



**Libraries from media cases to public plazas:
Legislation, Policy, and relevant UN SDG measures and indicators in Europe**

**Background Paper to, and Conclusions of, the EBLIDA-NAPLE Annual Conference
(Dublin, 25 June 2019)
Prepared by the EBLIDA Secretariat
(Version Two)**



Contents

Acknowledgements	3
1. Europe by 2030	4
2. The aim of the present paper: To support the EBLIDA Strategic Plan (2019-2022)	7
3. Catalysts for Library change (2019-2022)	8
3.1 Active participation and the struggle for an equitable and democratic society.....	9
3.2 UN Sustainable Development Goals.....	11
3.3 Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market	14
3.4 Artificial Intelligence.....	17
4. Library legislation and policy	19
4.1 Freedom of expression and free access to information.....	20
4.2 Libraries within the national cultural and information policies	21
4.3 Libraries and the creative and/or knowledge industries	23
4.4 Libraries within social and educational policies	25
4.5 The protection of library heritage	32
5. Possible UN SDG- / AI-oriented measures and relevant UN SDG Indicators	33
5.1 UN SDG- / AI oriented measures	33
5.2 Relevant UN SDG Indicators	36
Bibliography	40



Acknowledgements

This Background Paper, prepared by the EBLIDA Secretariat, is the result of a collective reflection uphold, nurtured and developed by EBLIDA Members, and in particular by the Members of the EBLIDA Executive Committee. It is companion to a Working Paper prepared for the Annual EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference (Dublin, 25 June 2019).

Both Papers should be considered as a Work in Progress, constantly inspired by the changing needs and the innovative solutions suggested by our Members. Before its release, we benefitted from the remarks made by Ton van Vlimmeren, President EBLIDA, and Jean-Marie Reding, EBLIDA Treasurer. Our gratitude also goes to Professor Paola Dubini, University Bocconi, Milan, and Paola Puglisi for their comments as well as to AIB-ASVIS group (Paola Puglisi, Chiara Faggiolani and Paola Maddaluno) in charge of implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in Italian Libraries and Barbara Stratton, Chair EGIL.

We also wish to thank Ms Annemiek van de Burgt and Mr Johan Hoenink (Royal Library, NL) for a clear and up-to-date outline of online sources on Dutch Libraries as well as Mr Maarten Crump, Director, The Alignment House, for transmitting useful remarks, essentially included in Paragraph 1, Europe by 2030. The EBLIDA Secretariat is also grateful to Ms Floriane Marielle-Job for having timely alerted on the publication of a French Ministry of Culture Report on the social impact of French libraries.

The Paper was presented During the EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference in Dublin (25 June 2019) additional remarks, suggestions and criticisms were addressed to the Secretariat. This second version integrates the Background Paper and the Working Paper. A third version, likely to be released in September 2019, will integrate the conclusions of the papers presented at the Conference in the parts that were considered relevant for the progress of this Background Paper.

July 2019



1. Europe by 2030

Where are European libraries going? They are going where Europe and the rest of the world are going - and where is the world going?

According to a report published by ESPAS, the planet will be hotter in 2030, will have more inhabitants (not equally distributed) and will be living mainly in cities. It will continue to grow economically and will need more energy, with highly connected people and poly-nodal states.¹

Temperatures are expected to increase by 1.5 degrees; a hotter climate will have uncontrollable effects in terms of droughts, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people. By 2030, there will be one billion more people on earth, but the demographic increase will not be equally distributed: population in Europe will shrink, whereas growth in North America will be light and in the rest of the world substantial (up to 30% in Africa). Two-thirds of the world's population will live in cities; especially in cities below one million inhabitants.

The global economy will probably increase by around 3% and poverty will decrease, bringing the majority of the world to the layer above – designated as middle class. Estimates show that there will be 5.2 billion people classified as such; a large chunk of them will be living in emerging economies.

Today, 10.9% of the population are living in extreme poverty (decreased from 35% in 1990). By 2030, the goal of reducing this figure to 3% seems to be realistic. In spite of such a positive trend, economic gaps in world's population will increase with two thirds of global wealth to be owned by 1% of the population by 2030 – they own 50% today.

China and Europe are expected to become the first and the second largest economies, surpassing the United States. Poverty in Europe will be different from that in other countries and will include slow economic growth, social exclusion, lack of access to essential services, and an increase in mental health problems. Therefore, in spite of being the happiest place on earth, according to the UN Happiness Report, Europe will not be the host of human satisfaction.²

¹ ESPAS Global Trends to 2030: Challenges and Choices for Europe, by Florence Gaub, April 2019, https://www.iss.europa.eu/sites/default/files/EUISSFiles/ESPAS_Report2019_V15HD.pdf

² The UN Happiness Report is based on six ingredients: GDP per capita, healthy years of life expectancy, social support (as measured by having someone to count on in times of trouble), trust (as measured by a perceived absence of corruption in government and business), perceived freedom to make life decisions, and generosity (as measured by recent donations).



Consumption of energy is growing by 1,7% every year and oil, coal and gas will continue to meet most of the world's energy demands, mainly because renewable energy sources will not yet be able to meet the global demand. With connectivity reaching 75% of mobile phones by 2030, the Internet will be everywhere: in our cars, in our homeware and even on our bodies. Because of this high level of connectivity, the whole system of international relations will no longer consist of "poles", but of "nodes" where bilateral and multilateral relations among states will be the engine of security. Power will be determined by trade and aid flows, by arms and technology transfers rather than by economic outcome and military spending.

A different kind of world is prospected by the United Nations through their 2030 Agenda and the development of a Sustainable Development Programme articulated in 17 Goals (see paragraph 3.1). These Goals address poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. No one - the UN SDGs maintain - should be left behind.³

A different kind of world is also prospected by studies and reports challenging such progressive vision of world's state of affairs.⁴ In the EU, indexes related to the three mainstays of democratic participation: electoral participation, civil society participation and direct democracy have either stabilized or gone up in the last twenty-five years.⁵ And yet, discontent among the population, widespread protest against a distant and elitist Europe together with the rise of populism and undemocratic parties tell another side of the story.

Anxieties about the future, fears of losing the current economic status and negative attitudes towards migration are widespread in vast sectors of society across Europe. Socio-economic factors may play a role, in particular in countries like France and Italy. In other countries where the economy is in good shape, the cultural factor is determinant. Among the many global security challenges the world is facing – food security, climate change, energy security, proliferation and arms control - "cultural insecurity"⁶ still has to find its status as well as the intellectual machinery and the methodological tools designed to confront it.

³ These are the UN SDGs: Goal 1: No poverty, Goal 2: Zero hunger, Goal 3: Good health and well-being for people, Goal 4: Quality education, Goal 5: Gender equality, Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation, Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy, Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth, Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, Goal 10: Reducing inequalities, Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities, Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production, Goal 13: Climate action, Goal 14: Life below water, Goal 15: Life on land, Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions, Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals.

⁴ The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). Study on Societies outside Metropolises. The role of civil society organizations in facing populism, Main contractor: ECAS, February 2019, <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/files/qe-01-18-756-en-n.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.idea.int/gsod-indices/#/indices/world-map>

⁶ The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). p. 146.



How do libraries in Europe fit into this scenario? And how will these trends impact on the future of European libraries?

Twenty-five years ago, the IFLA-UNESCO Public Library Manifesto oriented library action into the following framework:

“Freedom, prosperity and the development of society and of individuals are fundamental human values. They will only be attained through the ability of well-informed citizens to exercise their democratic rights and to play an active role in society. Constructive participation and the development of democracy depend on satisfactory education as well as on free and unlimited access to knowledge, thought, culture and information.”⁷

This fundamental piece of advocacy still defines today the global challenges libraries have to cope with and the way they should shape their evolution. Evolution is a forward developing process which is not about what they have to become, but what they have “to be” in a future society. Library resilience - the need of progressing in an inclusive way by creating a collective base, a community and/or society - shapes new forms of solidarity.

Being positioned between the axis of evolution (new configurations of thoughts and things that already exist) and resilience (developing themselves in an inclusive way and treat problems as a learning process), libraries are local hubs of resilient evolution. Libraries are not just organizations; they are “movements” (Marie Østergard). Their way of engaging people is “conversation”, i.e. “Interweaving the rich diversity and knowledge of the community” (Lankes).

The axis of resilient evolution can no longer be built upon traditional library notions based on administrative categories: national / academic / public / school / special (community) / other. As movements, libraries can accommodate diversity, by managing tensions between social groups, between partners from other communities. In a hierarchical structure, this is not possible.

1. Libraries should be able to :
 - a. Implement an inclusive (of/by/for-) platform. Library act in public space. Public space is owned by the public.
 - b. Build a relevant network for the platform. A knowledge infrastructure relevant for the local context; an infrastructure that connects libraries all over Europe. For this a quadruple helix is needed:
 - i. Civil society
 - ii. Public sector
 - iii. Private sector
 - iv. Science
 - c. Access information via this network in a meaningful way;

⁷ <https://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-public-library-manifesto-1994>



- d. Enjoy state of the art and new kinds of media to facilitate knowledge transfer and creation;
- e. Create feedback loops to and with public and private sector and science.

2. The aim of the present paper: To support the EBLIDA Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

This paper intends to support EBLIDA's 2019-2022 Strategic Plan approved by the EBLIDA Executive Committee in Naples (4.3.2019).

The EBLIDA EC approved the vision, the mission and the goals of the new EBLIDA Strategy.

Vision

Eblida is the community hub for all library organizations in Europe striving towards an equitable, democratic and sustainable society.

Our mission

- to promote freedom of information and free access to information, education and culture for all citizens in Europe;
- To engage libraries in taking care of people and their rights by encouraging democratic participation of citizens in society;
- To advocate for the interests of the library and information sectors and professionals in Europe.

