



The President's Editorial

Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues,



The festive season is here and there has been a lot going at EBLIDA and behind the scenes.

We kick started the E-books Campaign "The right to e-read" by sending out the text from the campaign posters to members to translate into their own languages. We have already received 10 reactions so many thanks to you for your cooperation and creativity with the slogans! We are very impressed with the response so far and this reinforces our belief that we are part of a larger community. **Take a look at page 4 item e-books corner for more information.**

On the 6th of December EBLIDA participated in a second seminar on remote access to e-books in libraries organised by the European Writers Council (EWC) and the Federation of European Publishers (FEP). This event shows the attitude of some authors and some publishers, as well as booksellers towards libraries, not to mention the European Commission Head of Copyright Unit. After having been seen as potential "pirates" for the last two years, now librarians are cannibals, cannibalising the sales of publishers and libraries becomes mere distributors like booksellers!

Although we accepted the offer to participate in a third round of discussions, the basis of negotiations should change if it is to become a dialogue. Until now, it is more a monologue than a dialogue, where libraries are, as always, the weaker part being presented as the main threat.

This is simply incomprehensible.

I am happy to see that German CDU/CSU - SPD Coalition Agreement, published on 27 November, includes a paragraph on libraries and related issues. This shows that politicians need to take the role of science, research and education into consideration and that a limitation for the benefit of education and science should be introduced into the Copyright Act. The coalition agreement includes the question of the rights of public libraries in the licencing of electronic books. Open access strategy and open data are also on the agenda.

Meanwhile, the European Commission launched a consultation on the review of the EU Copyright. It means a lot of careful work from EBLIDA, as well as joining forces with LIBER so that we all work towards the same goal, and gain representation for libraries at European level.

Preparations for our Annual Council and Conference in Athens are underway and going well. Please save the date in your agenda: the Annual Council will be held in the afternoon of the 13th of May. The Annual Conference, that we organise together with our colleagues from NAPLE and the support of our Greek members of EBLIDA, will be held on the 14th of May. The Conference Title: *Libraries in Transition. Changes? Crisis? Chances!* is of interest to the whole library and information community since it addresses salient issues currently faced by libraries. More information will be available after the Christmas break.

Please note that the EBLIDA office will be closed from 19th of December until 2nd of January 2014.

Finally I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas. I hope that you will enjoy the end of the year, and that you will join us fit and ready for 2014.

Klaus-Peter Böttger,
EBLIDA President

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News round-up (EBLIDA and the EU)

Commission launches public consultation on review of EU Copyright : 5th December, 2013 to 5th February 2014.

On 5th of December 2013 the EU Commission launched its public consultation on the review of EU copyright rules. The consultation is available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/consultations/2013/copyright-rules/docs/consultation-document_en.pdf

The consultation will close on the 5th of February 2014.

The consultation follows conclusion of the Licences for Europe <<http://ec.europa.eu/licences-for-europe-dialogue/en/content/about-site>> and - prior to this - the Communication <http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-12-1394_en.htm> on *Content in the Digital Single Market*.

According to the press release, this operation is part of Commission's on-going efforts to review and modernise EU copyright rules.

Through a list of 80 questions, the consultation touches upon issues of fundamental importance to the future of EU copyright, including: territoriality in the Single Market, harmonisation, limitations and exceptions to copyright in the digital age, fragmentation of the EU copyright market (including whether the EU should go for full harmonisation); and how to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of enforcement while underpinning its legitimacy in the wider context of copyright reform.

EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL) is in the process of analysing the content. Consultation with LIBER is on-going in order to coordinate our response whenever possible. As many libraries and library associations as possible should respond to this consultation in order to express their opinion on the necessity of the review of EU Copyright. To be continued.

Written declaration on the impact of public libraries in European Communities

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/written-declarations.html?action=0&tabActiv=tabCurrent#sidesForm>

To date, there have been 142 signatures on this declaration, showing the growing support for public libraries in European Communities. Please show your support by requesting your national MEP to add your signature.

More information available: <http://www.wdpubliclibraries.eu/>

A Snapshot on the Book Famine and Marrakech Treaty and ETIN by Koen Krikhaar (Chair of IFLA Library for Print Disabled people Committee, and co-chair of ETIN)

The Book Famine and the Marrakech Treaty¹

The problem is twofold. On one hand, the blind and visually impaired as well as other print-disabled persons, need standard printed books to be adapted – in one way or another – so that they are accessible and readable for these persons. On the other hand, it should be possible for these adapted books to be transported to wherever they are needed. This is not the case at the current time.

