The President’s Editorial

Dear colleagues,

As I write this, librarians from all over the world, especially from Europe and Germany, gather in Berlin for the Next Library Conference 2018 to explore new ways of librarianship. The opening-speaker is library guru, David Lankes, a passionate advocate for librarians and their essential role in today’s society. He calls upon librarians to take a stand, create strong networks and make a difference in their communities by providing more than only access to information.

At the same time, I try to understand what has happened in Brussels with the vote on the copyright law. It doesn’t look good. Commercial interest seems to have prevailed over the right to free access to information on many aspects, although there are pockets of light.

We have strongly advocated for the interests of libraries. But more is needed. EBLIDA will find ways to give more libraries and institutions a voice. We don’t act
NAPLE and calling on national library associations throughout Europe to also lobby MEPs. This cooperation was also the theme at the first ever European Caucus held during the World Library and Information Conference in Kuala Lumpur, where colleague Steen Bording Andersen, President of the Danish Library Association, on behalf of the EBLIDA Executive Committee, stressed the importance of a strong European library network and cooperation between all parties.

In these times when the work of libraries is needed more than ever, the challenges seem to grow.

Next month, the EBLIDA Executive Committee will meet in Brussels - hopefully to meet with a newly appointed director. But high on our agenda are these questions and challenges and devising a strategy to deal with them.

Our meeting is connected to the EU Code Week organised by PL2020 and again we will address and lobby at the European Parliament.

We need to take a deep breath. The public interest of our work demands that.

Yours sincerely,

Ton van Vlimmeren
EBLIDA President

INSIDE BRUSSELS

Copyright reform – overview of activities

European Parliament

As announced in the Summer edition of the Newsletter, a lot has happened over the Summer.

Read below a summary of European Parliament’s activities on the copyright directive.

You can also read the latest update on our Copyright reform page at:
http://www.eблида.org/copyright-reform

JURI Committee report repealed by European Parliament in Plenary

On July 5th, the European Parliament voted against the JURI Committee negotiation mandate. With 318 MEPs voting against the report by JURI Rapporteur MEP Axel Voss (EPP, Germany), 278 MEPs voted in favour, and 31 MEPs abstained, the report was eventually repealed.
amendments. These are currently under discussion and were voted on at the European Parliament plenary session on September 12th.

Influencing MEPs

The library coalition has therefore contacted MEPs to inform them on our position with regard to the Directive. What good provisions contained in the JURI report should be kept, what good provision for the original Commission proposal should be kept.

The library coalition of EBLIDA, IFLA and LIBER has been particularly active during the week from 5 to 12 September contacting MEPs so that their vote could benefit libraries.

Result of the 12th September EP Plenary vote

The European Parliament has finally agreed on its position on the Copyright in the Digital Single Market Directive. This key vote was held on the 12 September, after a summer break and strong lobbying from all sides. The Parliament decided to support the rapporteur’s proposal on many fronts, for instance on the very controversial Article 13 which mandates that internet society service providers will need to filter and acquire licenses over the content uploaded by their users. Article 11, creating a new press publishers’ rights, was also adopted.

From the libraries’ point of view, there are several other articles that were amended and represent an improvement to the previous text proposed by the Commission. There is a mandatory exception for preservation allowing cross-border preservation networks, an improved article for out of out of commerce works, and a better version of the exception for digital learning. On the negative side, however, the regime for article 3 on text and data mining remains too narrow, and the Parliament’s version of article 6 undermines the whole functioning of the Directive’s exceptions and limitations.

This vote gives the Parliament a negotiating stance with the Council and the Commission, whose positions were released some time ago. This will be the next step in the copyright reform, where representatives of the three institution will meet in the so-called trilogues to agree on a final version of the text. This stage will present new opportunities to provide our views and ensure that the best option possible for libraries and their users is adopted. A fuller statement will appear on the EBLIDA website today.

Copyright action week: 4-11 September
The copyright week aimed at impacting the 12 September Plenary vote. It put some of the impacted communities in the spotlight through thematic action days.

The messaging was not limited to Article 13, and was an opportunity to encourage any communities, notably the knowledge community, to voice any concerns around copyright reform and how to fix copyright.

