



ANNUAL REPORT

1 MAY 2019 -30 APRIL 2020

THE EUROPEAN BUREAU OF LIBRARY,
INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION
ASSOCIATIONS
(EBLIDA)

www.eblida.org

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INTRODUCTION

Since the EBLIDA Annual Council is taking place on 28th October 2020 due to Covid, the Annual Report 2019 – 2020 covers the period from 1 May 2019 to 30 April 2020, but additional information is provided for the period 1 May – 30 August 2020, due to the fact that the Covid pandemic has prevented us from having our Annual Council meeting at the usual time of May.

This Annual Report is produced by the President, the Executive Committee and the Director with the support of the Secretariat, input from the Expert Group(s), and subject to approval in its final form at the 28th Council Meeting.

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.
- Staff are 1 Director full time, 1 Administrative Officer part time and 1 Communications Officer, part time.
- Annual budget of 110.118 Euro (2019 expenditure).
- Executive Committee comprises 8 representatives from full member organisations.
- EBLIDA President, elected in May 2018 in Strasbourg, is Ton Van Vlimmeren. The policy areas are led by the Expert Group of Information Law and the Working Group on European Libraries and Sustainability Assessment
- EBLIDA is a member of IFLA, Copyright for Creativity, ASviS, and is allied with NewsGuard.
- Contact details:

Office location

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- European Union, Interest Representative Register ID: 32997432484-79

PEOPLE

PRESIDENT

Ton Van Vlimmeren

Utrecht Public Library, Netherlands

VICE PRESIDENT

Stefano Parise

AIB - Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (Association of Italian Libraries), Italy

Substitute: Emma Catiri, AIB

TREASURER

Jean-Marie Reding

ALBAD - Associatioun vun de Lëtzebuerger Bibliothekären, Archivisten an Dokumentalisten (Luxembourgish Librarian, Archivist and Documentalist Association), Luxembourg

Substitute: Estelle Beck, ALBAD

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Steen Bording Andersen

Danmarks Biblioteksforening (Danish Library Association), Denmark

Substitute: Dan Skjerning, Danmarks Biblioteksforening.

Julie Calmus

ABF - Association des Bibliothécaires Français (French Association of Librarians), France

Substitute: Eléonore Clavreul, ABF

Marina Encheva

BLIA - Bulgarian Library and Information Association, Bulgaria

Alicia Sellés Carot

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

Ulrika Domellöf Mattsson,

Swedish Library Association

Hella Klauser

BID - Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (Federal Union of German Library and Information Associations) Germany

Substitute: Barbara Schleihagen

EXPERT GROUP

CHAIR OF EXPERT GROUP ON INFORMATION LAW:

Barbara Stratton (until 31 December 2019)

Vice-Chair of the UK Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance (LACA)

WORKING GROUP

CHAIR OF WORKING GROUP ON EUROPEAN LIBRARIES AND SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

Giuseppe Vitiello

Director, EBLIDA

SECRETARIAT**EBLIDA Head Office**

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The Netherlands

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Director:

Mr. Giuseppe Vitiello

Telephone (Mobile): +39 333 739 2630

Email: g.vitiello@ebtida.org

Administrative Officer:

Ms Majella Cunnane

Telephone: +31 70 31 40 137

Email: majella.cunnane@ebtida.org

Communications Officer:

Ms Sophie Felföldi

Email: sophie.felfoldi@ebtida.org

1. VISION

EBLIDA is the community hub for all library organisations in Europe striving towards an equitable, democratic and sustainable society. EBLIDA's objective is to diffuse best practices among its Members and to communicate its Members' views and projects to the European Commission, the European Parliament, other institutions of the European Union, the European Council and other appropriate third parties.

