Welcome to the Summer issue of the EBLIDA newsletter that covers the months of July and August.

Media Literacy Matters. Unesco, IFLA and Latvian National Library – the latter has always something interesting going on – organised The Second European Media and Information Literacy (MIL) forum in Riga in late June this year. The timing was pretty good: the conference was opened just a couple of days after the Brexit vote (see also our article on Brexit further down in the newsletter), and football quarter finals had started. So Europe, and media literacy were both on the tips of our tongues anyway.

Brexit influenced the atmosphere to such an extent that I witnessed a Spanish and Italian representative discussing European politics while their respective teams were
Murdoch media cheated the British public to vote leave, to take a stand against immigrants, who actually come from countries that have nothing to do with the EU, and to fight against international flows of capital, very well represented by Mr. Murdoch himself.

Media literacy refers to the ability not only to understand what has been read, but also to comprehend the context and interests hidden in the story. Concluding from the hangoverish reaction on the British isles, the island nations had some problems with that. Media literacy is a very current theme for the libraries to pick up, too. Increasing need for ability to surf through the digitalised ocean of letters more than coincides with the transformation taking place in libraries at this very moment. It could be argued that media literacy today is more important than literacy was during the last couple of centuries.

Libraries have been the most important network supporting literacy, and now they can transform into a network supporting media literacy. Actually, that is what countless libraries are doing already. I did not see anybody from Iceland at the conference. I guess they were all cheering for their team in France. Maybe they should be excused this time.

There are many other issues to discuss, and with the IFLA WLIC coming on in August in Columbus, Ohio, I hope to see as many of you as possible so that we can chat about libraries, media literacy and a lot more. See you there!

Your sincerely,

Jukka Relander
EBLIDA President

INSIDE BRUSSELS

Copyright Reform Summer break – time to issue a joint statement
following-up closely on the issue with the European Commission and the Parliament.

The European Commission is supposed to issue its Copyright reform plan by the end of September.

Our Press Release of 6 July highlighted that EBLIDA, together with the international library community and cultural heritage organisations, welcome the ambition of EU Commission’s President Juncker and Vice-President Ansip to reform European copyright rules to reflect the changes brought about by advancements in digital technologies.

We therefore put forward a proposal for concrete changes that will provide greater legal certainty for library users and for librarians going about their daily work by:

- further harmonisation of exceptions and limitations related to libraries, education and research,
- a clear exception for text and data mining and
- greater protection for library users’ rights against technological measures or contract terms that otherwise restrict them.

Read the full joint statement.

To strike the right balance we call on the Commission, MEPs, Member States and other stakeholders to work with us to achieve these changes. It has started already with the recent publication of an article from Catherine Stihler (S&Ds, UK) in the Parliament Magazine, read it here.

---

**EBLIDA Answer to the Public Consultation on Ancillary rights and Freedom of Panorama**

On 13 June, EBLIDA has responded to the European Commission public consultation on the role of publishers in the copyright value chain and panorama exception.

In the first part of the consultation, EBLIDA advised against the creation of any new neighbouring right as highlighted here: (…) “In summary, existing copyright provisions do more than enough to protect publishers/news publishers. An “ancillary right” in hyperlinks and snippets is simply not needed. On the contrary, as has been clearly shown with regard to the Spanish ancillary right for news
third party online content and drive customers to their websites. The online world is a Hydra; an EU-wide ancillary right would chill European search and other aggregation services, so they would offer less EU content and more non-EU content (to the benefit of international and non-EU publishers), or, as the Google News service did in Spain, will simply leave the scene to the detriment of Spanish citizens access to the full range of online news”. 

In the second part of the consultation on Freedom of Panorama, EBLIDA advised on the importance of an EU-wide Freedom of Panorama exception, as such an exception already exists in 15 EU countries. It stated the importance of also examining the “(...) inclusion of certain types of two-dimensional works located in exterior public places, not only works of artistic craftsmanship on buildings (in this case decorative arts) but also murals and graffiti (...)”.

This consultation is another step in the direction of the upcoming copyright proposals to be launched by the Commission this Autumn.

The full EBLIDA answer was communicated to all EBLIDA members to help them respond to the consultation.

The EU Commission should have received 5000+ answers.

You can also read the blog post of C4C for more information at [http://bit.ly/1Yx5JM9](http://bit.ly/1Yx5JM9)

---

**The new role of public libraries – A CULT Committee workshop in the European Parliament**

**20 June 2016, Brussels**

This was a really successful event in the European Parliament that welcomed about 80 participants, with a good representation of MEPs and their assistants.