EBLIDA 2019-2022 SP is divided into four Strands:

- 1) The Political Level,
- 2) The Legislative Framework,
- 3) Policy-making for Libraries, and
- 4) The Socio-Educational impact of Libraries

Each of these Strands goes together with several flagship projects.

Strand number 1 "The Political Level" concerns EBLIDA's traditional work of advocacy with European institutions.

The project associated with this Strand is the promotion of a *Library Manifesto for Europe*. Initiated by PL2030 with a fully-fledged strategy implying a "Before" and an "After" European



Elections, the Manifesto is the result of a joint effort undertaken by PL 2030, IFLA, LIBER, SPARC Europe and, of course, EBLIDA. During its meeting in Naples, the EBLIDA Executive Committee approved the Manifesto with minor amendments.

Strand number 2 “The Legislative Framework” concerns library activities on copyright on the one hand, and library acts or bills pivoting national library policies.

The two projects associated with Strand 2 are: a) continuation of work on copyright undertaken in collaboration with IFLA, LIBER, SPARC, CENL and other associations, and b) the revision of the Council of Europe-EBLIDA Guidelines on Library Legislation and Policy, approved in 2000.

Strand number 3 “Policy-making” originates because it has been found that library facts and situations do not seem to be reflected adequately in national statistics evaluating library performances at national and European level.

The project associated with Strand 3 is the setting up of library qualitative indicators in addition to the quantitative indicators linked with document circulation that are normally used to evaluate libraries and library collections.

Strand number 4 concerns “The Socio-educational impact of libraries”, i.e. policies going beyond the traditional function of libraries. They concern engagement in communities, literacy activities, non-formal learning including self-learning, social inclusion.

The project associated with Strand 4 is LBY-LHY (Learn By Yourself, the Library will Help You), where libraries create and maintain aggregations of educational materials online in open access useful for the development of literacy and informal (self-) learning.

3. Catalysts for Library change (2019-2022)

After the 2nd WW public libraries were clearly identified as agents for democratic progress. A high level of literacy was marking the watershed between advanced and less favoured regions of the world straightforwardly. The post-war democratic library was well described by the first UNESCO Public Library Manifesto: *“The public library is the product of modern democracy and is a practical demonstration of democracy's faith in universal education as a life-long process.”*

The “idealistic” phase was followed by what can be called a “utilitarian” attitude, which started in early 1970s. This was the time of cataloguing standards and technological applications in libraries. Librarians were information managers developing a scientific approach to information.

More recently, with information service providers having broken the monopolistic role in free access to information libraries have enjoyed for years, another attitude is shaping mentalities in libraries. Several metaphors – libraries as “conversation” or “movements” – demonstrate that a



third phase has started, with libraries getting out of an introverted approach and being requested to interact more closely with society.

The Europe of the future will be characterized by the mega-trends described in paragraph 1. Together with them some catalysts will also be setting the scene. The difference between trends and catalysts is that the first are nearly impossible to change over the coming decade. Catalysts, instead, have higher degrees of uncertainty because they move faster than mega-trends. They are determinant in orienting the future and will certainly impact on mega-trends, even if in a way that is difficult to assess at this stage.⁸

In the library field catalysts can accelerate change provided that library decision-makers are able to intercept them, re-orient library activities in an appropriate way and come out with innovative solutions. If they do so, European library organizations may contribute to the design of future major societal events, instead of being driven by them. A determinant factor will be how libraries consolidate their positions in a "platform economy" incentivizing a "community-based" economy including non-contractual, non-hierarchical or non-monetized forms of exchange for products or services.

The following are the four catalysts for library change in Europe between 2019 and 2022:

- a) Active participation and the struggle for an equitable and democratic society;
- b) The UN Sustainable Development Goals;
- c) The Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market;
- d) Artificial Intelligence.

3.1 Active participation and the struggle for an equitable and democratic society

The rationale beyond the rise of antidemocratic parties can be found in socio-economic as well as cultural factors. There is a general consensus that communication is the main strength of these parties: the right questions are addressed but answers are wrong. Rather than the communication style – blatant style may be an occasional asset but is not always a good strategy in the long term – the trump card used by antidemocratic and populist movements is in the way they use direct democracy, online disinformation and Euroscepticism.⁹

⁸ ESPAS, Global Trends to 2030, op. cit., p. 22.

⁹ We follow closely the analysis included in The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). Study on Societies outside Metropolises. The role of civil society organizations in facing populism, Main contractor: ECAS, February 2019, <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/files/qe-01-18-756-en-n.pdf>



There is no need to quote Rousseau to claim that direct democracy maximizes participation. On the other hand, deliberation through direct democracy is emotion-driven if it is not accompanied by the conditions required to make good deliberations. The misuse of direct democracy can be contrasted by a well-informed debate with clear questions and outcomes, especially at local level.

Two factors contribute to online disinformation. The first is the amplification of the fake solutions proposed by antidemocratic parties through social media. The other is an overt challenge to the *Esprit des Lumières* ideas and the progressive mindset that has been a constant, often inertial development of the European society after the 2nd WW. Finally, Euroscepticism is also a populist argument resulting from widespread dissatisfaction with delayed or ineffective measures proposed by European bodies.

A strong counterweight to fake propaganda can be the action undertaken by civil society, in particular by organisations working at local level. Their networking power as well their advocacy action in favour of marginalized people has often proven effective. It has to confront, however, the complexity of the phenomenon, the limited human resources of civil society organizations and sometimes, their lack of expertise.

Library communication can certainly be strongly modified if the extended concept of library mission, also including social aspects, takes over their current mission. Nevertheless, the generalization of the “social” library concept (see paragraph 4.2.4) is not planned for tomorrow.

As natural providers of diverse and well balanced information, libraries can play a role in creating datasets and content useful to a well-informed decision-making process. This implies deep re-thinking of library communication, that normally operates through information dissemination and the use of library catalogues. For years, librarians struggled on how to enhance data search and information retrieval. Most of what used to be manual three decades ago is now automated. Further developments can be expected by the use of Artificial Intelligence Tools.

Libraries can do a lot by using the main form of Web rhetoric – that is quotation. Web quotation in libraries means quotations from library collections. Libraries can organize web pages including extracts from books and papers stored in their collections where well-thought and effective political and policy measures are proposed as a result of years of study and research. What is the point in storing rich and scientific information if it is superseded or simply ignored by a tweet? Library counter-information diffused through social media should start with quotations from classical books on democracy and well commented bibliographies complementing traditional library communication.



Libraries' authoritativeness in internal political debates can also be raised thanks to their capillary distribution throughout the territory. Certified, library-branded information included in library collections may contrast against the simplified solutions proposed by populists and antidemocratic parties. The positive impact of migration on national GDP, European good achievements, and other arguments refuting anti-European propaganda – quoted from library collections - may be amplified through library networking and be replicated on library websites.

Library political communication would keep a high profile and provide for an original, and possibly alternative voice where and when political debates are poor and leading to controversial deliberation. It is a different meeting place, at the non-governmental, informal and human scale.

3.2 UN Sustainable Development Goals

The UN SDGs are not a book of dreams. They consist of concrete measures – themselves structured in a series of sub-goals and indicators - aiming to contrast the current human-driven developments that are leading our planet to disaster. Even if climate change and natural environment are core objectives, the 17 Goals address world problem in a global way and set out a strategy whose final objective is to save the planet through a sustainable human environment. Since 2017, the European Union has created a "EU SDG multi-stakeholder platform" in charge of implementing a Sustainable Europe 2030 strategy.¹⁰ Article 3 of the Treaty of Lisbon states:

“The Union’s aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples... It [The Union] shall work for the sustainable development of Europe based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at full employment and social progress, and a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment. It shall promote scientific and technological advance. It shall combat social exclusion and discrimination, and shall promote social justice and protection, equality between women and men, solidarity between generations and protection of the rights of the child. It shall promote economic, social and territorial cohesion, and solidarity among Member States. It shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe’s cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced.”

¹⁰ The seventeen UN SDGs are: 1: No poverty, 2: Zero hunger, 3: Good health and well-being for people, 4: Quality education, 5: Gender equality, 6: Clean water and sanitation, 7: Affordable and clean energy, 8: Decent work and economic growth, 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, 10: Reducing inequalities, 11: Sustainable cities and communities, 12: Responsible consumption and production, 13: Climate action, 14: Life below water, 15: Life on land, 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions, 17: Partnerships for the goals. For European Union. Europe moving towards a sustainable future; https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/sdg_multi-stakeholder_platform_input_to_reflection_paper_sustainable_europe2.pdf



Libraries are key institutions for achieving the Goals. Individual libraries all over the world have shown the many ways of implementing SDGs through library activities addressing the communities they are rooted in. Normally, libraries or library associations (e.g. ALIA, the Australian Library Association) address UN SDGs in the form of Storytelling.¹¹ They tell the world in which way they provide their contribution to the accomplishment of UN SDGs. Over the last few years, IFLA has been actively involved with the creation of the UN 2030 Agenda, advocating for the inclusion of access to information, the safeguard of cultural heritage, universal literacy, and access to information and communication technologies (ICT) within the UN SDG framework.¹² In the IFLA Report, eight libraries in Europe – Slovenia (Goal 1), Romania (Goal 2), Netherlands and Sweden (Goal 4), United Kingdom (Goals 6-7), Latvia and Finland (Goal 9), Switzerland (Goal 16) and public libraries in the European Union (Goal 8) tell their story on how they meet UN SDGs successfully.¹³

A fully-fledged methodology articulated into seven categories has been developed by the UN to evaluate projects pursuing SDGs and the way the global movement for the Sustainable Development Goals progresses in the most transformative, impactful and innovative way. A successful project can be: mobiliser, storyteller, campaigner, connector, visualizer, includer and creative. The list is useful since it suggests strategies for UN SDG implementation and this is the list of European projects having been selected for UN SDG Awards in 2018:

1. Category Storytelling. Human & Climate Change Stories (International);¹⁴
2. Category Campaigner. The Running Dry Movement (International);¹⁵
3. Category Visualizer. SDG Portal for Municipalities (Germany);¹⁶

¹¹Respectively, <https://librarymap.ifla.org/stories> and

https://www.alia.org.au/sites/default/files/Sustainable%20Development%20Goals%20report_screen.pdf.

