



Newsletter

**IFLA Libraries Serving Persons with Print
Disabilities Section**

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The IFLA/LPD Newsletter is issued twice a year.

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LPD's Midyear Meeting at Capitol Hill



Karen Keninger at NLS

Thanks to our US member NLS, (the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped), we could meet in the more than splendid Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress in Washington DC. The venue, the room and the view (Capitol Hill!) were superb and we all felt inspired to make this an effective meeting. Of course we took a tour of the premises and were awed by the Reading Room, the Gutenberg Bible and Jefferson's Library. Echoes from a past where libraries and books were revered with an almost religious fervor. Many of us could make it to the US, including our representative from way down under: Vision Australia. We all felt sorry that due to personal circumstances NLS representative David could not be present, and we were grateful that NLS director Karen Keninger could free herself to be present at our two day meeting.

During the meeting we made excellent progress putting together the program of LPD at the upcoming Lyon IFLA congress and we could boost the interest for the LPD satellite in Paris on 22-23rd of August; an event dedicated to the role of eBooks in the world of accessible information and reading.

On the more political side of our work we have put together a communication strategy to move forward our Manifesto that was recently adopted by Unesco at his General Meeting in Paris, last November. We decided to use our members' communications channels, such the ALA mailing list and those of IFLA and the Daisy community.

The other really big item on our agenda was of course how we as IFLA/LPD could help implement the outcomes of the Marrakesh Treaty, and help express the importance of this Treaty that could help overcoming the Book Famine that is still plaguing so many of our members. We need at least 20 nation states to sign and ratify this Treaty before it can become in effect. Many countries are now looking into their national copyright and merchandise laws to see what the effects might be. We need to put pressure on our political representatives and provide them with examples and arguments why this Treaty deserves their support.

For us it so simple and self-evident, but we should not tire doing this. Stumbling blocks are lack of information, fear of piracy, and fear of market distortion.

This WIPO Treaty is unique, being the first worldwide recognized copyright exception based on user (human) rights. We all felt that we should not be kept in the waiting room too long before we can start sharing our collections. It is time to move forward.

One of the great pleasures of our midyear meeting is that we have the time for a round robin, going round the table taking the time to share the developments and innovations that we help to bring about locally. In annexure 1 of the minutes of our meeting, now available on <http://www.ifla.org/lpd/minutes> you can get a taste of what's happening in the front runners of our field.

Last but not least, we have raised awareness about the need to nominate new members in our standing committee next year. Many experienced members will have to step down in 2015 and we would like see representation of from important key players such as RNIB, CNIB and Vision Australia. It is our hope to see a strong future committee with twenty members and no seats vacant!



The Standing Committee at Jefferson Building

Koen Krikhaar, Manager, Library Services, Dedicon, The Netherlands. LPD Chair.

Full Program for IFLA LPD Conference eBooks for Everyone! in Paris Now Available Online

The event will bring together speakers from leading organizations across the globe and is geared towards professionals who are either interested or directly involved in the production, publication, distribution and provision of digital books and access technologies for people with print disabilities.

Together with BrailleNet and Université Pierre et Marie Curie (UPMC), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions section for Library services to the Print Disabled (LPD) will hold a two day satellite meeting at the UPMC campus in Paris on 22-23 August, directly

after IFLA's annual conference in Lyon. The conference is on the theme of eBooks for everyone! An opportunity for more inclusive libraries.

"The subject of eBooks is very much alive in our circles, but also in the greater world of libraries, publishers and producers," says Koen Krikhaar, Chair of the IFLA LPD Section. "This conference will provide a great opportunity for professionals to share their experiences and showcase their work on an international platform". Dominique Burger, CEO of BrailleNet, says, "In our increasingly digital age, there can be no question that eBooks offer unprecedented opportunities for print-disabled readers. We are delighted to be hosting this important event in partnership with IFLA LPD and UPMC".

The event will bring together speakers from leading organizations across the globe and is geared towards professionals who are either interested or directly involved in the production, publication, distribution and provision of digital books and access technologies for people with print disabilities.

