



## The President's Editorial

Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues,



This year, April is the month of the countdowns.

Only two weeks left before the "*the right to e-read*" day in Europe happens! As announced in previous newsletters, we are counting on all our members to organise local events in their countries so that the visibility of our campaign "*the right to e-read*" will be widespread.

I will proudly take part in a Press Conference at the European Parliament Library. 23rd of April is officially the *United Nations' World Book and Copyright Day*. This year we also hope to extend it to mean a "*right to e-read*" day! Although we encountered many obstacles along the way - the closing of Parliament (officially

18th of April), closely followed by Easter Sunday and Monday (20th and 21st April) - we have done our best to get the support of Luigi Berlinguer (MEP) to ensure our presence in the EU Parliament Library.

I hope that together, in this symbolic place, we can make libraries more visible at the European level, and make sure libraries are on the political agenda for the next election!

We have focussed a lot on the campaign in the past months, and together with the e-books task force, we have come to an agreement on a petition text (see page 2) and on a petition platform that we will use in the coming months as our core tool to show European policy makers and politicians that we are supported by a huge amount of citizens that need politicians to act! These many library users and lovers will need your active support, advertising and marketing skills to sign the petition and obtain the most possible signatures so that we reach a critical mass that nobody can ignore. Together, we can make this work! We cannot do it without YOU! How can you help, please turn to page 2 for detail.

Only five weeks left before the 22nd EBLIDA Annual Council and EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference takes place in Athens, on 13th and 14th of May! Our colleagues at the EEBCP have been going above and beyond the call of duty, with the most recent development being the setting up of the online pre-conference resource: [ALL IDEAS](#). Some posts have already been made and we are counting on you to post your ideas and thoughts pre-conference, to get the dialogue going. Don't forget to register <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/registration/>. Once again, the Conference will provide a nice opportunity to mobilise all members to call on your librarians, staff members, library users, everyone you know, to sign the petition and act for the campaign. But we'll also go beyond the campaign and address many other issues!

Only seven weeks left before the European elections take place. Consider who could best represent the interest of libraries before voting :-)) and of course, make your voice count!

There are so many other things I would like to write to you about, such as the fact that EBLIDA will have a booth at the next IFLA Conference in Lyon, but I will resist and come back to the campaign to proudly announce that the slogan "*the right to e-read*" was already mentioned in a Feature in German TV about the new German Digital Library.

But now it is time to wish you to enjoy reading and a happy Easter!

Klaus-Peter Böttger,  
EBLIDA President

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# EBLIDA Activities

## THE RIGHT TO E-READ



On 23rd of April, actions for the Campaign "*The Right to E-read*" will take place throughout Europe. The key element is an internet petition EBLIDA would like to start with all of you.

The petition signing will start on 23rd of April. It can be signed until 31st of October. It will then be presented to the new European Commission in November.

We ask you to:

- **translate the petition**
- **put the petition on your website (preferably homepage where it's most visible)**
- **encourage libraries to set up computers to sign the petition (perhaps with the poster)**
- **set up such computer stations at your library conferences/events**

The text is already available in English, French, German and Spanish. We need your translation skills to get the text in other languages as well, so that upon reception of translation, EBLIDA can send you the link to the petition platform.

Join us so that this petition can be one of the most successful and will show that European citizens want a change in copyright law!

**And here is the Petition!**

**For the right to e-read**

**Give users the right to e-read by legalizing the lending of e-books by libraries**

Just at a time when advances in technology should be extending access to the riches of human knowledge, libraries are being prevented from buying or lending e-books. This is undermining their ability to provide their almost 100 million users in Europe with free access to human knowledge. It also raises important questions about democracy, learning and research, and the effective engagement of all citizens in a knowledge society.

Therefore 65.000 libraries and their 100 million users call upon the EU to develop a clear copyright law that enables libraries to fulfill their enduring mission into 21st century of providing all EU citizens with access to the riches of human knowledge whether in the library, offsite or online.

