The President’s Editorial

Maybe it’s something we don’t emphasise enough: together, the European Library sector forms a strong and well-developed infrastructure of 70,000 libraries throughout the continent. Can you imagine how powerful this network would be if the 70,000 dots were connected? That would be awe inspiring.

Connecting the dots is part of our work at EBLIDA, and we do that in raising awareness on the power of such infrastructure and the immense role we play in terms of social and territorial cohesion. Libraries do that notably through literacy development, reaching out to the whole population, including the most vulnerable ones and helping them to benefit from the information available in the 21st digital society.

That is of course one of the reasons why we lobby for a more progressive copyright reform. To ensure that access to information remains a fundamental value of the EU, and that digital only means improvement.

Speaking of digital, I am really looking forward to next week, when I’ll participate at
21st century libraries are like, while meeting and greeting with MEPs from all political groups, chatting with friends and making new connections. I can’t wait!

Next week is also significant for EBLIDA with the upcoming Executive Committee meeting which I will be honoured to chair, as part of my EBLIDA presidential duties. Together with my colleagues and friends, we’ll be taking an in-depth look at all of the issues ahead of us in the sector, as well as at the usual business of running an association that has proudly gained about 9 members in a year. Congratulations and thanks to all our members, and welcome to the new ones!

That is a great achievement though we still have a lot to do to grow our business so that we can improve the work that we are doing for you, on your behalf.

Yours sincerely,

Jukka Reander
EBLIDA President

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**INSIDE BRUSSELS**

**Copyright reform**

Our [Copyright Reform webpage](#) contains key information on the current situation and is frequently updated as the process evolves.

The page now also contains a special menu with activities from our members that have informed us of articles published in their countries or position statements adopted by national library associations. These documents can be used as source of inspiration for all our members to influence their policy-makers both at national and at European level.

**2 Streams of actions**

On one hand, EBLIDA and its members work with the European Parliament, who represent the interest of citizens. The EP works through two main platforms: the work in Committee, drafting legislation, and the work in Plenary to pass legislation. Also included is the work with the 8 political groups from the whole political spectrum, that sometimes have public position on specific topics.

On the other hand, EBLIDA and its members work with the [Council of the European](#)
EU country holds the presidency on a 6-month rotating basis.

**Seven Ways to Promote Innovation, Creativity and Heritage**
As underlined in our recent blog post, a seamless physical and digital connectivity as well as free circulation of knowledge is matching libraries missions in the 21st century. We therefore encourage our members to support our position for your advocacy work.

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**Summary report of the public consultation on the evaluation of Directive 96/9/EC on the legal protection of databases**

*Information communicated by C4C*

On October 6th, the European Commission (EC) published a summary report of the public consultation on the Database Directive, which ended on 30 August.

This summary report gives an overview of some of the preliminary findings of the consultation, and of the respondents who answered the consultation.

This report will be complemented with a synopsis report after the EC has conducted an in-depth analysis of the consultation replies it received.

**Preliminary findings of the public consultation**

- **Objectives of the Directive**: “More than half of the respondents are of the opinion that the original objectives of the Directive are still in line with the needs of the EU. However, views are divided as to whether the Directive has achieved its objective to protect a wide variety of databases.”

- **Sui generis right**: “(...) more than half of the respondents believe that it sufficiently protects investments made in the creation, updating and maintenance of databases. However, opinions are divided as to whether the current scope of the sui generis right is still satisfactory.”

- **Balance between the rights and interests of right holders and users**: “Views are also split as to whether the Directive achieves a good balance between the rights and interests of right holders and users.” “(...) no clear consensus on which approach should prevail to achieve an adequate balance between database owners' rights and users' needs. A number of respondents would see merits in considering amending the sui generis
Impact of the sui generis right on the re-use of data: “Opinions on the impact of the sui generis right on the re-use of data are equally diverging.”

Who replied to the consultation?

- **Total number of replies**: 113 replies (83 organisations – 30 individuals);
- **Geographies**: Largest number of replies from Germany, Belgium and the UK;
- **Type of stakeholders (non-individual replies)**: largest proportion of respondents were trade associations and businesses, followed by organisations representing civil society and non-governmental organisation;
- **Missing stakeholders**: no contributions from national administrations, national regulators nor from consumers organisations.

