



EBLIDA

European Bureau of Library,
Information and
Documentation Associations

What is EBLIDA



- ✓ European umbrella organisation of library, archive and information sectors & professionals
- ✓ Founded in 1992 and expanding!
- ✓ 38 Full members : national associations of EU & EFTA Member States
- ✓ 122 Associate members : EU & other European countries: individual library, archive, information & museum institutions

Who are EBLIDA



- ✓ EBLIDA Council: Annual meeting of all members [Estoril (Portugal), 14 – 15 May 2004; Cork (Ireland), 2005]
- ✓ Executive Committee: 10 elected members' representatives from different European countries: geographical balance
- ✓ President: Jan Ewout van der Putten (NBLC, The Netherlands)
- ✓ Vice – President: Pedro Hípola (FESABID, Spain)
- ✓ Secretariat: non-bureaucratic, flexible & efficient (Director, EU Information Officer & Administrative Assistant), hosted by NBLC in The Hague
- ✓ Director: María Pía González Pereira (Spanish)

EBLIDA mission



To promote & defend the interests of the library, archive & information sectors & professionals

- ✓ Lobbying at European level :
 - EU Institutions: European Commission, European Parliament, Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Regions, Council
 - Other International Organisations: WIPO, WTO, Council of Europe
- ✓ Encouraging & supporting members' national lobbying actions

EBLIDA Objectives



Stated in EBLIDA Constitution

- ✓ Increase cohesion and influence of library, archive & information sectors & professionals in Europe
- ✓ Identify relevant European policy issues and lobby for favourable outcome
- ✓ Raise awareness & disseminate information
- ✓ Extend membership (new 10 EU members & applicant countries)

Why EBLIDA



- ✓ 1988 new European Community initiatives on copyright
- ✓ 1990 European Commission Library Research Programme, now part of the IST Programme
- ✓ 1992 European Directive on PLR
- ✓ 1992 – 1997 The role of culture in Europe enhanced [Art. 151 Amsterdam Treaty, 1999 (former Art. 128 Maastricht Treaty, 1992)]

European legislation



- ✓ Legal instruments : regulation, directive, decision, recommendation, opinion, resolution, green & white papers, communication, notice, study
- ✓ About 80% of national legislation derives from the EU legislation-making processes
- ✓ A Directive defines the results to be achieved in a particular area. Directives must be implemented into national law, usually within 2-3 years [Internal Market proposals are usually drafted as Directives]

Recent legislation



Proposal for Directive on measures and procedures to ensure the enforcement of IPR (30 January 2003)

- ✓ Aimed at combating counterfeiting & piracy
- ✓ EBLIDA lobbied for:
 - ✓ Safeguarding library, archive, information & educational institutions legitimate functioning
 - ✓ limiting scope and application to commercial-scale counterfeiting & piracy
 - ✓ Deletion of criminal sanctions
- ✓ EBLIDA achieved successful balanced outcome
- ✓ Quick approval under Co-Decision procedure (due to enlargement): 13 months

Recent Legislation



Proposal for a Directive on the recognition of professional qualifications (March 2002)

- ✓ Aims at simplifying rules relating to professional qualifications & facilitating free movement of professionals in the Internal Market
- ✓ Co-Decision procedure ongoing
- ✓ EBLIDA Executive Committee approved action (October 2003)
- ✓ New EBLIDA Working Group on Professional Education (2004)

Pending legislation



- ✓ EU Copyright Directive: implementation outstanding in some EU countries
- ✓ PLR Directive implementation outstanding: European Commission starts action against 7 EU MMSS
- ✓ Database Directive: European Commission review
- ✓ Internal Market Harmonisation not achieved yet

EBLIDA activities



Lobbying

- ✓ **At European level: EBLIDA Secretariat**
 - ✓ Lobbying key legislation & policy makers at EU Institutions and International Organisations
 - ✓ Produce Position Papers & Statements in response to proposals of legislation & policy guidelines
- ✓ **At national level: EBLIDA Members & Working Groups**
 - ✓ Working group discussions & consultations
 - ✓ Exchange information & Coordination with Director

EBLIDA activities



Informing our members

- ✓ *Hot News & Update on EU developments :*
monthly overview of
 - ✓ European legislation
 - ✓ European Policies
 - ✓ Funding opportunities, tenders, calls for proposals
 - ✓ Questions by MEPs
 - ✓ News and events of interest to the library & cultural heritage community

EBLIDA activities



Informing our members

- ✓ *EBLIDA Mailing list*
- ✓ *EBLIDA website*
 - ✓ To keep up-to-date in-between printed publications
 - ✓ To encourage exchange of views and enhance direct involvement of members

EBLIDA activities



Expert working groups

- ✓ Copyright and related rights (IPR, PLR)
- ✓ WTO issues (GATS, TRIPS)
- ✓ Professional Education (Recognition of Professional Qualifications, EHEA, Accreditation)

EBLIDA projects



CALIMERA (Cultural applications: Local Institutions Mediating Electronic Resources Access)

18 months duration

Objectives:

- ✓ Identify R&D priorities for local cultural institutions
- ✓ Cooperation between libraries, archives and museums
- ✓ Sensitise stakeholders (professional networks, local & national authorities, industrial players), on IST solutions for use by local institutions and citizens

EBLIDA Projects



CALIMERA

EBLIDA role:

- ✓ Core partner belonging to Management Board
- ✓ Leading WP 4 (Dissemination, Networking and Training), with overall responsibility for quality assurance of dissemination and international networking
- ✓ Total budget allocated to personnel & travel: 26.408 Euros

The future



EBLIDA Strategy for the Future 2004 - 2007

- ✓ Review process to assess mission, objectives and resources
- ✓ Wide member consultation (website & Council meeting 2004)
- ✓ Provide EBLIDA with a solid purpose and defined goals for the next crucial years
- ✓ Strengthen cooperation among members (libraries, archives & information sectors)
- ✓ Identify members' needs
- ✓ Remaining at the forefront of information & cultural heritage institutions in Europe!!



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