

## Practice Note 22 – Foreign language documents and the delights of Google translate

As noted in Practice Note 1, there is no need for an applicant to provide a translation of a foreign language document provided the notary:

- is satisfied as to the meaning of the foreign language document, or
- whilst giving no certification as to the meaning of the document, is nevertheless satisfied that the applicant understands and accepts the contents of the document.

In the case of an English-speaking applicant and a foreign language document, if you have doubts about the applicant's level of understanding of the foreign language, then Google Translate can be a helpful assistant. For example, if you Google, "Serbian to English", the page shown in the image below will appear. Copy the words from the foreign document, and paste them beneath "Enter Text". As you do so, the corresponding English translation will appear. It is possible to do this with surprisingly large amounts of text.