¹² <https://www.ifla.org/libraries-development> and Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda, <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/10546>.

¹³ Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda, <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/10546>

¹⁴ HUMANS & CLIMATE CHANGE STORIES, A project by Media Active for Change ((Le Monde, Le Temps, Politiken, Radio France, Radio TV Swiss, RTBF (Belgium), NGOs (Care, CAN, 350.org). We aim in the short-term to create contacts in the English-speaking world (UK, US), which will be facilitated by existing partnerships between media. The project started mid-2017, and is supported by the International Organization for Migrations (IOM) and the Swiss Cooperation for development.

¹⁵ THE RUNNINGDRY MOVEMENT. A project by Thirst #RunningDry started on the 4th November 2018 in New York City. It ran across Europe (UK, France, Italy), Uzbekistan, India, China, Hong Kong, Dubai, the Middle East (Jordan, Palestine, Israel) and South Africa, where she broke her femur after marathon 62 (in 62 days).

¹⁶ SDG-PORTAL FOR MUNICIPALITIES. A project by Bertelsmann Stiftung, Association of German Cities and others. How successful is your municipality in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals? Check it out on the SDG-Portal! Our first answer: A universal set of 47 core indicators for all SDGs and sub objectives, which support municipalities in assessing and monitoring progress and development towards achieving the SDGs. Our second answer: An easy and intuitive approach towards them. For that purpose, the Bertelsmann Stiftung and



4. Category Connector. ASviS, Festival of Sustainable Development (Italy);¹⁷
5. Category Includer. Transforming Live Makes Sense for Everyone (International);¹⁸
6. Category Creative. Our Sustainability – a Reminder through Interactive experience (especially UK and Spain).¹⁹

From a European perspective, three issues are important for libraries:

- Should UN SDGs be considered an externality, or should they be incorporated into national library legislation and information policies?
- Should UN SDGs be disentangled from economic development in less sustained continents with a view to creating a sustained human environment valid for the South as well as for the North of the World?
- How narrow should the scope of UN SDGs be: only linked to climate change or aimed to support the sustainability concept as a whole - “A development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”?²⁰

its cooperation partners have turned their SDG indicators for municipalities into a website: the “SDG-Portal”. The SDG-Portal visualizes the municipalities’ progress on their way towards sustainability illustrated by indicator-based data (for municipalities larger than 5000 residents).

¹⁷ The SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FESTIVAL is a nation-wide initiative which mobilizes all sectors of Italian society, launched by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development every year since 2017 to promote and spread a culture of sustainability. The Festival takes place across the country every year in late May, and spans over the course of 17 days, the same number as the SDGs. The first edition in 2017 was a great success, featuring over 200 events, topped by the 2018 one, which saw over 700 events, with a 2019 edition in the works for May 2019.

¹⁸ The IPC’s “Transforming Lives Makes Sense for Everyone” campaign, launched in partnership with the UN Human Rights Office, showcases the long-term legacies the Paralympic Games have for persons with disabilities through education, employment, inclusive cities, Paraspport and political leadership. In December, starting with the UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities, three short films were published on social media to demonstrate how the London 2012 Paralympics contributed to one million more persons with disabilities securing employment in Great Britain.

¹⁹ OUR SUSTAINABILITY - A REMINDER THROUGH INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE (ALSO INCLUDING UK AND SPAIN). A project by The One Academy, Sunway Malls. The project was initiated by Sunway Malls who approached The One Academy looking for a creative approach to bring SDG awareness to mall visitors. The goal was simple: get people to know SDG experientially. The decided approach however was not as simple: interactive installations. We decided to challenge The One Academy’s multimedia students, turning this into a semester-long course project. After 6 weeks of pitching ideas and 7 weeks of restless efforts driven by creativity, grit, and determination, the 18 students involved outdid themselves. Through weekend of 25th and 26th August 2018, a period mall visitors traffic is at its peak, four interactive installations were proudly presented to public: Beyond The Garden Wall, SAW (Sexist Arm Wrestling), Mao, and Lights Out.

²⁰ Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future (Brundtland Report), <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/5987our-common-future.pdf>



UN SDGs concern the whole of the planet but do not mean the same whether they are applied to Europe or to the rest of the world. For instance, “Eradication of poverty” (Goal 1) in Europe is not assessed according to international standards. The ESPAS Report calls readers’ attention to the fact that:

“It is worth noting that while European poverty differs from poverty elsewhere in that we [European Union] are wealthier than most of the rest of the world, 23.4% of our population is still at risk of poverty, living of 60% or less of the national median income. This number has remained more or less the same over the last 15 years.”²¹

Similarly, “Reducing Inequalities” (Goal 10)

“is not merely an economic problem: it is part of a larger complex issue which also includes poverty, slow economic growth, social exclusion, access to essential services, and mental health”.²²

The European Economic and Social Committee claimed that Agenda 2030 could provide the social and economic contract for the 21st century, aimed at eradicating poverty, ensuring decent living and working conditions for all and reducing social inequalities, the sustainability of the planet and – above all – a new era of innovation and progress in every field for a Europe open to the world.²³

Europe is not a continent as any other. Any state implements democracy through an internal system of checks and balance. Europe, and the European project, have made it possible that checks and balances can be realised at a European scale through the variety and quality of political structures present in European states. EBLIDA claims that both Europe, through the EU Agenda 2030, and European libraries should be world champions in Sustainable Development. European libraries should incorporate a sustainable development perspective into their strategies and design their projects taking into account UN SDGs. Assessment mechanisms linked to the achievement of UN SDGs should also rule the distribution of national and EU funds for libraries.

3.3 Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market

The recently approved Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market should create a much more favourable environment for libraries. Articles 3 and 4 provide mandatory exceptions for

²¹ ESPAS, p. 13.

²² Ibidem.

²³ <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/about/political-organisation/eesc-president/blog/sibiu-eu-leaders-must-launch-new-pact-fair-resilient-and-sustainable-europe>



research organisations, cultural heritage institutions and other users to carry out text and data mining, Article 5 encourages cross-border teaching activities, Article 6 provides a mandatory exception for digital preservation of cultural heritage; Articles 8-12 facilitate licensing (with a mandatory fallback exception) for the mass digitisation and making available of out-of-commerce works by cultural heritage institutions.

The relevance of the Copyright Directive for libraries, however, goes far beyond the few articles providing for exceptions and limitations. It concerns the future development of the web and the role libraries can play in the digital environment. In the last two centuries two networks have been in existence in the analogue world: a commercial network including publishing and audiovisual companies, and the non-commercial network of libraries guaranteed by public legislation and resources. Citizens are coming to libraries to find what they are unable to acquire in book and music shops. The second half of the 20th century marked the zenith of library aspirations in terms of free access to information.

With the emergence of digital networks the role of libraries has diminished in concomitance with the advent of conglomerates providing for easy and often free access to information. Google Maps, Google Books, Google Scholar and other services are universally used. The perception that more and more information in digital form can be made accessible for free has grown together with the power of the information service conglomerates. All this comes with an invisible cost, though: the occupation of the private space with personal data delivered to conglomerates that manipulate consumers' choices towards market-oriented opportunities. This trend will be more pervasive, and also more invisible, when Artificial Intelligence tools will facilitate massive transfer of personal data, information and content for further processing and consumers' orientation.

It is perhaps an illusion to think that the Copyright Directive re-establishes a two-network environment - commercial vs. non-commercial – in the digital environment. The power of information service providers is based not only on the quantity of products they provide for free thanks to advertisement revenues (and, occasionally, misuse of copyright-protected works). It is based on the kind of social agreement Google, Apple, Facebooks, Amazon, Microsoft make with their consumers - a culture of connectivity where the public and the private sphere intertwine. Nevertheless, a copyright dense digital environment assigns libraries, and the international organizations representing them, huge responsibilities on how to construct the infosphere generated by the Directive and to make the most out of the exceptions and limitations included in it.

Libraries are an essential part of the democratic fabric of a country. Through the close association of free access to information and freedom of expression they have to deliver content in a way that is respectful of individual freedoms – the same way that has made, and is making, Europe a



happy democratic place. The way libraries will channel the products they manage, the forms of connectivity they will adopt on their platforms may be an example of information economics where algorithms and artificial intelligence tools are applied in an ethical way, that is independent on profit laws.

Another responsibility of libraries is to be able to repair market distortions. Opposite to social information providers, libraries are warrant of a pluralistic and diverse approach to information. There is speculation that a possible side effect of the Copyright Directive could be an alliance between web conglomerates and publishing giants and it is not by chance, perhaps, that the very day the Copyright Directive was approved Apple launched Apple News+ in North America, in collaboration with 300 newspapers publishers. If alliances between a handful of publishers and the oligopoly of information service providers come true, it is the responsibility of libraries, and in particular of public libraries, to diversify their offer in order to provide for alternatives to mainstream commercial flow of information.

This market trend creates another imperative for libraries: to be innovative, to launch initiatives to, and alliances with, authors, creators, information providers and small and medium publishers so as to become an attractive distribution channel for digital publications that do not find visibility in the digital environment.

