



The President's Editorial

Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues,



The past month has been a whirlwind of activity at EBLIDA.

As you might have seen on the EBLIDA list, Twitter and on the website, EBLIDA and its members organised several events throughout Europe to promote the "Right to e-Read" day on 23rd of April 2014, including the launching of the EBLIDA Petition for "The Right to e-Read" and also EBLIDA Press Conferences in The Hague and in Brussels.

In Brussels and in the Hague Luigi Berlinguer and Marietje Schaake respectively gave a positive sign that libraries have not been forgotten and that it is our duty to fight for improved access to information. During the day, I highlighted that libraries (and public libraries in particular) have a major public interest mission in developing a strong and vibrant reading culture that forms nations of readers and a Europe of readers. I also believe that this library mission is entirely in the interest of the public and the market and that it is time for other stakeholders in the e-books market to clearly acknowledge the important role of libraries in developing a reading culture which actively fosters the sale of books and e-books.

The upcoming European elections offer the ideal opportunity to remind European policy-makers and politicians that the above issues address fundamental questions about democracy, access to information and the completion of a true knowledge society. Since it was launched, the petition already collected thousands of signatures. This is a positive sign, but we want more!

This is especially true when we look at the latest bad news coming from WIPO. It was testified by our IFLA colleagues that the fact that "*The EU's attempt to sideline discussion of copyright exceptions at WIPO is particularly concerning in light of the ongoing review of copyright laws at the EU level*". Read more at <http://www.eblida.org/news/eu-rejects-international-solution.html>.

This is not acceptable and is just another reason why the petition should be signed: library users have the right to e-read and to still enjoy the copyright exceptions and limitations!

All these discussions are key issues to our upcoming 22nd EBLIDA Annual Council and EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference, taking place in Athens, on 13th and 14th of May respectively. Our colleagues at the EEbEP have been going above and beyond the call of duty, and the final details are now being put in place.

We are very pleased to announce that after the EBLIDA Council meeting, there will be a reception that evening organised at the National Library of Greece. All necessary documents are online now, and you are still welcome to contribute ideas at <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/is/all-ideas/> ahead of the conference. Furthermore we count on your active participation on the day of the Conference. There are still some places available so feel free to register at <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/registration/>.

Keep in mind that there are only a few weeks left before the European elections take place. Don't forget to make the right choice, and keep libraries in mind before voting! Each voice is important, and each and every librarian voice counts.

I am looking forward to meet you in Athens. Enjoy reading.

Klaus-Peter Böttger,
EBLIDA President

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EBLIDA Activities

THE RIGHT TO E-READ



"The Right to E-Read" Day on World Book and Copyright Day and more...

On 23rd of April, to coincide with the United Nations' World Book and Copyright Day, the European Bureau of Library Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA) rallied the European community to its "Right to e-Read" Campaign. EBLIDA's campaign aims to raise awareness among policy makers and the general public about the difficulties facing libraries trying to provide access to e-books and other digital content.

During the day, EBLIDA held a press conference tour from the EU Parliament Library in Brussels to the Hague.

Luigi Berlinguer (MEP, S&D's) stated that "[...] *we must now exploit technological means that can ensure a wider access to reading so that we don't only have a right to read traditionally speaking but now a new right to e-read, a digital reading right.* [...]". Later on, Marietje Schaake (MEP, ALDE) stated that "*there is a need to reform copyright at the European level and to enable access to knowledge and culture*". She made clear that "*the public value of libraries in enabling access to information, developing knowledge, literacy and digital skills needs more recognition and acknowledgement. She believes that policy makers should help sustain the public interest and not favour certain business models over others. She concluded by stating that "the right to e-read is part of the right of access to information and that is a key element in a knowledge and highly educated society"*.

The main messages put forward by EBLIDA were that for more than two years, EBLIDA has been part of a continuing dialogue with stakeholders from the book industry to make the voice of libraries heard. During both informal and structured dialogue, such as Licences for Europe, there has been a lack of recognition of the obstacles faced by libraries and the lending of e-books.

23rd of April was the official launch of the EBLIDA Petition for "The Right to e-Read", which has collected thousands of signatures in the first days already. It thereby exposes the issues faced by libraries in this context to a wider audience.