Specifically we want :

- ◆ **to provide our library users with the latest e-books as we do printed books**
- ◆ **to buy e-books at fair prices and on reasonable terms**
- ◆ **All citizens – not just those who can afford it – to benefit from free access to e-books in libraries**
- ◆ **Authors to receive fair remuneration for the lending of e-books to the public**

We need a European copyright framework that is fit for purpose and enables libraries to purchase and lend e-books.

**Therefore we call on the EU Commission for a clear copyright framework that allows libraries to acquire and lend e-books with an adequate remuneration to authors and other rights holders. Just as with printed books, an updated copyright framework should allow libraries to continue to provide their services for the benefit of all European citizens!**

**We therefore call on all governments of the European states to ensure free access to information for all citizens and to guarantee the Right to E-read via libraries!**

**WE CALL ON ALL EUROPEAN CITIZENS to stand up and defend this right!**



# News round-up (EBLIDA and the EU)

## EU Parliament breakfast discusses the copyright needs of libraries

On the 19th of March, IFLA together with C4C organised an *EU Parliament Breakfast on Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives at EU and WIPO level*. The event was organised under the auspices of Amelia Andersdotter, MEP (Greens/EFA). During the event, EBLIDA Director highlighted the challenges for libraries in the European Union with providing access to digital content, particularly e-books. He spoke about issues for libraries negotiating complex licensing agreements, and the increasing influence of publishers through licensing on library acquisition decisions and how they are able to fulfil their mission. EBLIDA Director expressed concern with descriptions of libraries as “competing with” publishers, and urged the European Commission to take more than a market approach to copyright reform in the European Union. He also urged the European Commission to include a library representative on its delegation to WIPO, as is the practice in some other country delegations.

Read the whole report here: <http://www.ifla.org/node/8507>

## EU Consultation on Copyright Reform and parallel events

Latest information provided by the EU Commission on the Review of Copyright Rules at the European level shows that the EU Commission received about 11.000 answers! This is one of the most successful consultations ever. The EU is currently checking all responses to publish those where consent was given for publication.

At the same time, Commissioner Barnier announced the release of a White Paper by the end of June that should hopefully take into consideration the different aspects contained in the numerous responses. At the Paris Book Fair on the 24th of March, a round table *Europe and Culture* moderated by Jacques Toubon (former French Minister of Culture, MEP and French Ambassador for a VAT reduced rate on e-books) and featuring Vincent Montagne (National Publishing Union/SNE), René Stien (German Publisher), Karine Tuil (Author) and Michel Barnier, (European Commissioner, in charge of Services and the Single Market and responsible for copyright), Michel Barnier informed the audience that “whether the Infosoc Directive is still valid should be answered by the White Paper to be issued in June. He also reminded the audience that he would favour contract rather than constraint. He wants to give user the possibility to buy e-books across border platforms and readers with common standards. Mr Barnier supported the idea of a support-neutral VAT: same rate for e-books and printed books. He wants to preserve and modernise copyright to better spread creativity. Publishing industries in the EU are the first ones in the world, and they would like this remain the case, so it is necessary to adapt to the changes incurred by the digital environment. Each and every player in the book chain participates in Europe’s wealth”.

EBLIDA Director asked Commissioner why he is in favour of contract instead of constraint (law), since libraries cannot sign contracts, i.e. licences, for all commercially available e-books? EBLIDA Director highlighted the fact that at present, libraries faced denial of sale from some publishers on certain e-book titles. This situation is very different from the printing environment. Nowadays, publishers can control what is authorised to be on the library e-shelves and what is not. So far, no convincing answer was provided.

We clearly need the campaign to reach this policy level to make our case.

## Forum de Chaillot - The Future of Culture, the Future of Europe, 4 –5 April, Paris

Will culture be at the centre of the next European elections? The Ministers of Culture of the EU Member States met in parallel to the Forum de Chaillot in Paris on 4th and 5th of April 2014. As the forum creators from all over Europe joined together to discuss the current “[...] undergoing profound transformations in the wake of the digital revolution” as French Minister of Culture announced. She highlighted that “the very conditions of creation are being transformed, particularly modes of funding and remunerating creators [and that] these questions are essential for democracy in Europe. The citizens of each of our States feel strongly that Europe must take decisive action in favour of culture. Policy makers must respond. In order to debate these questions and map out the broad outlines of our action [...]” and that was the reason why it was decided “[...] to convene an assembly of artists, intellectuals, cultural professionals and entrepreneurs at the Palais de Chaillot to engage in discussion with European policymakers and the general public. We will thus endeavour to invent together, not only the future of culture, but that of our joint European project as well”. More information are available in English at <http://tinyurl.com/q3skghe>.

