



Annual Report of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA)

1 May 2017 - 30 April 2018

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The Annual Report 2017 – 2018 covers the period from 1 May 2017 to 30 April 2018. It is produced by the President, the Executive Committee and the Director with the support of the Secretariat, input from the Expert Groups and Working Group, and subject to approval in its final form at the 26th Council in May 2018.

The content of the Annual Report refers to activities taking place in the previous year in relation to the Work Programme 2017-2018¹. The structure of the report broadly corresponds to the areas defined in the Strategy and the Work Programme and testifies to the results of EBLIDA's achievements by 30 April 2018. It is the second of 3 reports implementing the Strategy 2016-2019.

From its Strategy 2016-2019² EBLIDA aims at being *“A strong European library and information community enabling an equitable, sustainable and well-informed European civil society”*.

Our goals are to:

- act as the voice of associations and institutions of the library, archive, documentation and information-management sectors in Europe;
- strengthen library and information institutions in Europe;
- enable the citizens of Europe to fully participate in modern society;
- prioritise work on copyright, lending and literacy.

We achieve our goals by:

- encouraging cooperation between library and information associations and institutions in Europe as well as at international level;
- influencing national and European strategies and policies.

¹ EBLIDA Work Programme 2017-2018 was presented and approved during the Annual Council 2017 and accessible under the Council member area after log in.

² The EBLIDA Strategy 2016-2019 was approved during the Annual Council 2016 and is accessible at <http://www.eblida.org/about-eblida/strategy-and-annual-report.html>

EBLIDA represents over 120 library, information, documentation and archive member organisations in 36 countries in Europe and relies on a network of 70.000+ libraries at the service of European citizens, serving 100+ citizens a year.

In 2017, to celebrate its 25th anniversary, EBLIDA published a leaflet³ demonstrating its tireless lobbying for libraries. We strive for frequent representation in Brussels, to monitor and influence library related activities at EU level.

Over the past 2 years, a particularly strong emphasis has been placed on Copyright because of the ongoing Copyright reform that has continued throughout 2018.

However, EBLIDA also represents the sector at high level professional conferences and maintains regular contact with our members as will be outlined further on in this report.

EBLIDA is the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations. Its motto is *Lobbying for Libraries*.



³ *The first 25 years of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations*, available on the EBLIDA website at: <http://www.eblida.org/Special%20Events/Presentations/eblida-history-the-first-25-years.pdf>

FACTS AND FIGURES

- EBLIDA is a non-profit organisation representing national library associations and individual libraries in the European Union and other European countries.
- Founded in 1992 to represent library associations at European level.
- Represents library associations in all European Union countries.
- Represents through its members approximately 70,000+ individual libraries across Europe (of which 65,000 are considered public libraries) and about 100 million users.
- Council meets once a year in May.
- Employs 1,72 full-time equivalent staff distributed as 1,56 full time employees (FTE) in the secretariat, and 0,16 FTE as contracted services for website and communication.
- Annual budget of 129,100 Euro (2017 expenditure).
- Executive Committee comprises 10 representatives from full member organisations.
- EBLIDA President is Jukka Relander (Consultant) since 7 May 2015.
- The policy areas are led by the Expert Group for Information Law and the Literacies Expert Group.
- EBLIDA is a member of IFLA and Copyright for Creativity.
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PEOPLE

PRESIDENT:

Mr Jukka Relander, Finland.
Suomen Kirjastoseura (Finnish Library Association).

VICE PRESIDENT

Ms Barbara Lison, Germany.
BID – Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (Federal Union of German Library and Information Associations).
Substitute: Mr Benjamin Blinten, BID, Germany.

TREASURER:

Jean-Marie Reding, Luxembourg,
ALBAD, Associatioun vun de Lëtzebuenger Bibliothekären, Archivisten an Dokumentalisten (Luxembourgish Librarian, Archivist and Documentalist Association).
Substitute: Estelle Beck, ALBAD, Luxembourg.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER):

Mr Steen Bording Andersen, Denmark.
Danmarks Biblioteksforening (Danish Library Association).
Substitute: Dan Skjerner, Danmarks Biblioteksforening, Denmark.

Mr Guy Daines, United Kingdom.
CILIP (Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals).
Substitute: Mr Simon Edwards, CILIP, United Kingdom is no more a substitute since March 2017.

Ms Ulrika Domellöf Mattsson, Sweden.
Svensk Biblioteksforening (Swedish Library Association).

Ms Christa Müller, Austria.
VÖB, Vereinigung österreichischer Bibliothekarinnen und Bibliothekare (Austrian Association of Librarians).

Mr Charles Noordam, The Netherlands.

VOB - Vereniging van Openbare Bibliotheken (Netherlands Public Library Association).

Mr Stefano Parise, Italy.

AIB - Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (Association of Italian Libraries).

Ms. Alicia Sellés Carot , Spain.

FESABID – Federación Española de Sociedades de Archivística, Biblioteconomía, Documentación y Museística (Spanish Federation of Archives, Libraries, Documentation and Museum Associations).

Substitute: Ms. Glòria Pérez Salmerón, FESABID, Spain.

Uldis Zariņš, Latvia.

LBB – Latvijas Bibliotekaru Biedriba (Library Association of Latvia).

EXPERT GROUPS

CHAIR OF EXPERT GROUP ON INFORMATION LAW:

Ms Barbara Stratton, Vice-Chair of the UK Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance (LACA)

CHAIR OF EXPERT GROUP ON CULTURE AND INFORMATION SOCIETY:

Mr Guy Daines, CILIP, United Kingdom.

WORKING GROUP

CHAIR OF WORKING GROUP ON FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP:

Mr Jean-Marie Reding, ALBAD, Luxembourg replacing since 24 February 2017 Mr Charles Noordam, VOB, the Netherlands.

SECRETARIAT

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1. MISSION ACTIVITIES

1A) LOBBYING AND MONITORING

As in previous years, the European Copyright reform and its latest developments had a strong influence on the shaping of 2017 and 2018. Since the European Commission published its proposals for a Copyright Directive in the Digital Single Market and legislation on the implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty for Visually Impaired People, the discussions have generated a lot of activity, mainly through emails, meetings, workshops, etc. Although e-lending is currently not a point of negotiation for the EU Commission, other European policy-makers show interest in this issue, and therefore EBLIDA kept it as a point for discussion in a statement.

To represent a different point of view than that of the EU at WIPO, EBLIDA maintains its participation in the library delegation, and helps the process.

