



Annual Work Programme 2009-2010

(Approved by Council, Vienna 2009)

As stated in the EBLIDA Strategy 2007-2010, EBLIDA's mission is to secure access for all to the benefits of the information society in all formats by:

- lobbying at the European level
- providing relevant and up-to-date information about EBLIDA and European library issues
- by seeking involvement in European projects and by organizing seminars and workshops of interest to the library and information community

Lobbying and monitoring issues

Copyright and other legal issues

IPR and copyright remains at the heart of the European agenda for libraries and EBLIDA will continue to lobby on issues which effect libraries, archives and information services in their ability to bring content and knowledge to information users.

EBLIDA will follow up on our response to the European Commission's Green Paper on the Knowledge Economy. EBLIDA will arrange meetings with representatives of the Copyright Unit of the European Commission and with representatives of the INFO SOC DG and continue to provide evidence of how European copyright legislation has consequences for service provision for libraries, archives etc.

The EBLIDA expert group on information law (EGIL) will propose an EBLIDA policy for materials in the public domain, addressing the issues of different funding models and how this determines, and possibly limits, access to materials for users.

EBLIDA will work with eIFL to monitor and lobby on trade agreements and how these effect copyright legislation in various countries.

EBLIDA will coordinate with IFLA and other organisations in efforts to establish a treaty on exceptions and limitations for libraries within the framework of WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organisation). A treaty, should it be reached, will, in all probability, have consequences for European copyright legislation.

In 2008 EBLIDA was a co-signatory to the European Commission's Memorandum of Understanding on Diligent Search Guidelines for Orphan Works (4th June 2008) and will continue to monitor its usage in the library sector and to encourage the European Commission to review the implementation of these guidelines in 2009. EBLIDA will continue to seek workable solutions for projects of mass digitization within the framework of this MoU.



EBLIDA will continue to monitor the European Commission's proposal for term extension for sound recordings and performance rights and to make clear our continued opposition to this proposal.

EBLIDA will cooperate, formally and informally, with other organizations, such as broadcasters, internet service providers and consumer organizations to help safeguard user rights in a digital environment.

The EGIL will provide relevant input and expertise for the (including identifying official documentation and legislation) EBLIDA website.

Digitisation and online access

With the launch of the Europeana as the end of 2008, the ambition to make a significant amount of cultural material available on-line has been accomplished. However only a very small percentage of the (out-of-copyright) material of national libraries and large research and academic libraries has been digitized and it continues to be a major challenge to make these materials available to users in digital format.

EBLIDA will continue to encourage member states to formulate digitization policies and disseminate information on these activities in the member states.

EBLIDA will liaise with public library digitization projects to bring awareness of activities in this sector to EBLIDA members and further stimulate action lines in license agreements with right holders and public libraries.

EBLIDA will support and promote initiatives related to Open Access (OA) and seek to ensure that publicly funded research should be publicly available.

In cooperation with LIBER, EBLIDA will host a joint conference in October 2009 at the Royal Library in The Hague. The conference will follow up on the successful joint conference held in Copenhagen 2007 and look at the digitization of library material in Europe, including various business models for digitization, access to materials, activities in public libraries and cross domain availability. Recommendations from the conference will be forwarded to the European Commission.

The Joint Expert Group on Digitisation and Online Access (JEGDO) will provide relevant input and expertise for the (including identifying official documentation and legislation) EBLIDA website.

Library and Information Science Education

EBLIDA's expert group on Information and Library Education (ILEG) will formulate a policy document on the importance of the Bologna process on LIS education, including aspects of mobility and flexibility, in Europe and a document outlining some trends in LIS curriculum delivery (including interface between research and practice, use of technology, models of delivery, current practices and learning methodologies).

EBLIDA will continue to cooperate with EUCLID on matters of mutual interest and investigate the possibility for future joint conferences or workshops.



The ILEG will provide relevant input and expertise (including identifying official documentation and legislation) for the EBLIDA website.

Culture and Information Society

EBLIDA will analyse important issues within the field of cultural and information society and how these relate to the activities of libraries.

EBLIDA will continue to support the concept of the culture sector platform for access to culture as drawn up by the European Commission with the intention to “put in place an on-going process aiming to give the cultural sector in Europe a voice at the European level” and work with the DIK (the union of librarians in Sweden) to further this policy initiative

The Expert Group on Culture and Information Society (EGCIS) will provide relevant input and expertise (including identifying official documentation and legislation) for the EBLIDA website.

Education and Lifelong Learning

EBLIDA will map activities in Europe on this issue and investigate and report on activities in the member states in regard to education and lifelong learning in order to help support the role of EBLIDA in addressing and promoting libraries as facilitators of education and LLL and to use this information and knowledge as an active tool for advocacy strategies.

EBLIDA will investigate the possibility of establishing an expert group on education and LLL, based on preliminary discussions to be held in conjunction with the Council Meeting in Vienna, May 2009.

EBLIDA Expert Groups

In 2008 the activities of the expert groups were formalized and the secretariat in cooperation with the chairs of the expert groups will continue to strengthen the role of the groups within the overall framework of EBLIDA and to ensure the delivery of information to the EBLIDA website. The expert groups will advise the EC on European policy initiatives within their domain and take appropriate action in regard to the European institutions. All the expert groups will hold meetings in conjunction with the Annual Council Meeting in Vienna, May 2009.

