

Call for Papers – IFLA's Regional Divisions (a collaborative session)

Asia-Oceania, Middle East & North Africa, Europe, North America,
Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America & the Caribbean

Title/Theme:

Advocacy and Collaboration in a Time of Global Upheaval: A Unified Response from IFLA's Regional Divisions

Overview:

The IFLA Regional Divisions and Regional Council work within their respective territories to identify regional priorities, ensuring the concerns of libraries and library workers are heard and acted upon. By bringing a local perspective to IFLA's global advocacy efforts, our IFLA Regions work to strengthen the role of libraries in a world facing geopolitical instability, misinformation, and financial constraints. As norms and values are increasingly challenged, strong collaboration and strategic advocacy have never been more essential.

Call for Submissions:

We invite submissions for this WLIC 2025 session that highlight the challenges, strategies, and solutions our libraries and institutions are tackling across our six regions. Possible topics include:

- Libraries as a tool for supporting democratic knowledge sharing
- Effective advocacy: approaches locally, regionally, and globally, building trust in a polarized world
- Global and regional partnerships and strategic alliances
- Tackling disinformation and information integrity
- Climate empowerment
- Digital inclusion
- Cultural and social development
- Systemic impact, to achieve policy goals at the regional, state, or national level

Formats: A variety of presentation formats are encouraged. Our selection committee is looking for a mix of programme options, including lightning talks (focused and impactful), panel discussions, regular length (20 minutes), to engage and inspire the audience.

Important Dates & Notes: Please submit a proposal of 500 words or less in one of the accepted IFLA languages by midnight **April 1, 2025**, or earlier, to diane.koen@mcgill.ca and cc evvivawe@buffalo.edu. Contributors will be notified by April 21st regarding the status of their proposal. Proposals not submitted in English will be translated for review purposes, and all communication between authors and the committee will be in English.