As announced previously, there will be developments in the form of a publication of a Position Paper after the Council meeting with two overarching recommendations:

- To move from the current unsatisfactory licensing offer to libraries to a regime of 'Mandatory Fair Licences';
- That the European Copyright Acquis be updated to deliver fair access to information for European libraries and their patrons.

Meanwhile we encourage you to sign the campaign petition and ask people to sign the petition at: <http://www.change.org/en-GB/organisations/ebldata>;

All over Europe, we hope that you will take action to showcase our campaign. Showing you an example of how they're doing it in Austria, libraries booked dedicated computers to ask their members to sign the petition (see on the left). The more library users will feel concern about this petition, the stronger will the support be!

Your national association can also organise events with national politicians to invite them for a presentation of the issues as we have done in the Netherlands (see below).

Many related events took place, especially in the UK and Germany. You can check them out at <http://www.eblida.org/e-read/news-room.html> and <http://tinyurl.com/ouvxp9b>

Let's make the campaign a success!



Ap de Vries, Managing Director VOB, handing over the petition to Marietje Schaake, MEP, NL, in The Hague, 23rd April 2014 © VOB

News round-up (EBLIDA and the EU)



By the end of April 2014, the European Literacy Network appeared officially on the policy area of the European Commission.

Literacy, together with numeracy, science, and technology, is part of the basic skills that EU is seeking to support in the framework of Europe 2020.

The objectives set out by the EU are that " *by 2020 less than 15% of 15-year-olds should be classed as 'low-achieving' in those basic skills, as measured by PISA tests* [☞].

The PISA results (2012) [☞] show that 22.1% of European students were low achievers in maths, 17.8% in reading, and 16.6% in science".

The European Commission website details the creation of the ELINET network as a Policy Network with *the purpose to, amongst others, raise awareness, exchange good practices, policies, campaigns and initiatives promoting literacy*. Read more at http://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/school/math_en.htm

In the Policy Network, EBLIDA is the only Library organisation with a key role to ensure libraries as core partners for all literacy projects at the EU level. The purpose of EBLIDA is also to use the strong network of libraries to empower people. It also gives the opportunity to the library community to reach outward of its traditional constituencies and develop partnerships and coalitions with organisations that work on different action fields with common goals.

More information will soon be available on the EBLIDA website.

22nd EBLIDA Annual Council and EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference

Last minute information and practical details.

Only a few days left before the 22nd EBLIDA Council and EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference "Libraries in Transition: Changes? Crisis? Chances!"

Council attendance is free for EBLIDA members, but **registration is still mandatory**. So please be sure to register if you have not already done so at <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/registration/>. The Council reception will be organised at the National Library of Greece on Tuesday 13th May at 20h00.

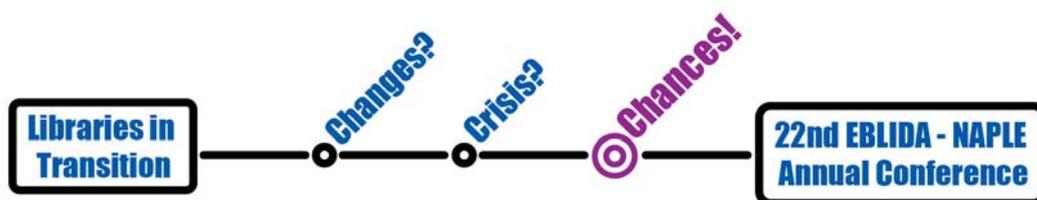
All necessary documents have been posted on the Council web space (log in details have been sent by post) as well as logistical information on to reach the venue. If you need further assistance, please contact Sophie Felföldi (Sophie.felfoldi[at]eblid.org).

Should you wish to contribute ideas ahead of the Conference, please do so at <http://eblida2014.eebep.gr/is/all-ideas/>.

We hope you enjoy the Conference Programme and that the keynote speeches and round tables will inspire the afternoon parallel session.

The EBLIDA, NAPLE and EEBEP teams are looking forward to welcoming you in Athens.

We wish you a safe journey, and hope to see you there!



