

The EBLIDA Newsletter is published monthly on European library & information society issues, programmes, news and events of interest to the library, archive and cultural heritage community.

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## The President's Editorial



Dear colleagues,

It is already October and Autumn has begun. We have just finished our Autumn Executive Committee meeting, which was kindly hosted by the PL2020 offices in Brussels, during which we announced our great news - read further down in the newsletter for more information about the new Director of EBLIDA. From a strong and high quality group of candidates we selected the best.

We are very excited to work with this library veteran who will (re) start his EBLIDA journey in January 2019.

We have had many very interesting and fruitful discussions during the EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting, about how we can strengthen our efforts in the interest of libraries and information institutions. We will work on deepening existing partnerships to be more effective and more efficient.

Aligning with IFLA is one of these. A meeting took place last week with your President and the Secretary General of IFLA, during which we discussed the topics for further

The day after the Executive Committee meeting, on October 9th, we attended the [Generation Code Event](#) in the European Parliament. Organised by our partner, [Public Libraries 2020](#), we spoke to many members of the European Parliament there. We'll have a full report on that for next month's newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

**Ton van Vlimmeren**  
EBLIDA President

## INSIDE BRUSSELS

### EBLIDA welcomes that the EU Marrakesh Treaty legislation enters into force 12 October 2018!

by Barbara Stratton, Chair, EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law

11 October 2018

# The Marrakesh Treaty

Tomorrow, 12 October 2018, is a major milestone in recognising the right of all blind and print-disabled people everywhere to be able to read what they want, when they want and where they want on an equal basis with everyone else. It is the world's libraries that shall be playing a very major part in achieving that.

Tomorrow, the [Marrakesh Treaty Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1563](#) comes into force as should all the EU/EEA Member States' implementing legislation for the [Marrakesh Treaty Directive \(EU\) 2017/1564](#).

It seems, however, that not every Member State has quite managed to implement the Directive on time despite having a year to do so - a number still have the legislation in train, but the Regulation still enters into force tomorrow.

To its credit, the EU had crafted generally good implementing legislation passed last year. So far, EBLIDA does not know of any Member State that has applied the option in the Directive to implement any kind of compensation scheme for rightholders. It is unsurprising that Member States do not appear to be taking up this option as there is a lack of robust evidence of harm to rightholders. Additionally, not doing so ensures an even cross-border playing field for authorised entities dealing with counterparts in the

## Treaty ratification

The EU deposited its ratification instruments at WIPO on 1st October 2018 on behalf of all 28 Member States. That ratification comes into force on 1st January 2019.

From tomorrow, under the Regulation authorised entities/authorised bodies in the EU/EEA as defined in the legislation are able to supply accessible format copies to (or obtain these from) authorised entities in other EU/EEA Member States. From 1st January 2019, the EU ratification will apply and cross-border supply will become possible between authorised entities in all Contracting Party countries [that have ratified the Marrakesh Treaty](#).

## Brexit

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, all the cross-border aspects of the Marrakesh Treaty will fall on 29 March 2019 as they are contained in the Regulation which is supra-legislation direct from the EU. The Directive's provisions, as implemented in UK law will, however, remain on the UK Statute Book. If there is no deal, there risks being a long hiatus on cross-border supply between the UK and the Treaty's Contracting Parties, including EU Member States, as the EU ratification of the Treaty would then no longer apply to the UK. If there is a deal then everything is expected to continue as before, at least to the end of 2020 or maybe even beyond, but what follows afterwards is still unknown.

All this would not be rectified until the UK is in a position to ratify the Treaty in its own right. This would require primary legislation to replace the Regulation's provisions. At best, unless there is a convenient Bill going through the UK Parliament in which to insert clauses, such legislation could take at least a year, if not more from whenever the EU ratification would cease to apply to the UK.

## USA

Of interest to European libraries is the welcome news that yesterday the US legislation implementing the Marrakesh Treaty was signed by the President. However, the US has yet to deposit its ratification instruments at WIPO so cross-border exchange with the US will not be possible until after it does so and its ratification has come into force.

## How did we get here?

Just so that you know how long these things take:

- It is **9 years 11 months** since the [World Blind Union](#), with the strong and active support of international library organisations [IFLA](#), and [EIFL](#), and also of the US Library Copyright Alliance, supported in turn by EBLIDA and many national library bodies around the world, began its campaign at WIPO in November 2008 to bring about a global Treaty to make all written works accessible to the world's blind and visually impaired people.
- It took **4 years 7 months** (for WIPO breakneck speed) to conclude the Treaty on 29 June 2013 in Marrakesh. During the nearly 5 years of negotiation, the EU,

of WIPO Member States that publicly supported the Treaty, as negotiated.