EUROPE AND WORLDWIDE

IFLA WLIC 2018 – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The IFLA World Library and Information Congress Transform Libraries, Transform Societies took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (see https://2018.ifla.org/)

This year, EBLIDA participated in the Management of Library Association Section Satellite meeting Advocacy in Action! Success for library advocacy worldwide on Wednesday, August 23, 2018 from 9:00 to 16:00. The event was hosted by National Library of Malaysia.

Participants had the opportunity to learn about library advocacy campaigns around the world and to practice elevator pitch exercises.

EBLIDA participated in the business meetings of Copyright and other legal matters, and also attended an MLAS Standing Committee meeting and a Public Libraries Standing Committee meeting.

One of the highlights of the Congress was the 1st European Caucus ever.
Committee meeting of October 2017 by Stefano Parise (EBLIDA Vice President) and then built on by Public Libraries 2020 and Erik Boekestijn (National Library of the Netherlands).

Further to a speech from IFLA President Glòria Pérez-Salmerón and IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leinter, Steen Bording Andersen (EC member) presented the work of EBLIDA’s importance since it first started up in 1992.

Ilona Kish (PL2020 Director) presented the important challenges ahead for librarians in Europe and in particular the upcoming European elections that need clear advocacy from the whole European library community to start in the next weeks.

European librarians, get ready to work together to influence the European political agenda and let’s change perceptions about libraries by putting them in the spotlight for the upcoming EU elections to take place May 23rd to 26th 2019.

Next Year, IFLA WLIC will take place in Greece, and this will offer a great opportunity for European librarians to out-number those from other parts of the world and to showcase the strengths of the European library field. So start planning your participation at next year’s IFLA WLIC. It’ll come around sooner than expected.
For further information on the IFLA WLIC, please revert back to the online programme that also contains the link to all the papers presented, as well as to the IFLA's Annual Report to have a wrap-up of information on IFLA’s tasks during the year.

During the congress, IFLA published the copyright literacy and copyright education statement. It explains the concept of copyright literacy and describes its importance within the broader work of libraries. The statement lists recommendations aimed at governments, (including inter-governmental organisations), libraries, library associations and library educators.

You can download the full statement [PDF], and use it in your own advocacy work to maximise access to information quickly! Follow IFLA’s advocacy on copyright on Twitter and Facebook, and the IFLA Policy and Advocacy Blog.

View online: https://www.ifla.org/node/67012

**IFLA awards Teresa Hackett with prestigious medal**

At the World Library and Information Congress 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, IFLA awarded Teresa Hackett, EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme Manager, and former EBLIDA Director, the prestigious IFLA Medal in recognition of her contribution to international librarianship and especially to copyright and equal access to information.

Congratulating Teresa, Barbara Stratton, Chair of EBLIDA’s Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL) commented:
knowledge landscape for libraries and their users throughout the world - and in doing so significantly raising the profile and garnering respect for the library and information professions in international fora such as WIPO, the European institutions and national governments."

For the full text on the EIFL website, see [here](#).

**Inside EBLIDA**

**EBLIDA-NAPLE 2019 Council and Conference**

We are inching closer to announcing the dates and venue for next year’s events. Watch this space for more information shortly.

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**Update on EBLIDA New Director**

By August 31st, we had received several applications for the job of EBLIDA Director. The standard of applicants was high and it was quite a challenge to narrow it down to the next stage.

Interviews are being held in The Hague next week, with candidates and the interview panel, travelling from all corners of Europe! We will keep you posted about this very exciting new development.

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**EBLIDA Membership Matters**

>> 5 reason why membership matters <<

**Events and Dates**
12-15 September
Berlin, Germany
Next Library® Conference Berlin 2018

17-19 September
Vienna, Austria
10th Conference on Open Access Scholarly Publishing (COASP)

18 September
Poznan, Poland
Semantics in Big Data Management (SemBDM)

21 -23 September
Manchester, UK
Youth Libraries Group (YLG) National Conference - Reading the Future

23-27 September
Paris, France
19th International Conference on Music Information Retrieval (ISMIR 2018)

24-26 September
Graz, Austria
Open Access to Scientific Information - Open-Access-Tage 2018

24-27 September
Oulu, Finland
6th European Conference on Information Literacy - ECIL2018

24-25 September
Lodz, Poland
Reading culture of the young generation

24-26 September
Berlin, Germany
Thirteenth International Conference on Digital Information Management (ICDIM 2018)

27-30 September
Göteborg, Sweden
Göteborg Book Fair 2018
Stay informed, sign up today!

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 now!

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