2. MEMBERS

2A) EBLIDA MEMBERS

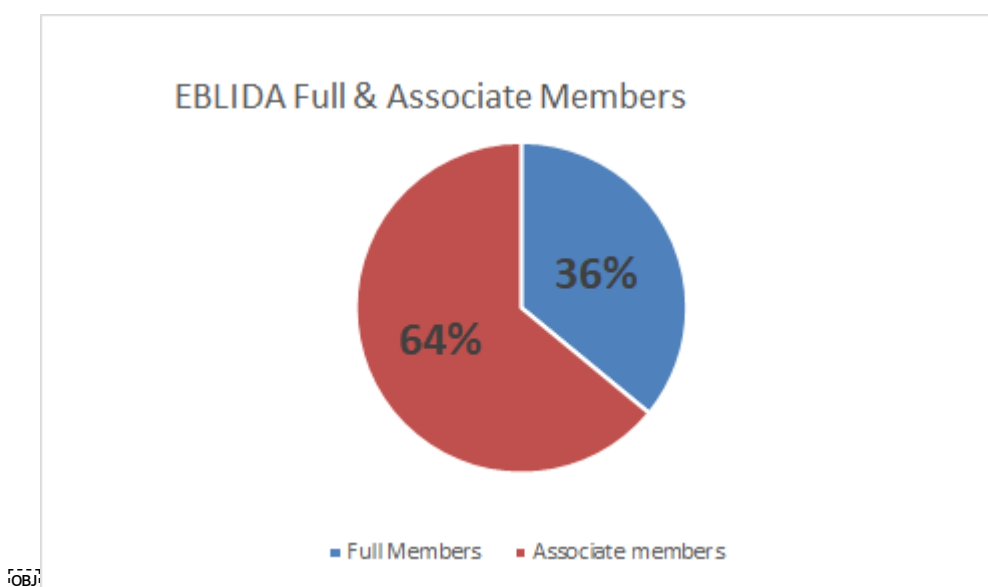
EBLIDA is a membership-based organisation, focussing on library organisations and associations from both the EU and non-EU member states.

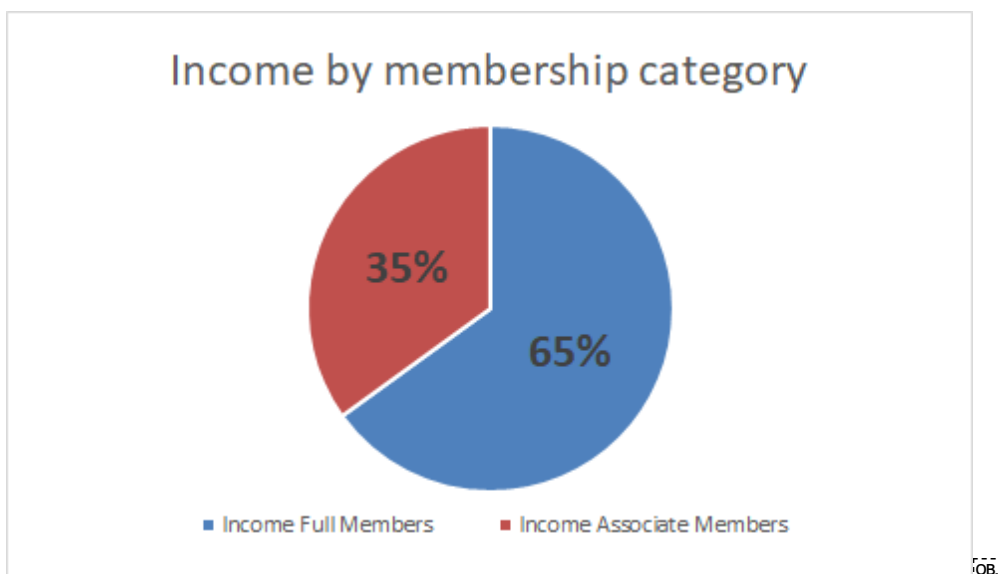
Over the past year, there has been a slight decrease in membership numbers from 119 at the end of April 2019 to 114 by end of April 2020.

EBLIDA's membership consists of **41 Full Members and 73 Associate Members** distributed over the European Continent. Each European Union Member State is represented by at least one Full Member.

By 30th April 2020, EBLIDA had 4 sponsors, of which 2 bronze sponsors, 1 silver and 1 gold.

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





EBLIDA acquired 0 new members since May 2019

Cancellations 2020

Full Member

UK	CILIP The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
Lithuania	LMBA, LMBA, Lietuvos Moksliniu Biblioteku Asociacija, Lithuanian Research Library Consortium
Denmark	Danish Research Library Association

Associate Members

Norway	University of Oslo
Denmark	Randers
Belgium	Bibnet (merged to form Cultuurconnect)

2B) MEMBERSHIP FEES 2020

Band	ANP Turnover €	Actual fee	NON-Dutch	Dutch
			+3% - 01.01.2020	Id.+9,30 VAT
A	0-25.000	656	676	685,3
B	25.001-100.000	1.601	1.649	1.658,3
C	100.001-250.000	2.888	2.975	2.984,3
D	250.001-350.000	4.106	4.229	4.238,3
E	350.001-500.000	5.256	5.414	5.423,3
F	500.001 or more	6.248	6.435	6.444,3
G (Associate)		546	562	571,3

3A EBLIDA ACTIVITIES 2019-2020

EBLIDA's tasks are defined in the Constitution, articles 2 and 3.

