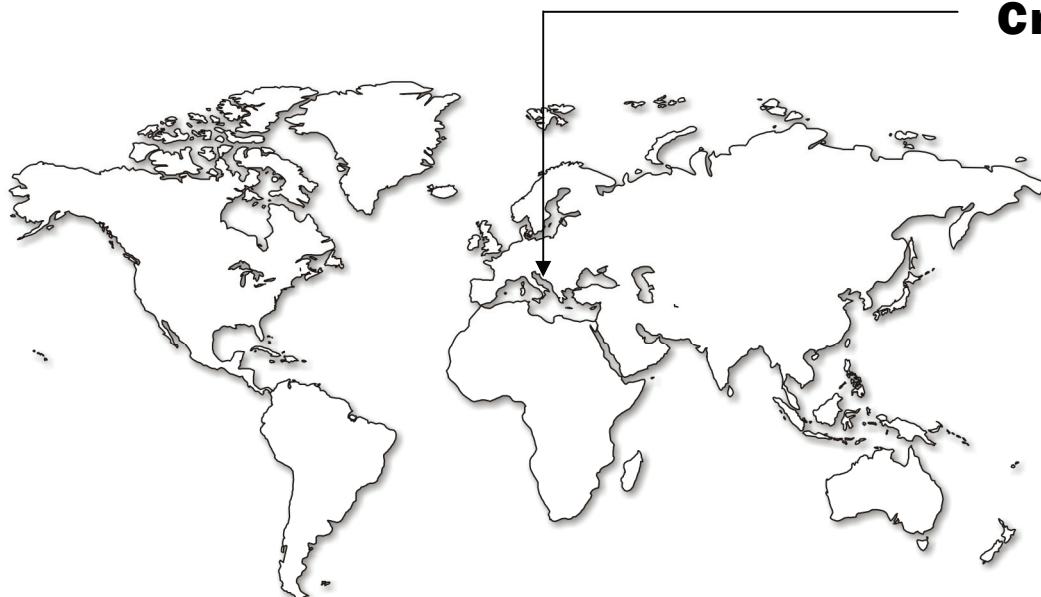


Croatia



Responding institution:

Croatian Library Association (CLA)

Croatia has participated in the World Report since its inception. There are 199 public libraries with 314 branches, which include 11 mobile libraries. There are also 8 central libraries for minorities in Croatia – Albanian, Austrian, Czech, Hungarian, Italian, Serb, Slovenian and Ukrainian. There are also 94 academic libraries, 116 special libraries and 1 264 school libraries.

Of these libraries, there is 81-100% Internet access for university libraries, government-funded research libraries and school libraries. The figure for public libraries is 61-80%. Croatia has a literacy rate of 98%, but there is only an average amount of local content in local languages on the Internet.

Access to the Internet is free of charge in school libraries and university libraries. A small number of public libraries have the funds to provide free use of the Internet, and there is an initiative to ask the Ministry of Culture to secure agreements with telecommunication companies for free Internet access. Since 2005 there have been some instances of additional funding from the state and library authorities for Internet access.

The CLA is in favour of filtering Internet information to some degree for the sake of protecting children, but the use of software for this purpose is not widespread in the country's libraries. There have been no responses to the questions on anti-terror legislation

and user privacy, but the respondent has indicated that there have been no violations of intellectual freedom since 2005.

Libraries are not involved in HIV/Aids awareness programmes because of the small numbers concerned (600 since 1985), and there is no involvement with women's literacy or special information programmes for women.

A code ethics was adopted in 1992, and both Croatian and English versions are available on the Internet at http://www.hkdrustvo.hr/hr/eticki_kodeks/?session_id=3027e976c3ff40a3a3891ef5d5da6ba4 (Croatian) and at http://www.hkdrustvo.hr/en/eticki_kodeks/ (English). The code of ethics has been published in the association's newsletter and on its website. There have been a number of discussions and activities relating to the code of ethics over a number of years.

Information on the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the IFLA Glasgow Declaration appears to be largely a repetition of what is found in the 2005 report. It is, however, appropriate to list the CLA's remarkable achievements in these areas again. The IFLA Internet Manifesto has been adopted and translated for publication in the CLA's newsletter and in the proceedings of the *Round Table on Freedom of Access to Information in Service of Cultural Development*. In line with the Manifesto, the Croatian initiative includes the acquisition of computers and the provision of Internet access free of charge.

The IFLA Glasgow Declaration has also been adopted, and translated and published for wider distribution. Its

recommendations have been incorporated into the CLA's constitution and code of ethics since 2002. Many projects have flowed from this, such as Free Access to Information for the Purpose of the Development of Democracy, and the Protection of Old Croatian Newspapers. Other projects relate to library services for people with special needs, and reading and writing at school libraries.

The CLA also expects librarians and libraries to assist citizens with information necessary to deal with Croatia joining the European Union. At a joint meeting with FAIFE in December 2006, the CLA accepted the declaration that it should be involved in the struggle against corruption. This will be translated into English and will be available on the CLA's website soon.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

No data has been provided for anti-terror legislation and user privacy.

Reported incidents/violations of intellectual freedom in the past two years

There have been no reports of violations of intellectual freedom since 2005.

HIV/Aids awareness

The small number (600) of HIV/Aids patients is offered as the reason why libraries are not involved in awareness programmes.

Women and freedom of access to information

As in 2005, Croatian libraries are not involved in programmes for women's literacy or the provision of special kinds of information to women.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

There have been a number of initiatives that followed the adoption of the Internet Manifesto, including translation, publication and discussions.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

This Declaration has also led to several activities and projects. Most recently, the CLA accepted the declaration that it should be involved in the struggle against corruption. This declaration will be translated into English and will be available on the association's website soon.

Ethics

There have been impressive developments with the code of ethics, which include translation into English, wide publication and availability in publications and on the Internet, and discussions of its implications for librarians.

Main indicators

Country name:	Croatia
Population:	4 493 312 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Croatian 96.1%, Serbian 1%, other and undesignated 2.9% (including Italian, Hungarian, Czech, Slovak and German)
Literacy:	98.1%
Literacy reported by respondent:	98%

Population figures, language and literacy are from the *CIA World Factbook*, 2007 edition (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>).



Libraries and Internet access

Croatia contributed to the World Report series in 2005, 2003 and 2001. The following section compares data and answers from 2007 with the 2005 IFLA/FAIFE World Report and adds context from the respondent's estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	199 public libraries – 314 branch and 11 mobile libraries, and 8 central libraries for minorities); (2005: 272 public libraries – 18 county libraries, 243 public and branch libraries, 11 mobile libraries and 8 central libraries for minorities)
Estimated number of school libraries:	1 264 primary and secondary school libraries (2005: 965)
Estimated number of university libraries:	94 academic and university libraries and 116 special libraries (2005: The same)
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	No data provided
Source of these numbers:	National and University Library (NUL)

Internet access

Population online**:	1 451 100 Internet users as of Sept. 2006 (32.5%) (2005: 50.9%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	61-80% (2005: 81-100%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Average
To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:	Average
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	Yes, to a certain degree – for the protection of children (2005: No)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No (2005: No)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in university libraries and school libraries (2005: Yes, in research libraries only)
Has the state or other library authorities made any extra funding available for Internet access in the library system of your country in the last two years:	Yes, in some cases – Ministry of Education for school libraries (2005: No)

* Public library service points, including branch libraries.

** Online population numbers are from Internet World Stats (www.Internetworldstats.com).

*** Local content is defined as content that originates in the country.