In addition to the core issue of copyright, EBLIDA pursues its activities in relation to literacies with one expert group answering public consultations, participating in meeting of partners and writing articles.

Meanwhile the issue overlaps with activities developed with the Council of Europe with whom strong links and cooperation exists, and further work has arisen on the question of education activities in libraries.

The numerous statements, blog posts, open letters and feeding of the website testifies to the activities further developed in the chapter below.

I) COPYRIGHT AND OTHER LEGAL ISSUES

- **Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market (DSM)**



Since the previous annual report 2016-2017⁴, the discussions on the Directive on Copyright in the DSM occupied a great part of EBLIDA's work.

The reform of the Directive on Copyright is a once-in-a-decade reform that will have a strong impact on the functioning of libraries and cultural heritage institutions by setting out rules for exceptions and limitations to copyright.

⁴ See <http://www.eblida.org/about-eblida/strategy-and-annual-report.html>

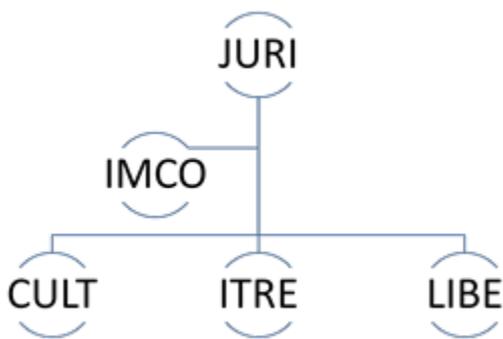
Originally, the copyright coalition formed by EBLIDA and its partners focused on the articles directly related to their work, i.e. Article 3 on text and data mining, Article 4 on illustration for teaching, Article 5 on preservation for Cultural Heritage Institutions (CHI's) and Article 7 to 9 on Out of Commerce Works.

However, intense lobbying activities around article 11 (Press Publishing) and article 13 (Upload Filtering) have pushed the copyright coalition to also address these issues.

There are 3 main streams of discussion:

- In the European Parliament;
- In the Council of the European Union;
- At national level.

- **The European Parliament**



Out of the four European Parliament Committees who have published their opinions, the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee ([IMCO](#)) is the closest to the library positions.

The Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs ([LIBE](#)) in only addressing the issue of article 13, happened to reach a welcome middle ground position, whereas the Industry, Research and Energy Committee ([ITRE](#)) has been disappointing and the Culture and Education Committee ([CULT](#)) is really of no

support.

To date, only the Legal Affairs Committee ([JURI](#)), the lead committee, hasn't yet voted on the text. There are multiple reasons of which probably the most important one is the change of rapporteur in the course of the year with MEP Therese Comodini Cachia (EPP, Malta) being replaced with MEP Axel Voss (EPP, Germany).

This affected the general position in the JURI Committee. Although the proposals contained in Mrs Comodini Cachia were not all optimal, they were much better than the latest proposals put forward by MEP Voss.

The compromise amendments in JURI are currently under discussion with a vote expected to take place on 20 or 21 June 2018.

Activities with Members of European Parliament (MEP)

As well as the meetings organised throughout the year with a wide range of MEPs, the Copyright Coalition organised a 1hr30 workshop *Copyright for Libraries, Research Organisations and Cultural Heritage Institutions* on Tuesday 27 June at the European Parliament to raise awareness on the situation libraries and Cultural Heritage Institutions would face with the current reform text.

We also participated in many different workshops and breakfast debates organised by partners throughout the year. Permanent contact is being established via emails with the rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs in the JURI Committee and meetings are being set up with them, as well as with key people in the political groups, legal advisors, and/or influential MEPs.

- **Council of the European Union**

The discussions in the Council of the European Union follow a slightly different path than those at the Parliament.

Although the Council is the most secretive body of the EU, we started to lobby its members on a more regular basis by increasing the numbers of meetings with representatives of permanent representations (Perm rep) of different Member States.

We started by organising a lunch event on 17 May 2018, gathering representatives from 7 countries to explain live the positions of library and cultural heritage institutions. Throughout the year, we kept in contact with the perm rep in charge of the rotating Presidency (e.g. Estonia and Bulgarian), and we kept up communication and complementary information about our position.

We noted the lack of harmonised positions on most of the articles, and the heavy negotiations on the most controversial ones.

Although it was not possible to meet with the 28 Perm Reps, we succeeded in meeting with half of them, either in face to face meetings, or during special events organised in Brussels.

- **Bridging the Parliament, the Council and local level**

Using the opportunity of the Bulgarian Presidency, EBLIDA and [BLIA](#) with the participation of [IFLA](#), organised a round table discussion *Copyright and Libraries* in Sofia (BG) on 26 February 2018.

This high-level event on the official programme of the Bulgarian EU Presidency offered two panel discussions:

- One with a clear political mandate: Libraries and the copyright debate: from local to global;
- One with a clear professional mandate: Library professionals and Copyright literacy, best practices in Bulgaria and Europe.

With just under one hundred participants, the event was well attended and featured prominent speakers such as the Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Mariya Gabriel (videomessage) who talked about the importance of libraries and cultural heritage institutions, her chief of cabinet Mr. Manuel Mateo Goyet on Modernisation of the EU Copyright Framework, and Mr. Emil Radev, MEP and member of the JURI Committee on the DSM Directive.



Round table discussion Copyright and Libraries, Sofia, Bulgaria, 26 February 2018
Panel participants from left to right: T. Trencheva, V. Bonnet, S. Wyber, E. Radev..

Concluding the two panels, EBLIDA Director presented the joint [**Sofia Declaration Europe Needs its Libraries - Heritage and Knowledge for a Stronger EU**](#) calling on Europe's governments and institutions to:

- embed culture in the next Multi-annual Financial Framework, ensuring that preservation and promotion of documentary cultural heritage, in analogue and digital form, is duly supported through both budgets and laws.
- pass a copyright reform that is fit for the modern age, which supports the learners, creators and innovators of the future, not the market failures of the past. It must promote innovative, community-focused library services which enable all to benefit from access to information.
- recognise the potential of libraries as skills providers, notably concerning digital, media and information literacy, and ensure they participate fully and effectively in European social and regional development initiatives.

This type of activity at National level is key if we want to achieve some progress on the text, as local constituencies' opinions matters to MEPs, as well as to national government.