EBLIDA continued to consolidate it's new activities during 2019-2020.

1. EBLIDA has developed a unique approach to Sustainable Development.

Through the EBLIDA SDG European House (<http://www.eblida.org/activities/the-eblida-sdg-european-house.html>), EBLIDA is performing *services* to its *communities* through *tools* and *training* activities. The EBLIDA SDG House includes the EBLIDA Matrix (<http://www.eblida.org/activities/the-eblida-matrix.html>) - a situation room where the latest news on SDG European programmes and indicators are channelled and a partnership with NewsGuard (<http://www.eblida.org/activities/the-eblida-sdg-european-house/newsguard.html>) - an access-to-information room aimed to combat fake news and misinformation.

The EBLIDA Matrix is a comprehensive toolkit which describes, SD goal after SD goal and EU programme after EU programme: a) EU programmes pursuing Sustainable Development Goals which are relevant for libraries; b) EUROSTAT indicators, and related trends, for each of the Goals; c) on-going library policies in Europe contributing to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (under construction); d) library indicators (under construction). EBLIDA

Matrix works for the library sector, but can also be successfully transferred to other cultural institutions, like museums and archives.

European libraries can use the EBLIDA Matrix in three possible ways: a) as a compass, to align their policies to those of other actors also implementing SDG policies. Partnerships with prominent EU actors help libraries get out of their isolation; b) as a calculator, to evaluate SDG-oriented projects in libraries through EUROSTAT sustainable indicators; c) as a banner, to raise the profile of a library in European projects. The EBLIDA Matrix is updated on an annual basis.

Another product of the EBLIDA SDG European House is NewsGuard. EBLIDA and [NewsGuard](#) allied to attain the [UN Sustainable Development Goal 16](#), Sub-Target 10: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. They partnered in order to carry out a Europe-wide initiative aimed at combatting fake news. The formation of a well-informed citizenry is a pre-requisite to encourage democratic participation and build up a transparent political decision-making process. NewsGuard's fight against fake news, disinformation and misinformation is not carried out thanks to algorithms and filtering systems, but through website rating systems which will be described later on. Launched in December 2019, the EBLIDA-NewsGuard initiative aims to show that disinformation can be opposed, and the objective of inclusive societies, can be attained without necessarily resorting to information control and social media surveillance. NewsGuard is implemented in the US and, in Europe, in UK, Germany, France and Italy.

2. In the first half of 2020 EBLIDA has launched three Europe-wide surveys.

They focus on:

- a) Library Legislation and Policy in Europe;
- b) Sustainable Development Goals and their implementation in European libraries;
- c) A Library Agenda in the post-Covid age.

3. Publications

The three surveys have given birth to three different reports and a fourth on library legislation and policy in Europe is expected to be published soon.

Relations between the three reports can be described as the making of a car, where [A European library agenda for the post-Covid 19 age - Work in Progress](#) is the engine, the [Sustainable Development Goals and Libraries - First European Report](#) is the chassis and the Paper on [The European Structural and Investment Funds 2021-2027: Funding Opportunities for Libraries](#) may be the fuel setting the car in motion. The last paper has been translated into [Italian](#).

EBLIDA has also published a series of instruments to enable measuring the impact of libraries in their cultural and socio-educational environment. Through the ELSA (European Libraries and Sustainability Assessment) Group, you can gain access to first-class reflection on quantitative and qualitative indicators, so much requested by local decision-makers.

3B REPRESENTATION OF EBLIDA AT MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, TRAINING

IFLA WLIC Athens, Greece, August 2019

The IFLA World Library and Information Congress Transform Libraries, Transform Societies took place in Athens, Greece in August 2019. <https://2019.ifla.org/>.

EBLIDA was represented by President, Ton Van Vlimmeren, Director, Giuseppe Vitiello, Treasurer Jean-Marie Reding, and Executive Board Members, Steen Bording Andersen and Alicia Sellés.

Generation Code, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 8 October 2019;



The event took place during [Europe Code Week](#) looking at how future technologies are interacting with libraries across Europe.

All EBLIDA EC members, except 1, 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.

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

Milan, 16 September 2020 (<https://www.convegnostelline.com/>)

- Ton van Vlimmeren, EBLIDA President
- Stefano Parise, Vice-President
- Giuseppe Vitiello, EBLIDA Director; and

- Marjolein Oomes, Christophe Evans and Ulla Wimmer (Members of the EBLIDA ELSA Working Group).