- The Treaty attracted sufficient ratifications by Contracting Parties to enter into force on 30 September 2016. It is the fastest moving treaty in WIPO's history.
- It took **5 years 3½ months** since conclusion of the Treaty in Marrakesh for the EU to implement the Treaty. Most of the delay was due to a dispute between Member States concerning whether the European Commission had competence to ratify the Treaty on behalf of all Member States. That the Commission did have competence to do so, was established by the CJEU in February 2017 (Case A3/15).

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## Copyright reform – DSM Watch

by Ariadna Matas Casadevall, IFLA Policy and Research Officer



After the adoption by the Parliament of its negotiating mandate in September, the last round of negotiations has started. The so-called trilogues take place among the Parliament, Council and Commission.

[EBLIDA](#), [IFLA](#), [LIBER](#), [Sparc Europe](#) and [EUA](#) (European University Association) sent a common position to those involved in trilogues comparing the three texts. The briefings include a comparison view among the three texts that are on the table, and a final preferred option for the library and cultural heritage sector.

## EUROPE AND WORLDWIDE

### Creation of a new giant library organisation in Europe: Bibliosuisse

by Jean-Marie Reding, EBLIDA correspondent, live from Montreux, 29-31.08.2018

Everyone could feel it: an historical event would take place in Montreux on the 29th of August 2018. *"We all came out to Montreux, on the Lake Geneva shoreline, ..."* (Deep Purple: Smoke on water). All officials from two associations, with their hair beautifully done, were ready for the big moment, a foundation assembly - and the photos. In Switzerland the association of mainly persons, the BIS ([Bibliothek Information Schweiz](#)) and the public libraries' association SAB ([Schweizerische Arbeitsgemeinschaft der allgemeinen öffentlichen Bibliotheken](#)) finally merged into one big national organisation, called Bibliosuisse.



2018, the members of both associations voted for an agreement for the creation of one unique national big player.

BIS-President, Herbert Staub, and SAB-President Béatrice Perret Anadi, after almost three years of negotiations (since December 2015), felt relieved. The new constitution was presented article by article - and was voted after only 34 minutes! You can call this a really quick marriage! Let's learn from the Swiss!

But - how did they do it? The ingredients for a successful merger recipe are: open-minded presidents, a common history (SAB was formerly a part of BIS), a common office and common staff (since 2012), good preparation and a national culture of consensus (compared to Belgium).

What could be interesting for European librarians? Normally the landscape in Europe consists of divisions, of professional associations / unions (librarians) and libraries' associations (directors and politicians). How will Bibliosuisse solve the problem to represent librarians and get politicians involved, especially as door openers? Article 9 of the bylaws allows something special, a "Bibliotheksforum" (library forum), which could respond to that. It says: "*The Bibliotheksforum supports Bibliosuisse in its political work and advises the Executive Board. Normally the board [of Bibliosuisse] invites everyone to the Bibliotheksforum once a year. Depending on the topic, representatives from national and cantonal bodies of politics, culture, education and library owners are invited.*"

The final event ended with a brilliant performance of the "[Montreux Jazz Digital Project](#)" (check it out, folks!). Rarely have Swiss and international congress participants been so captivated by such a detailed and visionary archival project presented by Alain Dufaux. Unfortunately, it suffers from a lack of a secured long-term financing. What to do if incentive subsidies of foundations (compare to Public Libraries 2020) cease? This is not only a Swiss, but a worldwide problem.

For our Swiss colleagues, the founding of Bibliosuisse, however, creates a problem that was previously reserved for larger-scale associations: too much success, more and more participants! So the annual search for venues, which could accommodate all Bibliosuisse members and other participants (2018: more than 600), becomes more and more difficult. Of course, compared to Germany, with 4.000-4.500 participants per



their country itself.

On a European and even worldwide level, with Bibliosuisse, Switzerland just created a continental big player. If Helvetia wants to, and above all, wants to let it cost something, it can now also actively play in the international league. Swiss Librarians, from a neutral and eloquent country, would be welcome in all sorts of committees. In EBLIDA too, of course! EBLIDA first! (please!)