Is the internet a place where collective intelligence actors coalesce for the progress of knowledge? Or is the internet also a creative space where individuals can make their own living thanks to their artistic talent? Open access and creative commons are the obvious solution for academic libraries. When it comes to creators and creative industries, however, public libraries have to reformulate their policies on copyright in a flexible way. In other words, the Copyright Directive may raise fears that uploading content on the internet through filtering may curtail free navigation on the web; it also creates tremendous opportunities for libraries and cultural institutions if they are able to carry out their own internet policy in an enlightened and cooperative way.

Member States are given two years to implement the Copyright Directive into their national legislation, so it will still be some time until this legislation comes into force. It should be our joint effort to make sure that national laws transpose the Directive in such a way that libraries reinforce their role in an environment where general compliance to copyright regulations will intensify. Libraries will have to mobilize with a view to consolidating their public representation as non-commercial networks providing access to information for all - the same role they enjoy in the analogue, printed world.



3.4 Artificial Intelligence

Let's be frank. If AI is now used to create self-driving cars, it can also be used to create humanless libraries and even library-less societies. Plenty of library functions can be replaced by AI-based machines. Reception activities may be replaced by robots, or robot teams coordinated by human beings. Already now, robots are carrying out storage activities, whereas retrieve and cataloguing functions are already replaced by algorithms. With the increasing presence of digital publications and the ability to extract, re-group, aggregate publications, a humanless library is not too remote an issue.

If these trends come true, the social cost of AI applied to libraries will be huge. Librarianship is perhaps wrongly described as a “woman’s profession”, but it is a fact that women represent the majority of the library workforce (83 per cent in the United States, between 60 and 70 per cent in Europe).²⁴ With AI tools replacing library functions, unbalances in gender employability and gender pay gaps may widen up. AI, therefore, is not going to serve UN SDG 5 aiming to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The issue is not whether transition to AI will occur in libraries. It is about how and the impact it will have. Artificial Intelligence is going to create winners and losers in the society but luddite attitudes are not a solution. If library functions traditionally performed by women are going to be phased out, the solution is in a transition managed by librarians themselves, so that they are not excluded from the decision-making process. AI systems use natural language processing, ontologies and reasoning in order to gather and extract information from large data sources identifying the cause and effect within data. They process knowledge systems and, through the process of learning, identify relationships and connections between databases. Together with other technologies, i.e. the Internet of Things, AI is going to change our lives in the next decade - and libraries as well.

With everyone being digitally connected to everything, anywhere and at any time, mechanisms or tools for analyzing and using the data will be associated with almost all aspects of daily life. Big data tools and AI software will initially be easily accessible to large, rich and powerful organizations. Subsequently, these tools will be commoditized and accessible to anyone, with grassroots initiatives reversing the top-down approach. What people can access and analyze is becoming “bite-sized” and aggregable. This creates an opportunity for services provided by, and between individuals and organizations of all types, from companies to non-profit organizations and governments.

²⁴ In Germany, the percentage of women in the library workforce is 40 percent, <https://bibliotheksportal.de/informationen/bibliothekslandschaft/frauenbibliotheken/>; in France the proportion of women is 70 percent, <https://www.archimag.com/le-kiosque/mensuel-archimag/mag-324/protection-donnees-RGPD-DPO/PDF>



AI being a disruptive set of technologies, AI governance should be based on a set of universally applicable principles and guidelines regarding the responsible use of these technologies. Global policy challenges include: existing and future applications of AI in cybersecurity and the military; the risks of uncontrolled international AI races; and AI research should be safe and beneficial to humanity.²⁵ An AI strongly based on human values and judgement as well as on fundamental rights is the concept designed by the CLAIRE network, aiming to complement rather than replace human intelligence and aiming to take multiple perspectives into account (e.g., societal, psychological, economic, technological and ethical perspectives).²⁶

The tipping point for AI is expected to happen in 2025-2026 but solutions for preparing this future are being worked out now. It is possible that all library transactions could be replaced by AI-based services. Therefore, if libraries are not aware of how they can best use AI, they will adopt AI solutions passively instead of smartly driving the process. The following paragraphs identify three possible, but realistic scenarios for application of AI tools to three of the four Strands of the EBLIDA 2019-2022 Strategic Plan.

A realistic scenario concerning the application of AI-tools in Copyright

Alicia is a multimedia artist working in Spain. Her artistic work earned her critical acclaim beyond her country. She is being offered positions as teacher in art schools but she decides to make her own living thanks to her talent. Alicia is politically committed and, as things stand in 2025, she aims to reach targeted groups in South America.

She contacts Google-PARSHME, the mainstream digital distribution channel originated by Google in joint venture with Paramount, Random House and Sony Music Entertainment. Google-PARSHME audience, worth 3 billion people around the globe, is not interested in Alicia's bitart (since 2021, this neologism has been used for digital artistic products).

Her AI copyright tool suggests instead OCLAIA, a platform resulting from the merging of two platforms: the Online Computer Library Aggregation and AIA, the Association of Independent Artists. Her bitart work will be performed for free in public libraries in closed sessions but Alicia will be remunerated for online diffusion through the OCLAIA digital platform. Her author's right remuneration may perhaps be lower in relation to what Google-PARSHME offers. Nevertheless, thanks to the capillarity of library distribution, Alicia will reach Spanish-speaking population in Amazonia, one of the themes of her work.

A realistic scenario concerning the application of AI-tools in Qualitative indicators

Steen has an AI enterprise. He has been called by the metropolitan area of RotterHague to develop sustainable urban planning in an area that is going to be deserted as a result of the agreement signed by Great Britain with the EU in 2026. Many of the companies that had settled down in RotterHague after

²⁵ European Parliament. European Artificial Intelligence (AI) leadership, the path for an integrated vision. Study requested by the ITRE committee, September 2018.

²⁶ CLAIRE is a network of 265 research groups and institutions committed to working together towards realizing the vision of CLAIRE: European excellence across all of AI, for all of Europe, with a human-centred focus.



Brexit in 2018 are now coming back to the UK. The government ruling Rotterdam fears that empty buildings and the decline of real estate prices will originate a gradual degradation of the metropolitan area. The Rotterdam government also wishes to de-segregate local layers of populations of different cultures, origins and religion that feel excluded from the Dutch society and to promote a new quality of human aggregation.

Through his AI tool Steen combines various indicators – declining real estate prices, demographic trends, past conversions from ad hoc (olimpic, harbour) districts into residential areas – but results are not conclusive. In particular, Rotterdam requirement to create aggregating places remains unmet. Should Steen prospect a couple of malls, the establishment of religious institutions, or the setting up of cultural hubs?

Fortunately, since 2021 Dutch libraries have started implementing new qualitative library indicators measuring the social impact of libraries. These indicators combined with other community parameters inspire Steen's solution. A savvy and relatively inexpensive measure to regenerate the area would be locating library branches in strategic parts of the Rotterdam conurbation.

A realistic scenario concerning the application of AI-tools in library services

In 2022 Riitta and Matti, a retired couple living in Porvoo, Finland, decides to move to Southern Europe. Winters are too long in Finland; why not try somewhere else?

They have to learn a language but since they don't yet know which country they will live in, they are not sure which language. They go to the local public library. They discover that since 2020 the LBY-LHY project ("Learn By Yourself, the Library will Help You") has made available an incredible amount of educational material in open access, including language courses. This gateway to educational publishing is fed by local users and is maintained by the Finnish Union Catalogue. At the local library they find open access courses of Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and Greek languages.

Language can be learned easily, but what about fiscal and administrative requirements? An AI tool made available by the Poorvo public library is able to interrogate thousands of data about Southern European countries. By inserting their preferences, Riitta and Matti compare thousands and thousands locations, states, and houses for sale. They also discover taxations on incomes for EU nationals willing to transfer to Southern Europe. Thanks to the AI tools provided by the Poorvo Public Library, Riitta and Matti are able to sort out a detailed table listing pros and cons of their transfer to Southern European countries with offers of houses and apartments and information about the infrastructure they will find there. The four villages they have chosen to visit in 2022 are very much what they have dreamed about.

4. Library legislation and policy

The aim of this Strand is to revise the Council of Europe / EBLIDA Guidelines on Library Legislation and Policy in Europe - approved by the Council for Cultural Co-operation at its 68th Session (19-21 January 2000) and by the EBLIDA Executive Committee in January 2000 - in the light of the catalysts described above.²⁷

²⁷ https://www.nb.rs/view_file.php?file_id=1444



In defining library legislation we need to look beyond laws that concern themselves primarily with libraries. There is a great deal of legislation relevant to libraries that is present in other legislative frameworks, first and foremost the nation's Constitution. These pieces of legislation are for non-library purposes, but incidentally exercise important effects on the ways in which libraries develop.

For administrative purposes, libraries are divided into national, academic, school, public or special/community libraries. These categories are getting blurred and a broader policy debate is taking place within some policy domain, from cultural and educational to information, economic, technological and social policy.

A Revised Council of Europe / EBLIDA Guidelines on Library Legislation and Policy in Europe should take into account the following five domains:

- I. Freedom of expression and free access to information
- II. Libraries within the national cultural and information policies
- III. Libraries and the creative and/or knowledge industries
- IV. Libraries within the national educational and social policies
- V. The protection of library heritage.

4.1 Freedom of expression and free access to information

A favourable environment for freedom of expression is the one that has found a delicate balance between different viewpoints and attitudes, so that none of them prevails in a determinant way and imposes its own perspective. A theory of tolerance, however, does not permit absolute relativism, but has to set a point beyond which further tolerance would create an unhealthy environment for freedom of expression. It is normally assumed that the frontier between the respect for individual opinions and the limited sovereignty of a theory of tolerance is to be found in the basic beliefs expressed by internationally recognized charter of rights. Reference is made, for instance, to the criteria laid down in Article 10 of the European Convention of Human Rights of the Council of Europe, signed in Rome on 4 November 1950 and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (2000).