Webinar: "CITIZEN SCIENCE Supporting Sustainable Development Goals: The possible role of libraries" 23 June 2020

Giuseppe Vitiello, EBLIDA Director

3C PREPARATION OF EBLIDA MEETINGS

The EBLIDA secretariat prepare one physical meeting in Brussels on the 7th of October. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a series of online Executive Board Meetings, on 26th of March, 4th of May, 28th of May, 22nd of June, 10th of July, 21st of September. The next will take place in December. EBLIDA members have been sent a list of decisions taken at each meeting, by e-mail. If you are not receiving this information, please contact the office.

3D COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS 2019-2020

Newsletter



The monthly EBLIDA newsletter regularly informed members about EBLIDA activities. A series of special issues have been published in response to the Covid-19 crisis, on 3rd, 23rd, 25th April and 7th of May. Members were asked what libraries are doing during and in the aftermath of lockdowns throughout Europe. Many

responses were received and communicated in these newsletters. All newsletters are archived on the EBLIDA Website.

Internal communication

- a) Annual Conference;
- b) EBLIDA EC;
- c) Emails;
- d) Five permanent mailing lists (EBLIDA-List, EC, Full Members, Associate Members, EGIL);
- e) Ad hoc mailing lists (like EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference).

External Communication - Social Media

Twitter



To be part of the conversation in the digital space we continued to reach to our audiences through Twitter. We utilize these platforms to raise visibility of the association, to communicate, to connect and to build tighter relationships with partner organisations.

By September 2020 @eblida had 3,136 followers (compared to 2,652 in 2019) and continues to grow.

Facebook



Facebook is part of the multi-channel communication strategy of our Association as well, to cross-promote our web content and to share resources, events that might be interesting to our audiences. To date, we have reached 1,769 followers compared to 1,546 in 2019.

Flickr



To increase our visibility online and to reach a much wider audience, we store, show & share our events photos on Flickr. The platform currently has 30 Albums and 2,820 photos

Tumblr



EBLIDA blog is an online public platform where anybody can post articles. It is used to improve EBLIDA's organic search visibility and to interact, share and exchange ideas to build & foster relationships with members and potential members and anyone who might have an affinity for the Association

Pinterest



Pinterest - an interactive bulletin board - is another broadcasting extension of our organization. The goal is to connect with people who share the same interests as EBLIDA and encourage them to engage & support our Activities

4. RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

4A) COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE

The 28th Annual EBLIDA Council meeting will be held on 28th October 2020 online.

4B) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The EBLIDA Executive Board members are listed at the beginning of this document. 4 of the current 8 members will have served their second mandate by next year May. Therefore, there will be 4 vacancies. The EBLIDA Executive Board can have up to 10 members, therefore, there could be 6 vacancies to be filled by May 2020. The Secretariat will communicate about this at a later date.

4C) SECRETARIAT

The EBLIDA team comprises of:

- Giuseppe Vitiello, EBLIDA Director is chief representative of EBLIDA externally in hearings, conferences and meetings in Europe.
- Majella Cunnane, EBLIDA Administrative Officer (permanent position) is working on a part time basis of 20 hours per week. The main tasks are membership, communication and office management.
- 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, social media and other communication tools.

4D) 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.

EBLIDA Working Group ELSA being transformed into Expert Group ELSIA-EG

During its meeting in Brussels (October 2019), the EBLIDA EC decided to create the ELSA (European Libraries and Sustainability Assessment) Group as a Working Group engaged in more qualitative assessment linked to the Strand 3: Policy-Making in Libraries. ELSA activities started officially on 7th October 2019 and the Report drafted by the ELSA Group will be published soon.

During the EC online September meeting the following decision was taken:

The EC decides to set up an ELSIA Expert Group (European Libraries and Sustainable development Implementation and Assessment) and requests the Secretariat to proceed to the work preliminary to the creation and implementation of the Expert Group. Ms Alicia Selles Carot has accepted to chair ELSIA-EG.

EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)

Ms Barbara Stratton, EGIL Chair, left the Expert Group. The decision to replace her was delayed for the following reasons:

- EC had to decide whether to create two Expert Groups (Library Legislation and Information Law) or two subgroups within a single EG;
- IFLA proposed EBLIDA to participate in a joint IFLA-EBLIDA-LIBER-SPARC project on copyright with EBLIDA having a main role in e-lending (To be confirmed).

5. RISKS

In the short term, there are no risks for EBLIDA's financial situation. Nevertheless, the Covid effect may result in losses of members and EBLIDA should be ready to face a possibly fragile situation as in the past. The EBLIDA Task Force should build up a sustainable and firm basis for future EBLIDA activities.