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## European Conference on Information Literacy, Finland

by Dr. Marina Encheva, EBLIDA Executive Committee Member



The [European Conference on Information Literacy 2018](#) took place in Oulu, Finland from 24th to 27th of September. The motto of the conference this year was **Information Literacy in Everyday Life** but the conference also focused on topics as:

information literacy instructions, information literacy in different sectors (K-12, higher education vocational education); information literacy and digital empowerment; information literacy, libraries, the public sphere; information literacy in different cultures and countries; information literacy and related concepts (transversal competences, media literacy, metaliteracy, data literacy, e-literacy, digital literacy), etc.

In the framework of a session on Information Literacy for Different Groups chaired by Jesus Lau from the University of Veracruz, Mexico, the member of the Executive Committee of EBLIDA Dr. Marina Encheva from the University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Bulgaria shared the first major outputs of the Navigate Erasmus+ project Information Literacy: a Game-Based Learning Approach for Avoiding Fake Content. Some key presentations at the event also focused on the game-based learning and information literacy. The keynote speaker for the first day Prof. Frans Mäyrä from the University of Tampere, Finland presented his research on “Reading Pervasive Games in a Ludic Society”.

The other interventions in the Information Literacy for Different Groups session were related to international studies on the information literacy of secondary school teachers and university professors conducted at the Vilnius University, Lithuania and at the University of Warsaw, Poland.

Dr. Encheva presented the results of an empirical sociological survey conducted in the partner's institutions in Bulgaria, Italy and Sweden on the students' understanding of

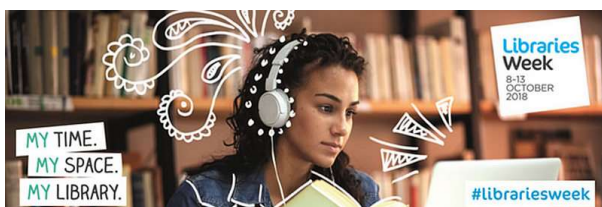


of students; approaches to searching for information and results assessment criteria. She also demonstrated how the NAVIGATE competency tree will be connected to a game-based model for information literacy training. The survey is a collaborative work of Marina Encheva and Plamena

Zlatkova from the University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Bulgaria, Anna Maria Tamaro from the University of Parma, Italy and Mats Brenner from the University of Gävle, Sweden.

During the conference the policies and the activities of EBLIDA with regard to the information and copyright literacy were also promoted and different ideas for future initiatives and cooperation within the EBLIDA Literacies Group were discussed.

## CILIP, the library and information association in the UK, will be holding its annual conference in Manchester, UK on 3-4 July 2019



Our programme attracts delegates from across the library and information sector, including: Higher/Further Education, Health, Knowledge and Information Management, Public Libraries, Prison Libraries, Corporate

Libraries, and more.

Past keynote speakers include: Dr Carla Hayden, Professor Luciano Floridi, Cory Doctorow, EveryLibrary, R. David Lankes and Stuart Hamilton.

You can register for the conference or join our mailing list from this link -

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/events/register.aspx?id=1129665>

## IFLA Ideas Store

IFLA is building a new strategy from the bottom up, one that will be a source of inspiration for its key actions.

By contributing to the [Ideas Store](#), you have the opportunity to help define the future directions of IFLA. As library and information professionals, it's therefore your strategy



Everyone is welcome to contribute ideas that will help define the strategy.

## Inside EBLIDA

### EBLIDA Autumn Executive Committee Meeting

The EBLIDA Executive Committee (EC) meeting took place again in Brussels on Monday, 8th of October, hosted kindly amid the PL2020 offices. We would like to thank them for their ongoing support and hospitality.

EC members old and new reconvened to discuss EBLIDA's future strategy, the next and 27<sup>th</sup> EBLIDA Council and Conference and many other discussions. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Generation Code event which took place on the following day, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> of October.

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### Generation Code in Brussels

#### Generation Code: Born at the Library



[Generation Code: Born at the Library](#) – the interactive exhibition showcasing the top innovative digital exhibits from public libraries across the EU took place at the European Parliament on Tuesday, 9th October 2018.

EBLIDA was represented by almost all of our board members and there were ample networking opportunities as well as meeting with friends old and new.

It was a great opportunity for librarians & Members of EBLIDA's Executive Committee to meet MEPs, talk about the importance of libraries and seek support.





Librarians & Members of EBLIDA's Executive Committee



Ilona Kish ([Public Libraries 2020](#)), [Julia Reda](#) MEP (Germany) and Barbara Lison (EC Member [EBLIDA](#) & EB Member [IFLA](#)) in their quest to tackle the challenges the EU citizens are facing in a digital world.



The EBLIDA team.



