:56]: No, I can't be upset. Can't be upset. The most important thing, I can control what I can control, which is what is happening on the pitch. What is happening outside, I can't control. For me, my focus it's we are playing the most important games right now. We need to protect our league, we need to be more focused on getting maximum points, which is the next game, we need to win.

S.T.S.: No, I'm not. I can only control what happens on the pitch. I cannot control what is on the outside. Now the important thing is to win the next game and that is essential.

J [04:17]: About the last game of the season. In Iași. The last of Superliga in this year. This defeat against Craiova will motivate the team?

S.T.S.: About the last game in Iași. Will this defeat give you extra motivation?

S.N. [04:34]: Yeah, as I said, every game is very important for us to win. It's very important.

We are more focused also on Europa. We are more focused on the league. Which is not easy. We play every game. So to us, we need to apply ourselves, to forget about this and we need to focus more on the future. We are looking forward and I'm happy with my 90 minutes. Yeah, I'm getting there.

S.T.S.: Every game is very important to win. We focused on Europe. Often it is not easy to come after these kinds of matches in the league. We need to find solutions to forget about this match and to focus on what comes next. I am looking at it from a perspective and I am happy with my 90 minutes.

J [05:07]: Thank you so much.

12/11/2025 Orange Sport Conference League interview with player Steven Nsimba after the match between Universitatea Craiova and Sparta Praga

“J” stands for journalist, S.N. for Steven Nsimba and D.U. for host Dan Udrea (interpreting simultaneously):

J [20:32]: Steven, it's a defeat for you, but what a wonderful goal scored by you. What's the feeling?

D.U.: Steven, defeat for you, but we noticed a fabulous goal.

S.N. [20:40]: Thank you. It was a good goal, yes. I tried to remember the fact that I can still score, but yeah, frustrating. We did a good game, but it was a very good opponent.

D.U.: Thank you. It was a beautiful goal. It was a good game against a very good opponent.

J [20:53]: How can you describe this battle today with Sparta?

D.U.: How would you describe the game?

S.N. [20:57]: Very good team, very good team. They managed to move the ball very fast, the last two in the back. They were better than us today.

D.U.: A very good team. We had to move the ball very fast, in the midfield area as well as in the defensive area.

J [21:10]: It was difficult because you had some injured players, important players?

D.U.: Was it difficult because you had a few injured players?

S.N. [21:14]: Yeah, they are very good players, injured, but we have to replace them in a good way. We did a good game today, but it wasn't enough.

D.U.: We had good players who are injured, but we had to replace them in a good way. And I think that we did a good game, but it wasn't enough.

J [21:30]: You scored today, as I said, a wonderful goal, but it's hard for you to stay on the bench and not to be in the starting eleven, or it's much better for you because you are more motivated?

D.U.: It's hard for you to be on the bench and not start from the first minute?

S.N. [21:42]: It's been a long time that I didn't score too, so yeah, it's my job to do better than that. So yeah, if I play, if I don't play, if I start the game, I'm here to support the team, no matter what. So yeah, I'm here to give 100%.

D.U.: It's good that I scored, this is my job, to do the best I can. Even if I don't start the game, I need to be there for my teammates no matter the situation.

J [21:58]: So the final battle is in Athens. How do you see the game?

D.U.: The last battle is in Athena against AEK.

S.N. [22:03]: It's going to be a tough game, very good opponent too.

I don't know if they won today, but yeah, it's going to be a good game. It's a tough defense. So yeah, we are going to do our best to qualify.

D.U.: It is also a very good team. It is going to be a good game. We will do our best to qualify.

J [22:15]: You are sure that you are going to qualify in the next round?

D.U.: Are you sure that you will qualify?

S.N. [22:20]: You have to, if you want to, you have to be sure that you are going to qualify for the next round.

D.U.: We must. If we want, we need to be sure that we will qualify.

J [22:28]: Ok, thank you so much.

Links to the YouTube videos used for the corpus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki22gbH0dgl> (Digi Sport 11 December 2023)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bDP5L6pXEO> (Digi Sport 20 May 2024)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_DxqY2Hc3vc (Digi Sport 22 October 2025)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Mrvfe1g75c> (Digi Sport 25 January 2026)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjN8a2whorU> (Prima Sport 13 July 2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHMIqWtH0ZI> (Digi Sport 30 July 2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsYu4bqg2YM> (Universitatea Craiova Youtube channel 12 November 2025)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRaqJ62y9fU> (Prima Sport 21 November 2025)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5ZYVAe40wE> (Orange Sport 27 November 2025)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5K8UNr8_Fes (Orange Sport 11 December 2025)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFSfQESruIM> (Digi Sport 22 February 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkrjzVnWrhQ> (Prima Sport 4 March 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8c28yjrPR8> (Prima Sport 13 March 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BgeBYwF6tq0> (Digi Sport 31 January 2025)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbaggTGKxaNA> (Orange Sport 19 January 2025)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w0CdAOcAFJU> (Prima Sport 3 October 2025)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=by7OrEZxy4o> (Digi Sport 23 January 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZoXdsMfuDCA> (Orange Sport 4 February 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nN4jRgVJi5M> (Digi Sport 5 February 2026)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_dx6FXX89s (Digi Sport 16 February 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlrLwEAt4m4> (Prima Sport 5 March 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwnaDnJbPIE> (Digi Sport 5 March 2026)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwemF1Vl6qA> (Prima Sport 14 March 2022)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naXyrqHTIAo> (Prima Sport 5 February 2023)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9wTXDYI9Ygw> (Prima Sport 12 February 2023)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-U_CPVbW6A (FC Politehnica Iași 7 November 2024)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AscAXyG4XjQ> (FC Politehnica Iași 22 November 2024)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4avRBuredy8> (FC Politehnica Iași 28 November 2024)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SqW5FCQDS14> (Prima Sport 18 December 2024)