The Amazon.coms of this world do not sell books in accessible formats for the visually impaired. Publishing houses have never seen Braille books or accessible audio books for the visually impaired as a profitable business. It is the institutions providing services for the visually impaired that produce accessible materials for them. Once an adapted copy is made, it is done so under national (copyright) regulations, in many cases with public funding, and cannot be exported without the permission of the right holders and/or publishers for a particular title.

This is why the World Blind Union decided that an international legal framework that would put an end to this situation was required. A long and hotly debated political process on this issue ended with the successful conclusion of a new international WIPO Treaty: A [Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled](#). Fifty one countries signed the Treaty at the conference end of last June. The Treaty comes into effect however, when (and only when) twenty or more countries have ratified the Treaty. A complicating factor for Europe is that the European Council has not yet decided whether they should (or can) ratify at EU level for their members, or that each of the 28 EU member states need to go through a ratification process on a national level.

The "European Network of Trusted Intermediaries" (ETIN)²

Working towards a European answer to the above mentioned problem of the Book Famine, publishers and libraries for the print disabled, set out to work, with the support of the European Commission, on the practical implementation of the commitments made in a EU Memorandum of Understanding. This MoU on access to works by people with print disabilities (), was signed by stakeholders such as the European Blind Union (EBU) and the Federation of European Publishers (FEP) and was witnessed by EU Commissioner Michel Barnier on 14 September 2010. The MoU aims to increase access to works for people with print disabilities, by establishing a network of "Trusted Intermediaries" (TIs) for the exchange of accessible versions made under copyright exceptions or under licences³. Page 2

News round-up (EBLIDA and the EU)

Parties established the "European Network of Trusted Intermediaries" (ETIN). This is a stakeholder-based network representing both TIs and rights holders. It aims to have pan-European coverage.

The ETIN group has agreed a model licence/agreement for the cross-border transmission of accessible copies of works. This model licence/agreement is put forward as a basis for arrangements between potential TIs and rights holders at national level.

An ETIN Board has been established to govern the project. An important task of the ETIN Board is to formally recognise a TI as an ETIN member and thereby allow it to participate in the cross-border lending activities of the other ETIN members. The recognition by the Board, together with the signature of the licence/agreement at a national level, will enable TIs to transmit/supply accessible versions across borders.

Relationship between ETIN and Marrakech Treaty

ETIN is a practical voluntary arrangement between rights holders and intermediaries such as libraries for the print disabled. The Treaty is a binding international copyright instrument that needs to be ratified and implemented on a national level. They both facilitate the access to works for people who cannot read print. ETIN provides a cooperative network of content providers that should be able to deliver results within the coming six months. ETIN pilots to share collection of adapted books across countries are being developed. Especially countries that share a language, such as Germany, Austria and Switzerland, the Netherlands and Flanders Belgium, could benefit from this. For the end-user it does not matter which legal framework allows for this cross-border sharing, as long as the books become available. When the Marrakech Treaty comes into effect, and that might be in two years' time, the legal underpinning of ETIN can be transformed to the more general framework of the Marrakech Treaty. The scope of ETIN can then be expanded to a worldwide sharing of accessible works made under exceptions. What matters most is that more titles are made available in a timely matter and at a reasonable cost, and both the ETIN network as the Marrakech Treaty are important facilitators in this.

Koen Krikhaar
Co-chair of the ETIN Board

¹ Paragraph is an edited excerpt from *The miracle of Marrakech: The WIPO Treaty for the Visually Impaired*; by Francisco Javier MARTÍNEZ CALVO, This work is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>

² Paragraph has been written using information provided by the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO).

³ An electronic copy of the Memorandum of Understanding, signed by representatives of rights holders and print impaired persons (Federation of European Publishers; European Blind Union; European Writers Council; European Dyslexia Association; International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers; and IFRRO), is available here: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/copyright/docs/copyright-info/2010/20100914_mou_en.pdf.

Note from the editors: the content of this article is the sole responsibility of his author, and doesn't necessarily represent the view of EBLIDA.

On the Digital Future of Our Literature

In 2013, the website Fiktion (<http://fiktion.cc/about.php>) has been launched. "Fiktion has been set up by German- and English-language writers as a model for using the opportunities afforded by the digital to raise the profile of challenging literature and improve its means of distribution. The project operates on several levels [...]" that you can find detailed on their website at <http://fiktion.cc/about.php>.