EBLIDA Director took part in the first meeting of European organisations in the Book Industry. This was a good opportunity to make libraries visible during the debate related to intellectual property in Europe. The BNF, an EBLIDA member, represented by Sylviane Tarsot-Gillery, was part of the round table on *how should players in the book industry be represented in the EU Commission*. She nicely presented EBLIDA and the work done in building coalitions among library organisations.

## News round-up (EBLIDA and the EU)



As announced in the previous Newsletter, EBLIDA is participating in the *European Literacy Policy Network (ELINET)* together with 79 other organisations. It is a great opportunity to make libraries visible and position them in the literary field and at the European level.

This project is supported by the European Commission and has officially been launched in February 2014 to last two years.

EBLIDA is a member of Team 7 focussing on raising awareness on Literacy and the ELINET project itself.

The group had its first meeting on Monday 7th of April via a video conference call. One meeting per month is planned for two years as well as a face to face meeting once or twice a year.

We are currently involved in defining the strategic concept so that the project will be outward looking. The strategic work is focussing now on developing a toolkit to help intermediary organisations find out good practices, implement them in their countries and support the development of new good practices. It will be important to include examples of libraries as partners in literacy programmes.

The tools will be tested in pilot countries that will be contacted soon.

In addition to this long term work, the first plans to organise the European Literacy Conference on 8 September 2015 in Brussels are drafted. More to come! Input is welcome!

## 22nd EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference



Another exciting countdown, only 5 weeks left! Have you registered yet? If not, please do so at <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/registration/>

The final agenda will be available within a few weeks. Have you checked out the cultural event on Thursday, 15th May? It will be a visit to Mycenae, and the first capital of Greece, Nafplion. We hope that many of you will stay around for that.

As mentioned in our editorial, the [ALL IDEAS](#), a pre-conference platform, has been launched online. Some posts (see below) have already been made and we are counting on you to post your ideas and thoughts pre-conference, to get the dialogue going. Just a few more weeks to get your thoughts out there ahead of an exciting conference programme!

For those of you who are speakers in one of the parallel sessions, it is an ideal opportunity to have feedback before you deliver your speech and also to check whether people want to contribute, have opinions, etc. For the others, the platform is interesting to set up discussion in relation to libraries in transition.

Here are some of the "ideas" already posted. Curious? Take a look for the detail by following this [link](#).

### Idea:Connect with your local society

Home > Idea > Connect with your local society

### Idea:Opportunity versus Crisis

Home > Idea > Opportunity versus Crisis

### Idea:The role of Libraries Associations

Home > Idea > The role of Libraries' Associations



## 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: EEBEP, Greece

### Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists (EEBEP)

The Association of Greek Librarians (EEB) (Enosi Ellinon Vivliothikarion) was founded in 1968 as the only recognised national scientific association of the Greek librarians. Due to a constitutional change in 2004, it was renamed as "The Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists" (EEBEP) (Enosi Ellinon Vivliothikonomon kai Epistimonon Pliroforisis)". This was a necessary change, imposed by the new conditions and demands, and it reflected the willingness of its members to adapt to the new conditions and to create a new scientific association with a wide range of action. Today, EEBEP is the only collective body of expression for Greek librarians with more than 45 years of presence in the library and information field in Greece. EEBEP is the national representative in IFLA, EBLIDA and NAPLE Forum. EEBEP consists of a central administrative authority, its Board of Directors, which is located in Athens and 3 peripheral departments, which with the support of the BoD, implement relative policies and strategies on a local level.