[Georges François Bach](#), MEP (Luxembourg) with Jean-Marie Reding, EBLIDA Treasurer and colleagues & other librarians at the Generation Code.



[Isabella Adinolfi](#), MEP (Italy) with [Stefano Parise](#), EBLIDA Vice-President at the Exhibition.





[Ramon Jauregui](#), MEP (Spain) with [Alicia Sellés Carot](#), EBLIDA Executive Committee Member & President of [FESABID](#).

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## EBLIDA-NAPLE 2019 Council and Conference

The good news is that we can tell you that our 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Council and Conference will take place next year in **Dublin, Ireland**.

An exact date has not yet been decided but we will inform you as soon as it has. Discussions and developments are ongoing right at this moment.

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It is our pleasure to introduce to you, the new EBLIDA Director, **Giuseppe Vitiello**.

I am extremely happy to join the EBLIDA community and, as from January 2019, to be actively involved in its undertakings. My love story with EBLIDA started several years ago when I was working for the Council of Europe.

At that time, one of the CoE priorities was legislation in the book sector. In collaboration with various EBLIDA Directors, the CoE was able to produce an array of recommendations and other provisions in the interests of libraries. Co-operation reached its peak with the approval of the 2000 [Council of Europe – EBLIDA Guidelines on library legislation and policy in Europe](#). This love story continues now and my life seems to turn full circle: as I feel it, to work for EBLIDA is like coming back home.

These are both exciting and daunting times - for libraries as well as for Europe. On the one hand, technologies and an increasing number of users have given libraries a special place in society as hubs of knowledge and of civilizing values. On the other hand, the traditional role of libraries is being challenged by a wide array of actors and factors, including technology providers, publishing aggregators and improper legislation. Concerning Europe, there is no doubt of the necessity and advantages of having a European community and yet, it seems that building Europe is an exercise requiring justification every day.

2019 is going to be a crucial year both for libraries and for Europe. A [Copyright directive](#) may radically change legislation approved in 2001, and later. After the European elections in May 2019, a renewed European Parliament will convene and new Commissioners in portfolios that are relevant for libraries will be elected. The task of the EBLIDA Secretariat may seem daunting but is simple in its nature. It consists of a) listening carefully and perceptively to EBLIDA Members, interpreting their needs and expectations; b) transforming Members' requests into an effective and transparent strategy; c) implementing this strategy with activities implying strong lobbying at institutional level and hard work with partners, within and around the European House. I am very much looking forward to putting my experience, skills and enthusiasm at the service of European public libraries!

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From 1989 to 2018 Giuseppe Vitiello served as Head of Unit, Programme Adviser and Expert in various international organisations: European Commission, Council of Europe, ISSN International Centre, EU-ISS and NATO Defense College. Earlier in his carrier, he acted as Head R&D, National Library in Florence and lectured at the Universities of Orléans and Toulouse. He also held visiting positions at the Hochschule fuer Medien in Stuttgart and the University of Venice.



ASVIS). With a master in Political Science - international relations, he has post-graduated diplomas in History (Paris, E.H.E.S.S.) and in Library Science (School of administration, Rome). He is the author of six books and more than one hundred articles in library & information science and history of culture.

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## EBLIDA updated Constitution

During the 26th Annual Council in Strasbourg, France, the proposed changes to the EBLIDA Constitution were approved by the Council members. On 21st of September, our President officially signed together with the Dutch notary, making our new Constitution official from that date onward. If you'd like to read the updated Constitution, please follow this link : <http://www.eblida.org/about-eblida/eblida-constitution.html>

Only articles 5 and 6 have been changed, the most important change being that we have now **opened membership to countries belonging to the Council of Europe**.

Over the coming time, we will identify appropriate organisations to approach and invite to join and strengthen our growing community.

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[>> 5 reason why membership matters <<](#)

## Events and Dates

### October

**09-12 October 2018**

Venice, Italy

[2018 FIAT/IFTA World Conference](#)

**10-14 October 2018**

Frankfurt, Germany

**16-17 October 2018**

London, UK

[Internet Librarian International](#)

**17 October 2018**

London, UK

[CILIP Training: Copyright for Library and Information Professionals](#)

**23-26 October 2018**

Limassol, Cyprus

[12th International Conference on Metadata and Semantics Research](#)

**24 October 2018**

Prague, Czech Republic

[11th Conference on Grey Literature and Repositories](#)

**25-26 October 2018**

Tallinn, Estonia

[National Library of Estonia Centennial Conference](#)



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