President’s Editorial

Our next annual conference in Malaga on May 27th, One Profession, one Future? (along with NAPLE-Forum and FESABID) is on the tracks now and the programme almost completed with very well known speakers who agreed to participate!

These are very great news and one more time EBLIDA is showing its importance within the European Community of Librarians by mixing together high valuable speakers of Public, National or University Libraries. I hope that the audience and its varied attendants will find tremendous ideas and will actively participate by involving themselves to make this conference a dynamic and vibrant experience.

This high quality programme will for sure help our Europe-wide colleagues of the Library Community in producing strong arguments to foster the central place of libraries in the Information Society in Europe, and one more time will show that libraries are main relays in building a European Citizenship in a multicultural and safe Europe.

More information to come on the EBLIDA website in the coming days.

Meanwhile EBLIDA is pursuing its current work by monitoring issues concerning libraries in general, and once again, Copyright issues remain a core concern for us. You will find in this edition some recent development on the Future of Copyright in Europe and on the active dialogue held within the European Commission between stakeholders. In the meantime, the Culture Programme continues its process of reviewing, and a report on its current reality and its future outcomes remains of first importance. Other information are also available in this last edition.

Enjoy the reading.

Gerald Leitner, EBLIDA President

News round-up: E.U.

The Hague – World Library Capital (informal launch)

Vincent Bonnet, EBLIDA Director attended on Tuesday 8th of February 2011 the InnerCityDrink in the Koninklijke Bibliotheek of the Hague where informal discussions on (international) library issues, cooperation and networking rustled of the rumors of the project The Hague—World Capital Library.

This special initiative aims to ask directors and professionals of (inter)national library organisations and libraries working in international context in The Hague the following question: What unites us and what can we do for each other?

The initiative for The Hague – World Library Capital unites The Hague and the (international) library community. The Hague – World Library Capital aims to create a network of all kinds of library organisations working on advocacy and development of libraries in an international context. The Hague is the unique city where so many of this unique organisations, and a range of dedicated libraries are located. The Hague is also the city of peace, law and justice, which suits well with the libraries mission of freedom of expression and access to information as means for intercultural exchange and understanding, science and literacy. All library organisations and The Hague can join force and strengthen their efforts towards these aims. This special network will help to realise libraries goals and activities.

Proposed by Marian Koren (Exec. Secretary FOBID Netherlands Library Forum) and Charles Noordam (Member FOBID Board and Director Public Library The Hague), this project should be officially launched on Thursday 14 April 2011, during the IFLA Presidential Conference ‘Libraries driving Access to knowledge’, at the reception hosted by the municipality in the Public Library. Save the date!
Cultural Diversity and Europe 2020, Nuisance or Necessity?

This conference organised by EU-observer took place in Brussels on Wednesday 26th January. It offered the attendants a broad presentation of current concern on copyright linked to cultural diversity. With a wide range of speakers which, among others, Kerstin Jorna, European Commission, Internal Market and Services, Acting Head of Cabinet, Rick Falkvinge, Leader and Founder of the Swedish Pirate Party, Peter Schønning, Lawyer and copyright expert, chairman of the Danish Antipirate group, the conference offered a lively panel discussion with the room.

Peter Schønning was the key-note speaker of the last session What should be in the commission’s upcoming framework Directive on collective rights managements? He stressed the fact that the Creative content has to be licensed by the rights holders who ensure users access to it as well as fair remuneration to the rights holders (creators and producers) and investments in new creative content.

The result should ensure Cultural diversity through rich cultural life and economic growth. He also insisted on the fact that the EU commission should not fall under complicated regulation, and that one of the key issue in this directive remains the cross-border licensing.

The future of Copyright in Europe

On Thursday 27 January in Brussels, Tilman Lüder made a presentation on the Future of Copyright in Europe. He stressed the fact that the new commissioner Michel Barnier is interested in Copyright matter and considers that copyright is not isolated but included in one coherent ensemble. Michel Barnier wants an overview of the issue and would propose an enforcement of these rights following his approach built on 3 pillars: reform of the financial market, adoption of the work programme in the internal market, IPR strategy.

