Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues,

I am just out of the LIBER conference in the magnificent new National Library of Latvia in Riga where I did a presentation of our lobbying activities in Europe. I am more than happy our next conference will be hosted there.

Last month I promised you I would mention the results of the European elections and EBLIDA’s further steps towards them and the position of the EU in the WIPO negotiations.

Now that the European elections are two months behind us, we have more of an insight into the situation. The 2 key elements are the increase in power of the Eurosceptics and the abstention rate. Eurosceptic MEPs, standing at about 140 out of 751, are still in a minority. This shouldn’t affect the general ruling of the European Parliament since the minority parties would have to build alliances and coalitions to make their voices heard. The turnout of 43.09% was slightly better than that of the previous elections (43%), but it’s still low for an election of such importance in the daily life of over 500 millions European citizens.


At the opening session on 1st of July 2014, the European Parliament was composed as shown on the picture (above).

After a long process of negotiations, Jean-Claude Junker (EPP) was appointed President of the European Commission, while Martin Schulz was re-elected President of the European Parliament (S&D).

EBLIDA has already started to get in touch with MEPs to put libraries on the agenda, and will follow-up closely on these issues with all its partners to raise awareness on the importance of libraries and ensure the recognition of their public missions. The current term of the European Parliament is crucial to gain back citizens trust and show how important Europe is in our daily life.
The result of the last Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR 28) has not proved to be successful. Developing and developed countries are pulling themes in different directions that does not achieve great results.

Once again the EU reaffirmed that they are “not willing to work towards a legally binding instrument [and that] “assisting member states of WIPO with the implementation of their exceptions in the national legal framework should be the objective of discussions” at the SCCR” (quote extract from IP-watch.org: http://bit.ly/1gboDp1). The library delegation led by IFLA organised a side event on 30 June “Keeping Copyright Relevant in the Digital Environment: Libraries, Archives and Licences.” It questioned the impact of digital content licence terms and conditions on the mission of libraries and archives and the concerns related to digital content licences overriding exceptions and limitations (http://bit.ly/1o831ay).

Almost at the same time, the “White Paper on the Review of Copyright Rules” was leaked on the IPKat blog (read the analysis at http://bit.ly/VXckDT). We can only stress our disappointment after such a long process during the formulation of our response, meeting with DG’s, advocating for reinstating a better balance of rights. We notice once again that the paper refers very much to licences as the solution, and doesn't address a need of a consistent copyright reform that would ensure balanced solutions for all, including libraries as public institutions. Considering that the EU legal framework is a patchwork of legislation, we still cannot see how, without an ambitious assessment and review of it we could improve citizens access to knowledge and culture. Cross-border issues remain at the core of the discussion in the digital environment, while within national territories, libraries still face problems with access to digital resources. The internet presents challenges to the way we are working and to our traditional missions, and if we don’t act now, we risk being bypassed and being drowned in a digital tsunami.

I still feel optimistic that libraries have proved flexible in adapting for thousand of years to the changes in their environment, and think it is a question of bad timing with the outgoing commission. The incoming commission will have difficulties in postponing an in-depth review of the legal framework.

On a lighter note, I now wish you all a wonderful and relaxing holiday. Meanwhile enjoy reading and I’m looking forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming IFLA Congress in Lyon.  

Klaus-Peter Böttger,  
EBLIDA President

EBLIDA Activities

THE RIGHT TO E-READ

The New European Commission starts in November.

We will state our allowances very explicitly and precisely right from the beginning of the Commission. It is vitally important that we make clear, that our requests are not those of an insignificant small group but that they concern a large group of the European population.

We would therefore ask you to do everything within your power to mobilise and motivate as many citizens as possible to sign our petition at: http://www.change.org/de/Petitionen/for-the-right-to-e-read.