EBLIDA Vice-President Barbara Lison made a very good presentation of the new roles of public libraries through 5 key aspects:

1. Challenges, risks and opportunities;
4. Libraries are anchors for the high-street;
5. Recommendations.

On the recommendations side, she highlighted the below:

- Recognising public libraries as key actors in education, digitisation and integration into policy strategies at EU and national level;
- Creating a fund or programme for the innovation in public libraries;
- Establish a sustainable European network of public libraries;
- Creating a European (Public) Library Label, or (Public) Library of Europe;
- Supporting data collection on European public libraries.

Frank Huysmans, Professor of Library Science, University of Amsterdam talked the audience through promoting media and information literacy in libraries. It was an interesting presentation focussing mainly on digital literacy and how libraries help citizens to acquire and use new skills.

The last speaker was Dan Mount, Digital and Internet policy specialist who presented E-lending: challenges and opportunities. Most of you probably know Dan from his report A review of Public Libraries e-lending models.

There were a lot of interesting questions and/or remarks from MEPs who are overall convinced of the important roles libraries have in society and look interested to support.

To be continued.

---

INSIDE EUROPE

BREXIT

Further to the result of the referendum held in the United Kingdom Thursday 23rd June 2016 to decide whether the UK will stay in or leave the European Union in the next couple of years, EBLIDA issued a press release entitled Our Common Future on 5 July 2016 showing solidarity and support to British colleagues and our intention to continue to work together.
EBLIDA is an organisation that embodies trans-national cooperation for the public good of all Europeans.

EBLIDA’s membership achieves this by harnessing the skills, expertise and aspirations of Europe’s professional library organisations and institutions, their members and staff, that regardless of nationality, are united by strong common professional values.

In light of the result of the UK Brexit referendum of 23 June 2016, EBLIDA intends to strongly support the British library community during the years ahead.

We believe that during this period, the best way for British library and information organisations and institutions to protect their potential interests in Brussels is through membership of pan-European library and information organisations such as EBLIDA, since the UK may decide to take a path that leads to remaining in the EEA or striking an agreement with the EU that gives it enhanced access to the EU Internal Market, whereby relevant EU law may in future still continue to apply to many UK library and information activities, especially in the digital environment.

EBLIDA pledges to continue to represent the interests of all its members in its advocacy with the EU institutions, including its British members who now find themselves in the unprecedented situation of having in political terms suddenly lost their own direct voices in Brussels while the UK continues in EU membership and pending the outcome of the UK’s negotiations on the nature of its future relationship with the EU.

We stand ready to help our British colleagues now and in future and will not give up fighting for them in Europe in relation to:

- copyright and other information law
- education, research and culture
- cross-border access to information and knowledge
- development of libraries, literacy and a reading culture
- information literacy and other skills training for citizens
- global exceptions and limitations at WIPO

Finally, we won’t give up on you because we know that for all those campaigns, whether within or outside of the EU, you will, as always, stand by your colleagues throughout the rest of Europe.
Congress, 9 to 11 June, Clermont-Ferrand (France)

On Friday 10 June, EBLIDA Director participated at a Brainstorming session *Digital innovation in the Society surrounding us and its impact on libraries.*

Participants broke off into 4 groups:

- Mobility and new proximities: Services and content in the pocket. Where I want, when I want.
- Affirming (asserting) peer to peer: Doing it by ourselves and with others. Sharing.
- Automation of services: From self-service to drive-in.
- Dematerialisation: the end of physical material?

The challenges for each of the themes was to reflect on the threats to libraries, the opportunities and on the eventual conditions for success.

The objective of the session was not about drilling down into the content and ideas themselves, but much more about how to organise the thinking as a group, and how actually, librarians can open group session with the public and think about ways to organise greater participation from the public.

EBLIDA Director also participated at the session of Questions and Answers with the Ministries where he exchanged with Mister Nicolas Georges, representative of the French Ministry of Culture, director-deputy of the DGMIC, in charge of managing the service(department) of the book and the reading on the then upcoming opinion of the Advocate General of the CJEU on elending, and a recent release by the French National Assembly of a *Proposal for a resolution on Copyright in the EU.*

On Saturday 11 June, in the framework on the special sessions labeled *Irritating topics* EBLIDA Director moderated a session *EBooks in libraries.*

The session featured 3 speakers, Claire Peloux de Reydellet representing Dilicom and the technical aspect of the platform *Prêt numérique en bibliothèques* (elending in libraries).

Sophie Peyrusson representing the consortium CAREL.

Lionel Dujol representing the position on the ABF on the question of e-lending.

