



President's Editorial



Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues.

The more we are going closer towards EBLIDA's twentieth anniversary, the more I notice the strong and good work EBLIDA is doing in lobbying for libraries. It is quite obvious in the networking EBLIDA is building day by day with libraries organisations all over Europe.

As a matter of fact, lobbying is stronger when, to paraphrase the famous European Campaign of Culture Action Europe ***We are more!***

And that is the reality since EBLIDA is more than an addition of associations. EBLIDA is more than an addition of library lovers. EBLIDA is the voice of all types of libraries in Europe. It is the association that wants to help libraries to shift smoothly towards the digital era in helping them to cope with top priority issues on the political agenda. EBLIDA is a web of connections between members who cooperate to advocate for a library Policy in Europe, who coordinate their work to monitor and exchange ideas and positions to influence the institutions of the European Union. And to be frank, without you and your personal involvement in our Council and Expert groups, it wouldn't work.

We all have to remain convinced that library's role in Europe is to participate in building a stronger and culturally diverse society that offers its citizens free access to information, qualitative services and at the same time protects and promotes its creators, and all the works of the mind.

As I was just writing, it is obvious that the networking of EBLIDA is rewarding since our good cooperation at the EU level allows us to support IFLA in advocating for its TLIB (page 2). It is obvious also in the way the LIBER-EBLIDA workshop seemed to match the needs of its attendants (page 3). It is obvious in the way EBLIDA involved itself in a lobbying project with major actors of copyright at the European level (page 3). It is also obvious in the growing of EBLIDA's promotion activities since the office is set in the National Library of the Netherlands.

I invite you all one more time to remain as active as you are and to involve yourself in the association to make EBLIDA being the main interlocutor of the European Union for all libraries-related issues. And I take this opportunity to call on every EBLIDA member to support Italian libraries by signing the petition of the Italian Library Association to defend libraries and freedom of expression (see page 6).

I would like to conclude my editorial to inform you that the Executive Committee will meet on 7 and 8 November in Stockholm. This will be the last meeting of the year, a very important moment to assess the work done since the past 6 months. You will learn more on that in our next issue.

It is now time to wish you all to enjoy the reading.

Gerald Leitner,
EBLIDA President

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News round-up: E.U.



Connecting Europe Facility: Commission adopts plan for €50 billion boost to European networks

On 19th October in Warsaw (Poland), Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for the Digital Agenda promoted the Commission proposal to put €50 billions on table in the project Connecting Europe Facility for network infrastructures, including digital ones.

Here are the latest information providing by the Europa Press release website on Connecting Europe: Telecommunications and ICT. [...] *The "Connecting Europe Facility" foresees almost €9.2 billion to support investment in fast and very fast broadband networks and pan-European digital services.*

The CEF finance will leverage other private and public money, by giving infrastructure projects credibility and lowering their risk profiles. On the basis of conservative estimates, the Commission considers that the network infrastructure finance could stimulate investment worth more than €50 billion. [The Digital Agenda for Europe](#) set targets for 2020 of broadband access for all at speeds of at least 30 Mbps, with at least 50% of households subscribing to speeds above 100Mbps.

As regards digital services, the money would be used for grants to build infrastructure needed to roll-out e-ID, eProcurement, electronic health care records, [Europeana](#), eJustice and customs-related services. The money would serve to ensure interoperability and meet the costs of running the infrastructure at European level, linking up Member States' infrastructures.

It is an additional sign of the importance of the Digital Agenda for the European Union, and an additional reason to put libraries on EU's agenda.

Follow-up on EBLIDA's support to IFLA's Draft Treaty on Copyright Exceptions and Limitations for Libraries and Archives (TLIB)

As stated in the President's editorial and to follow-up on our article on a Draft Treaty on Copyright Exceptions and Limitations for Libraries and Archives (TLIB) in the previous newsletter, the coordination of work between EBLIDA and IFLA worked quite well.

Some EBLIDA members replied positively to this proposal and began to work at their national level to meet the copyright representatives of the country, and the minister in charge of these questions.

As we are getting closer to the WIPO SCCR (21-28 November in Geneva, Switzerland), EBLIDA arranged a meeting between Maria Martin-Prat, Head of the Copyright Unit of the DG Markt of the European Commission, and a delegation of three representatives of EBLIDA and IFLA to discuss the Draft Treaty. The meeting should be held on 7 November in Brussels.