The main aims of the EEBEP according to the 2004 Statute, among others, are:

- The recognition and the promotion of the Libraries and Information Science in Greece. The creation and the development of Greek libraries and documentation centres as well as the creation of the necessary scientific and technical infrastructure.
- The formulation of suggestions concerning the librarians' education in every level of the Greek educational system.
- Staying informed on Greek laws concerning libraries and taking initiatives for new suitable laws.
- The observation of all actions concerning books, as well as taking stand for any aspect concerning the organization and the operation of Greek libraries.
- The support of the professional rights of its members.
- The use of any legal means available for the improvement of the economic and cultural condition of our country.

The planning of its strategy, the implementation of its actions and all the other functions of EEBEP are supported, according to its Statute, by committees with an institutional character, created within EEBEP. These committees are either permanent or temporary, based on the circumstances. This organisational schema offers flexibility as well as the involvement of specialised scientists according to the subject of each committee, in order to achieve the best human resource management among its members.

The basic strategic pillar, the past 5 years to the present, in which EEBEP includes all the above and the first item on EEBEP's agenda has been the mapping of a National Libraries' Policy in Greece. Furthermore, EEBEP has organised seven PanHellenic Libraries' Conferences and three PanHellenic Public Libraries' Conferences. A number of seminars, colloquia and other educational programs are offered every year to its members. EEBEP is publishing the only printed Libraries' journal in Greece "Libraries and Information".

During the recent years, Greek society is undergoing a deep social and economic crisis. This crisis has affected almost all types of libraries. Unfortunately, governments of that period do not embrace the role of libraries as pillars of democracy, development and culture nor understand the necessity of their existence in information society and they choose to close a lot of them.

The Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists consider that the threatened closure of public / municipal libraries is a wound to democracy, equal participation, economic development, social inclusion and cohesion. The thought is that the cost of libraries' operation is trivial compared to the benefits deriving for the society, even in terms of figures (money spent and gained by the society). An urgent plan for public libraries in Greece is being planned by the Association.

Deciding to organise the 22nd EBLIDA-NAPLE conference Libraries in Transition – Changes? Crisis? Chances! in May 2014 in Athens during the Greece Presidency of the EU is a challenge and an opportunity for the EEBEP. The goal is to show our politicians that despite budget cuts, libraries and librarians are fighting to ensure that every Greek citizen has access to the Knowledge Society. It is also our aim to highlight to our European colleagues that Greece is not left behind in terms of library advocacy. We invested a lot in it and we are looking forward to welcoming you in Athens to make this conference a success. Don't forget to register and to start discussing now on the pre-conference platform (see page 3).

Photo : EEB's magazine

Photo: EEBEP's conference "The role of library in 21st century" Municipal Library of Athens



# Events and Dates

## April

### **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>

### **April 10 – 11, EOD Conference 2014:**

**"Sustaining the networked future: use and reuse of digital content"**

**Place:** Innsbruck, Austria

**URL:** <http://books2ebooks.eu/eod2014/>

### **April 10 – 12, 16th Fiesole Retreat:**

**"Succeeding in the Next Decade"**

**Place:** Cambridge, UK

**URL:** [http://www.casalini.it/retreat/retreat\\_2014.html](http://www.casalini.it/retreat/retreat_2014.html)

### **April 11, Fraud and Piracy (ALPSP Seminar)**

**Place:** London, UK

**URL:** <http://alpsp.org/Ebusiness/ProductCatalog/1404FAP.aspx?ID=396>

### **April 13, 4th Workshop on Context-awareness in Retrieval and Recommendation (CaRR)**

**Place:** Amsterdam, Netherlands

**URL:** <http://carr-workshop.org/>

### **April 13, Workshop on Gamification for Information Retrieval (GamifIR)**

**Place:** Amsterdam, Netherlands

**URL:** <http://gamifir2014.dai-labor.de/>

### **April 14 – 15, 2014 International Information Conference on Search, Data Mining and Visualization (II-SDV)**

**Place:** Nice, France

**URL:** <http://www.ii-sdv.com/ii-sdv-home.html>

### **April 14 – 16, UKSG 37th Annual Conference and Exhibition**

**Place:** Harrowgate, UK

**URL:** <http://www.uksg.org/event/conference14>

### **April 15 – 18, 2014 World Conference on Information Systems and Technologies (WorldCIST'14)**

**Place:** Madeira, Portugal

**URL:** <http://www.aisti.eu/worldcist14/>

### **April 22 – 24, 2014 Catholic Library Association (CLA) Annual Convention**

### **April 23, Dealing with the Data Deluge: Successful Techniques for Scientific Data Management (NISO Virtual Conference)**

