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I am Head of Policy at the UK's Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP). I have worked for CILIP for 25 years in senior and high profile roles covering professional ethics and equalities; governance; and employment advice as well as policy. Before that I worked in public libraries including five years as Local Government Information Officer for the London Borough of Camden.

The development of professional policy has been at the heart of my interest and work. I head a Policy Team at CILIP that has been working on intellectual property where major gains have been made in the UK, information literacy and helping CILIP engage more effectively with information management. We work regularly on public library issues and those of other sectors such as health and social care, schools, higher education and prisons.

I also have responsibility for International work at CILIP. I have been a member of the EBLIDA Executive Committee for the past three years. I have contributed to EGCIS (EBLIDA's Expert Group on Culture and the Information Society) and its statement on Libraries and Literacy and am a member of the Task Force on E-Books which managed the Right to E-Read Campaign. In March this year I helped organise the joint IFLA FAIFE/CILIP seminar on Libraries and Privacy in the Digital Age.

This is an important time for EBLIDA and European Libraries, notably with the imminent review of copyright law. We need to engage effectively with the new European Commission and European Parliament and demonstrate the value of our professional community in delivering their key objectives. Our presence at Brussels needs to be more pronounced and we need to work closely with other like-minded organisations in getting our message across.