Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues,

Our conference registration is open!

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to register now at: http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/registration/

Together with our Greek colleagues and our friends at NAPLE, we have created what we hope you will agree is a very interesting programme that is designed to question the current challenges faced by libraries.

Since young information and librarian specialist students are the next generation of professionals, it was decided to offer them a special conference fee at a very reasonable price. We believe they have a lot to offer and contribute to the topics that are of interest for them. The transition in the library and information environment is our day-to-day business and will be their future. They will have to keep up with the speed of technological changes, and struggle with lower budget while their services towards their communities will expand.

We also hear some politicians questioning the need for libraries since the Internet exists. This is of course a short sighted view, but in these times of budget restrictions, we all have to deal with this, and there is probably more to come.

The 22nd EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference aims at being a tool to help everyone of us collecting information, facts and texts to show that libraries and librarians are at the core of the society. They are useful public structures offering onsite and online services, directly connected to the needs of their users. Find out more about our programme on page 3 and 4.

The E-books Campaign webpage is up and running, and I would like to thank members who have already participated. I would hereby like to encourage all other members to contact us so that we can continue to build on the poster for the national campaigns.

Lastly, EBLIDA Executive Committee will have its next meeting in Prague, Czech Republic, at the end of February. Thanks to the cooperation and initiative of our Czech colleagues at SKIP, EBLIDA representatives will take part in an event organised in cooperation with the Goethe Institute to present among other things, EBLIDA’s work and “the right to e-read”

Klaus-Peter Böttger,
EBLIDA President

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Public consultation on review of EU Copyright, deadline extension 5th March 2014.

On 31st of January, the European Commission announced the extension of the public consultation on review of EU Copyright for one month. The new deadline has been set to the 5th of March. You still have time to collate your answers.

Should you need some inspiration, please feel free to use http://youcan.fixcopyright.eu/.

We have been informed that the Commission has already received around 3000 responses. We very much encourage each library association of EU Member-States to send their proposals. The louder our voice the more difficult to ignore!

A white paper on Copyright before the Summer break?

During the European Parliament plenary session in Strasbourg on Monday 4th of February, Commissioner Michel Barnier announced the publication of a white paper on copyright in Europe probably before the summer break. The work and time invested in the response to the Consultation will not have been done in vain. But to ensure that the voice of libraries is heard as it should be, there is still much to be done. The consultation is just one step on the road to copyright reform.


On 4th February, MEP Gallo’s (EPP, FR) reported on the directive on collective rights management (copyright and related rights and multi-territorial licensing of rights in musical works for online uses) and announced its adoption by the Parliament with 640 (for), 18 (against), 22 (abstentions). The Council is expected to approve the adoption of the directive in the coming weeks.


The Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the EU Parliament organised the event "Intellectual Property Rights in Europe: a tool for growth and jobs", at the European Parliament premises (room ASP 3G3) in Brussels on Thursday 30 January 2014 from 9h00 until 12h30.

This first session provided a good opportunity to hear some S&D representatives like Sylvie Guillaume and Luigi Berlinguer, as well as academics (Bernd Hugenholtz) very much in favour of copyright reform. It was also a chance to learn more about how the Fair Use provision in the US gives a competitive advantage to US based companies (Pamela Samuelson). It also shows experimental solutions developed by iRightslab (http://www.irights-lab.de/) in Germany, while highlighting the reluctance of some Member-States (i.e. France) to acknowledge any need for reform.

The second session gave the floor to the audience, where Gerald Leitner seized the opportunity to vocalise the wish of libraries to offer authors fair remuneration for their work in the digital environment. He also highlighted his concern about the current situation in Europe where many publishers are denying sales. It was a good opportunity to raise awareness about the situation for libraries.

