

International Conference

# READING AND READING PROMOTION: CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

Rīga, November 3, 2023

Conference Centre of Latvian National Library

- 14:00-14:30 Registration
- 14:30 Introductory words
- 14:40-15:10 **Books and reading as important tools to ensure freedom of expression and to fight false news**  
*Kristenn Einarsson*, Managing Director of World Expression Forum, Norway  
*Daan Beeke*, EU-READ, STICHTING LEZEN, Netherlands,
- 15:10-15:40 **Books and reading as an essential value of democratic society**  
*Maria Anna Deskur*, president of Universal Reading Foundation, Poland  
*Dessislava Alexieva*, chair of Bulgarian Book Association
- 15:40-16:10 Questions, comments, discussion
- 16:15-17:15 **Hands-on experience of reading promotion**  
*Ulrike Schmiegel-Homann*, program *Bücherkindergarten*, Germany  
*Sandra Heuchel*, international reading festival *InterLese*, Germany  
*Meeli Pandis*, Estonian Reading Association, Estonia  
*Silvija Tretjakova*, Childrens' Literature Centre of Latvian National Library, also IBBY Latvia, Latvia
- 17:30-17:50 Questions, comments, discussion
- Summary and closing words



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