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Abstract: *In his keynote address to the 61st IFLA Council and General Conference, Istanbul, Turkey, 20-26 August 1995 with the theme, "Libraries of the Future", the author presents his views on the advent of a future that may do away with libraries. After describing the negative effects the Information Age might bring, the author presents a vision in which the Age of Cyberspace might well rescue many developed and developing countries: 1) full, functional literacy will be achieved worldwide by means of the new information technology; 2) humanity will be liberated from ignorance through the miracles of communication and learning created by Cyberspace; 3) universal participation in democracy and human civilization will be made possible by the new universal experience of science and the humanities; and 4) there will be a global renaissance whereby all societies and individuals, while being served by technological civilization, will not lose their own authentic cultures and will learn about other faiths, doctrines, and cultural values in a spirit of tolerance and harmony.*

IFLA: A Force for Free Expression - Defending Free Expression Is Everyone's Business

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Abstract: *It is argued that the right to freedom of expression is pre- eminent amongst all other human rights because in its absence it is not possible to know about abuses and therefore protect other rights. It is impossible to rank countries in terms of their respect for human rights or the lack of it because this implies that one is able to allocate values to such abuses as torture, extra-judicial killing, illegal detention for several years, etc. That said, however, there are clearly some countries which abuse human rights to a greater extent than others. It is ARTICLE 19's contention that the earliest indications of increasing human rights abuse concern restricting free expression, and especially muzzling the press, and increasing direct control of the media by the government. It is argued that the human rights community which for the past three decades or more has largely concentrated on documenting human rights abuse after the event, must now become more proactive in its work. In order to achieve this it must be able to 1) collect specific information which warns of increasing human rights abuse; and 2) create a powerful network to which that information can be fed and based upon which action will take place. Part of that political network must include organizations such as*

professional associations which make a strong and positive commitment to defending freedom of expression and at the same time which are prepared to support this policy with action in the form of protest in appropriate circumstances. In addition, such professional associations can of course take a special interest in their own members who may be unduly affected by restrictions on free expression. It is only by creating a critical mass of information and opinion that we will be successful in persuading governments that they cannot ignore abuses of the fundamental right to freedom of expression in their political, economical and cultural dealings with other countries.

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Abstract: *The author describes the project undertaken by the IFLA Section of University Libraries and other General Research Libraries to developing guidelines for performance*

measurement in academic libraries using the following criteria: 1) to concentrate on academic libraries; 2) to include only measures that would be applicable in all countries, developing as well as developed, and to all kinds of academic libraries; 3) to measure effectiveness, not efficiency; 4) to include overall indicators as well as indicators for separate activities; and 5) to concentrate on user-oriented indicators. The choice of performance indicators was determined by the principle of user-orientation, and include the following: availability, document delivery, collection use, acquisition speed, book processing speed, interlibrary loan speed, and user satisfaction. The goals of the guidelines are to make it possible to obtain comparable results by applying the same indicators in the same way; to help obtain reliable results with a reasonable expenditure of work; and to promote acceptance of performance measurement as an important tool for effective management.

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School Librarianship and Macro-Level Policy Issues: International Perspectives

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reviewed. The article concludes with an examination of the role of professional organizations and their influence on policy-making.

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