EBLIDA audited on Text and Data Mining

On 11th of February 2014, EBLIDA was invited to a hearing on Text and Data Mining by the Conseil Supérieur de la Propriété Littéraire et Artistique (CSPLA), an advisory Council under the supervision of the French Ministry of Culture and Communication. The purpose of the hearing was to gain a better understanding about libraries’ perceptions of data mining (interest, projects in progress, economic issues (right holders remuneration), technical issues (setting up dedicated tools), legal issues (licence, exception, activities outside of intellectual property).

Hearings began in October already with a lot of organisations having been heard, such as, the Syndicat National de l'Édition, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, independent researchers, economics, etc…

EBLIDA’s director invited Lucie Guibault from the Institute in Information Law (IVIR) Amsterdam who kindly participated and presented very good information about the need for an exception for TDM as academic, but also as a researcher and an author. EBLIDA stressed the need to have other Ministries working on this issue, especially the Ministry of Higher Education and Research and the Ministry of Economics and Finance. TDM should not be seen from the Copyright perspective only, especially since it might not be the most prevalent one.

The final report is expected by mid-March, beginning of April, but we still don't know whether it will be published.
The Conference will focus on the consequences of technological, economic and social changes in European society, as well as on the role, the scope and the existence of European libraries in this context. E-books, copyright, economic crisis, immigration, multiculturalism – these are all subjects, among others, that could play a key role in the development of European Libraries. There will also be discussions about the consequences of the economic crisis on libraries (positive or negative), the role of the library in an era of economic crisis and possible solutions libraries can offer to contemporary society.

Finally a discussion will take place on defining the current opportunities that arise for libraries dealing with changes and the economic crisis concentrating on subjects such as: library policy, the contribution of libraries to economic recovery and development, fundraising models etc.

The Conference is under the umbrella of EBLIDA, organised by the Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists and hosted by the Technological Educational Institute of Athens – Department of Library Science and Information Systems.
What we want! by Gerald Leitner

We want to provide our library users with the latest e-books as we do with printed books! But some publishers prevent us doing this by refusing to provide libraries with the necessary licences to lend e-books. Surveys suggest that 50% or more of e-book bestsellers are unavailable to libraries.

We want to buy e-books at fair prices and on reasonable terms! But many publishers sell e-books at high prices or not at all. As a result we are unable to offer a good service to our users.

We want authors to receive fair payment for the lending of e-books as they do for printed books by extending Public Lending Right to include the loan of e-books by public libraries! Currently authors receive no remuneration for the lending of e-books by libraries in most Member-States.

We want all citizens – not just those who can afford it – to benefit from free access to e-books in public libraries! Under current copyright law publishers can refuse to supply libraries with e-books.

Therefore we want a clear copyright law that enables libraries to fulfil their enduring mission into the 21st century of providing all EU citizens with access to the riches of human knowledge and imagination whether in the library, offsite or online.
EBLIDA who's who?

As the network evolves, 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. This month, EBLIDA opens its columns to: SKIP, Czech Republic

The SKIP that should not be skipped
(ideally, not by librarians in the Czech Republic)

SKIP is the abbreviation for Svaz knihovníků a informačních pracovníků České republiky – or the Association of Library and Information Professionals of the Czech Republic in English.

SKIP was founded in 1990, shortly after the Velvet Revolution of November 1989. It was for the second time that it came into existence, the first time being during the Prague Spring 1968.

(In “pre-history”, in 1926, a then existing Association of Czechoslovak Librarians and their Friends, together with other corporations, organised International Congress of Librarians and Friends of the Book in Prague, where the intent to establish an international organisation of librarians was proclaimed. It was this initiative that lead to the foundation of the IFLA in Edinburgh one year later.)

SKIP sees its mission as a constant effort to improve the standards of library and information services and at the same time to increase the profession’s prestige and to establish suitable conditions for the development and activities of libraries and information institutions, as well as to represent interests of the Association’s members at home and abroad.

In the country of 10.5 million inhabitants and in the landscape of about 10 thousand libraries, the SKIP had, in the middle of 2013, a membership of 969 individual members and 596 corporate members (mostly libraries). The SKIP is a member of IFLA and EBLIDA.