Join us on the EBLIDA booth #A113 during IFLA WLIC (see page 4) to find out more about actions that took place in different countries in Europe and get inspiration from your peers in other European countries!
EUROLIB General Assembly, 12-13 June 2014, The Hague

EBLIDA took part in the General Assembly of EUROLIB. As indicated on its website: “EUROLIB aims to promote a wider awareness of the contribution European Community and Associated libraries make to the institutions they serve. Through inter-library collaboration, it seeks to enhance the professional performance of the staff of the members libraries. It helps participating libraries achieve economies of investment in technology, acquisitions and services. Eurolib is developing common bibliographic control tools and providing high quality library services”. EUROLIB is present in each EU member-state since their members are civil servants of EU structures.

EBLIDA Director was invited to make a presentation of the results of the last conference in Athens, Libraries in Transition, Changes? Crisis? Chances! and the current situation of libraries in the EU. He informed EUROLIB members about the EBLIDA Campaign “The Right to E-Read”, currently ongoing throughout Europe with the aim to raise awareness about this issue.

EUROLIB members are deeply interested in EBLIDA’s work and both organisations agreed to strengthen their links.

New Jobs and Skills in Libraries
ABF Conference, 19-21 June, Paris, France.

EBLIDA President and Director attended the French library congress in Paris.

EBLIDA Director participated in the opening ceremony. His speech took place just after the Minister of Culture’s speech and it caught her attention. The speech focussed on “The Right to E-Read” and the need to ensure that “European citizens have the right to e-read! They should benefit from this right in libraries. It should therefore be possible for libraries to legally lend e-books. Libraries guarantee free access to content, information, and culture for all European citizens. But the current legal framework prevents libraries from fulfilling these essential services to our society in the digital era, especially in regard to the provision of e-books”. It also emphasised the need for copyright reform, that is important since the position of the French Ministry of Culture is still reluctant to acknowledge this.

The 3 day congress was a great opportunity to have a lot of librarians sign the Right to e-read petition and to ask them to take action in their respective library so that users sign the petition as well.

Klaus-Peter Böttger gave a presentation on the last day about new skills for librarians, where he also put forward the question of the right to e-read, and the need to have trained and educated librarians who are easily able to navigate in the digital environment and who are familiar with copyright and legal issues.


The Council of Europe under the chairmanship of Azerbaijan organised the First Platform Exchange on Culture and Digitisation in Baku, 4-5 July 2014. The platform was organised in follow-up to a request by European Ministers of Culture at their 10th Conference in 2013 (Moscow) to set up a platform for exchange on the impact of digitisation on culture and to prepare policy orientation papers on promoting the democratic governance of culture in the digital context. Read more at http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/culture/digitisation/baku_en.asp.

After two days of intensive round tables with various point of views, main areas of concern identified are:

1. Need to create awareness about the impact of digitisation on society and culture and the need to overcome the digital / pre-digital divide, underline the role of culture in achieving this;
2. Need to scale-up and implement media and information literacy inside and outside schools and in life-long learning;
3. Need to adapt the mission, mandate, mind-set and governance of cultural institutions to be able to exploit the offline and online dynamics;
4. Need to protect and promote the rights to access, create and distribute cultural content across multiple platforms;
5. Need to enhance information and monitoring of cultural policies and their implementation on culture and digitisation;

To be continued...
EBLIDA is happy to welcome you all to booth A113 during the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in the exhibition space.

The exhibition session opens Sunday 17th (16h00 to 18h00), Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th (9h30 to 17h30) and Wednesday 20th (9h30 to 14h30). See you there!

Please note that the location of the booth has changed since last newsletter with a better location in booth A113.

EBLIDA team will be happy to provide you more information about the association, to chat with you about the way we are working and share our experiences with you.

Come and join us to learn more about us.

We will be there to answer your questions.

During the exhibition, it will be our pleasure to provide you with updates on the “Right to E-Read Campaign”, share experience with you and see how we can help make the campaign a success in your country.

We will show you what members have done in their countries, what actions you could “borrow”, some ideas you could build on, and what the next steps are.

On the booth, there will be also more information about the ELINET project.

The network of Literacy Policy organisations is currently creating documents to assess literacy campaign and see how we could build a good practical kit. EBLIDA is looking forward to delivering better information to librarians so that literacy becomes a priority on their agenda.