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**School Libraries and Libraries and Education on the spot (follow up)**

[Excerpt of the website] Presented in 23 European languages, the School Education Gateway is a single point of entry for teachers, school leaders, policy makers, experts and other professionals in the school education field. Join today and stay informed about European policy and action for schools!

The website hosts a lot of information notably on the EU’s nine key priorities in school education:

- Basic Skills;
- Citizenship;
- Early Childhood Education and Care;
- Language Learning;
- Inclusive Education and Tackling Early School Leaving;
- Teachers and School Leaders;
- Cultural Awareness and Expression;
- Personal Development and Well-being, and
- Entrepreneurship Education.

Additionally, the website hosts special feature entitled *Education Talks* that welcomes guest talks on issues related to education and learning.

On 25 September an interview was released of EBLIDA Director *Education Talks: Libraries and learning in the 21st century* underlining how libraries contribute to
special interview in June 2017. See also our blog post.

Additionally, thanks to the support of EBLIDA in disseminating the poll on school libraries that closed down on 30th of September, the European Union School Education Gateway has collected 1479 answers.

We will keep you posted once the analysis has been done and the results are known.

REMEMBER: Generation Code 2017 – Smart Cities, Smart Citizens, Smart Libraries

This year once again, PL2020 offers us an opportunity to go live with MEPs at the Generation Code event on 17 & 18 October in Brussels. The theme is Smart Cities, Smart Citizens, Smart Libraries. To learn more about that event, read this blog post from Ilona Kish, Programme Director at Public Libraries 2020.

For this special event, all EBLIDA Executive Committee members will be present as the EBLIDA EC meeting is taking place close to the Generation Code event. A great opportunity to network and make friends with MEPs, their assistants and other policy-makers.

We will report back on the activities in our November issue.

EUROPE and WORLDWIDE

70th Conference of the Slovenian Library Association – Terme Olimija – 26-29 September 2017

For the 70th year of the Slovenian Library Association, our Slovenian colleagues organised their annual congress and conference entitled Connection.
The 3 day event started on 27 September with an opening speech by former IFLA President Donna Scheeder on Building a Community of Readers: Literacy in the 21st Century. Mrs Scheeder underlined the activities of IFLA in literacy development, how literacy is part of UN Sustainable Development Goals, and where Slovenia lies on the map of Literacy.

This was then followed by an inspiring speech from EBLIDA Director, Vincent Bonnet, on European Policies for an Open Library. EBLIDA Director detailed to the audience the challenges and opportunities libraries are facing in the 21st century. He motivated the audience to influence the European agenda and provided inspiration to make the Open Library a reality.

Over the 3 days of the conference, opportunities were given to hear colleagues from different countries, all types of libraries and backgrounds interested in further developing access to knowledge. For the first time in Slovenia, (240 participants) authors, publishers, booksellers, librarians, teachers, entrepreneurs, politicians and individuals all gathered together in one place with the common belief in the power of reading. They highlighted the need for a systematic approach for establishing a different attitude towards reading culture and reading in society. On the occasion of its 70th anniversary, the Library Association of Slovenia put at the forefront the fundamental issue of action in all social areas as well as in all librarians' professional areas: the issue of literacy. They combined the 2016 IFLA theme and 2015 EBLIDA theme with the good practice of ALA where librarians meet with others in the book chain.

They would like to create a strong network of all who care for reading. More information is available here: http://www.zbds-zveza.si/eng/?q=node5/SLA_congress2017

EBLIDA Director was happy to meet with many Slovenian colleagues as well as with speakers such as Mr Peter Kraker (Austria) who presented the Open Knowledge Maps, a visual interface to the world's scientific knowledge.

And of course it was an immense pleasure to listen to Prof. Divina Frau-Meigs, Keynote speaker of the 2015 EBLIDA who gave an updated presentation on Libraries as beacons for Media and Information Literacy and catalysts for digital
EBLIDA is proud that its 2015 Building a Europe of Readers conference was a source of inspiration for our Slovenian colleagues.

EBLIDA would like to thank the Slovenian Library Association for the very kind invitation to give the floor to the Director and for a great and inspiring conference.

More information about the Slovenian Library Association is given in the below interview with Irena Sešek, vice president and International Relations of the Slovenian Library Association.