Facts and figure indicate that 40% of the workers in the European Union work in knowledge industry. The sector has grown by 24% during the 5 last years and salaries are 60% higher than in other industries.

The copyright isn’t antagonist with the Internal Market. But in order to develop competitive products it has to be administrated. And the collective management system has also to be defined especially on the concern of online services. The idea is to create a Pan-European Passport for collective licensing management that offers a list of criteria and would be in fact a sort of label.

According to Tilman Lüder, there is an issue with digital libraries but mainly on technical details. He prefers the form of global licence rather than different licences schemes and would like also to have a stakeholder’s agreement for digital library licensing.

To conclude the EU doesn’t want to weaken copyright because thanks to this system, Europe still leads a part of the international market on creation and cultural diversity.

3rd Stakeholder Dialogue on Out-of-Commerce Work followed closely by the Expert Group on Information Law—EGIL.

The last dialogue has been quite exiting! All the participants should have sent their proposal of a definition of Out-of-Commerce work before the meeting. All the participants respected the schedule except one: the Federation of European Publishers (FEP). They dropped off the very morning with a submission nobody has been aware before so that nobody had any time to comment or think about it. A very strategic way to concentrate the discussion on their comments, and a major step backward according to our team of experts. Nevertheless, Tilman Lüder noticed that it was a bit late to submit proposals and asked EBLIDA to begin first. Then the usual dialogue took place and Tilman Lüder ends the morning session by summarising that the draft would be worked over and the following three points would be stressed:

- Voluntary agreements made by organisations representative of the type of the rights holders concerns,
- Agreements may be extended to non-represented rights holders,
- Agreements may be given cross border effects.

Definitions of Out of Commerce (i.e. the scope of the agreements) should be left as much as possible to the parties, which is what EBLIDA have asked for in its letter. Then Tilman Lüder summarized that this Stakeholder Dialogues are intended to...
be part of a package consisting of an Orphan Works directive, and perhaps also a directive on Collective Rights Management. He warned that if the Out of Commerce dialogue ends unsuccessful legislative measures may be taken. An OW Directive without solving the Out of Commerce problems will only be a half solution and not acceptable.

There is currently serious time pressure. The directives must come this spring and therefore the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Out of Commerce Works must be **finalized by 8. April**.

The next meeting of the Stakeholder Dialogue is on 25th March. This meeting will be decisive. If FEP insists on their demands the dialogue is not likely to succeed.

At the end of the meeting, the French representative of the Ministry of Culture, Remi Gimazane made a short presentation of the Large-Scale Digitisation Project at the Bibliothèque nationale de France currently on tracks for books first published in France in the 20th century that are commercially unavailable in a printable or digital forms. This is a large-scale digitization project using Public-Private-Partnership for a new market exposition that will surely be of first interest for discussions for EBLIDA members but further more for EGIL members.

**Consultation on the Future of the EU Culture programme**

Chair of EGCIS Hella Klauser and EBLIDA Director Vincent Bonnet attended the "**CULTURE IN MOTION CONFERENCE: PATHWAYS TO EU-2020**" on 15 and 16 February in Brussels.

It was the third edition of this conference where 600 participants registered. For this huge forum, the programme was organised in four sessions on two days with speakers and short panel discussions with the audience followed by a public consultation meeting.

The general programme focuses on specific issues such as **Cultural and linguistic diversity and intercultural dialogue**, **Helping artists with their careers and strengthening the capacity of the cultural sector**, **Increasing the access of the public to European cultural works**, **Promoting the circulation of works in Europe and beyond** (Transnational circulation of works).

Looking at the detailed programme of this conference Theatres, Concert halls, Performing arts companies, art companies, festivals, and all the cultural sectors were represented but libraries. Even the European Writer Council along with the Federation of European Publishers and European Booksellers Federation presented the **European Union Prize for Literature** which is quite similar to EBLIDA in the fields of Museum and benefits of EU funding since 2004. Connexions are created in order to get more information on a better way to participate to European funded project.

The last afternoon was reserved to a 3 hours public consultation of stakeholders on the EU Culture programme post 2013.

The European Commission made the opening on the context of the public consultation, the future of EU Culture Programmes and the main steps in preparing the new legal base.