Freedom of expression in libraries is threatened when politicians and/or policy makers attempt to orient the decision-making process in library acquisition by imposing “recommended” lists of acquisitions or by adapting acquisition policies to “new” reading needs. In the digital environment, a much controversial measure applied to limit content circulation is (automatic) filtering. One of the first episodes of libraries opposing to filtering mechanisms happened in 1996,



when ALA (the American Library Association) successfully opposed the Communication Decency Act, a measure set up by the Clinton Administration to prohibit online communication deemed to be harmful for children.

Filtering as a threat to freedom of expression has been a divisive issue in the debate surrounding the recently approved Directive of Copyright in the Digital Single Market. The monitoring and restriction of user-generated content at the point of upload would bring, according to the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, pressure for pre-publication filtering that is neither a necessary nor proportionate response to copyright infringement online.²⁸

Europe has a long tradition in the defence of human rights. The EU Agenda 2030 recognises the rights and obligations under international human rights law, emphasises that individuals and groups are rights-holders, and that states and non-state actors have corresponding obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.

UN SD Goal 16 promotes peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. The 2030 Agenda outlines principles that institutions should strive to achieve such as “effectiveness, inclusiveness, and accountability” (SDG 16), “responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels” (target 16.7), “public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms” (16.10).

Against fake news and solutions libraries can organize web pages including possible right solutions to real problems. Thanks to their capillary distribution throughout the territory and their networked systems, they are an ideal distribution segment for published and certified information. Nevertheless their control on the distribution process may be undermined by opaque, non-intuitive and difficult to understand AI-based “black boxes”, where information is filtered and organized in pre-formatted ways. The social acceptability of AI tools in libraries may be challenged by ethical and moral issues, apart from increasing the marginal role of libraries in the information chain.

4.2 Libraries within the national cultural and information policies

In the past national cultural policies were used to “educate” citizens (nationalism in the 19th century, fascist regimes in the first half the 20th century). After the 2nd WW, the debate moved from “what” to include in a cultural policy to “how” a cultural policy should be implemented.

²⁸²⁸ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24298&LangID=E>



Four models of policy for the provision of library services can be detected: concentration, devolution, decentralization and privatization.

Concentration, or a centralized, State-led way of organizing a cultural policy is a purely theoretical perspective in EU countries. Luxembourg, Malta and Cyprus are the smallest States in the EU, with a population going from ca 500,000 to 850,000 inhabitants. Not even in these relatively small states, however, library governance relies on the State only.

Devolution, or “autonomy”, means that a centralized power attributes to a subordinate entity the powers that are needed to manage a given cultural asset along the lines of intervention that are singled out by the same local body. Devolution refers to the movement of responsibility for a government programme to a lower level of government so that the lower level of government has complete autonomy in the financing, performance, policy-making and administration of library activities. Financial means may be derived from local incomes or money transfer from the central government.

The decentralized model is when governments single out goals to be reached through administrative actions and entrust local bodies to carry them out, also providing the means to implement these goals. Decentralization refers to a situation where the responsibility for performance and administration is to be relegated to a lower level, while policy-making and finance are to be retained at a higher level.

Library privatization means that part of the budget allocated to libraries comes from public grants, and that libraries have to find other sources of funding in order to carry out their public mission. Each library carries out an active policy of fund-raising with philanthropic associations, foundations and other governmental agencies. Privatization also means outsourcing, or contracting out library services – a practice that for the good and the bad has become common practice in several states even in ordinary services to encompass many, if not all library activities.

All these models are implemented in a spurious way in EU Member States. Co-operative arrangements among libraries include the administration of library networking under different patterns of development. Cooperation may follow a (supra)regional approach, an administrative orientation (e.g. university vs public libraries), a sectoral approach (for instance, a coordinated system of health libraries) or even a LIS approach, when libraries sharing the same library automated system or the same aggregated resources cooperate to implement services all together. Networking is a need dictated by efficiency, but also by a better cooperation between upper and lower government levels.



The implementation of UN SDG requires shared responsibility among all levels of government and coordination in the four dimensions of sustainable development – social, environmental, economic and governance. In particular, state and lower level of governments have to find agreements on common programmes and implementation schemes.

Subnational governments are responsible for 57% of total public investment (2016) on average across OECD countries and for almost 40% worldwide. And It has been estimated that 65% of the 169 targets underpinning the 17 SDGs cannot be reached without engagement of, and coordination with, local and regional governments.²⁹ On the other hand, the rural dimension is also important. Food security, biodiversity and the resilience of the ecosystems largely relies on sustainable land. Agriculture, for instance, is a significant determinant of at least 13 of the SDGs, including SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 15.

4.3 Libraries and the creative and/or knowledge industries

Creative industries have been defined on a number of occasions by international and national bodies. According to WIPO:

“The creative industries include a diverse group of activities, all of which rely to a greater or lesser degree on the contribution of original work and its protection through various IP rights. They link important elements of our shared artistic and cultural heritage with a future based around the digital transfer of ever-increasing amounts of information and content.”³⁰

WIPO estimates that the creative industries make a contribution to GDP that ranks between 4 percent and 6.5%. Slightly different is the definition provided by the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport, that drew official attention to the economic value of this economic segment. Creative industries are defined as :

“those industries which have their origin in individual creativity, skill and talent and which have a potential for wealth and job creation through the generation and exploitation of economic property. They include: 1. Advertising 2. Architecture 3. Art and antiques 4. Crafts 5. Design 6. Designer fashion 7. Film and video 8. Interactive leisure software 9. Music 10. The performing arts 11. Publishing 12. Software and computer services 13. Television and radio”.³¹

²⁹ Europe moving towards a sustainable future, pp. 18 and 45.

³⁰ World Intellectual Property Organization. How to Make a Living in the Creative Industries, by BOP Consulting, WIPO, 2017, p. 8, https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_cr_2017_1.pdf

³¹ Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (2011). Creative Industries Economic Estimates: Full Statistical Report 2011.



Similar to the definition of creative industries is what are considered knowledge industries. By knowledge is meant whatever kind of knowledge, scientific and ordinary, is produced, distributed, communicated and used. An extensive notion of creative/knowledge industry includes therefore any kind of education, R&D, communication and information occupation. Revenues for creative and knowledge industries are based on strict control of access to the information; it is the reason why creative industries are also called copyright industries.³²

In 2000, the Council of Europe-EBLIDA Guidelines suggested that “it is the duty of governments to establish a legal position for libraries”. In the last 20 years, this has translated into exceptions for libraries and archives - fundamental to the structure of copyright since they serve the social, and not the economic objectives of copyright law. These exceptions normally comply with the “three-step test,”: they are valid under (1) certain special cases; (2) do not conflict with normal exploitation of the work; and (3) cannot unreasonably prejudice the author’s interests.

There are a few exceptions in the recently approved EU Copyright Directive, as follows:

- Articles 3 and 4 provide mandatory exceptions for research organisations, cultural heritage institutions and other users to carry out text and data mining,
- Article 5 encourages cross-border teaching activities,
- Article 6 provides a mandatory exception for digital preservation of cultural heritage; Articles 8-12 facilitate licensing (with a mandatory fallback exception) for the mass digitisation and making available of out-of-commerce works by cultural heritage institutions.

There is now an opportunity to make exceptions mandatory so that they are not the object of negotiations between copyright owners and libraries and that reproduction of copyright-protected works by libraries is made an inviolable right. What should therefore be the scope of the exceptions?

In this respect information policies may partially conflict with cultural policies. Cultural policies in the publishing sector imply the promotion of creative industries through copyright enforcement.

In the publishing sector, cultural policies guarantee the multiplicity and diversity of opinions and expression, which strict conformity to market laws would not be able to maintain. There is little

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/77959/Creative-Industries-Economic-Estimates-Report-2011-update.pdf

³² Fritz Machlup. The production and distribution of knowledge in the United States. Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1962; Dominique Foray. Economics of Knowledge. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2004.



regulations for actors entering the market and a wide range of measures within the framework of an incentive-based policy. All EU countries have devised such legal or policy machinery with different policy “mix” and weight of the single actors within the general framework. In particular, massive acquisitions made by public libraries underpin cultural policy in the book sector.

This policy mix implies: a) legal measures, such as the respect of the rights related to intellectual property; b) fiscal measures (for instance, reduced VAT rate for books and for e-publications), c) mechanisms regulating demand (support to textbooks, fixed book price, massive acquisitions made by libraries); d) support for quality content (grants for translations). In the cultural sector, enforcement of copyright measures goes together with exceptions for libraries.

Information policy, in particular in scholarly communication, is an all-embracing policy on open access including open data, open education, open knowledge, open science. Open data for textual and non-textual material is the freedom of using, re-using, redistributing and sharing data provided that attribution is made. Any restriction to data is seen as going against the common good and as an impediment to innovation and the progress of science. Scientists do not see why data should be locked and not be immediately released into public domain. The idea behind the public domain is that a "community-based" economy, built around non-contractual, non-hierarchical or non-monetised forms of exchange for products or services, is the most favourable drive for innovation.

It is why more than dealing with general formats and categories, exceptions for libraries should concern the modalities and finalities of the work reproduction. While there is a general consensus about reproduction made for preservation purposes, interpretations in EU states may differ in relation to the finality (use of copyright-protected works for study and research, or for the private use of the library user), the location (exception only within library precincts) or networked use of cultural content (interlibrary loans and digital delivery). In this respect, Crews’ study on copyright “Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives” may still be useful.³³ In relation to UN SDGs, limitations based on the finalities of work reproduction address the concept of a functional economy that replaces the idea of selling a good with that of selling the use of a good.