Interview with Irena Sešek, Vice President and International Relations of the Slovenian Library Association
– A history of the Slovenian Library Association, its evolution and why it matters to be an EBLIDA member

A brief history of the Slovenian Library Association

In 2017, the Slovenian Library Association (SLA, in Slovenian: Zveza bibliotekarskih društev Slovenije – ZBDS) celebrated its 70th anniversary. On December 21, 1947, when it was founded at the National and University Library, there were 75 members. The first goal was to promote library development in Slovenia. Later on, SLA started to publish publications, and sections and committees were dealing with different professional issues, including the study and development of library science, improvement of the standard of librarianship and the status of the library profession, development of the network of all types of libraries, building libraries and their equipment, connecting libraries to LIS, the role of libraries in the dissemination of knowledge, and protection of the members’ professional and vocational interests etc.

The international cooperation with other library associations has started as well around this time.

The more active SLA became, the more members it gained. Therefore, many branches were established in larger cities (Ljubljana, Maribor, Celje, etc.), which later developed into regional library associations.

The first issue of the professional journal Library (“Knjižnica”, ISSN 0023-2424) was published in 1957, and so in 2017, we celebrated its 60th anniversary. It is still the
The Code of Ethics of Slovenian Librarians was adopted at the SLA Assembly at Bled, November 8, 1995. Manifesto of the Slovenian Library Association was adopted at the Slovenian Library Association Conference, September 17, 2004.

How SLA has evolved over the years and what are the main challenges for it now?

Today, the Slovenian Library Association is a voluntary, non-governmental and non-profit professional association, which links together eight regional library associations and units over 1300 Slovenian librarians. Our motto is ZBuDiSe (Wake up!) and Together we are stronger!
SLA aims to achieve the highest possible level of professionalism in librarianship. The main goals are to develop and promote libraries and library profession, to represent the interests of library professionals and to pursue their professional integrity, to foster and encourage continuing professional development, to enhance the development of all types of libraries, to ensure free and equal access to information for all, to develop literacies, to raise awareness of the importance of the preservation of Slovenian written cultural heritage. In order to fulfill its mission and achieve its goals, SLA performs various activities, including informing its members about matters of common interest, co-ordinating the work of its members and encouraging their co-operation and joint public presentation, monitoring the implementation of professional recommendations and standards, the Code of Ethics and the Manifesto, publishing professional publications, organising professional events and other forms of informal training, co-operating with administrative bodies regarding the issues related to librarianship, participating in the preparation and adoption of acts and other regulations referring to librarianship, collaborating with IFLA, EBLIDA and other organisations. Its activities have been co-financed by the Ministry of Culture, and the publication of the journal Library (printed and electronic versions) has been supported by the Slovenian Research Agency.

SLA sections are permanent working bodies and their task is to co-ordinate professional work within their specific area. There are ten sections, i.e. special libraries, public libraries, school libraries, higher education libraries, youth libraries, mobile libraries, home studies and cultural heritage, training and human resources, promotion and marketing and library and information science students'.

Special achievements in librarianship are acknowledged with the Čop Awards and Čop Certificates of Recognition (the highest national recognition for exceptional achievements of wider social significance), the Kalan Foundation Awards (awarded to encourage production and publication of professional and scholarly works in library and information science), and the Stepišnik Foundation (aims to foster development, professional work and promotion of mobile libraries). Besides the journal Library, there are also other publications published by SLA each year.
We believe that it is very important to be a member of international and European library organisations as all together we create a strong community. Thus, we can represent our joint aims to decision-makers and other stakeholders in this field. As a voluntary organisation, we lack certain skills and competences and EBLIDA can provide support and help to us in these areas. It is of great importance that EBLIDA represents all libraries and library users in EU especially in the fields of information society issues, copyright, licensing, culture and education.

**How active SLA is with EBLIDA?**

SLA tries to cooperate in all EBLIDA campaigns. We participated in the E-book lending campaign by translating the materials and distributing them to all types of libraries in Slovenia. Recently, we translated the Aarhus Declaration and published it as a poster in the newsletter called Knjižničarske novice. The EBLIDA Director, Mr. Vincent Bonnet, did a presentation on EBLIDA's work at the SLA Congress 2017. We are also active in informing the national representatives of our joint views prepared by EBLIDA, especially those regarding the copyright reform.

**How do you think EBLIDA fulfil its role?**

In our opinion, EBLIDA is really doing a lot for libraries in EU. “Lobbying for libraries” is necessary at all levels. SLA strives to do it in Slovenia, but it is also important to do it at the European level and we think, that without EBLIDA, our voice would not be heard where the main decisions are made. We all have to support the work of EBLIDA if we want to make a change.