Vladimir Šucha, Director for Culture and Media, DG Education and Culture (EAC) briefly introduced the session stressing the fact that present time are difficult for everybody, even in the DG Education and Culture. He insisted on the fact that European cultural actors should always keep in mind the policy context and in addition to policies at the European level also work at the local level. The current agenda should lead to a cultural forum in October 2011 in Brussels.

Then Ann Branch, Head of Unit, Culture Programme and Actions, DG EAC, described briefly the context of the public consultation on the future of EU Culture Programme pending on, first the midterm evaluation of it, the result of public consultations (online consultation, meetings…) and at last the impact assessment in term of environment, funding… She noticed the need of coordination within the Commission to insure EU policies, to give clear explanations of the problems the programme is to addressed, and to offer different ways to achieve this issue.

Range of sources, published data and academic policy literature are the main steps in preparing the new legal base that will be the draft of the future programme.
At last Seamus Cassidy, Policy Officer, DG EAC, gave the audience a brief overview of the first analysis of the proposals, ideas and first results of the online consultation that was a mix of open (qualitative) and closed questions (quantitative). The DG EAC received from public individuals and organisations 964 responses from 42 countries, 61 % from individuals, broadly balanced by sector, 31 % organisations mainly cultural and 8 % from public authorities. The major country to answer the consultation is France with 47 % of participation when there is a balance between countries for the 53% remaining.

What mainly came out of this public consultation is that 93% of the respondents support a specific EU programme for culture and the need for a culture Programme after 2014. The complete analysis with its proper outcomes should only be available at the end of the first trimester.

The Open discussion that followed can not be summarised here as attendants presented personal views to share with the audience.

In conclusion, Vladimir Šucha insisted on the fact that EU has to build something new and to build a new Culture Programme. Stakeholders remain important relays for the DG EAC and should not hesitate to feel free to contact the EU commission by email on elements included in the Culture programme.


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**EBLIDA activities**

**EBLIDA monthly meeting with LIBER and IFLA welcomes a new participant: SPARC Europe**

On February 21st the second monthly meeting of EBLIDA, LIBER and IFLA took place in the KB. The three participants welcomes a new one: SPARC– Europe with Astrid van Wesenbeeck, its Executive Director.

As copyright will remain a core issue for 2011, participants agreed to share information on that matter in order to foster libraries place at the European level, but also to strengthen the cooperation between library associations to provide relevant information and efficient services.

EBLIDA had been invited by Stuart Hamilton to participate as an observer to the CLM Strategy that focuses on the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) treaty by advocating for a library-friendly treaty. As a lot of members of CLM are already members of EGIL, the communication between the two organisation on that purpose should be good, even if the scope don’t focus on the same geographical area. Then LIBER and SPARC Europe could also provide their feedbacks and help building a strong library associations cooperation.

These meetings are also a good opportunity before EBLIDA’s office move to the KB to develop contacts with our new neighbours. Further more, it is an opportunity to have first-hand information. For instance, LIBER is about to launch its new website on March 15th. It will be based on a more dynamic website that includes blog, wiki, video presentation through YouTube, and all the kind of services new websites can provide.

As one of our scope for this monthly meeting is to improve communication tools and advocacy documents, Wouter Schallier, Executive Director of LIBER proposed to share this wiki with the attendants. A proposal to be continued...

**Expert Group on Culture and Information Society—EGCIS**

Libraries – cultural peaks for information and inspiration, EGCIS position paper.

Hella Klauser and Vincent Bonnet agreed on the publication in the coming weeks of the EGCIS position paper Libraries – cultural peaks for information and inspiration. Publication on the website is foreseen around March 15th. Please, check the website to be kept informed.
EBLIDA’s Director participates in a possible creation of a European level Sectoral Skills Council in the field of Culture - 26 January 2011, Brussels

The idea was to bring together a limited number of key stakeholders (employers and employees associations plus education and training providers and association involved in the field of Culture) for an initial brainstorming on the opportunity to create sectoral Skills Council at the EU level. It aims to get a clearer view of the current situation and start a mapping exercise as a first step. This is one of the points in the Workplan for Culture 2011-2014.