Helping our members with:

- **A dedicated webpage on Copyright**

In order to help our members to get a better grip on the issue, and on the recommendation of the EBLIDA President and some EC members, EBLIDA created a dedicated copyright reform webpage **Copyright reform, why should libraries care⁵?**

It contains the latest available positions of the Library and Cultural Heritage Institutions coalition it forms with several partners (IFLA, LIBER, PL2020, CENL, Europeana), positions

⁵ See <http://www.eblida.org/copyright-reform>, consulted 18 May 2018.

from members and/or partners in different countries in Europe as well as a timeline (countdown) until the expected vote in JURI Committee.

With a progressive reform, libraries across Europe would benefit from a more harmonised set of exceptions and limitations allowing them to improve on how they carry out their work in an increasingly cross-border and digital environment. However, and in view of the latest developments, this reform could also become a missed opportunity that would set Europe and its libraries back by preventing the free circulation of knowledge.

The website is frequently updated and will be available as long as the copyright Directive remains under discussion. It is available at <http://www.eblida.org/copyright-reform>.

- **Teleconference calls (webinars)**

The EBLIDA-IFLA teleconference calls were set-up in April 2017 with the objective to:

- Follow-up on the copyright dossier in providing members with the latest updates;
- Encourage members to relay the information to their national association;
- Collecting members' feedback on the situation in their country on this issue.

Since the launch, there have been 6 calls in 2017, 7 calls in 2018 until the end of April on a fortnightly basis. The calls will now be once a month starting in May 2018.

- **Marrakesh Treaty Implementation in the European Union**

In September 2016, as part of the copyright reform package, the European Commission proposed a draft Directive⁶ and Regulation⁷ on the implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty⁸, both of which have been voted by the Parliament and the Council of Ministers and are now under transposition within the 28 EU member-states with an implementation deadline sets for October 11th, 2018.

EBLIDA director presented the expectations from the Marrakesh Treaty in Europe at the IFLA WLIC in Wroclaw on 21 August 2017. Soon after, and considering the important role libraries can play in a meaningful implementation, IFLA in partnership with EBLIDA, developed a guide, adapted from the [EIFL Guide to the Marrakesh Treaty](#), aiming at:

- explaining the Directive and Regulation to libraries and library associations nationally,
- setting out recommendations for implementation into national law (transposition).

⁶ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52016PC0596>

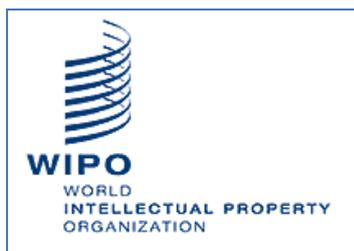
⁷ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52016PC0595>

⁸ http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/treaties/text.jsp?file_id=301016

The guide is available in standard ([Word](#), [PDF](#)) and large print ([Word](#), [PDF](#)) versions, and you can read more at <http://www.eblida.org/activities/marrakesh-treaty-in-europe.html>.

Additionally, EBLIDA created a Marrakesh-EU list (numbering 55 experts) so that experts in the field can exchange information and closely follow the implementation process in all the countries.

- **WIPO SCCR**



EBLIDA participated in the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) [Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights](#) (SCCR) 34 and 35 in Geneva (Switzerland).

In 2017, Mrs Sylvie Forbin (France), a former lobbyist of Vivendi, was appointed WIPO Deputy Director and is responsible for the [Copyright and Creative Industries](#) Sector and leads the WIPO

SCCR Secretariat.

She presented [action plans](#) distributed in 5 separated areas, namely, libraries, archives, museums, education and research institutions, and persons with other disabilities.

Until now, libraries and archives have always been presented together. Also during that same WIPO SCCR with an update of Professor Crews [study](#) on exceptions and limitations for libraries and archives worldwide.

The approach Mrs Forbin is taking could pose a threat for future discussions that will take place the last week of May 2018.

II) LITERACIES AND INFORMATION SOCIETY ISSUES

- **Literacies**

As announced in the previous annual report, EBLIDA Literacies answered the public consultation on the Review of the 2006 Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning⁹.

The answer from EBLIDA notably underlines the key points below:

- Libraries across all sectors support and encourage lifelong learning and the development of key competences by individuals;

⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/education/consultations/lifelong-learning-key-competences-2017_en.

- Libraries also focus on a number of the transversal skills (learning to learn, digital) that underpin all other learning competences – they need to be strengthened and include information literacy more explicitly;
- Public libraries are an essential resource for the independent learner and as a place of self-selected informal learning;
- All institutions that enable informal learning should be much more closely engaged in the revised Key Competences Framework.

Additionally, Guy Daines, chair of the Expert group wrote a blog post *Upskilling Pathways: A role for Europe's Libraries*¹⁰ on 11 September 2017. The post notably underlines the possibilities libraries are offering for Skills assessment, in Tailored and Flexible Learning Offer as well as in Validation and Recognition (Certification).

The post concludes with a recommendation of “[...] *national library associations to engage with their governments about this programme and ensure that libraries are seen as a core part of the national delivery package. It may well be that member states are looking at the Council Recommendation in conjunction with their plans to implement the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#), and in particular Goal 4 on Quality Education with its target (4.6) of by 2030, ensuring that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy*”.

- **Activities with the Council of Europe**

Over the years, the links with the Council of Europe have been strengthened, and EBLIDA has been included in the Council of Europe's (COE) activities. This positive relationship made it possible for us to hold our present 26th EBLIDA Annual Council in the Agora Building of the CoE today.

With a strong focus on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, the CoE held its 4th Platform on Culture and Digitisation¹¹ in Karlsruhe (Germany) on 19 and 20 October 2017.

This high-level event offered a mix of keynote speeches and round table discussion. It featured for instance the world famous philosopher Peter Sloterdijk who talked about *Democracy as pseudonymy* identifying 4 types of Democracy Pseudonymy, i.e.: 1. Oligocracy (the few) 2. Fiscocracy (the tax) 3. Mobocracy (the crowd) 4. Phobocracy (the hate). He

¹⁰ See <http://eblida.tumblr.com/post/165114656406/upskilling-pathways-a-role-for-europes-libraries>, consulted 10 May 2018.

¹¹ See <https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/karlsruhe>

mentioned the fact that democracy needs courage to be enacted and that fear was a motivation for courage.

This opened the first panel addressing *Cultural tools used to fight populism, fake news, xenophobia and ideological political movements* with a variety of 5 speakers offering different perspectives on the topics.

The Session 2 opened with Hito Steyerl who talked about *Digital competence* questioning the notion of Artificial Intelligence and whether we shouldn't rather talk about Artificial Stupidity?