As a result of the disruption of trains in France due to works on the railways, strikes, recent floods in the country and the scheduling of the event (last session of the 3 days
EBLIDA Director at the Copyright round table in the Impact Hub, Bucharest, Romania – 29 June

At the invitation of Ioana Crihana, Executive Director of the ANBPR, a new EBLIDA member, EBLIDA Director, Vincent Bonnet participated at a 3,5 hour round table of discussion on copyright issues at the Impact Hub in Bucharest.

The event moderated by Bogdan Manolea (ApTI) featured several speakers from Romanian organisations, such as Dragoş-Adrian Neagu, ANBPR President, Nicolae Constantinescu, Information Architect kosson.ro and Andrei Cipu, Wikipedia.

The event addressed the issues of ancillary copyright, freedom of panorama, copyright exceptions for libraries and geo-blocking.

Romanian colleagues are strongly involved in copyright related discussions and follow closely the most recent developments at European level. They share the same concerns as the rest of the European library community that if provisions in relation to ancillary rights and freedom of panorama are included in the Copyright reform package, this would have a negative impact on the ability of libraries to fulfil their missions.

Based on the discussions held during that afternoon, they are planning to issue a position paper to be ready and released when the Commission publishes its draft communication.

In the morning prior to the event, EBLIDA Director and some ANBPR board members had a short meeting to discuss the situation with regard to libraries and copyright in Europe.

EBLIDA Director participated at the opening of the 2nd edition of the exhibition Reading in libraries organised by the ANBPR in the National Library.

He then enjoyed a library visit lead by Nicoleta Rahme (head of collection development department) that concluded with a meeting with Octavian Gordon, Director of the National Library of Romania, and ANBPR board members.
EBLIDA was present at the 2nd Media and Literacy Conference in Riga Latvia held from 27 to 29 June.

Jukka Relander, EBLIDA President, participated at the Plenary Session 2 on the topic Bridging Concept and Practice: Mediators of MIL at the Local Level (The Role of Libraries and Media Networks as Mediators in Promoting MIL (The Case of Latvia) and Other Target Groups (Parents, Teachers, Industries)) moderated by Xavier Landes, Expert in Media Ethics, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication, University of Copenhagen; Visiting lecturer at Stradins University.


The round table was moderated by Uldis Zarins (a member of the EBLIDA Executive Committee) here in his capacity as Director of Development, National Library of Latvia.

For more details about the conference content please check the detailed programme.

The MIL Conference should lead to the release of Riga Recommendations on Media and Information Literacy in Shifting Media and Information Landscape. This would reaffirm earlier recognition of the importance of the topic based on previous recommendations and calls on the Internet, UN member states as well as civil society and on UNESCO to work jointly to achieve a true media and information literate society.

A draft is under discussion.

To be continued.

Opinion of the Advocate General of the Court of Justice of the European Union on e-lending

On 16 June, CJEU issued a Press Release of the Advocate General’s Opinion in Case C-174/15 Vereniging Openbare Bibliotheeken v Stichting Leenrecht on the question about whether the lending of e-book could apply under the lending directive of 2006.

The press release highlights that “(...) Advocate General Maciej Szpunar takes the view
may indeed come within the scope of the directive on rental and lending rights."

The Advocate General considers that the EU legislature did not contemplate the inclusion of the lending of electronic books within the directive’s concept of ‘lending’ because the technology relating to commercially viable electronic books was at that time only in its infancy.

He thus suggests that a ‘dynamic’ or ‘evolving’ interpretation of the directive should be applied, arguing, inter alia, that the lending of electronic books is the modern equivalent of the lending of printed books.

According to the Advocate General, such an interpretation alone will be capable of ensuring the effectiveness of the legislation in question in a sector experiencing rapid technological and economic development.

The Advocate General also points out that the main purpose of copyright is to protect the interests of authors. At present, libraries do indeed lend books in electronic form under licensing agreements concluded between libraries and publishers, which is principally of benefit to publishers or other intermediaries in the electronic book trade, whereas no adequate remuneration is received by authors.

If, by contrast, digital lending were regarded as coming within the scope of the directive, authors would as a result receive fair remuneration, in addition to that generated by the sale of books and independently of agreements concluded with publishers.

The Advocate General also concludes that an interpretation of the concept of lending which includes the lending of electronic books is contrary to neither the objective nor the wording of the directive.

Moreover, such an interpretation is in no way incompatible or inconsistent with the various provisions of EU law in the field of copyright or with the EU’s international obligations.

Lastly, the Advocate General expresses the view that, when introducing the exception for the public lending of electronic books, Member States may require that those books should first have been made available to the public by the rightholder or with his consent and that they are obtained from lawful sources.