Keynotes will be delivered by three leading figures in the field of book accessibility for all:

- **Johanna Brinton**, Business development Executive at OverDrive

- **Dan Pescod**, Campaigns Manager at the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)

- **Bernhard Heinser**, Senior Manager for the DAISY Consortium

The full program is available on the conference website at <http://ifla-lpd2014.braillet.net.org>.

About the Organizers

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. The mission of the IFLA LPD section is to advocate for library services that are equitable and accessible for persons with a print disability.

BrailleNet is a French non-profit organization committed to developing ICT for a better inclusion of people with disabilities in the Information Society. BrailleNet is responsible for the development and coordination of the Bibliothèque Numérique Francophone Accessible (BNFA), the largest digital library for the print-impaired in the French speaking world.

University Pierre & Marie Curie (UPMC) is the largest scientific and medical complex in France, active in many fields of research with scope and achievements at the highest level, as demonstrated by the many awards regularly won by UPMC researchers, and the many international partnerships it maintains across all five continents.

Katie Durand, Project Manager, BrailleNet.

Revised and Expanded Guidelines for Library Services to Persons with Dyslexia

A Joint Project of the IFLA Sections Library Services to People with Special Needs (LSN) and Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities (LPD). This revision has been facilitated by IFLA project money. At the time of publication, the guidelines have yet to be approved by IFLA.

In 2001, IFLA published the Guidelines for Library Services to Persons with Dyslexia (IFLA Section 'Library Services to People with Special Needs'). A growing body of research has since then changed the connotation of the word dyslexia, making it less medical and more social in meaning, and has therefore changed our attitudes towards persons with

dyslexia, supporting them with solutions and alternative ways of reading and writing, instead of training them, in many cases to no avail, to read from print and to spell correctly.

IFLA LSN and IFLA LPD have worked together to revise and expand the former Guidelines which have become:

- A document that can be consulted by professionals in the library world;
- A document to supply library staff with ideas, examples and suggestions on how to recognize library users with dyslexia, how to approach them and how to improve their services.

These Guidelines contain a checklist, overviewing useful topics for library staff, best practices from several public and specialized libraries, and a small knowledge base: a list of reliable and objective sources.

Discover all about it at the WLIC in Lyon, on Tuesday 19th August, at the session "Dyslexia? Welcome to our Library!" of Library Services to People with Special Needs (11:45-13:45).

We will also present our work at the Poster Sessions to be held at the WLIC in Lyon, on 18 & 19 August, from 12 to 2 pm.

Further dissemination will be secured by the IFLA website including the knowledge base which we will try to keep up-to-date.

Finally you are more than welcome to cooperate: please spread the news about these guidelines, try to get a translation in your language, and – above all – implement them in your own library!

Saskia Boets, Communication and Marketing Coordinator, Flemish Library for Audio Books and Braille

The Right to E-Read Campaign

At the 20th EBLIDA Conference "[Democracy Development in a New Media Environment](#)" on 11 May 2012 in Copenhagen, Denmark, EBLIDA initiated its campaign *E-books in Libraries* with the aim of building a constructive dialogue on libraries and the challenges of e-publishing with other stakeholdersⁱ.

Willing to work on concrete proposals, EBLIDA identified key principles on acquisition of and access to e-books by librariesⁱⁱ, inviting publishers to sign up for a Memorandum of Understanding on these principles available at the European level.

A year later, on 15 May 2013 at the 21st Conference "[Ready? Read 'e' - E-Services in Libraries, from European Thinking to Local Actions](#)", Milan, Italy, having noted the lack of progression despite best efforts, EBLIDA published "*The Right to E-Read*"ⁱⁱⁱ statement, launching the second step of the campaign. The statement declares that "*European citizens have the right to e-read! They should benefit from this right in libraries. It should therefore be possible for libraries to legally lend e-books. Libraries guarantee free access to content, information, and culture for all European citizens. But the current legal framework prevents libraries from fulfilling these essential services to our society in the digital era, especially in regard to the provision of e-books*".