4.4 Libraries within social and educational policies

The core of the library mission is still collection-oriented with an addition of multimedia programmes. Nevertheless, in response to socio-demographic changes and societal transformations, libraries have differentiated their services in the last twenty years and linked them to the community they refer to.

³³ World Intellectual Property Organization. Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. Seventeenth Session Geneva, November 3 to 7, 2008. Study on copyright Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives prepared by Kenneth Crews, p. 41-62. https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=109192



This movement was less the effect of institutional re-positioning than the result of the major trends and chronic emergencies that have featured European societies. Library functions were re-thought to the point that a new concept has emerged: the social library. A social library may mean to locate libraries along urban axes where a socially impaired population live. A social library also means to re-design the library space so as to make it attractive to marginalized or left-behind populations. Library policy is not concerned with the content of the cultural offer libraries make, but how and where library spaces are built, how library services should be provided, and how they can be major agents for cultural integration and social inclusion.

Library's transformation from a collection-oriented core business to a socio-cultural centre finds its rationale in the "movements" and "conversation" libraries engage with the communities they refer to. It also impacts on two sectors whose activities are largely dependent by library demand. The first is the "library" industry, the range of products and services, mainly of technological nature, tailored by private enterprises to meet library needs. The second is the Third sector – a large amount of cooperative agencies, also based on voluntary work, which are vital for the fulfilment of library's mission. The size of the Third sector in libraries is relevant in countries where the privatization of the library sectors has made great strides. Both sectors depend on library investments and public demand for social services.

AI introduction in libraries mean to devise policies both toward the library industry and the third sector. It translates into identifying competences that cannot be replaced by algorithms and setting conversion policies that, through new strategies, concepts, ideas and organisational patterns, consolidate and improve the renewal of the library industry, the improvement of reference communities and job-saving in the third sector.

Robotisation and the platform economy pose a serious threat to many European workplaces. The availability of ready-made "smart automation" tools resulting from the aggregation of data generated by, and relevant to publishing, information service and users, may disrupt library services as well as the industries providing for automated library services. The "social library" – with their jobs and profiles based on human relations and community "conversations" – is an area that cannot be replaced by algorithms, but also needs conversion and requalification.

Library statistics in the European Union started to be collected in a more systematic and intensive manner around 1990-2000, thanks to funding provided by the European Commission.³⁴ Unfortunately statistical series were not given follow up and the numerous attempts to collect

³⁴ Library economics in Europe [electronic resource] : millennium study / John Sumsion, David Fuegi, Phillip Ramsdale, 2003.



library statistics resumed only ten years later thanks to EBLIDA (2013-2015)³⁵ and the IFLA Library Map of the World.³⁶ In 2017, PL 2020 combined IFLA Library Map of the World with other indicators in its EU Library Factsheets.³⁷

Usual figures about EU libraries record 65,000 public libraries which are attended by some 100 million annual visitors.³⁸ One-fifth of the European population are active users. Quantitative indicators about libraries normally include registered users, number of visits and number of loans, both in physical or in a digital form.

Problematic issues about library statistics are: data quality, their scope and the use that is made. Data quality is still unsatisfactory, although the EC initial investment has encouraged the comparability of library figures.

The scope of statistics leaves much to desire. If statistical concepts should correspond to empirically observable facts or situations, it can be easily said that the “social” library - library services performed with migrants, minorities, socially excluded citizens – are not recorded anywhere. The impact of libraries should be assessed in terms of urban planning, social inclusion and democratic participation.

Rather than in the intensity of use of library resources, library practices should be seen in terms of modalities of use. The identification of library performance indicators of social impact may include, for instance, the number of voluntary and community groups normally linked to the library service, the proportion of hours when libraries are used for organized activities apart from traditional library services, the staff time percentage dedicated to contact with the public, and formal connections with schools and colleges as well as with local businesses.³⁹

These types of statistics are strongly needed. However impressive library statistics may seem, they are far from satisfactory. For instance, the number of 100 million annual library visitors⁴⁰

³⁵ EBLIDA. Public Libraries – Statistics 2013-2015 - Interactive map, <http://www.eblida.org/activities/kic/public-libraries-statistics.html>

³⁶ IFLA. Library Map of the world. <https://librarymap.ifla.org/>

³⁷ PL 2030. EU Library Factsheets <https://publiclibraries2030.eu/resources/eu-library-factsheets/>

³⁸ Susannah Quick, Gillian Prior, Ben Toombs, Luke Taylor and Rosanna Currenti. Cross-European survey to measure users’ perceptions of the benefits of ICT in public libraries. Final report March 2013, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2013.

<https://digital.lib.washington.edu/researchworks/bitstream/handle/1773/22718/Final%20Report%20-%20Cross-European%20Library%20Impact.pdf?sequence=1>

³⁹ François Matarazzo. Beyond book issues. The social potential of library projects. Comedia, 1998.

⁴⁰ Susannah Quick, Gillian Prior, Ben Toombs, Luke Taylor and Rosanna Currenti. Cross-European survey to measure users’ perceptions of the benefits of ICT in public libraries. Final report March 2013, Bill and Melinda Gates



can be dismissed with a scorn by a biased economist who might infer that similar, and perhaps better, results are achieved by social media, search engines and similar channels.

How library statistics are used is therefore important to determine both their quality and scope. Library statistics may be used to formulate cultural policies, to nurture educational objectives, or to validate social policies. Each of these uses need different sets of statistics to be processed in a way that is consistent with the desired results these policies wish to achieve.

The range of library missions has so much widened that its impact can be assessed using different sources and ways of evaluation. In a recent investigation, the French Ministry of Culture has made an attempt to inventory the impact that libraries may have on individuals and the society.⁴¹ What is fascinating in this attempt is that by impact is also meant those individual feelings which are hard to measure and to evaluate, but are nevertheless tangible anytime personal experiences refer to libraries. The construction of the Self and the practice of civilities, for instance, are feelings that are difficult to grasp, and even more to quantify. Nevertheless, a sense of fulfilment and the perception of being part of a more civilized world are the ordinary feelings that everybody experiences when visiting a library.

Table describing the cultural, educational and social impact of libraries and possible data sources*

Impact (Definition and possible scope)	Activities	Concerned audiences	Relevant data of general interest (national statistics)	Relevant data internal to the library	Ad hoc enquiry	Possible negative implications
1. Development of Cognitive functions (CF): Reading, memory, music, art and other cultural practices	Maximizing reading options and all cultural practices	All publics Pre-school children: CF acquisition School children: CF development Adults: CF maintenance Special publics	Community social-demographic data, Educational statistics but only in ex ante perspective	Data concerning attendance to library labs and special activities for CF development	With users: Motivation for Library lab users, With parents or relatives: qualitative investigation on users' environment	Assimilation between school and non-school CF-oriented activities may be perceived in a negative way

Foundation,

2013.

<https://digital.lib.washington.edu/researchworks/bitstream/handle/1773/22718/Final%20Report%20-%20Cross-European%20Library%20Impact.pdf?sequence=1>

⁴¹ Comment apprécier les effets de l'action des bibliothèques publiques?, par Pierre Le Quéau, Olivier Zerbib <http://www.culture.gouv.fr/Thematiques/Livre-et-Lecture/Documentation/Publications/Etudes-et-rapport-Lecture-et-bibliotheques/Publication-du-rapport-comment-apprecier-les-effets-de-l-action-des-bibliotheques-publiques>



2. Literacy Best use of information in life activities, palliate information shortage: computer literacy, teen-ager literacy, text-image literacy, etc.	Know-how transfer, training activities,	Especially old people or people with special needs	Social-demographic data (age, educational background, socio-cultural level) Ex ante: literacy needs, Ex post: impact	Data concerning users' background (social, cultural)	Questionnaire aimed to evaluate literacy needs, Qualitative enquiries aiming to evaluate literacy levels	
3. Construction of the Self aiming to: Elaborate personal identity, empathy, interpersonal relations, symbolic elaboration	Interest for today's world, development of critical judgement, develop self-confidence	Pre-school children: construction School children: development Targeted publics (being a priority within communities)	Not applicable	Attendance to Library labs	Questionnaire on motivation to attend library labs, On expectations to be met by the Library	
4. Civility: Fight against arrogant and insulting attitude, Sense of understanding and tolerance, Civic feelings and engagement, solidarity	Library open to all, activities to consolidate sense of citizenship, of solidarity and of belonging	All publics	Statistics on minor criminal acts, Number of associations organizing activities within or around the library	Library data on users broken down by social background and social and professional category	Individual questionnaires assessing interaction and how the Library is perceived	Insistence on civility perceived as a cultural supremacy
5. Empowerment, Using personal and civil rights, mobilize, fight against inequalities	Access to information reinforced by meeting, debates, inclusive activities	All publics Special publics including left behind, cultural minorities,	Not applicable Indirectly: Number of associations organizing activities within or around the library	Content of the agreements set between library and external associations	Questionnaire on motivation to attend library labs Evaluation of the skills in setting up empowerment project	Unsuccessful meaning of empowerment
6. Development of cultural and digital practices: Reading, theatres, music, screen culture	Cultural and literacy activities, as a whole	All publics, and in particular young, marginal young people Old people for digital literacy	Cultural structures at state / regional level	Number of activities of cultural nature	Motivation on attendance to cultural activities taking place in the library	
7. Networking and partnership, Making sense of social identity, Supporting and enriching civil society	Activities linked to: i. arts and culture, ii. library functions (creation, dissemination), iii. community work and work with special publics.	All publics, and in particular marginal publics	Not applicable	All internal data tracing down the density and quality of networking	Qualitative enquiry on partners to know their expectations Users' satisfaction surveys	Confuse identity, blurred frontier between what the library should do and what it could do