By contrast, according to the Advocate General, the mechanism of exhaustion of the distribution right bears no relation to the lending right".
Inside EBLIDA

The library community’s position on the AG opinion of the CJEU in the case of VOB v Stichting Leenrecht (C174/15)

Further to the opinion of the AG (see article above), EBLIDA together with IFLA and PL2020 published a press release and a proposal on e-lending on 16 June 2016.

Read it below and [online](https://tinyurl.com/h4va9az).

The European library community welcomes the Opinion of the Advocate General of the Court of Justice of the European Union in the case of VOB v Stichting Leenrecht (C174/15) published today. The case looks to establish whether an e-book is a book with regard to the EU Rental and Lending Directive.

In the view of Advocate General Szpunar, the lending of electronic books is comparable to the lending of traditional books. It follows that the general regime of the lending right, which provides in particular for fair remuneration for authors under the public lending exception, is applicable.

We welcome this view as a very sensible recognition that library lending includes remote lending of e-books in any format to library patrons, for a limited period of time, and not for direct or indirect economic advantage.

The European library community reiterates its view that in today’s society, libraries offer a vital service to European citizens and a unique outlet for creators. Libraries are fundamental channels to greater access to European cultural diversity, education and research, greater promotion of authors to existing and new audiences and a stronger creative knowledge economy, notably but not exclusively through their annual purchase of content.

Their mission of giving access to information for all relies on the support of an up to date copyright framework that recognises e-lending as a routine part of daily library activities.
inclusive society and realise projects benefitting all socioeconomic groups ahead of policy developments. However, without a consistent legal framework that recognises library copyright needs, libraries can't effectively fulfil the expectations of European citizens. The Advocate General’s Opinion is a positive outcome and further evidence that including e-lending in the right to lend is common sense. It also signals that library activism enables policy to keep pace with societal changes. The Opinion is a first step towards greater legal certainty for Europe’s libraries and clear recognition of libraries’ public service missions of providing equitable access to information. EBLIDA will continue to advocate for the right to e-read, ensuring the same rights for the same content in whatever format, to the benefit of European citizens.”

IFLA President, Donna Scheeder said, “Libraries everywhere work every day to do the best by their users. With e-books established among readers as a normal means of accessing literature and knowledge, IFLA continues to urge governments to ensure that copyright laws do not discriminate between technologies, and publishers to offer fair terms to libraries. Today’s Opinion represents an important step in this direction.”

The European library community notes that the CJEU Advocate-General’s Opinion challenges some current national laws and programmes for e-lending, but the question of market distortion, whereby publishers may refuse to make e-book titles available to libraries for lending, remains unsolved. Should the Court uphold the AG’s Opinion, we stand ready to provide expertise and support to legislators to bring about inclusive legislation which meets library patrons’ expectations and offers legal certainty for all.

We are advocating for libraries. Are you?

This survey is, at its most basic, about confirming the value of public libraries of Europe, about raising awareness about what it is that we do in our libraries.

There is only one day left to fill in the survey on non-formal and informal learning activities in public libraries across Europe.

The deadline is 15 July (tomorrow)!
You can access the survey at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LibA4EU_survey

We have been in contact with many of our members asking them to activate their network and to collect as many answers as possible.

So far we have collected about 356 completed answers and ideally we would need to receive over 500 for the survey results to reflect the true situation. In only 30 minutes
The survey is in English and translations have been made available:

OUTSIDE EUROPE

Marrakesh Treaty enters into force in less than three months’ time, but Europe’s still not on board

On 7 July, EBLIDA published a Press Release on the Marrakesh Treaty for Visually Impaired Persons. EBLIDA warmly welcomes Canada’s ratification of the WIPO Marrakesh Visually Impaired Persons Treaty 2013 which means that now that 20 countries have ratified or acceded to the Treaty, it shall enter into force on 30 September 2016.

Marrakesh is a human rights treaty, the first international treaty in favour of copyright users, in this case visually impaired and other reading disabled persons’ right to read, including to study or do research and otherwise use copyright materials, on the same basis as everyone else. The Treaty aims to do away with many of the copyright restrictions that have done much to create a book famine for visually impaired people resulting from market failure in the supply of accessible format copies of reading materials, either for sale from publishers and booksellers or, due to copyright laws, through library and archive services, despite the technologies available to facilitate accessibility in the digital age. It is estimated that in developed countries only 5 to 7% of published books are available in accessible formats; reducing to just 1% in developing countries, home to the majority of the world’s visually impaired people. Additionally, most people, even in the world’s richest countries, suffer some degree of serious visual impairment in old age.