Events and Dates

May 2014

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/>

May 16 – 17, 2014 British and Irish Sound Archives (BISA) Conference

Place: Dublin, Ireland

URL: <http://www.bisa-web.org/bisa-conference-2014-dates-and-location-confirmed-16th-17th-may-dublin>

May 18 – 31, Prague Summer Seminar

Place: Prague, Czech Republic

URL: <http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/prague>

May 18 – 31, London Summer Seminar

Place: London, UK

URL: <http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/london>

May 18 – June 1, Bookfest - Bucharest Book Fair

Place: Bucharest, Romania

URL: <http://www.bookfest.ro/>

May 19 – 20, 3rd LIBER Workshop on Digital Curation: "Keeping Data: The Process of Data Curation"

Place: Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://liber2014.univie.ac.at/>

May 19 – 20, Conference on Digital Access to Textual Cultural Heritage (DATECH 2014)

Place: Madrid, Spain

URL: <http://www.datech2014.info/>

May 19 – 20, Digitisation Days

Place: Madrid, Spain

URL: <http://www.succeed-project.eu/digitisation-days/overview>

May 19 – 22, 10th Annual International Conference on Information Technology & Computer Science

Place: Athens, Greece

URL: <http://www.atiner.gr/computer.htm>

May 21 – 23, 17th International Conference on Business Information Systems (BIS 2014): "Big Data: problems solved and remaining challenges"

Place: Larnaca, Cyprus

URL: http://bis.kie.ue.poznan.pl/17th_bis/

May 22 – 23, XV National Conference on Information and Documentation in Health Sciences

Place: Madrid, Spain

URL: <http://jornadasbibliosalud.es/>

May 22 – 24, IFLA President's Meeting: "Strong Libraries, Strong Societies: Impact of Libraries on Society"

Place: Helsinki, Finland (IFLA)

URL: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/iflapresidentsmeeting2014/>

May 22 – 25, Warsaw Book Fair

Place: Warsaw, Poland

URL: <http://www.targi-ksiazki.waw.pl/en/>

May 25 – 29, European Semantic Web Conference (ESWC) 2014

Place: Anissaras, Crete, Greece

URL: <http://2014.eswc-conferences.org/>

May 27 – 28, 1st European Media Literacy Forum

Place: Paris, France

Events and Dates (continued)

URL: <http://www.europeanmedialiteracyforum.org/p/the-conference.html>

May 27 – 28, INFORUM 2014: 20th Conference on Professional Information Resources

Place: Prague, Czech Republic

URL: <http://www.inforum.cz/en/>

May 27 – 30, 6th International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries (QOQL 2014)

Place: Istanbul, Turkey

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

May 30 – June 15, 73rd Book Fair Madrid

Place: Madrid, Spain

URL: <http://www.ferialibromadrid.com/>

June 2014

June 2 – 3, CILIP Scotland Annual Conference

Place: Dundee, Scotland

URL: <http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip-scotland/events/cilip-scotland-annual-conference>

June 2 – 4, IFIP WG 8.6 Conference: "Creating Values for All Through IT"

Place: Aalborg, Denmark

URL: <http://ifip2014.aau.dk/>

June 2 – 4, 4th International Conference on Web Intelligence, Mining and Semantics (WIMS '14)

Place: Thessaloniki, Greece

URL: <http://wims14.csd.auth.gr/>

June 2 – 5, 35th IATUL Annual Conference "Measures for Success: Library Resources and Effectiveness under Scrutiny"

Place: Espoo, Finland

URL: <http://web.lib.aalto.fi/iatul2014/>

June 2 – 5, DSS 2.0 – Supporting decision making with new technologies

Place: Paris, France

URL: <http://dss20conference.wordpress.com/>

June 3 – 4, J. Boye Management Symposium: Networked Knowledge in Action

Place: Munich, Germany

URL: <http://munich14.jboye.com/>

June 3 – 6, Libraries Open Worlds Conference

Place: Bremen, Germany

URL: <http://www.bibliothekartag2014.de/index.php?id=12>

June 3 – 6, Libraries: We open worlds

Place: Bremen, Germany

URL: <http://www.bibliothekartag2014.de/index.php?id=3>

June 3 – 6, International Conference on Information Modelling and Knowledge Bases (EJC)

Place: Kiel, Germany

URL: <http://www.tut.fi/en/ejc/>



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

Date: 13-14th May, 2014



**Ve-
nue:**

*The Council and Conference
will be hosted by the Techno-
logical Educational Institute of
Athens, Greece.*