8. Cultural democratization, fair opportunities: an extended concept of culture, a positive attitude towards life, arts and new technologies	By definition, libraries are mediators between publics and arts & culture	All publics, in particular those who are not familiar with cultural activities	All socio-demographic data	Not applicable	Not applicable	Need of defining culture, possible elitist concept of culture
9. Educational performance: Not linked with successful school performance, but with individual well-being, social inclusion	Activities engaging in active citizenship and validation of competences and skills	All publics, and in particular pre-school children, school children, students	All kinds of educational statistics (performance results, PISA tests, etc.)	Attendance of Library labs, educational activities	Motivation studies addressing both children and their parents	
10. Employability, both as skills to be employed and environmental skills, project management	Training activities, self-training Partnerships with potential employers and recruitment agencies	All publics, in particular job-seekers, precarious employees, young graduates	Ministry of Employment, Chambers of Commerce, private agencies	Loan statistics, attendance to work-oriented Library labs	Enquiries concerning users' motivation and how they perceive library action in the training field	Librarians may not have required skills, blurred frontier between libraries and work agencies in pursuing the same result
11. Enhancing public security, Education to citizenship	Encouraging library visits of people having different backgrounds, Networking with organisations dealing with public security		Criminal records, statistics	Not applicable	With users on how they perceive the success of library activities oriented at public security	Interaction between "special" publics and ordinary library users may originate clashes or tensions
12. Territorial attractiveness, Quality of life, improvement of quality of life, especially in small cities	Marketing library activities, visibility of library operations	All publics, in particular creative audiences, spokespersons, local elected members	Statistics measuring the movement of population in and out the city	Number of registered users, website statistics, press clips regarding the Library	Questions concerning the library image	Short-term mobilization, event-driven planning

*Source: Comment apprécier les effets de l'action des bibliothèques publiques.



The “social” library is one where cultural integration and social inclusion become ordinary activities: non formal and informal learning are an important part of lifelong learning, where people of all ages are helped to develop their skills and knowledge.⁴²

Active citizenship and community engagement also target socially excluded groups: minorities, migrants, refugees and other marginalized groups not only in cities but also in rural areas (small and rural libraries may represent 60-70% of public libraries in a country). Libraries have modified their space and opened homework cafes and other areas in order to better serve less favoured groups of population. The re-invention of libraries has followed spontaneous patterns meeting the needs of job seekers, computer illiterates, information poor citizens. One of the results has been to tilt away from the role of information providers only and taking on new responsibilities as learning centres. The 3-D makers movement, often hosted in libraries, is an indication of this trend.

In Europe most people have attained a minimum living standard. Nevertheless, gaps between and within countries are increasing. A safety net would mean to prioritize at EU and governmental level fast-tracking actions for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds are empowered to climb the socio-economic ladder. It means to set up policies for the poorest and most marginalised in society such as ethnic minorities, refugees and migrants, stateless persons, persons with disabilities, the homeless, as well as children and young people, so that gaps do not widen.

Education through life-long learning programmes in libraries have to be adequately redesigned as a measure to fight poverty at its roots, in order to take account of the digital divide and equip the labour force with stronger problem-solving and soft skills to beat competition from machines.

Options for self-learning are now multiplying with the proliferation of open access research material. Quite a few platforms aggregate research-oriented material in open access. To mention a few: Wellcome Open Research, Gates Open Research and the prospective Horizon Europe. In the private sector mention has to be made of ResearchGate and Academia.Edu. In human and social sciences, active platforms are Knowledge Unlatched and Openedition. Many of these platforms are alternatives to the hybrid model proposed by STM publishers.

⁴² Directorate – General for Internal policies – Policy Department B. Public Libraries – their new role – Workshop, by Barbara Lison and Natascha Reip (Co-Author), Frank Huysmans, Dan Mount, IP/B/CULT/IC/2016-023/26/26 July 2016, p. 11. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/585882/IPOL_STU\(2016\)585882_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/585882/IPOL_STU(2016)585882_EN.pdf)
<https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/10546>



This is not the case for educational material. In spite of a large number of freely accessible MOOCs, tutorials, etc. present on the web, the “market” for educational material in open access is still in a pre-competitive stage. Before Mc Graw Hill and other big sisters active in the educational publishing sector start to be dominant - as Elsevier and other STM publishers are now in the research field - a role may be played by libraries, and in particular by the union catalogues libraries contribute to maintain.

Many MOOCs, tutorials and other educational material are catalogued by libraries and stored in union catalogues. Union catalogues, such as WorldCat, distribute resources with traditional search filters (by Authors, Subject, Category, etc.). A search filter “Open access”, broken down into disciplinary collections and freely accessible with no registration, would immediately enable union catalogues to become the most important gateways to open access publications. When these search filters exist, they are not accessible in an organized way and have none of the features of open access platforms. This is a missed opportunity for libraries even more so that users are normally very active in creating and discovering open access resources – for instance, materials prepared by teachers.

An open access public library should therefore be a flipped library, with open access resources aggregated to those resources that are discovered or originally created by individuals. Hence, the need of promoting in all European countries a self-learning initiative with the title LBY-LHY, Learn By Yourself, The Library will help You.

LBY-LHY can have the following objectives:

- To increase literacy in groups of people and audiences with freely accessible, open access resources provided by open access providers or discovered/ created by users;
- To create gateways of open access resources tailored to library users with selections (disciplinary, for instance) that correspond to local needs;
- To fully exploit the potential of union catalogues as intermediaries of open access content;
- To fully exploit the added value of libraries as last mile knots of national and international knowledge infrastructures.

4.5 The protection of library heritage

Legislation on library-held heritage are not very different from the framework provisions enforced for museums and archives. Rules for the protection of heritage and relative tasks and duties should be the same for all responsible bodies, no matter whether they are state or local



authorities, or third parties having a cultural mission. This means that libraries with a heritage mission are subject to special regulations and permanent control.

One of the problems linked with the conservation and preservation of library material is the definition of heritage. Heritage is unique and has a value for the community; very likely, the economic principle of “the scarcer, the better” is an effective indicator of heritage asset, although every cultural heritage artifact being unique should be considered beyond any economic considerations.

Legal deposit is the usual way through which heritage collections are built up in libraries together with the digitization of the library heritage. Legal deposit legislations in place in European countries also concern the collect of digital material. National libraries are natural recipients of legal deposit publications and are often pivotal agents for the coordination and active promotion of digitization of library heritage.

The high cost of digitization has been instrumental in triggering cooperation with the private sector, and in particular with Google (Google Book Project). Millions of pages have been digitized and made available to the public for free in an unprecedented effort. Making more information accessible through digitization is a mission common to both libraries and Google. Their finalities vary, though. For libraries, more information for all is a way of reinforcing democratic participation; massive book digitization is a mean to place targeted advertisement for Google. Library concerns regard the choice of collections to be scanned, contractual clauses limiting searches only from the Google engine and, more in general, what may be called the privatization of the library heritage.

The promotion of library heritage is ensured by Europeana, providing access to digitized books, audio and film material, photos, paintings, maps, manuscripts, newspapers and archival documents that are part of Europe’s cultural heritage. More than 3,000 institutions across Europe contribute to Europeana in what is a very successful EU project. Europeana collects metadata (also including a small picture) about digital objects. These objects are not stored on a central computer, but remain with the cultural institution and are hosted on their network.

5. Possible UN SDG- / AI-oriented measures and relevant UN SDG Indicators

5.1 UN SDG- / AI oriented measures



The following Chapter provides a list of possible initiatives to be undertaken by European libraries in order to implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals and a strategy towards AI tools and services in libraries. European libraries can and should be champions in Sustainable Development.

EBLIDA and European Libraries can contribute to the overall strategy of promotion of UN SDGs and related values by:

Freedom of expression and free access to information

- 1) Adopting library legislations referring to the right to information, and documenting and denouncing violations to freedom of expression and free access to information in annual reports (UN SDG 16);
- 2) Establishing clear rules in tender bids with values, ethics, privacy and security requested in the core design of AI systems and applications (UN SDG 16);

Libraries and national library and information policies

- 3) Re-orienting library policies and mission towards sustainable development objectives as community-based services vital for social cohesion and a resilient economy (UN SDG 16),
- 4) Setting up a Sustainability Development Plan in all libraries with shared responsibility across levels of government (All UN SDGs);
- 5) Developing plans internal to libraries, in conformity to national and sectoral initiatives and standards, leading to the achievement of a circular economy which reduces energy consumption and encourages the recycling of products and materials (SDG 12);
- 6) Incorporating UN SDGs into national library and information policies, awarding ecolabels to those institutions being able to fulfil more UN SDGs, achieving consensus on sustainability goals among library workers, and providing incentives in employees' remuneration linked to the achievement of sustainability goals in libraries (All UN SDGs);
- 7) Considering AI as an investment on people, and not on machines, setting up new library profiles and competences required to face the next revolution of AI-based tools and services (UN SDG 5);
- 8) Making arrangements with agencies in the Third sector leading to a widespread culture of UN SDGs diffused in all enterprises working in the sectors of education and culture (All UN SDGs);
- 9) Supporting the localization of libraries as centres of aggregation between urban, peri-urban and rural areas, reinvigorating social contracts between the library and its community (UN SDG 11);



- 10) Including library performance measurements in national and local statistics and indicators as a mean to successfully achieve UN SDGs (All UN SDGs; a possible example is the German UN SDG project funded by the Bertelsman Stiftung - How successful is your municipality in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals?);