Her speech was followed by the second panel who addressed the power of *European cultural, arts and scientific networks vis-à-vis undemocratic political or ideological movements* with a variety of 6 speakers.

The last session opened with Martin Emmer on *Citizens, state, culture – keys to democratisation of the digital world*.

A lot of the discussion revolved around the issues of:

- Digital literacy;
- Media and Information Literacy;
- Citizens Education and training (including on the technological infrastructure)
- The role the State could have played without acting as a censorship structure.

Complementary information is available on the [website](#)¹².

III) OTHER LIBRARY-RELATED TOPICS

- **European Dialogue on the Internet Governance, [EURODIG](#)**



EURODIG was held on 6 and 7 June 2017 in Tallinn, Estonia, and addressed the issue of ***Digital futures: promises and pitfalls.***

The [rich programme](#)¹³ encompassed a broad range of activities mixing official speeches and round table discussions.

EBLIDA Director participated in:

¹² See <https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/karlsruhe>, consulted 10 May 2018.

¹³ See <https://www.eurodig.org/index.php?id=707>, consulted 10 May 2018.

- [Workshop 7: The EU copyright reform’s proposal – which impacts on users’ fundamental rights?](#)¹⁴;
- [Workshop 10: Critical Internet literacy](#)¹⁵ as a panellist and guest of the Council of Europe.

The point of this workshop was to address the issue of how information is manipulated, how stakeholders, and especially libraries, can raise awareness on this issue and fight back against fake news and alternative facts, help people to become more aware and conscious of the activities and services they use over the Internet.

- **Libraries and learning in the 21st century**¹⁶

Further to the publication of the results of the EBLIDA-LBB survey on non-formal and informal training activities in public libraries in Europe, EBLIDA Director was interviewed for the School Education Gateway, European Commission’s website on school education¹⁷.

The website section ‘Education Talks’ gathers video interviews that capture experts’ opinions on interesting and current topics. The aim of the interview was to underline:

- How libraries contribute to informal and non-formal learning;
- The relationship between schools and libraries;
- The necessary partnerships and cooperation to develop, including between teachers and librarians.

IV) LIST OF STATEMENTS, BRIEFINGS AND ANSWERS TO PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Since May 2017, EBLIDA either alone or in coordination with partners has published 7 statements and signed up 7 open letters.

In addition, EBLIDA also answered to 4 public consultations from the European Commission.

Statements, blog posts’ statements and leaflets¹⁸:

- Aarhus Declaration [Take Down the digital barriers! Enable Libraries to provide Smart Access to Culture, Information and Knowledge!](#), 04 May 2017;
- Statement on Marrakesh Treaty, [EU Compromise on Marrakesh Treaty Directive Comes with a Sting in the Tail](#), 15 May 2017;

¹⁴ See

https://eurodigwiki.org/wiki/The_EU_copyright_reform%E2%80%99s_proposal_%E2%80%93_which_impacts_on_users%E2%80%99_fundamental_rights%3F_%E2%80%93_WS_07_2017, consulted 10 May 2018.

¹⁵ See https://eurodigwiki.org/wiki/Critical_Internet_literacy_%E2%80%93_WS_10_2017, consulted 10 May 2018.

¹⁶ For complementary information, see <http://eblida.tumblr.com/post/166249340171/education-talks-libraries-and-learning-in-the-21st>, consulted 10 May 2018.

¹⁷ The School Education Gateway is a single point of entry for teachers, schools, experts and others in the school education field. It offers a wide range of content including news, practices, publications, polls, and supporting material for the Erasmus+ programme for schools.

¹⁸ See also the compilation of statements and leaflets displayed on the copyright reform webpage t <http://www.eblida.org/copyright-reform/our-position-background.html>, consulted 10 May 2018.

- [Why we need transparency](#), 22 September 2017;
- [European Copyright Reforms - Seven Ways to Promote Innovation, Creativity and Heritage](#), 11 October 2017;
- [Three Institutions – One Mission](#), statement at WIPO SCCR 35, 16 November 2017;
- [We need an educated and diverse Society, with autonomous Citizens who trust the Institutions](#), 1 December 2017;
- Sofia Declaration [Europe needs its Libraries - Heritage and Knowledge for a Stronger EU](#), 26 February 2018

Open letters:

- [EU copyright reform threatens Open Access and Open Science](#), initiated by Sparc Europe, 7 September 2017;
- [Open letter in light of the Competitiveness Council](#), 30 November 2017, initiated by C4C;
- [Libraries Promote Culture, Social Cohesion, Digital Empowerment : Open Letter to the Bulgarian EU Presidency](#), with IFLA and PL2020, 11 January 2018;
- [A better copyright exception for Education](#), initiated by Communia, 16 January 2018;
- [The European Parliament must improve the TDM exception](#), initiated by the European Alliance for Research Excellence (EARE), 26 March 2018;
- [Maximising the benefits of Artificial Intelligence through future-proof rules on Text and Data Mining](#), initiated by the European Alliance for Research Excellence (EARE), 10 April 2018;
- [The Copyright Directive is failing](#), Open Letter #2 from European Research Centres, initiated by COMMUNIA, IGEL and OpenMedia, 26 April 2018.

Public consultations

- EBLIDA response to Public Consultation of the EU Commission on the Review of the Key Competences Framework, 19th May 2017;
- [EBLIDA response to Public Consultation on the evaluation of the Database Directive 96/9/EC](#), 1st September 2017;
- [EBLIDA response to Public Consultation on the review of the directive on the re-use of Public Sector Information \(PSI\) Directive 2013/37/EU](#), 12th December 2017.
- [EBLIDA response to Public Consultation on Fake News and Online Disinformation](#), 21st February 2018.

1B) COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

i) External Communication

EBLIDA's presence in articles, reviews or books since May 2017:

- Bonnet, V., *EBLIDA, 25 ans de lobbying et d'advocacy pour les bibliothèques en Europe*, in TOUITOU, C.. (Dir.), *La valeur sociétale des bibliothèques : construire un plaidoyer pour les décideurs*, Paris, Éditions du Cercle de la librairie, 2017.
- Sešek, I., "Več članov imamo, močnejši smo – skupaj, s knjižnicami!" Intervju z Vincentom Bonnetom, *Slovenian Library Magazine*, year 27, vol. 5/6, [September] 2017.

