

Guidelines for EGIL

EBLIDA Expert Group

An EBLIDA Expert Group is established to assist in formulating strategic aims for EBLIDA in cooperation with the director and to advise on issues pertaining to the area of expertise (e.g. copyright and IPR). An expert group should consist of recognized experts within the relevant domain and should ideally represent a geographical spread across the European membership of EBLIDA.

An expert group can be established by the Executive Committee. Members of the expert group are appointed and approved by the EC in cooperation with the director. If possible the Chair of an expert group should be a member of the EC. Apart from the Chair, members of an expert group need not be members of EBLIDA.

Experts groups are appointed for a three year period, but can be extended for further three year periods. There is no limit to the number of extensions, as there is no limit as to the number of years a member can serve on an expert group. The Chair of the expert group is appointed or reappointed by the EC in conjunction with the establishment or extension of the expert group.

The Expert Groups meet once or twice a year and communicate via email and on a listserv. Each expert group appoints a secretary and information coordinator. An expert group should consist of at least five members and no more than 12 members.

The EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)

The EGIL meets twice a year and works remotely between meetings mainly via an e-mail list supplemented by other forms of communication. The e-mail list has more than 12 members, but the core group at meetings is less than 12 members.

Responsibilities of EGIL

The following functions are the responsibility of EGIL:

- Advise and assist the EBLIDA EC in policymaking, strategy and advocacy including lobbying
- Maintain a good awareness of legal and political issues that affect the provision and circulation of information, especially where libraries and archives are concerned
- Advise and assist the EBLIDA EC by making proposals and comments to the European institutions regarding laws, or changes to laws that would improve the position of libraries and archives or the services they provide
- EGIL members can be appointed to speak on behalf of EBLIDA on Information Law, copyright, e-books or related issues.
- Cooperate and work with other organisations and institutions for these purposes.

Communication between EGIL and the EBLIDA EC

The information flow between the Expert group and the EBLIDA EC is crucial. Relevant information concerning information law, including copyright, e-books and related issues should be communicated promptly to each other by both committees, normally via the Director, President, Chair of the group or designated EC liaison as appropriate.

Reports at EC meetings

Reports from EGIL meetings should be made at each EC meeting, either by the Chair or, if the Chair is not a member of the EC, by another member of the EC designated to regularly liaise with and attend the EGIL meetings.

Report at Council-meeting

The EGIL report to the annual Council meeting should be made either by the Chair or, if the Chair is not a member of the EC, by the member of the EC designated to liaise with the EGIL.

Requests from the EC

Requests from the EC should be considered and wherever possible acted upon by the EGIL

New initiatives from EGIL

EGIL may propose new initiatives for approval by the EC. If the matter is urgent, the Chair of EGIL may refer it to the President and Director together.

Communication between EGIL and the E-book Task Force

Due to the significant crossover between the work of both groups, it is of great importance that there is an ongoing dialogue between the EGIL and the E-book Task Force to eliminate confusion regarding policy, actions taken and responsibility for papers. Both groups should routinely make their minutes and any relevant papers available to each other so they are aware of decisions actions taken and both need to have knowledge of what is going on in the field, etc.