News round-up: EBLIDA and Europe

Copyright and Intellectual Property Rights on the top agenda of the EU

Copyright and Intellectual Property rights are on the top agenda of the European Union. Especially with the proposed Directive on certain permitted uses of Orphan works that is currently under revision by the Parliament and the Council of the European Union for an adoption planned in December, January... or February. No more precise information at the moment.

This is no real news as such except that the will of the European Commission is to go forward quickly to adopt the Directive on Orphan works as soon as possible. The need of EBLIDA to work directly in Brussels with people who have the connection with MEPs and their assistants was more and more important. And it became quite obvious that, if libraries want to be visible, they have to improve their direct and personal contacts with MEPs and provide them with reliable and useful information.

As a matter of fact, EBLIDA decided to set up its motto *Lobbying for libraries* and to participate into a copyright alliance.

News round-up: EBLIDA and Europe

This copyright alliance decided to hire two lobbyists (see below) to work on concrete proposals.

EBLIDA involved in a copyright alliance with Europeana, LIBER and JISC.

Helena Lovegrove and Toby Bainton make up the new team providing political advocacy for libraries in the institutions of the European Union. This is an important role, because so many EU laws in the internet age affect libraries. Politicians and officials, when they are drafting new laws, need the advice of the people and institutions who will be affected. Helena and Toby will provide continuous monitoring of the legal processes in Brussels, and they intend to intervene with advice whenever it is required. The result will be that new laws will suit libraries, and their users, better.

The new team works under the guidance of a management group representing the funders of the advocacy programme: EBLIDA, Europeana, LIBER (Ligue Internationale des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche), and JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee). The political advocacy team will explain to officials and parliamentarians in the European Commission and European Parliament how laws should be shaped to give the best results for libraries. The management group will develop a programme of priorities.

Advocacy work began in September, mainly on the subject of the proposed European Directive on Orphan Works. The new Directive will permit libraries to digitise, and make available on the internet, copyright works whose authors can no longer be traced. The team has already met with half a dozen key officials in Brussels, so far with encouraging results. However, the political process is far from predictable, and will probably run well into 2012.

Who are the 2 lobbyists?

Toby Bainton, British, worked for over twenty years in university libraries in the United Kingdom, including several years as the director of a university library. He then became the executive director of the association of university library directors of the UK and Ireland (www.sconul.ac.uk). During this time he was chair of EBLIDA's Expert Committee on Information Law. Toby now works exclusively for the advocacy alliance.



Helena Lovegrove, Swedish, is based in Brussels and has spent the last 10 years in the consultancy world advising companies and associations on EU public affairs. She also has in-house experience gained in the EU Commission. Before she moved to Brussels she worked for an export consultancy in Sweden assisting Scandinavian companies on export strategies and finding business partners abroad. Helena works part time for the advocacy alliance.

In addition to the current work of the team EBLIDA will also work with the copyright alliance on the topic of e-books and all the questions related to copyright in this area.

The first meeting of the alliance will be held in London on November 2.

EBLIDA activities

LIBER-EBLIDA workshop from 05 to 07 October in the National Library of the Netherlands in The Hague.

The Workshop followed up on previous Workshops and intended to take the idea of digitisation of library material further by discussing what potential libraries have for developing Europe's digital agenda through four sessions: User Experience, Business Models, Reuse of Metadata and Workflow.

With 72 participants, this third edition keeps its promises. The evaluation process held between 10 and 25 October showed some positive comments from the participants. They particularly appreciated the size of the workshop and the opportunity offered to network in small groups especially during the breakout sessions. More detailed information will be available in the next issue, after the evaluation process will be ended.

Presentations showed during the Workshop should be soon available online on the LIBER website.

Dokumentation, Information, Kultur (DIK) meeting with EBLIDA in the Hague, on October 13



On October 13, a delegation of 24 DIK members and students registered in a DIK leadership's programme attended one day of meeting with IFLA, Europeana and EBLIDA representatives.

DIK, Dokumentation, Information, Kultur is a professional association and a trade union for university graduates in the fields of documentation, information and culture. It is part of SACO (Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations). DIK is a member of EBLIDA.

EBLIDA Director explained them the role and mission of EBLIDA through a presentation called *Positioning Libraries within EU policy*. The audience composed of high-educated people already working in the field of Culture (archives, museum, libraries...) were very interested by the presentation and a lively discussion followed the speech.

Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)- Second meeting of the year in Warsaw (Poland) on October 25

As the European Union is run by the Polish until the end of December, EGIL decided a few months ago to hold its second meeting in Warsaw on 25 October.

With the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding in September in Brussels, the current follow-up on the Proposed Directive on certain permitted uses of Orphan Works, the arisen questions of e-books, there is no doubt that the EGIL agenda will be a very busy one.

This meeting in Poland will also be an opportunity to be close to the Polish Government representatives and hopefully to benefit from first-hand information regarding the current development on the Directive.

Expert Group on Culture and Information Society (EGCIS) at the European Culture Forum in Brussels on 20-21 October 2011

As announced in the previous newsletter, EGCIS takes the opportunity of the European Culture Forum in Brussels to meet.

The members aim at spreading the EBLIDA Position Paper: Libraries – cultural peaks for information and inspiration (published in May 2011) towards a potential audience of 900 people of all over Europe. A great opportunity to increase the reputation of EBLIDA and, why not, to attract new members.

Until now, the position paper has been (or is in the process to be) translated into Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, German, Italian, Portuguese, Serbian and Swedish. They should be soon available online. Meanwhile you can download the English version at <http://www.eblida.org/uploads/eblida/15/1305721457.pdf> and spread it into your own community. We kindly remind you that you are most welcome to translate the position paper into your own language and inform Hella Klauser who coordinates the work at klauser@bibliotheksverband.de.



EGCIS replied to the consultation of the High Level Group on Literacy on October 14

On 22 September, EBLIDA received a proposal to contribute to the deliberations of the EU's High Level Group on Literacy. The foreseen deadline (30 September) have been kindly postponed on 14 October by the HLG in order to leave some time to draft a reply.

Thanks to the commitment of EGCIS, the inputs of the members of the Executive Committee and with the coordination of EBLIDA's office, EBLIDA send the contribution on time to the HLG. You can find more information and download the extensive response at <http://www.eblida.org/uploads/Response%20from%20EBLIDA%20on%20HLG%20on%20Literacy.pdf>



EBLIDA who's who?

As the network is growing, and as new members enter EBLIDA's community, the EBLIDA newsletter has decided to open its columns to members wishing to introduce themselves to others. The idea is to get to know each other better, to discover more about our association-colleagues, and to strengthen our links and cooperation. And why not to open up discussions, to launch proposals, and to create partnerships?

This month, EBLIDA opens its columns to :



Association: The Italian Library Association (Associazione Italiana Biblioteche—AIB) is the professional association of Italian librarians.

Founded in 1930, AIB is the only general library association in Italy [...] and by far the oldest and largest association from this field in Italy.



The Italian Library Association was founded in 1930 as "Associazione dei bibliotecari italiani" (Association of Italian Librarians), soon after the first World Conference of Libraries and Bibliography held in Rome and Venice in 1929. In the Thirties the Association was under the control of the (Fascist) Ministry of Education, who appointed the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary.

After the Liberation, in 1946-1948, Italian librarians re-established the Association as "Associazione italiana per le biblioteche" (Italian Association for Libraries), on democratic bases.

In 1960, with a new statute, the name was slightly modified, taking the current form "Associazione Italiana Biblioteche". The [Statute](#) in force was approved in 1996, with amendments in 1998 and 1999.

Membership

The members, some 4,500+, are mostly librarians, but membership is open to libraries and other persons or bodies interested in the field (e.g., LIS students, international libraries and other organizations, private companies, etc.). Corporate bodies account for some 15% of total membership.

Membership is also open to foreign libraries and librarians, but foreign institutions, as all corporate bodies and students or friends of libraries, are not allowed to vote in general Membership Meetings and elections. [...]

The supreme governing body of the Italian Library Association is the General Assembly or Membership Meeting ("Assemblea generale dei soci"), usually held once a year at the National Conference. [...]

Every three years, personal members (excluding students and friends) vote for a National Executive Board, their own Regional Executive Board, and other two national boards, the Board of Auditors and the Board of Arbiters. The seven members of the National Executive Board ("Comitato esecutivo nazionale", CEN), in their first meeting, elect between them the President and the Vice-President of the Association and appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer.