- Bonnet, V., Copyright in the European Library Debate, in *Biblioteche oggi Trends*, December 2017.
- Bonnet, V., *Libraries turning over a new leaf*, in *Government Europa Quarterly*¹⁹, #25, April 2018.

ii) Newsletter



The [EBLIDA Newsletter](#) now has 1,064 subscribers²⁰ (i.e. increase of 8% over the past year). It is published eleven times a year every second Thursday of the month (except in August)

iii) Fortnightly News Summary

Started on 2nd June 2016, the **Fortnightly News Summary** (a.k.a. FNS) provides a compilation of information on activities undertaken by EBLIDA in the previous two weeks and is sent to EBLIDA full and associate members only.

It also contains strategic information to mobilise the network and follows up on activities at national level.

iv) Website ²¹

The website is updated following changes within the organisation.

The Knowledge and Information Centre²² has ceased to be updated and is to be considered an archive.

v) Social Media

a. Blog



<http://eblida.tumblr.com/>

EBLIDA blog turned 4 years old this year and is one of the mobile social media platform, to build a wider and more powerful web presence.

Since 2017, more frequent blog article have been written by the Secretariat on a diverse range of issues. In that case, those blogs articles are

¹⁹ See <http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&edid=e9f3c786-3eca-4851-b7d4-1fb8a6e5f5d8>, consulted 14 May 2018.

²⁰ On 24 April 2018.

²¹ EBLIDA home page: <http://www.eblida.org>

²² <http://www.eblida.org/activities/kic/>

relayed on the EBLIDA homepage as a news item. The blog is an online public platform where anybody can post comments.

b. Twitter



<https://twitter.com/Eblida>

Created in April 2011, EBLIDA twitter account is a shared account among the Secretariat and interested Executive Committee members, to keep up with our community.

By 30 April, @eblida numbers 2,128 followers (compared to 1,603 in April 2017) and continues to grow.

c. Facebook

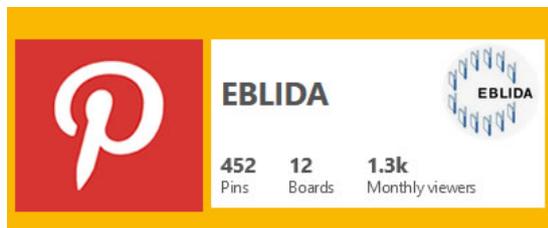


<https://www.facebook.com/Eblida>

Facebook is used to share information on EBLIDA's work, events, ideas and goals; to engage and communicate with people and to generate traffic to EBLIDA's website. To date, we have reached

1,254 followers compared to 1,051 in 2017.

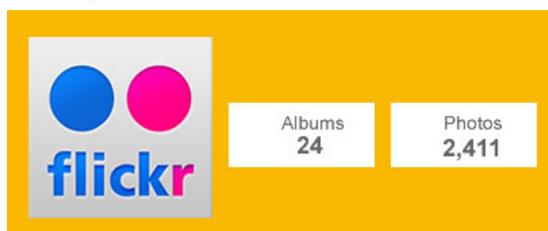
d. Pinterest



<http://www.pinterest.com/eblida/>

This interactive bulletin board is used for social broadcasting and to build a community of people (potential members) who share the same interests as EBLIDA.

e. Flickr



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/eblida/albums>

To show the activities of our organisation, we share photos of EBLIDA's meetings and conferences with members and the general public.

Special thanks to our Treasurer, J.-M. Reding, for providing most of the pictures. 24 Albums and 2,411 Photographs.

vi) Mailing lists

EBLIDA maintains 11 mailing-lists (with the total of 1,875 subscribers) of interest to members, expert groups, the newsletter and the general list EBLIDA-L.

By the end of 2017, EBLIDA created a new mailing list dedicated to the follow-up of the implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty in Europe.

1C) PROJECT

EBLIDA has applied to a project lead by Bibliothèques Sans Frontières (Libraries without Borders) entitled *Improving the capacities of European libraries to be key players in the integration of third-country nationals and in community building*.

As the concept note underlines “*Europe faces a **huge challenge today in terms of welcoming and integrating** third-country nationals.*

[...]

*Intellectual, cultural, educational and informational dimensions are **key elements for the integration of third country nationals** : with challenges ranging from language learning; adult education and supporting children to return to school; understanding the host country and specifically the legal and administrative procedures; building relationships with host communities.*

*This last point is particularly important as research, such as the work of Ager and Strang²³, consider **social connection with the host communities** to be the backbone for integration.*

The project aims at recognising that ***libraries** can and should play a major role in integrating third-country nationals* in bringing together a European wide consortium to build a true community of practice on this most pressing theme, a community able to disseminate its experience to all European libraries.

The application was submitted on 1st March 2018 onto the EU Commission Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) website. An answer is expected in August 2018.

1D) CONFERENCE, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

- i) **Cultural Heritage 3.0: Audience and access in the digital era**, organised in Tartu, Estonia, from 11 to 13 July 2017.



In the framework of the Presidency of the EU by Estonia, the Estonian Presidency organised the

network / Alastair Ager, Alison Strang / *Journal of Refugee*

event *Cultural Heritage 3.0: Audience and access in the digital era* from 11 to 13 July in Tartu.

The 3 day event²⁴ organised in conjunction with the European Heritage Label Days addressed the below: *While digital technologies have changed the way people access, produce and use cultural content, what is the role of culture and heritage in building stronger user communities and a cohesive society? How can audiences be placed at the centre of matters, while developing the capacity of cultural heritage institutions?*

EBLIDA Director took part in a panel discussion on Copyright in the last session of the event and provided a pitch for libraries as irreplaceable instruments for access to knowledge and information.

ii) Generation Code, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 October 2017;



This was the second edition of Generation Code: Born at the Library – the interactive exhibition showcasing the top innovative digital exhibits from public libraries across the EU.

The event takes place during [Europe Code Week](#) and the theme was “Smart Cities, Smart Citizens, Smart Libraries” – looking at how future technologies are interacting with libraries across Europe. This special 2 day exhibition taking place right at the heart of Europe in the European Parliament offers unique opportunities for librarians and Members of the European Parliament to meet and help change policy-makers’ perceptions about libraries.

The event was hosted by 5 MEPs who were present at the opening, namely: [Antanas Guoga](#) from Lithuania, [Eva Maydel Paunova](#) from Bulgaria, [Michał Boni](#) from Poland, [Julia Reda](#) from Germany and [Sean Kelly](#) from Ireland, all members of the [MEP library lover group](#). All EBLIDA EC members participated as the EBLIDA EC Autumn meeting was organised in conjunction with this event so that EC members could meet with MEPs from their countries.

iii) 70th Slovenian Library Conference, Terme Olimia, Slovenia, 26-29 September 2017;

²⁴ More information is available at <https://www.eu2017.ee/political-meetings/cultural-heritage-30-audience-and-access-digital-era>

On the invitation of the Slovenian Library Association, EBLIDA Director participated in the 70th Slovenian Library Conference. This Conference gathered 250 participants from all over the country as well as international guests for 3 days of intensive library discussions.