With their kind authorisation, we reproduce here their declaration *On the Digital Future of Our Literature* (also accessible at <http://fiktion.cc/deklaration.php> in German in English version).

On the Digital Future of Our Literature

In Spring 2013, Fiktion and the Haus der Kulturen der Welt hosted several workshops during which authors consulted publishing industry experts and the Humboldt Internet Law Clinic about opportunities the digital age holds for literature that demands a special level of concentration. The following declaration opens this discussion to the public.

Never has there been as much reading and writing as today. Less than 20 percent of the world's population is illiterate, half of what it was twenty years ago—and the number continues to drop. Children from every social background maintain lively personal correspondence, a pastime once reserved for the elite. Just two decades ago, the telephone seemed to threaten the very existence of this type of communication; now what continues to be called a telephone is mostly used for writing and reading.

Day-to-day writing lowers the threshold for composing one's own poems, stories, and novels. Almost anyone can make their texts available to the public and receive feedback from all over the world. Those successful in this arena might then be acknowledged by traditional publishers as well.

(continued overleaf)

News round-up (EBLIDA and the EU)

Wonderful as this is, our literary texts—which demand more in terms of concentration—are falling increasingly behind in competing for audiences with an overall limited attention span. This process began even before the introduction of e-books. Denying it is no solution; we have to develop new methods for communicating our literature to readers using digital technology.

Until now, we were content to have trade publishers attend to our work on a comprehensive level: they edited our books, placed, printed, distributed, and promoted them, acquired subsidiary rights, and granted us a share of the profits. In the best situation they did this book after book, until eventually the time came for a critical, complete edition. The less our literature contribute to company accounts, the less effort is put into our books, and in many bookstores they never hit the shelves in the first place. Many older titles are not even available as e-books. Commercial publishers have, for the most part, reacted defensively to the challenges of the digital age: shrinking their program, merging, axing employees, and concentrating on bestsellers. Smaller publishing houses that have sacrificed themselves for our literature have found it increasingly difficult to compete on the book market.

The idea that publishing books that do not immediately sell well is tantamount to an act of charity has compromised our writing. We can no longer stand by and watch as conditions deteriorate for our literature. It is time to consider these conditions ourselves and test the opportunities that the digital holds for the dissemination of our work:

- Because e-books can be made available anywhere in the world, irrespective of their commercial success, the success or failure of a title no longer needs to be determined within the first few weeks of its release. Attention can be garnered slowly and without the service of the mass media.
- Distributing e-books does not necessarily mean selling them. Indeed, as writers, we prefer living from the valorisation of our works rather than hiring ourselves out in a way that keeps us from writing. But we want the freedom to decide for each of our books if and when we were to give them away. The idea that it's a necessary evil for reading to cost money needs to be proved over and over again.
- Standard e-book formats mimic the printed book and expand it with added functions that may be beneficial for nonfiction, but that are rather distracting for those reading our literature. There has yet to be a digital reading format that uses the technical possibilities to facilitate concentration on our literature.

Existing Internet portals and forums might suffice for self-publishing genre literature, but our work requires intensive individual attention and an environment that stimulates curiosity. It is because of this that we have to join together—be it as a cooperative, foundation, association, or initiative, whether by means of investments, donations, contributions, sponsorship, or subsidies. Our literature, on the whole, can regain importance only if we collectively redefine our role as writers.

September 2013,

Marcus Braun, Jan Peter Bremer, Nina Bußmann, Mathias Gatza, Katharina Hacker, Elfriede Jelinek, Ingo Niermann, Urs Richle, Michael Schindhelm, Sabine Scholl.

EBLIDA Activities

EBLIDA E-books Corner by Gerald Leitner

We warmly thank for the translation of the slogans into your National language.

NB : The logo itself constitute a “brand” that should remain as is. If, for your national campaign, there is the need to translate the words, please do it below the logo, in relation to the slogan you have chosen. The idea with this unique logo is to create a European wide identity.

The campaign itself needs to be adapted to your national plans, hence the choice between three different slogans, and whenever necessary the possibility to create a different one.

You are also invited to add your logo to the posters, postcards, and all related documents. This means that in addition to the EBLIDA logo at the bottom of each document (printed and digital), the presence of your national association, the local libraries and all other partner taking part in the Campaign is ensured. In order for this to happen, we would need to receive your logo in high resolution.

The launch of the website is expected by mid-January.