EBLIDA Knowledge and Information Centre (KIC)

In order to establish the KIC EBLIDA, in partnership with our members, will submit a proposal for funding to the European Commission at the beginning of 2010. EBLIDA will establish a small project group to formulate this proposal and start the process for the project submission in the 2nd half of 2009.

EBLIDA Cooperation with other organizations

IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations)



EBLIDA will continue and strengthen its cooperation with IFLA on relevant issues, including developments at WIPO on a treaty on exceptions and limitations for libraries. EBLIDA/EGIL will coordinate activities with IFLA's CLM (Copyright and other Legal Matters Committee).

EBLIDA and IFLA will investigate the possibility of a joint 2010 conference on the topic of data security, surveillance and privacy.

The Presidents of IFLA and EBLIDA will arrange at least one meeting a year and the EBLIDA Director and IFLA Secretary General will meet on an ad hoc basis.

ICA (International Council on Archives)

EBLIDA will investigate the possibility for EBLIDA representatives to meet with ICA representatives in 2009 or 2010 to discuss forms of cooperation, including digitization activities in Europe.

EUCLID (European Association for Library and Information Education and Research)

EBLIDA's expert group on library and information education will coordinate activities on the aspect of LIS education in Europe and how best to develop policy in this area.

LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche)

In collaboration with LIBER, EBLIDA will co-host a joint conference in The Hague in October 2009 as a follow up to the joint conference held in 2007. The conference will look at digitization activity in Europe. The LIBER/EBLIDA Joint Expert Group on Digitisation and Online Access (JEGDO) will continue to coordinate activities in this field. The directors of the two organizations will continue to hold informal meetings during the year.

NAPLE (National Authorities on Public Libraries in Europe)

The EBLIDA Annual Conference entitled "A Library Policy for Europe" will be co-hosted by NAPLE and take place in Vienna from the 7th – 9th May 2009. EBLIDA and NAPLE will work together to further the development and role of public libraries in Europe and to engage the European institutions in dialogue and discussion about a library policy for Europe.

EBLIDA will meet with NAPLE representatives during the coming 12 months to coordinate joint activities, including the possibility of future joint events.

CENL (Conference of European National Librarians)

EBLIDA will investigate the possibility of a meeting with representatives of the CENL in 2009-2010.

The Frankfurt Group

EBLIDA will continue its membership of the Frankfurt Group which brings together representatives from libraries, publishers and collecting societies and will participate in meetings to be held in 2009 and 2010.



Federation of European Publishers (FEP)

EBLIDA will continue to hold meetings with the FEP to discuss items of interest for both organizations, not least in the area of European digitization activities. EBLIDA and the FEP will hold at least one meeting during 2009-2010.

EBLIDA Strategy and Organisation

EBLIDA Strategy

The EBLIDA Strategy 2007-2010 was approved at the Annual Council Meeting in Reykjavik in May 2007 and will be reviewed by the EBLIDA Executive Committee at its autumn meeting 2009.

EBLIDA Secretariat

From May 1st 2009 EBLIDA's new director Joanne Yeomans will take over from Andrew Cranfield for the term 2009-2012.

Claudia Forero started as Office Manager in March 2009. She replaces Carmen Morlon who left EBLIDA in January. Claudia will handle membership matters and manage the office procedures in The Hague.

EBLIDA News

EBLIDA's electronic newsletter "EBLIDA News" will be published monthly and distributed to all EBLIDA members and made available on the EBLIDA website.

EBLIDA web site

The new EBLIDA website was launched in 2007 and in 2009 the secretariat will review and evaluate the website and make suggestions for possible changes to the EBLIDA Executive Committee.

EBLIDA Membership and Sponsors

EBLIDA will continue its efforts to expand the membership of EBLIDA, focusing on library organizations and associations from both EU and non-EU member states to ensure wide membership in Europe and following on from the membership campaign launched in 2008. A wide European representation adds legitimacy to the activities of EBLIDA and strengthens the position of EBLIDA in Europe.

EBLIDA Annual Council Meeting, Vienna, May 2009.

In 2009 EBLIDA will hold its Annual Council Meeting in Vienna on the 7th of May and its Annual Conference (in cooperation with NAPLE, the Austrian Library Association and the Austrian Association of Librarians) on the 8th of May, also in Vienna. The title and content of the conference "A Library Policy for Europe" is chosen to initiate the process of stimulating a debate on the need for policy at the European level for the library sector.



At the Council Meeting in Vienna EBLIDA will also hold elections for the presidency and executive committee of EBLIDA.

European Projects

EBLIDA continues its involvement in two European funded projects – the ENTITLE project (Europe’s New Libraries Together in Transversal Learning Environments) aimed at encouraging research and practice in the field of digital libraries and making European cultural heritage available to users, combining individual creativity with ICT and the Communia Project – a thematic network designed to discuss the value of the public domain in the digital environment, including various forms of licensing agreements and open access initiatives.