**What EBLIDA does well and what you would like it to do better?**

EBLIDA is doing a great job and we just wish that it will continue to do so.

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**Inside EBLIDA**

**EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law welcomes a new member**

EBLIDA's Executive Committee recently appointed Karin Grönvall, Library Director at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, to join the Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL). EBLIDA warmly welcomes Karin to her new role in EGIL.
licensing, copyright and privacy issues and serves on several library boards.

Karin was nominated by the Swedish Library Association after Jerker Rydén, Senior Legal Advisor at the National Library of Sweden, stood down from the EGIL after several years of service. EBLIDA would like to thank Jerker for his contributions over the years, most recently his paper concerning the implications for libraries in member states’ transposition of the EU General Data Protection Regulation, available here.

Greetings to our new Member since our September Newsletter

We now welcome our 9th new associate member of the year:

One Austrian member: Universität Wien / Universitätsbibliothek

Founded in 1365, Vienna University Library is the oldest university library in the German-speaking countries; it is also the largest library in Austria, with an inventory of over 7.1 million books, 325,000 e-books, 80,000 e-journals and 7,400 print journals.

EBLIDA welcomes this new member and we look forward to enriching our organisation further together with Wien Universitätsbibliothek.

Should you be interested in joining us, please contact Majella.cunnane@eblida.org.

For reasons to join EBLIDA, please see our website: http://www.eblida.org/membership/eblida-membership-benefits.html

EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting – 16 and 17 October, Brussels

For the last EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting of 2017, and actually the first one since the Annual Council meeting in Aarhus (Denmark), EBLIDA EC members will gather in Brussels on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 October.

The EC meeting is organised closely to the Generation Code event in order to connect live with MEPs, their assistants and other policy-makers and make a better use of the time of the EC members.
Reminder - Announcement of 26th EBLIDA Annual Council Meeting & EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference in STRASBOURG (France) from 30 to 31 May 2018

After consultation with potential hosts, the EBLIDA Executive Committee took a final decision on hosting the next EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference. It will be held in Strasbourg (France) on 30 and 31 May 2018. The EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting will be held on 29 May, and the EBLIDA Annual Council on 30 May.

The programme is a work in progress and you will be informed when a first draft is ready.

26th EBLIDA Annual Council 30 May 2018
EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference, 30 and 31 May 2018 “Libraries bridging borders”

The title of the conference is “Libraries bridging borders”, a theme that suits Strasbourg perfectly, in itself an international city right at the heart of Europe.

Conference Concept:
Europe is at a crossroads in its history. Over the past couple of years, political tensions have risen among the citizens of Europe and globally. Governments throughout Europe have been taking various steps and measures to open or close their borders to refugees. Meanwhile, terrorism has had a huge impact throughout the continent, challenging the free circulation of people in the EU.
At the same time, the mass digitisation of our world, and the advancement of the sharing economy is impacting the way citizens access culture and challenges the notion of borders itself.
There is a strong global demand from citizens for access to content anywhere any
before Estonia took over the Presidency of the Council of the EU, “Striving towards a seamless physical and digital connectivity is in the interest of the whole European Union as economic success cannot be separated from the free movement of goods, services, people, capital, and knowledge”.

Libraries and librarians are increasingly working in a cross-border environment, be it related to countries, disciplines, preservation, knowledge, copyright or any of the issues in relation to free access to information. For free movement of knowledge to happen, we need libraries bridging borders.

Strasbourg, an international city hosting many European institutions such as the European Parliament, the Council of Europe or the European Court of Human Rights, is the perfect choice for our annual conference.

Strasbourg is also part of the European Campus (EUCOR) “created against the backdrop of longstanding cooperation between the universities on the Upper Rhine. In 1989 they teamed up to form an international network called Eucor (European Confederation of Universities on the Upper Rhine). By establishing the European Campus, the five universities aim to take this cross-border cooperation in research and teaching to a new level in order to gain a key advantage in the international competition for the best minds and ideas”. Read more.

The city also shares a border with Germany, and developed strong links with the city of Kehl, reachable by the same public transport system in only 25 minutes.

Strasbourg hosts an amazing network of public libraries, world class university libraries and a unique National and University Library, as well as a national school for training head civil servants with a dedicated 18 month training course for future head librarians (INET), fab labs, etc.