Europe:

The Italian Library Association is one the founder-member of EBLIDA. It has one representative elected in the Executive Committee since 2007, Mr. Aldo Pirola from the Public Library of Milan and one substitute, Giuseppina Carrera, also from Milan.



More information over AIB at <http://www.aib.it/>.

Events from late October to December 2011

IFRRO World Congress 2011 and the 40th Annual General Meeting

Date: 27 October 2011
Ljubljana, Slovenia

INFUTURE2011: "Information Sciences and e-Society"

Date: 9 November 2011 to 11 November 2011
Zagreb, Croatia

WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (23rd session)

Date: 21 November 2011 to 25 November 2011
Geneva, Switzerland

DISH 2011: Digital Strategies for Heritage

Date: 6 December 2011 to 09 December 2011
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Funding Calls and Deadlines

New calls and those with a deadline in November listed in order of their deadline date.

See the [EBLIDA funding pages >>](#) for more details.



Funding opportunities managed by Education, Audiovisual and Culture European Agency (EACEA)

Support for Cultural Projects (Strand 1) Strand

Strand 1.3.6 - Support to European cultural festivals
Programme Guide and application accessible at http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/funding/2011/call_strand_136_2011_en.php

Deadline for application: 16/11/2011

LAST MINUTE INFORMATION !

A call to all eblida Members to sign AIB's petition to support Italian libraries and freedom of expression.

Dr. Stefano Parise, President of the Italian Library Association (AIB) calls on EBLIDA's support to Italian libraries and to stand up for freedom of expression. He wrote to us that [...] *in Italy, founding cuts are harshly striking libraries, that have to reduce acquisitions, opening time and user services; the workforce is decreasing both in little public and in great national libraries, without possibility of replacement. The Rome National Central Library in 2011 has a 1,2 million euros budget, an amount totally inadequate.*

On 11th of October AIB, with others cultural associations and writers, organised an open meeting about the crisis of Italian libraries and specially the National ones; this meeting has been stopped by the police, drew up in front of the building. Libraries aren't matter of law and order, but democratic institutions that provide access to knowledge and information. The AIB petition advocate libraries as a resource for the whole Italian society, and the support of all EBLIDA members will en-

force and strengthen this idea.

Please find below the text. It is already available in Italian and English, and will soon be available in German.

The night of the libraries. A Public plea in support of Italian libraries.

Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB), Forum del libro, Associazione Bianchi Bandinelli, Generazione TQ and Presidi del libro, with the support of IFLA - The International Federation of Library and Institutions, as well as EBLIDA - European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations, make a plea to the entire Italian community to create a turnabout in policy and draw more attention and resources to Italian libraries. We must do this before it is too late.

Libraries play an essential role in our Country's cultural, social and civil life and can be seen as one of the cornerstones of democracy based on both freedom of expression and dialogue.

Libraries contribute to the foundation of knowledge by collecting, organising and making available all the products of creativity and talent; by giving access to a wide range of information and ideas and by helping researchers' work. Moreover, they preserve the cultural memory of the country, give citizens opportunities for cultural growth and personal development, and support the capacity-building needed in our social and working life.

In Germany, the number of people attending libraries exceed that of people going to football matches in the Premier League; in the US, investment in libraries is an essential part of the government's measures to fight the financial crisis; in France, the UK and Spain national libraries can rely on both funding and professional staff, facilities and resources.

While in these Countries libraries are considered essential services that need to be preserved and supported (since they contribute to the building of community spirit based on culture and education) in Italy they are dying due to a short-sighted cultural policy and economic crisis, and therefore need everyone's support.

Many libraries (public, local, university, school and institutional ones) suffered heavy cutbacks in both budget and staff, a stop to new additions and even a reduction in their opening time. All these drastic measures can undermine libraries' public functions and represent a threat to the citizens' rights to culture, education, knowledge and value sharing.

A country deprived of efficient libraries turns into a country with no memory and no future. Every time a library closes down, democracy and freedom suffer a reduction of living space. A Government afraid of facing libraries and cultural issues – by transforming a public debate on their roles into a matter of public order – as happened last Tuesday, October 11th is a government of ignorance. In front of Rome's National Library, people joined together to support and stand up for libraries, but they were welcomed by riot police and locked gates; this Government has betrayed the common interest and even denies the right to debate such problems.

Rome, 22nd October 2011

To sign the petition, please go at:

<http://www.aib.it/aib/cen/iniz/in1110.htm>