Let's move forward with the Campaign and act in 2014 to ensure the Right to e-read all over Europe!

Events and Dates

December 2013

December 9 – 12, 8th International Conference for Internet Technology and Secured Transactions (ICITST-2013)

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://www.icitst.org/>

December 14, 8th International Research Workshop on IT Project Management (IRWITPM)

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <http://ais.site-ym.com/members/group.aspx?id=89773>

December 14, 6th Annual SIG GlobDev Workshop: ICT in Global Development: Reclaiming the Meaning of Development: ICT and the Path to Community

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <http://www.globdev.org/files/CFP-Milan-GlobDev-Workshop-Final-June-20-3013-1.pdf>

December 14, 2nd Workshop on Information Privacy and Security

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <http://www.cersi.it/jips/>

December 14, 2013 OASIS Workshop

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <http://ifipwg82.org/content/2013-oasis-pre-icis-workshop>

December 14, 7th annual Workshop on Information Security and Privacy (WISP)

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <http://www.oru.se/hh/wisp2013>

December 15, Reshaping Organizations and Society Through Managing and Designing Information

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <https://ais.site-ym.com/store/ListProducts.aspx?catid=240345&ftr=sigiq>

December 15 – 18, 2013 International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS 2013)

Place: Milan, Italy

URL: <http://icis2013.aisnet.org/>

January 2014

January 5 – 8, 5th International Conference on Information Visualization Theory and Applications (IVAPP 2014)

Place: Lisbon, Portugal

URL: <http://www.ivapp.visigrapp.org/>

January 17, Doctoral Open Day: Digital Research

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://www.bl.uk/whatson/events/event155919.html>

January 22, Data, the universe and everything

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://www.alpsp.org/Ebusiness/ProductCatalog/1401DUE.aspx?ID=366>

January 29 – 31, 22nd International BOBCATSSS Conference 2014: Library (R) Evolution: Promoting Sustainable Information Practices

Place: Barcelona, Spain

URL: <http://bobcatsss2014.hb.se/>

February 2014

February 12, Publication Ethics: Fraud and Misconduct

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://www.alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=367>

February 24 – 25, Association of Subscription Agents & Intermediaries (ASA) Annual Conference: "Transforming the Publishing Landscape"

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://subscription-agents.org/conferences>

February 26, Journal Development 1: Practical Plans for Improving Journal Success

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://www.alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=371>

February 26 – 27, Handheld Librarian 9 (HHLib9) Online Conference: "Encouraging Innovation and Technology"

Place: Online only

URL: <http://nine.handheldlibrarian.org/>

February 27 – 28, Faster, smarter and richer. Reshaping the library catalogue (FSR 2014)

Place: Rome, Italy

URL: <http://www.aib.it/attivita/congressi/c2014/fsr2014/>

March 2014

March 3 – 6, 7th International Conference on Health Informatics – HEALTHINF 2014

Place: Angers, France

URL: <http://www.healthinf.biostec.org/>

Events and Dates (continued)

March 4 – 7, iConference 2014: Breaking Down

Walls: Culture-Context-Computing

Place: Berlin, Germany

URL: <http://ischools.org/the-iconeference/>

March 5, Developing Open Access and Hybrid Journals

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=372>

March 6 – 7, i2c2. Innovation, Inspiration and Creativity Conference: "Using Positive Disruption to improve libraries"

Place: Manchester, UK

URL: <http://i2c2conference.org/index.html>

March 12, Introduction to Journals Publishing

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=385>

March 19, Strategic Journals Finance

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=377>

March 20, What do researchers want.....and what are we doing about it? (ALPSP Seminar)

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://alpsp.org/Ebusiness/ProductCatalog/1403WRW.aspx?ID=398>

March 22 – 24, 4th International Conference on Information Systems and Technologies (ICIST 2014)

Place: Valencia, Spain

URL: <http://www.ijist.net/ICIST14/>

March 25 – 26, Search Marketing Expo (SMX) München

Place: Munich, Germany

Sponsor/Organizer: Third Door Media

URL: <http://smxmuenchen.de/>

March 26 – 28, Research Data Alliance (RDA) 3rd Plenary Meeting

Place: Dublin, Ireland

URL: <https://rd-alliance.org/rda-third-plenary-meeting.html>

March 28, Measuring Academic Productivity: The Role of Publication (NFAIS Virtual Seminar)

Place: Online only

URL: <http://www.nfaeis.org>