The city is very accessible and boasts a good public transport system, as well as also offering amazing architectural treasures, such as the cathedral and the city centre (the Island), which is on UNESCO’s World Heritage list.

The city also lies at the heart of the Alsace and has a lot to offer in terms of gastronomy.

We invite you to check out the tourist information desk to learn more about the city.

**N.B. NOTE:** Because the conference will be hosted at the same time as a European Parliament Plenary Session, we recommend that you book your hotel room as soon as possible.

**EBLIDA and NAPLE members please note** that because of exceptionally high demand for hotel rooms at this time, we are currently working together with a well-
being worked on by the hotel group.

Of course if you prefer to make your own plans, please go ahead, but be quick!

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**EBLIDA**

**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

**JOIN US**

**BECOME A MEMBER**

**>> 5 reason why membership matters <<**

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**Stay informed, sign up today!**

**EBLIDA-LIST** is a **general mailing list** intended to foster communications between EBLIDA, its membership and members of the European library community. The goal is to facilitate information exchange as well as professional communication and development within the EBLIDA community. **Subscribe** now!

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**Events and Dates**

**October**

11 – 15

**Frankfurt Book Fair**
Frankfurt, Germany
New Directions for Libraries, Scholars, and Partnerships: an International Symposium
Frankfurt, Germany
Organizer: Center for Research Libraries
https://www.crl.edu/events/frankfurt2017symposium
*IFNOT:ARCHIVE_PAGE]*
*Read more*

13 – 14

PMLG & CDEG Conference 2017: Public Libraries for Social, Digital and Economic Inclusion: "Chances for Life"
Yarnfield, UK
Organizer: Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

15 – 18

Fall 2017 ICOLC Meeting
Prague, Czech Republic
Organizer: International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC)
http://icolc.net/meetings

16 – 20

1st Erasmus European Library Staff Week
Toulouse, France
Organizer: Toulouse University Libraries Research Support Department

16 – November 10

Digital repositories in libraries
Madrid, Spain
Organizer: General Office of Library Coordination, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport

17 – 18

Internet Librarian International 2017
London, UK
19 – 21

Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) 2017
Tartu and Tallinn, Estonia
Organizer: Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)
http://aoir.org/aoir2017/

19 – 21

Trabzon, Turkey
Organizer: Society of Digital Information and Wireless Communications (SDIWC)
http://sdiwcc.net/conferences/5th-international-digital-information-processing-e-business-cloud-computing/

21 – 22

ISWC2017 workshop on Decentralizing the Semantic Web (DeSemWeb2017)
Vienna, Austria
Organizer: Organizing Committee
http://iswc2017.desemweb.org/

22 – 29

Belgrade Book Fair
Belgrade, Serbia
Organizer: Book Fair Council
http://sajamknjiga.rs/en/

23 – 24

19th International Conference on Grey Literature: "Public Awareness and Access to Grey Literature"
Rome, Italy
Organizer: TextRelease Program and Conference Bureau
http://www.textrelease.com/g19callforpapers.html

23 – 30

61st International Belgrade Book Fair
Belgrade, Serbia
Organizer: Committee of the Book Fair
http://sajamknjiga.rs/o-nama/

25 – 27

FORCE2017: Research Communication & e-Scholarship Conference
Berlin, Germany
26 – 29

**Helsinki Book Fair**
Helsinki, Finland
**Organizer:** Messukeskus  

26 – 29

**21st International Book Fair in Krakow**
Krakow, Poland
**Organizer:** Targi w Krakowie Ltd.  

27

**Future of Information Environments, Thinking and Building with ASIS&T**
Barcelona, Spain
**Organizer:** Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T)  

30 – 31

**10th International Development Informatics Association (IDIA) Conference**
Bucharest, Romania
**Organizer:** International Development Informatics Association (IDIA)  
[http://developmentinformatics.org/conferences/2017/](http://developmentinformatics.org/conferences/2017/)

31 – November 1

**8th International Conference on The Image**
Venice, Italy
**Organizer:** Common Ground Research Networks  
[http://ontheimage.com/2017-conference](http://ontheimage.com/2017-conference)

31 – November 11

**Antwerp Book Fair**
Antwerp, Belgium
**Organizer:** boek.be  
[http://www.boekenbeurs.be/](http://www.boekenbeurs.be/)