The issue has already been discussed within the social dialogue committee on performing arts, but a wider and deeper discussion may be beneficial to reaching operational conclusions.

To summarize the main outcomes, the concept of sectoral Skills Councils at the European level needs to be build upon existing structures at the national level. The EU commission foresees to offer funding (covering up to 80% of the project) in two steps: a general mapping of the existing bodies at national level and the setting of skills councils themselves.

The majority of participants agreed on the fact that digitization presents a wide range of new opportunities for occupations in the sector, but also an increasing and urgent need for updating skills, but that a coverage of the whole "culture" sector, ranging from audiovisual and performing arts to books and cultural heritage would require a complex coordination and would make it difficult to reach the desirable level of detail and depth.

Therefore, the set up of any culture sector skills council would probably require some degree of specialization around some narrower sectors. At this stage, however, what remains concerns the initial mapping exercise and the scope it should focus on.

Eventually the decision on which approach to take belongs to the social partners and the sectoral organizations and the Commission is already ready to support reflection by making available its premises and supporting the organisation of one or two further meetings, at the request of the stakeholders.

New EBLIDA members

We are very pleased to welcome applications forms for new members:

Moldova:
Asociatia Bibliotecarilor din Republica Moldova (ABRM), Library Association from Moldova

Montenegro:
Udruženje bibliotekara Crne Gore (UBCG), Montenegrin Library Association

Netherlands:
Sectorinstituut Openbare Bibliotheeken (SIOB), Netherlands Institute for Public Libraries

Netherlands:
Stichting Bibliotheek.nl

We hope we will have a chance to introduce the three of then to other EBLIDA members at the Council Meeting in May.

Some News on the website

A cosmetic change to welcome visitors on our webpage offers a better vision of the geographical area EBLIDA is covering.

A overview view of Europe with the rising sun featuring a new era for Libraries in Europe thanks to EBLIDA...

And the publication of the Vienna Declaration in several official languages of the European Union (http://www.eblida.org/index.php?page=vienna-declaration-2)
Events in March—April

Further details in EBLIDA’s calendar of European events: www.eblida.org/index.php?page= european-events

12th International Symposium for Information Science (ISI 2011)
Date: 9 March 2011 to 11 March 2011
Summary: Hildesheim, Germany

Date: 10 March 2011 to 13 March 2011
Summary: Avila, Spain

New Strategies for Digital Content Conference
Date: 18 March 2011
Summary: London, UK

WBS World Book Summit
Date: 31 March 2011 to 02 April 2011
Summary: Ljubljana, Slovenia

EGIL Expert Group Meeting (members only)
Date: 12 April 2011
Summary: The Hague, The Netherlands

2nd IFLA Presidential Meeting, Libraries driving access to knowledge: action for Europe
Date: 14 April 2011 to 15 April 2011
Summary: The Hague, Netherlands

Funding Calls and Deadlines

New calls and those with a deadline in January—February listed in order of their deadline date. See the EBLIDA funding pages >> for more details.

EU LLP (Lifelong Learning Programme) Call for proposals 2011: EAC/49/10
Various deadlines from 14 January to 14 October 2011.

The Grundtvig sub-programme is of particular interest to public libraries as it deals with adult education and lifelong learning. Other sub-programmes dealing with schools, higher education and academic training may also be of interest as well as the key actions.

Application forms and full details will be available on the EACEA page >>

The full text of the ‘LLP General Call for proposals 2011-2013 — Strategic Priorities’, together with the ‘LLP Programme Guide 2011’ and other information can be found on the LLP website >>

The level of grants awarded and the duration of projects vary depending on factors such as the type of project and the number of countries involved.

19th EBLIDA Annual Council Meeting and Conference.
Malaga, Spain.
Wednesday 25 — Friday 27 May 2011

“One profession, one future?”

EBLIDA-NAPLE conference in association with FESABID, Spanish Federation of Societies of Archivists, Librarians, Documentalists and Museology

26th : 19th EBLIDA Council Meeting.
27th : Conference ”One profession, one future?” (in English with simultaneous Spanish translation).
25th—26th : FESABID convention (Spanish language).

EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting
Florence, Italy.
Thursday 17 — Friday 18 March 2011

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