We are looking forward to meeting you at booth A113 from 17th to 20th August 2014 in Lyon!
Association des Bibliothécaires de France

Founded in 1906 and recognized as a public service non-for-profit organization in 1969, the ABF, Association des Bibliothécaires de France (Association of Librarians of France) has since then become a forum for continuous exchanges on all topics of a scientific, technical and administrative nature related to libraries, their public and their personnel. With approximately 3,000 members from all types of libraries and positions, the ABF is acting for the public interest by participating in the evolution of libraries and promotes the place and role of libraries and librarians in a constantly changing information society.

Members are distributed in 23 regional groups which conduct community actions to meet the specific needs of each region. A national council, composed of presidents of the regional groups, defines the association’s policies and elects the Bureau (the Board) and President.

A permanent team of five employees under the responsibility of a General Delegate coordinates and implements actions, provides administrative management and distributes publications. The ABF office is located in Paris.

The ABF groups together 12 commissions and work groups– International Relations, Disabled Accessibility, Training, Youth, Videogames, Fab labs, Human Resources, Diversity, Prisons, Employees Committees, Digital Resources, Communication.

Since its creation the ABF has focused on the professional qualification of library personnel. Supported by a network of experienced trainers, it runs 20 professional training centers all over the country which deliver a national library assistant diploma, and organizes customized training programs to meet the needs of libraries in the public and private sectors.

It also organizes workshops, meetings and study tours for its members as well as for any member of the library community to allow librarians to keep pace with the evolutions of both their jobs and those of society. It also provides a website (www.abf.asso.f), an online forum (www.agorabib.fr) and is active on social networks.

It publishes the quarterly review Bibliothèque(s), each issue of which includes a thematic dossier, the book series Médiathèmes – practical guides and educational manuals, and a monthly electronic newsletter. It also drafted “Code of Ethics for librarians”, a text to federate the professional community of libraries, and the Manifest “the library is a public matter”.

Deeply concerned with equal access to information for all citizens, the ABF is a member of EBLIDA and relays “the right to e-read” campaign.

The association is actively involved in the organisation of WLIC in Lyon. The ABF president Anne Verneuil sits on the IFLA 2014 Organizing Committee and numerous ABF members participate in the organization of the congress and will be actively present in Lyon.

Anne Verneuil, ABF President and Klaus-Peter Böttger, EBLIDA President and “The Right to E-Read” EBLIDA Campaign.
**Events and Dates**

**July 2014**

**July 15 – 17, Open Knowledge Festival**  
**Place:** Berlin, Germany  

**July 24 – 25, CLILIP Health Libraries Group Conference 2014**  
**Place:** Oxford, UK  
**URL:** [http://www.cilip.org.uk/health-libraries-group/events/cilip-health-libraries-group-conference-2014](http://www.cilip.org.uk/health-libraries-group/events/cilip-health-libraries-group-conference-2014)

**August 2014**

**August 12 – 13, Public Library Futures in a global digital world (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Birmingham, UK  
**URL:** [http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/events/ifla-satellite-conference](http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/events/ifla-satellite-conference)

**August 12 – 14, Art Libraries meet the challenges of e-publishing: new formats, new players, new solutions (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Paris, France  

**August 12 – 14, Space and collections earning their keep: Transformation, Technologies, Retooling (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Paris, France  

**Place:** Frankfurt, Germany  

**August 13 – 14, Space and collections earning their keep: transformation, technologies and re-tooling (IFLA Satellite Section)**  
**Place:** Paris, France  

**August 13 – 14, Copyright and beyond: Libraries in the public sphere (Joint IFLA CLM & EBLIDA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Strasbourg, France  

**August 13 – 14, Theory and research on the convergence of professional identity and technology in cultural heritage institutions (Libraries, Museums, and Archives) (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Turin, Italy  

**August 13 – 14, Cultural Heritage in the Digital Era (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Geneva, Switzerland  

**August 13 – 14, Parliamentary libraries: past and future (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Paris, France  