Libraries within creative / knowledge industries

- 11) Providing a core of basic information materials, tools and services financed from public funds which should be free of charge to the user according to the modalities set by law and made equally available to all members of their user community regardless of their ability to pay (All UN SDG);
- 12) In a community-driven, platform-based economy, by promoting the idea of library as a centre for the dissemination and the use of materials related to sustainable development through the stimulation and facilitation of shared uses, thus encouraging innovation and re-use of innovative products and services (UN SDG 4, 9);
- 13) Consolidating the statute of public access information, where open data, open education, open knowledge, open science are the most appropriate way of encouraging innovation (UN SDG 4, 9);
- 14) Creating partnerships with authors and authors' alliances and information service providers with a view to creating alternative distribution channels for cultural and educational products and services (UN SDG 4, 9);

Libraries within social / educational policies

- 15) Triggering projects aiming to identify the upskilling needs of socially excluded people and capacity building for employers and workers (UN SDG 1, 4, 8, 10);
- 16) Contributing to work-placement, training, qualification programmes and certification schemes (UN SDG 8)
- 17) Helping children and young people develop their full potential (UN SDG 8);
- 18) Contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals and targets related to reduced inequalities, gender equality and elimination of poverty (UN SDG 5, 8, 10, Indicator);
- 19) Providing support to health libraries as a critical network to achieve health and well-being-related targets (UN SDG 3);
- 20) Investing in measures that promote gender equality, through awareness campaigns, also taking as example the womanizing effect of library impact for the society as a whole (UN SDG 5);
- 21) Investing in libraries as a full cycle of quality education, from early childhood through to higher education and adult education, as part of a holistic approach to combating social exclusion and promoting economic, social and territorial cohesion (UN SDG 4, 8);



- 22) Reinforcing rural library networks in order to support farmers and professions linked to agriculture (UN SDG 2, 6, 7, 15, 17)
- 23) Re-grouping academic libraries specialized in sustainable development, climate change, food security, life under water and life on land in order to reinforce scientific knowledge, develop research capacity, and citizens' science (UN SDG 2, 4, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 17)
- 24) Creating networks of educational material in open access made available through open access repositories (UN SDG 2, 4, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 17).

The protection of library heritage

- 25) Nurturing a sense of belonging and in reinforcing people resilience and their ability to create an open and sustainable society as a whole (SDG 16).

General measures

- 26) Creating awareness (for instance, by displaying UN SDGs logo in library branches) as well as diffusing awareness and educational material prepared by UN SDG and EU Multistakeholder Platform in library branches, also organizing information literacy courses on SDGs (All UN SDGs);
- 27) Setting up UN SDG Pole Libraries in European regions with a view to disseminating best practices and, whenever possible, coordinating activities at European scale in a poly-nodal implementation mode (All UN SDGs, and in particular 13);
- 28) Organizing a UN SDG Festival in European libraries lasting 17 days (as many days as the number of UN SDG objectives; all UN SDGs) - taking as example the Italian project ASVIS.

5.2 Relevant UN SDG Indicators

Tracking the social impact of libraries requires the collection, processing, analysis, interoperability, accessibility, and comparability of decision-relevant data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, nationality status or lack of nationality, disability, geographic location, territorial level and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, to ensure no one is left behind.

UN SDG provide for a series of indicators that are linked with the Goals.⁴³ Here is a preliminary list of indicators extracted from the list that may be relevant for library purposes:

1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

⁴³ Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%202019%20refinement_Eng.pdf



- 1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)
- 1.b.1 Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups
- 2.a.1 The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures
- 3.b.2 Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors
- 4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex
- 4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill
- 4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated
- 4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex
- 4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment
- 4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)
- 5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment
- 5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex
- 6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0–100)
- 7.b.1 Investments in energy efficiency as a proportion of GDP and the amount of foreign direct investment in financial transfer for infrastructure and technology to sustainable development services
- 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita
- 8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex
- 8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- 8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training
- 8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age
- 8.b.1 Existence of a developed and operationalized national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy
- 9.5.1 Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP
- 9.5.2 Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants



- 9.b.1 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added
- 10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population
- 10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- 10.7.1 Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of monthly income earned in country of destination
- 10.7.2 Number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people
- 11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically
- 11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)
- 11.a.1 Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population projections and resource needs, by size of city
- 12.1.1 Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies
- 12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP
- 12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment
- 12.a.1 Amount of support to developing countries on research and development for sustainable consumption and production and environmentally sound technologies
- 13.3.1 Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula
- 14.a.1 Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology
- 15.6.1 Number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits
- 16.6.2 Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services;
- 16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information;
- 16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months);
- 17.6.1 Number of science and/or technology cooperation agreements and programmes between countries, by type of cooperation



17.16.1 Number of countries reporting progress in multistakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



Bibliography

- Council of Europe / EBLIDA Guidelines on Library Legislation and Policy in Europe,
<https://bibliotheksportal.de/content/uploads/2017/10/Council-of-EuropeEBLIDA-Guidelines-on-Library-Legislation-and-Policy-in-Europe.pdf>
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (2011). Creative Industries Economic Estimates: Full Statistical Report 2011.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/77959/Creative-Industries-Economic-Estimates-Report-2011-update.pdf
- Direction générale des médias et des industries culturelles – Ministère de la Culture. Comment apprécier les effets de l'action des bibliothèques publiques ? Mission d'accompagnement de la Direction générale des médias et des industries culturelles, Service du livre et de la lecture. Ministère de la Culture, par Pierre Le Quéau, Olivier Zerbib, avec la collaboration d'Élise Butel et Cécile Martin, Rapport d'étude – 2018. Grenoble: Observatoire des politiques culturelles, 2019
<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/Thematiques/Livre-et-Lecture/Documentation/Publications/Etudes-et-rapport-Lecture-et-bibliotheques/Publication-du-rapport-comment-apprecier-les-effets-de-l-action-des-bibliotheques-publiques>
- Directorate – General for Internal policies – Policy Department B. Public Libraries – their new role – Workshop, by Barbara Lison and Natascha Reip (Co-Author), Frank Huysmans, Dan Mount, IP/B/CULT/IC/2016-023/26/26 July 2016,
EBLIDA. Public Libraries – Statistics 2013-2015 - Interactive map,
<http://www.eblida.org/activities/kic/public-libraries-statistics.html>
- ESPAS (European Strategy and Policy Analysis Systems). Global Trends to 2030: Challenges and Choices for Europe, by Florence Gaub, April 2019,
https://www.iss.europa.eu/sites/default/files/EUISSFiles/ESPAS_Report2019_V15HD.pdf
- European Commission, 'Reflection Paper: Towards a sustainable Europe by 2030', January 2019,
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/rp_sustainable_europe_30-01_en_web.pdf.
- The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). Study on Societies outside Metropolises. The role of civil society organizations in facing populism, Main contractor: ECAS, February 2019,
<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/files/qe-01-18-756-en-n.pdf>
- European Parliament. European Artificial Intelligence (AI) leadership, the path for an integrated vision. Study requested by the ITRE committee, September 2018,
[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626074/IPOL_STU\(2018\)626074_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2018/626074/IPOL_STU(2018)626074_EN.pdf)
- European Strategy and Policy Analysis Systems. ESPAS Ideas Paper Series, Global Trends to 2030: New ways out of poverty and exclusion, Version 31/01/2019.
https://espas.secure.europarl.europa.eu/orbis/sites/default/files/generated/document/en/Ideas%20paper_poverty%20exclusion.pdf
- European Union. Europe moving towards a sustainable future;
https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/sdg_multi-stakeholder_platform_input_to_reflection_paper_sustainable_europe2.pdf
- Dominique Foray. Economics of Knowledge. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2004.



The IFLA-UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994), <https://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-public-library-manifesto-1994>.

IFLA. Library Map of the world. <https://librarymap.ifla.org/>

IFLA. Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda, <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/10546>

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. The Global State of Democracy Indices. <https://www.idea.int/gsod-indices/#/indices/world-map>

Library economics in Europe [electronic resource] : Millennium study / John Sumsion, David Fuegi, Phillip Ramsdale, 2003.

Fritz Machlup. The production and distribution of knowledge in the United States. Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1962.

François Matarazzo. Beyond book issues. The social potential of library projects. Comedia, 1998.

Susannah Quick, Gillian Prior, Ben Toombs, Luke Taylor and Rosanna Currenti. Cross-European survey to measure users' perceptions of the benefits of ICT in public libraries. Final report March 2013, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2013.

<https://digital.lib.washington.edu/researchworks/bitstream/handle/1773/22718/Final%20Report%20-%20Cross-European%20Library%20Impact.pdf?sequence=1>

PL 2030. EU Library Factsheets <https://publiclibraries2030.eu/resources/eu-library-factsheets/>

World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future (Brundtland Report), <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/5987our-common-future.pdf>

World Economic Forum, 'Deep Shift: Technology Tipping Points and Societal Impact', September 2015, available at http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GAC15_Technological_Tipping_Points_report_2015.pdf

World Intellectual Property Organization. How to Make a Living in the Creative Industries, by BOP Consulting, WIPO, 2017, p. 8, https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_cr_2017_1.pdf

World Intellectual Property Organization. Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights Thirtieth Session Geneva, June 29 to July 3, 2015. Study on copyright Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives: Updated and Revised, prepared by Kenneth Crews, https://www.wipo.int/edocs/mdocs/copyright/en/sccr_30/sccr_30_3.pdf

World Intellectual Property Organization. Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights. Seventeenth Session Geneva, November 3 to 7, 2008. Study on copyright Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives prepared by Kenneth Crews, https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=109192