Through the presentation *European Policies for an Open Library*, EBLIDA Director provided background information on the library's situation in the EU and what is needed to change perceptions around the library by underlining challenges and opportunities offered by the functioning of the European Union, the development of digital technologies, the current agenda on research and innovation and the current copyright reform.

iv) Training for Library Professionals

Building on proposals made in France to train library professionals, EBLIDA Director provided two trainings for students and professionals.

The first one was delivered on 9 May 2017 at the National Institute for Local Government Studies, in Strasbourg. The training took place in a European course in which EBLIDA's activities were presented to future heads of public libraries.

The second training was held on 8 June 2017 at the Regional Training Centre for Library Professionals in Toulouse. The training was part of 3 day programme to train library professionals on a wide variety of issues of which lobbying and advocacy.

v) Conference attendance and other presentations

The President represented EBLIDA at the following events and presented EBLIDA's work:

- IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland, 19-25 August 2017;
- Generation Code, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 October 2017;
- Keynote at SWITCH Conference of NSW public libraries, Sydney, Australia, 20-24 November 2017;
- Presentations in Geneva and Zürich at Library science talks events, 4-5 December 2017.

The Director represented EBLIDA at the following events, as well as those already mentioned in this Annual Report:

- INET Strasbourg, *Presentation of EBLIDA's work*, Strasbourg, France, 9 May 2017;
- Advocacy for libraries – round table, ENSSIB, Lyon, France, 15 May 2017;
- ABD-BVD Inforum, *Changing publics, changing services*, Brussels, Belgium, 18 May 2017;
- EURODIG, Tallinn, Estonia, 7 June 2017;
- Mediad'OC, *Presentation of EBLIDA's work*, Toulouse, France, 8 June 2017;
- Next Library, Aarhus, Denmark, 11-14 June 2017;

- ABF Congress, *Libraries: territorial inequalities and equal opportunities*, Paris, France, 15-17 June 2017;
- *Cultural Heritage 3.0: Audience and access in the digital era*, Tartu, Estonia, 11-13 July 2017;
- IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland, 19-25 August 2017;
- *Better Regulation for Copyright: Academics Meet Policy Makers*, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 6 September 2017;
- 70th anniversary of the Slovenian Library Association, Terme Olimia, Slovenia, 26-29 September 2017;
- Generation Code, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 October 2017;
- 4th multi-stakeholder Platform on Culture and Digitisation of the Council of Europe, “*Empowering Democracy through Culture – Digital Tools for Culturally Competent Citizens*”, Karlsruhe, Germany, 19-21 October 2017;
- World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), meeting with WIPO Deputy Director Sylvie Forbin, Geneva, Switzerland, 08 November 2017;
- World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) 35, Geneva, Switzerland, 13-17 November 2017;
- *The copyright directive: strengthening the position of press publishers and authors and performers?*, JURI Committee Workshop, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 7 December 2017;
- *Copyright in the EU Digital Single Market*, European Internet Foundation (EIF) lunch debate, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 23 January 2018;
- *Copyright and libraries*, round table with Commissioner Mariya Gabriel (videomessage), Manuel Mateo Goyet (Head of Msrs Gabriel Cabinet) and MEP Emil Radev, followed by a panel discussion on Copyright literacy with Bulgarian and foreign experts, Sofia, Bulgaria, 26 February 2018;
- *The unintended consequences of getting copyright wrong*, EDIMA, Brussels, Belgium, 19 March 2018;
- *IMCO Workshop on Fake News and Disinformation*, European Parliament, Brussels, 19 March 2018;
- *Humans of copyright – the real life stories*, C4C, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 20 March 2018;
- *The Future of Technology in Education*, Communia, European Parliament, Brussels, 20 March 2018;
- *Study morning : restitution of the study on key indicators of academic libraries in Europe*, ADBU, Paris, 26 March 2018;
- *A better copyright for quality higher education and research in Europe and beyond*, Thon Brussels Centre hotel, Brussels, Belgium, 11 April 2018.

Other members of EBLIDA’s Executive Committee represented EBLIDA at the following events:

All EC members represented EBLIDA during Generation Code, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 October 2017;

- Steen Bording Andersen (EC member):
 - IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland, 19-25 August 2017

- Barbara Lison (Vice-President):
 - 106. Deutscher Bibliothekartag (German Library day), Frankfurt am Main, 30.05.-02.06.2017
 - IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland, 19-25 August 2017
 - Österreichischer Bibliothekartag (Austrian Library day), Linz, 12-15 September 2017

- Jean-Marie Reding (EBLIDA EC member):
 - 106. Deutscher Bibliothekartag (German Library day), Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 30 May-02 June 2017
 - IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland, 19-25 August 2017
 - Österreichischer Bibliothekartag (Austrian Library day), Linz, Austria, 12-15 September 2017
 - Representation of EBLIDA towards MEP Delvaux (Assistant Mrs Morgane Legrand), European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 6 December 2017.

- Uldis Zariņš (EBLIDA EC member):
 - Lithuanian IT conference #SWITCH!, Kaunas, Lithuania, 19 September 2017.

Representation by other representatives:

- Barbara Stratton (Chair of EGIL):
 - World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) 34, Geneva, Switzerland, 1-5 May 2017;

2. MEMBERS

2A) EBLIDA MEMBERS

EBLIDA is a membership-based organisation, focussing on library organisations and associations from both EU and non-EU member states.