**Place:** Nancy, France  
**URL:** [http://docdel.inist.fr/](http://docdel.inist.fr/)

**August 13 – 14, Digital Transformation and the Changing Role of News Media in the 21st Century (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Geneva, Switzerland  
**URL:** [http://www.itu.int/en/history/Pages/IFLA2014.aspx](http://www.itu.int/en/history/Pages/IFLA2014.aspx)

**August 13 – 14, How strong is your library association? Advocacy in action (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Lyon, France  
**URL:** [http://www.ifla.org/node/8578](http://www.ifla.org/node/8578)

**August 14, Linked Data in Libraries: let's make it happen! (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Paris, France  

**August 14 – 15, Ethical Dilemmas in the Information Society: How Codes of Ethics Help to Find Ethically Based Solutions (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Geneva, Switzerland  
**URL:** [http://www.globethics.net/web/ge/conference-ethical-dilemmas-in-the-information-society](http://www.globethics.net/web/ge/conference-ethical-dilemmas-in-the-information-society)

**August 14 – 15, IFLAcamp 2014**  
**Place:** Lyon, France  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group  

**August 14 – 15, Facing the Future: Librarians and Information Literacy in a Changing Landscape (IFLA Satellite Meeting)**  
**Place:** Limerick, Ireland  
**URL:** [http://iflasatellitelimerick.com/](http://iflasatellitelimerick.com/)
Events and Dates (continued)

**August (continued)**

August 15, Health librarians and the changing information landscape (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Lyon, France
URL: http://www.ifla.org/node/8537

August 15, Libraries as media: How libraries can contribute to explain the world by producing information and organize themselves as medias? (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Paris, France
URL: http://www.bpi.fr/fr/professionnels/ifla_wlic_2014.html#english

August 15, Knowledge Management as a vital tool for change management (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Lyon, France
Sponsor/Organizer: IFLA Knowledge Management Section
URL: http://parisdescartes.libguides.com/IFLA2014/program

Place: Lyon, France
URL: http://conference.ifla.org/ifla80

August 18, IFLA Section on Education and Training (SET) 40th Anniversary Summit
Place: Lyon, France
URL: http://www.ifla.org/node/8243

August 22 – 23, eBooks for everyone! An opportunity for more inclusive libraries (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Paris, France
URL: http://inova.snv.jussieu.fr/ifla-ldp/colloques/colloques/83_index_en.html

Place: Paris, France

August 23 – 25, 3rd International Association of French-speaking librarians and documentalists (AIFBD) Congress
Place: Limoges, France

August 23 – 25, Francophonies, bibliothèques et confluences: Managing and marketing libraries in a world where digitalisation and new technologies are changing boundaries (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Limoges, France
URL: http://conference.ifla.org/ifla80/satellite-meetings

August 23 – 26, Confluences and French-Speaking Libraries (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Limoges, France
URL: http://www.aifbd.org/images/Congres2014/Presentation_congres_AIFBD.pdf

August 25 – 26, How to facilitate the access to information and digitised documents in the religious field (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Paris, France
URL: http://conference.ifla.org/ifla80/satellite-meetings

August 25 – 26, Libraries at the heart of dialogue of cultures and religions: history, present, future (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Paris, France

August 25 – 26, History of Librarianship: "Historiography, History, legacy and influences" (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Lyon, France
URL: http://histlibr2014.sciencesconf.org/

August 25 – 26, Libraries at the heart of dialogue of cultures and religions: history, present, future (IFLA Satellite Meeting)
Place: Paris, France

August 27 – 29, Science and Information Conference 2014
Place: London, UK
URL: http://thesai.org/SAIConference2014

August 27 – 29, Science and Information (SAI) Conference 2014
Place: London, UK
URL: http://thesai.org/SAIConference2014

August 30, Searching as Learning Workshop (IIIX 2014)
Place: Regensburg, Germany
URL: http://www.dilgubc.ca/IIIXSAL/index.html

**September 2014**

September 2 – 5, ISIC: the Information Behaviour Conference
Place: Leeds, UK
URL: http://isi2014.com/