The Association develops its activities in the framework of 11 territorial units as well as of 14 substantive sections, clubs and commissions. The SKIP publishing a quarterly Bulletin, both in print and online, and, in a limited extent, other publications. The website http://www.skipcr.cz has a Czech language version only.

The SKIP flagship event is A Night with Andersen, a reading promotion activity held on a Friday next to the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen with tens of thousands participants in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and some other countries, which will be held for the 14th time in the course of the night 4/5 April this year. Your participation will be warmly welcomed – you may register here.

A library promotional event of primary importance is the nation-wide Week of Libraries held at the beginning of October.

The SKIP is a recognized representative of library sector and librarian community in the Czech Republic: eg., the SKIP is engaged in the works on the National System of Professions, membership in the Union of Employer Associations enables the SKIP to participate in the official draft bill consultation procedure. The SKIP is accepted as a stakeholder, besides the National Library with its statutory role, in the copyright legislative process.

The SKIP will host the EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting in Prague at the end of February. The meeting shall take place in the recently built National Library of Technology. The guests will certainly not miss the opportunity to walk through the squares and lanes of the city centre, one of the UNESCO World Heritage List sites. Welcome!
Events and Dates

February 2014

February 20 – 23, 15th International Vilnius Book Fair
Place: Vilnius, Lithuania
URL: http://2014.vilniausknygumuge.lt/en

February 20 – 24, Brussels Book Fair
Place: Brussels, Belgium
Sponsor/Organizer: Exhibition Management
URL: http://flb.be/

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 – 4, 8th International Workshop on Value Modeling and Business Ontology
Place: Berlin, Germany
URL: http://www.csw.inf.fu-berlin.de/vmbo2014/

March 3 – 6, 7th International Conference on Health Informatics – HEALTHINF 2014
Place: Angers, France
URL: http://www.healthinf.biostec.org/

Place: Berlin, Germany
URL: http://ischools.org/the-iconference/

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 13 – 16, Leipzig Book Fair
Place: Leipzig, Germany
URL: http://lemmon.leipziger-messe.de/LeMMon/buch_web_eng.nsf

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 24 – 27, Bologna Children’s Book Fair
Place: Bologna, Italy

March 25 – 26, Search Marketing Expo (SMX) München
Place: Munich, Germany
URL: http://smxmuench.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.nfais.org

April 2014  
April 1 – 3, 6th International Conference on Computer Supported Education (CSEDU 2014)  
Place: Barcelona, Spain  
URL: http://www.csedu.org/Home.aspx

April 1 – 4, ACM International Conference on Multimedia Retrieval (ICMR 2014)  
Place: Glasgow, Scotland  
URL: http://www.icmr2014.org/

April 2, Understanding eJournal Technology  
Place: London, UK  
URL: Understanding eJournal Technology

April 3 – 5, 10th International Conference on Web Information Systems and Technologies - WEBIST 2014  
Place: Barcelona, Spain  
URL: http://www.webist.org/

April 7 – 9, Digital Media Europe 2014  
Place: London, UK  
URL: http://www.wan-ifra.org/events/digital-media-europe-2014

April 8 – 10, London Book Fair  
Place: London, UK  
URL: http://www.londonbookfair.co.uk/

April 8 – 10, IFINTEC Finance Technologies Conference and Exhibition  
Place: Istanbul, Turkey  
URL: http://www.ifintec.com/EN/519/Conference/About-Conference.aspx

April 10 – 11, 6th European Conference on Intellectual Capital (ECIC-2014)  
Place: Trnava, Slovak Republic  
URL: http://academic-conferences.org/ecic/ecic2014/ecic14-home.htm

SAVE THE DATE:  
EBLIDA 22nd COUNCIL AND EBLIDA-NAPLE CONFERENCE  
Date: 13-14th May, 2013  
Venue: The Council and Conference will be hosted by the Technological Educational Institute of Athens, Greece.