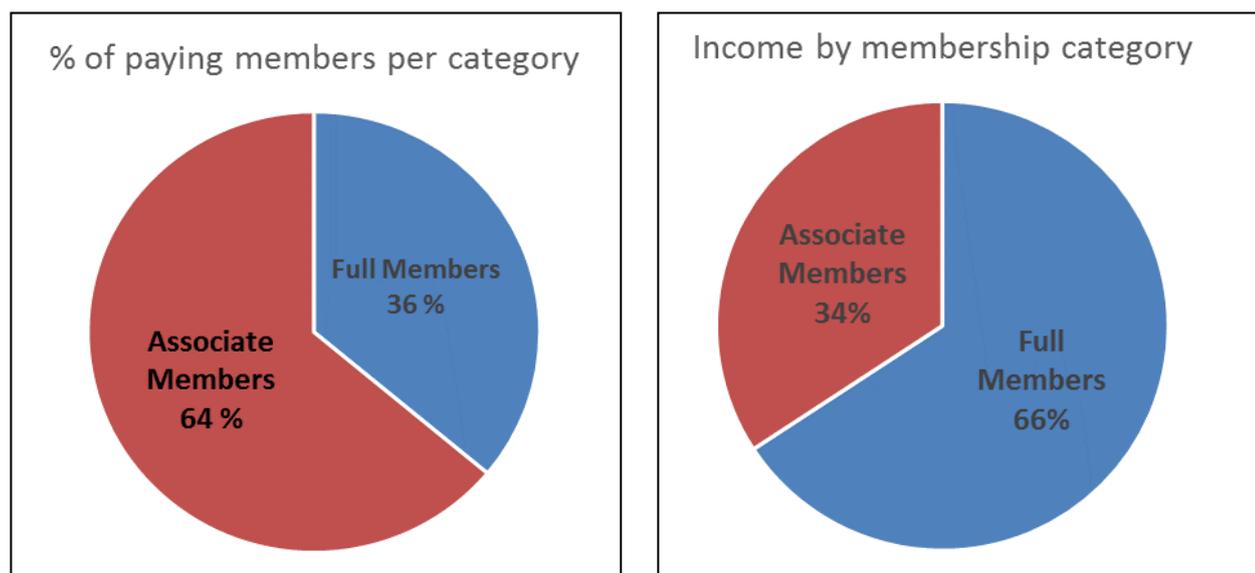
Over the past year, there has been an increase in membership numbers from 118 in April 2017 to 122 at the end of April 2018.

EBLIDA's membership consists of 44 Full Members (equal to last year), 78 Associate Members (up 4 from last year) distributed over 36 countries on the European Continent. Each European Union Member State is represented by at least one Full Member.

By 30th April 2018, EBLIDA had 3 sponsors, of which one Gold Sponsor for the first time, and 2 bronze sponsor.

Additionally, it also gained a special sponsor for the Conference.

The membership and income structure are displayed in two pie charts below:



EBLIDA acquired 7 new members since May 2017:

- **1 New Full Member**

FR, Association des Directrices et directeurs de Bibliothèques municipales et des Groupements intercommunaux des Villes de France (Association of Directors of Public libraries of Intermunicipal Syndicates and Cities of France) (ADBGV), since December 2017

- **6 Associate Members:**

Country Code	Organisation	Date
NL	Openbare Bibliotheek Den Haag (Public Library The Hague)	May 2017
DE	Stadtbibliothek Duisburg (Public Library Duisburg)	June 2017
AT	Universität Wien / Universitätsbibliothek (Vienna University Library)	September 2017
AT	Universitätsbibliothek Graz (Graz University Library)	January 2018

AT	Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Tirol (Tyrol University and State Library), Innsbruck	January 2018
CY	University of Nicosia Library and Information Centre	January 2018

3 cancellations (by request and subject to approval by the Council) effective in 2018 have been received from

- 1 full member:

UK, Society of College, National and University Libraries (SCONUL)

- 2 associate members:

NO, Bergen University College Library

FR, Université Paris Descartes

N.B.: Sponsors are not accounted as members and not displayed on the above pie charts.

2B) MEMBERSHIP FEES

For the year 2018, the membership have been rounded up to the closest amount:

EBLIDA Membership Fees 2017			
Band	ANP Turnover €	Non-Dutch Members Total due	Dutch Members Total due inc. VAT
A: Full member	0 - 25,000	625	634.30
B: Full member	25,001 - 100,000	1525	1534.30
C: Full member	100,001 - 250,000	2750	2759.30
D: Full member	250,001 - 350,000	3910	3919.30
E: Full member	350,001 - 500,000	5005	5014.30
F: Full member	500,001 or more	5950	5959.30
G: Associate member		520	529.30
H: Bronze Sponsor		€ 750	€ 750
I: Silver Sponsor		€ 1600	€ 1600
J: Gold Sponsor		€ 2000	€ 2000

3. RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

3A) COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE

The 25th Annual EBLIDA Council meeting was held on 3 May 2017 in Aarhus, Denmark. The Council meeting welcomed 36 people from 18 countries, of which 34 people representing members i.e. 24 people representing 17 Full Members and 10 people representing 9

Associate Members, including 10 members of the Executive Committee, 1 Expert Group chair.

The Aarhus Council minutes were approved by the Executive Committee during the Brussels meeting in October 2017 for posting to members. The minutes have been uploaded on the member web space online to be approved at the 26th Annual Council meeting in Strasbourg (France) on 30 May 2018.

The 25th Annual EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference programme was prepared in cooperation with NAPLE and the Danish Library Association (Danmarks Biblioteksforening). The Conference Programme "**Let's Rethink**²⁵" was inspired by the theme of Aarhus European Capital of Culture 2017, and the 25th anniversary of EBLIDA, the right moment to rethink the association's achievements. The history and work of the association was detailed in a booklet distributed to all participants and clearly addressed in a concluding speech of Dr. Marian Koren, a long time supporter of EBLIDA, former interim Director and EC member. Dr. Koren provided a brief history and a rich analysis of EBLIDA's activities over 25 years²⁶, and suggested ideas on how the organisation could evolve.

The conference was attended by 94 participants from 26 countries in Europe (21 EU and 5 non EU).

3B) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee members (listed at the beginning of the Annual Report in the section "People") met at the following meetings:

- 03 May 2017, Aarhus (Denmark).
- 16-17 October 2017, Brussels (Belgium).
- 26–27 February 2018, Sofia (Bulgaria).

Minutes of these meetings have been shared with EBLIDA Members through the 26th Council's secure website.

3C) SECRETARIAT

²⁵ Information is available at <http://conferencemanager.events/eblida2017>, consulted 11 May 2018.

²⁶ See

The EBLIDA team comprises of:

- Vincent Bonnet, EBLIDA Director (permanent position) is chief representative of EBLIDA externally in hearings, conferences and meetings in Europe. He has been taken a stronger participation in the writing of core documents and statements.
- Majella Cunnane, EBLIDA Administrative Officer (permanent position) is working on a part time basis of 20 hours per week. Her main tasks lie in the membership monitoring and administrative tasks as well as in running the office. She is bilingual in the English and Dutch languages.
- Sophie Felföldi, EBLIDA Communication Officer, is a contracted consultant working on a part time basis in managing EBLIDA communication, maintenance of the website, mailing lists and other communication tools.