Following-up on latest developments in different fora (Licences for Europe, WIPO) and given the increasing legal uncertainty for libraries around this issue of e-books, EBLIDA defined the campaign strategy to raise awareness among librarians, users and policy-makers by creating a logo, straplines, communication tools, and strategic documents^{iv}.

[The Right to E-Read Website](#) was launched in mid-January 2014, providing background information on the campaign and providing access to information documents

on the subject. The campaign is meant to be flexible and is supported by national associations in Europe. So far 21 translations of the campaign posters^v have been created and distributed. EBLIDA provided each of its members with a package containing posters, postcards, leaflets and badges.

On 23rd of April 2014, World Book and Copyright day became the Right to E-Read Day in Europe with the official launch of the petition for *The Right to E-Read*^{vi} highlighting that we want:

- *To provide our library users with the latest e-books as we do printed books;*
- *To buy e-books at fair prices and on reasonable terms;*
- *All citizens – not just those who can afford it – to benefit from free access to e-books in libraries;*
- *Authors to receive fair remuneration for the lending of e-books to the public.*

And also notifying the request for a *European copyright framework that is fit for purpose and enables libraries to purchase and lend e-books.*

By inviting people, policy-makers and librarians to support the EBLIDA Campaign *“The Right to E-*

Read”, EBLIDA aims at obtaining a critical mass of signatories to bring its message to the heart of the European Union Institutions.

On 5 June 2014, EBLIDA publishes *“The Right to E-Read”* position paper^{vii} describing the problem faced by libraries in Europe, giving an overview of current situations in different countries and outlining recommendations.

EBLIDA believes that libraries must be able to choose between:

1. Buying e-books (files) to be stored on the library's server and downloaded to a reading device for use by the patron. In this case, exhaustion would apply as it does in the analogue world since upon the sale a transfer of ownership takes place, and the lending would be regulated by the national implementations of the Rental and Lending Directive.
2. Subscribing to access points at the publisher's database for their patrons. In this case 'Mandatory Fair Licenses' should apply.

EBLIDA makes two overarching recommendations (to read in their extensive version in the document):

1. To move from the current unsatisfactory licensing offer to libraries to a regime of 'Mandatory Fair Licences'

2. That the European Copyright Acquis be updated to deliver fair access to information for European libraries and their patrons.

The campaign uses e-books as a symbol to promote the cause of libraries and access to information for all. In that context, librarians are the ones who have to act now.

The Marrakesh Treaty approved at WIPO in June 2013 was an encouraging sign that the book famine for people with print disabilities may stop. However, the ratification process of this treaty is extremely slow. Added to this are the worrying signs from the EU position at WIPO and at the EU level in relation to copyright. Therefore we need to have a large-scale European campaign to promote "The Right to E-Read". We need our voice to be much louder in order to be heard!

Public access for all to e-books and digital content via libraries is at the core of libraries missions. That digital technologies offer wonderful opportunities for all included print disabled people is nothing new. To ensure a full exploitation of digital opportunities and make them beneficial for all, librarians are lobbying intensively. This is already done in institutional fora at WIPO and at the European level and needs to be achieved through

strategic campaigns such as "*The Right to E-Read*".

Sign the petition at <http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/for-the-right-to-e-read>.

We need a critical mass to make this a success!

i http://www.eblida.org/Special%20Events/EN_European-Libraries-and-the-challenges-of%20e-publishing.pdf

ii http://www.eblida.org/Special%20Events/Key-principles-acquisition-eBooks-November2012/GB_English%20Version%20Key%20Principles.pdf

iii <http://www.eblida.org/e-read/home-campaign/>

iv <http://www.eblida.org/e-read/the-campaign.html>

v Cf. <http://www.eblida.org/e-read/get-involved/>

vi <http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/pour-le-droit-de-lire-num%C3%A9rique>

(checked June 9th, 2014)

vii http://www.eblida.org/News/2014/EBLIDA_E-read_position-paper.pdf

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