Marrakesh establishes a norm for minimum copyright exceptions for visually impaired or other reading disabled persons. It also allows authorised entities (libraries, archives and charities, etc.) creating accessible copies of works, to develop non-profit global distribution systems between the Treaty’s member states. The export of accessible
foreign language materials or who live in developing countries.

The first 20 countries to ratify or accede the Treaty were India, El Salvador, United Arab Emirates, Mali, Uruguay, Paraguay, Singapore, Argentina, Mexico, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Australia, Brazil, Peru, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Israel, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala and Canada.

Three years have passed since adoption by WIPO, yet not one European country has ratified or acceded to the Treaty. EU and EEA member states do have national copyright exceptions for the benefit of disabled people, but they do not include cross-border sharing of accessible format copies, a vital component of the Treaty. The EU and the 15 of its member states that had also signed the Treaty in 2013, as well as the rest of Europe’s states, have not given due priority to the world’s visually impaired people’s right to read, also ignoring the needs of their own citizens for cross-border supply of accessible formats. However, we note that the European Commission committed in 2015 to include ratification of the Treaty in its copyright package expected in September this year and expect the Commission to fulfil its promise and push through the legislation at all speed.

EBLIDA calls upon European countries, especially the EU and member states, to do the right thing and implement the Marrakesh Treaty in the coming year without further delay. Europe’s libraries and archives hold vast collections of written materials in many languages spoken throughout the world and their potential role in defeating the book famine is crucial - if only they could already be doing so now…

Read the press release online.

Additional Information:

- The World Blind Union and WIPO press releases and video messages from WIPO Director General Francis Gurry and Chris Friend, Technical Advisor to World Blind Union on Marrakesh Treaty.


- European Commission - Press release: Commission takes first steps to broaden access to online content and outlines its vision to modernise EU copyright rules (Brussels, 9 December 2015).
Columbus (Ohio, USA) – 13-18 August

IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Columbus (Ohio, USA) is almost upon us again.
Through an already busy conference programme, EBLIDA representatives (President, Director and a few EC members) will be actively participating in sessions, business meetings as well an internal meetings to organise for instance, the next EBLIDA-NAPLE 2017 Conference in Aarhus.

We will be very happy to meet as many colleagues and friends as possible and hope to see many of you in Columbus, Ohio.

Please come and meet us during the congress!

---

JOIN US!

---

Subscribe to our Mailing List

EBLIDA-LIST is a general mailing list intended to foster communications between EBLIDA, its membership and members of the European library community. The goal is to facilitate information exchange as well as professional communication and development within the EBLIDA community. Subscribe today!

---

Events and Dates

July/August
Place: Krakow, Poland  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO)  

July 21, 2nd International Workshop on Search as Learning (SAL) 2016  
**Place:** Pisa, Italy  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** Organizing Committee  

July 21 – 24, 19th International Conference on Information Visualisation (iV 2015)  
**Place:** Barcelona, Spain  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** Organizing Committee  
**URL:** [http://www.graphicslink.co.uk/iV2015/DHKV.htm](http://www.graphicslink.co.uk/iV2015/DHKV.htm)

July 25 – 28, 3rd Annual International Conference on Library and Information Science  
**Place:** Athens, Greece  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER)  
**URL:** [http://www.atiner.gr/library.htm](http://www.atiner.gr/library.htm)

August 5 – 7, IFIP WG 8.6: "Diffusion of IS for Learning New Practices"  
**Place:** Ljungskile, Sweden  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP)  

August 13 – 19, 82nd IFLA General Conference and Assembly  
**Place:** Columbus, Ohio, USA  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)  
**URL:** [http://2016.ifla.org/congress-information](http://2016.ifla.org/congress-information)

August 22 – 24, 2nd International Conference on Open and Big Data (OBD 2016)  
**Place:** Vienna, Austria  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on the Internet - IEEE CS-TCI  
**URL:** [http://www.ficloud.org/obd2016/](http://www.ficloud.org/obd2016/)

August 29 – September 1, 18th IEEE Conference on Business Informatics  
**Place:** Paris, France  
**Sponsor/Organizer:** Organizing Committee  
Place: Online only
Sponsor/Organizer: National Information Standards Organization (NISO)
URL: http://www.niso.org/news/events/2016/virtual_conference/aug31_virtualconf/

August 31 – September 2, Archives and Records Association, UK and Ireland Annual Conference: "Global Futures"
Place: London, UK
Sponsor/Organizer: Archives and Records Association (ARA)

Copyright © 2016 EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library Information and Documentation Associations), All rights reserved.

unsubscribe from this list  update subscription preferences