**Place:** Online only

**URL:** [http://www.niso.org/news/events/2014/virtual/data\\_deluge/](http://www.niso.org/news/events/2014/virtual/data_deluge/)

### **April 23 – 25, LILAC (Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference) 2014**

**Place:** Sheffield, UK

**URL:** <http://www.lilacconference.com/WP/>

### **April 24 – 27, 21st International Book Festival Budapest**

**Place:** Budapest, Hungary

**URL:** <http://www.konyvfesztival.com/angol.html>

### **April 27 – 30, 16th International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems – ICEIS 2014**

**Place:** Lisbon, Portugal

**URL:** <http://www.iceis.org/Home.aspx>

### **April 29 – 30, Enterprise Search Europe (ESE) 2014**

**Place:** London, UK

**URL:** <http://www.enterprisesearch europe.com/2014/>

## May 2014

### **April 30 – May 4, 28th Geneva International Book, Press and Multimedia Fair**

**Place:** Geneva, Switzerland

**URL:** <http://www.salondulivre.ch/en/>

## Events and Dates (continued)

### May 2, Getting Started in Digital Preservation 2014 - with National Records of Scotland

**Place:** St. Andrews, Scotland

**URL:** <http://www.dpconline.org/events/details/75-getting-started-in-digital-preservation-2014?xref=82%3Agetting-started-in-digital-preservation-with-national-records-of-scotland>

### May 8, Effective Journal Editorial Management

**Place:** London, UK

**URL:** <http://www.alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=373>

### May 8, Ebooks and Econtent 2014: Beyond Ebooks

**Place:** London, UK

**URL:** <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/dis/conferences/ebooks>

### May 8, Project Management for Publishing (ALPSP Training Course)

**Place:** London, UK

**URL:** <http://www.alpsp.org/Ebusiness/Meetings/Meeting.aspx?ID=387>

### May 8 – 10, Protection of Cultural Heritage from Natural and Man-made Disasters

**Place:** Zagreb, Croatia

**URL:** <http://chp.nsk.hr/en/>

### May 8 – 11, 10th Thessaloniki Book Fair

**Place:** Thessaloniki, Greece

**URL:** <http://www.thessalonikibookfair.com/2013/en/Pages/fair.asp>

### May 8 – 12, Turin International Book Fair

**Place:** Turin, Italy

**URL:** <http://www.salonelibro.it/>

### May 9 – 12, STM 24th Intensive Course in Journal Publishing – Europe

**Place:** Windsor, UK

**URL:** <http://www.stm-assoc.org/events/stm-24rd-intensive-course-in-journal-publishing-europe/>

### May 10 – 16, 5th and 6th Global Conferences on Storytelling

**Place:** Lisbon, Portugal

**URL:** <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/probing-the-boundaries/persons/storytelling-global-reflections-on-narrative/story-2-call-for-papers/>

### May 13, The mechanics and reality of open access (ALPSP Seminar)

**Place:** London, UK

**URL:** <http://www.alpsp.org/Ebusiness/ProductCatalog/1405MRO.aspx?ID=395>

### May 13 – 14, 22nd EBLIDA-NAPLE Annual Conference: "Libraries in Transition. Changes? Crisis? Chances!"

**Place:** Athens, Greece

**URL:** <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/>

### June 6, Copyright and the Digital Agenda for Europe: Current Regulations and Challenges for the Future

**Place:** Acropolis Museum, 15 Dionysiou Aeropagitou st., Athens

**URL:** <http://gr2014.eu/events/conferences-and-seminars/copyright-and-digital-agenda-europe-current-regulations-and>



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**EBLIDA 22nd**  
**COUNCIL**  
**AND EBLIDA-NAPLE**  
**CONFERENCE**

**Date: 13-14th May, 2014**



**Venue: The Council and Conference will be hosted by the Technological Educational Institute of Athens, Greece.**