3D) EXPERT GROUPS

Expert Groups and Working Groups provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Committee, President and Director and help decide on actions on various points related to their area of expertise.

Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)

The EGIL provides expert input, advice and representation for EBLIDA's policy and activity concerning copyright and related rights and information law.

Between May 2017 and April 2018, the group met 2 times in London to follow-up on copyright reform, WIPO SCCR, the Marrakesh Treaty, and other issues of relevance to Information Law. The group also looks into national developments in several countries in Europe.

The group continued the development of resources on EU Member State copyright exceptions harmonisation and on existing national legislation examples, supports the Copyright Cortex project and helps out in drafting policy documents for endorsement by the EBLIDA Executive Committee.

Further to several case law that emerged over the past years, EBLIDA-EGIL chair and EBLIDA Director were invited to contribute a blog post for the EIFL website entitled *Libraries – A Trio Of European Court Rulings*²⁷.

²⁷ See <http://www.eifl.net/blogs/libraries-trio-european-court-rulings> (consulted on 29 January 2018).

The chair and the Director also participate actively in the copyright coordination group that is instrumental in the lobbying and advocacy activities in Brussels (see also item 4a cooperation).

There have been some changes in the composition of the group with the departure of Jerker Rýden (Sweden National Library) and Kristin Abelsnes (Norwegian Library Association) being replaced with Karin Grönvall (Swedish Library Association) and Harald Bøhn (Norwegian Library Association).

EBLIDA Literacies Expert Group

In addition to the information displayed in the first part of the annual report on literacies, some members in the expert group wrote the article “EBLIDA –promoting libraries and EBLIDA Literacies - promoting culture and information society in Europe” for the professional journal *ITlib Information Technologies and Libraries*²⁸ from Slovakia.

During the year one of the Group’s members, Marit Vestlie (Norway) represented EBLIDA at the third Annual General Meeting of EURead, from October 18 to 20, 2017 in Brussels (Belgium). The topic was “Chance and Challenge of Digitisation”. EURead is composed of experts from the fields of European reading promotion, scientific research, economy and politics to develop future strategies for the promotion of reading and literacy in Europe.

For the first time, the presence of an EBLIDA expert provided opportunity to exchange experience with other experts, and put forward the point of view of a library representative to EURead.

Working Group on Finance and Membership

The group has finalised its work on proposing Constitution changes that were approved by the Executive Committee and will be proposed for approval to Council members.

The group handed over its membership campaign proposal to the whole EC that is continuing to look for sustainable solutions in terms of membership and finances.

4. COOPERATION

EBLIDA maintained a high-level of cooperation with library organisations and other groups.

²⁸ See itlib.cvtisr.sk/buxus/docs/43_eblida-promoting.pdf, consulted 14 May 2018.

4A) MAKING THE SECTOR VISIBLE

The library sector entangles a wide area going from information and documentation to cultural heritage, archives, education, leisure etc.

For these reasons, we maintain our coordination with our usual partners namely IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche), Public Libraries 2020, and have been strengthening our links with Europeana and CENL (the Conference of European National Librarians).

Indeed it is crucial to share intelligence on topics such as the Copyright Directive (but not exclusively), and proves much more efficient to use the multiplier effect when it comes to meet with MEPs, Permanent Representations and lobbying collectively to advance the sector.

Cooperation with NAPLE (National Authorities on Public Libraries in Europe) is maintained in organising the annual EBLIDA-NAPLE conference and related business meetings.

4B) COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Outside of the sector, EBLIDA has specifically strengthened its cooperation with Copyright for Creativity (C4C) with whom lots of activities have been organised over the past year. For instance, C4C launched the initiative *Vox Scientia*²⁹ (the Voice of Knowledge). *“Vox Scientia is a group of organisations and individual educators, researchers, librarians, cultural heritage professionals, students, etc. who stand up and aim to be the ‘Voice of Knowledge’ - ‘Vox scientia’ - in this debate. We believe in a world where all people are able to freely exchange ideas, create, learn, and contribute to knowledge”*. This initiative aims at regrouping the views of the different partners in the network through a unique platform and raise awareness on our positions.

The cooperation with other stakeholders such as the Federation of European Publishers (FEP), the European Writers Council (EWC) and the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO) has been decreasing due to the split position on copyright in particular, although the contact is being maintained.

²⁹ See <https://voxscentia.eu/>, consulted 14 May 2018.

The Annual Report 2017 – 2018 reflects the work achieved by EBLIDA between 1 May 2017 and 30 April 2018. The content refers to activities taking place in the previous year in relation to the Work Programme 2017 – 2018, and the implementation of the EBLIDA strategy 2016-2019.

The strategy underlines EBLIDA as *the strong voice of the library and information community in Europe*³⁰. And throughout the year and the numerous activities EBLIDA undertakes, the organisation proves to be a pivotal structure to put in practice its vision of being a *strong European Library and information community enabling an equitable, sustainable and well-informed European civil society*³¹.

The celebrations of EBLIDA's 25th anniversary happened during the 25th Council and Conference in Aarhus, Denmark on 3 and 4 May 2017. The wonderful atmosphere and amazing Dokk 1 made the celebrations all the more special.

The organisation kept our 25 years logo until the end of 2017 to celebrate our anniversary while continuing our usual work.

As developed throughout the whole report, EBLIDA despite limited financial and human resources, maintains a high-level of monitoring of key issues for the library and library professionals, and continues to be a key actor of library lobbying in Brussels. The organisation maintains a good representation in areas such as Copyright, Literacies and Access to information

However, should we not be able to find ways to diversify our means of income ie. not only through membership, the organisation's achievements will be limited at the very least.

That is the reason why in the past years, there have been cuts to travel and to manpower. We have made efforts to reach out to a greater number of associate members so as to increase the number of institutions in the membership. Meanwhile the EBLIDA Director has developed trainings for professionals to add another layer of income while raising the profile of the association in the librarianship curriculum.

Building up strong partnerships with related organisations such as C4C is also instrumental in making the sector's voice audible and ensuring the continued visibility of libraries in Europe. In conclusion, the annual report 2017-2018 reflects the important amount of work EBLIDA is achieving at the European level, its areas of expertise and its broad connection with key institutions and partners.

³⁰ http://www.eblida.org/Documents/EBLIDA_Strategy_2016-2019.pdf.

³¹ *ibid*

- END -