



IFLA Section Management of Library Associations

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IFLA MLAS: Empowering Communities through Stronger Library Associations

The mission of the Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) is to **build and support strong, well-managed library associations**. The work of MLAS together with IFLA plays a pivotal role in empowering communities by contributing to ensure that libraries have the resources, management capacity, and advocacy power they need to fulfill their vital roles in society. This strengthening of library associations contributes to libraries' ability to become community-driven, responsive spaces that meet the diverse and evolving needs of their populations. Read expanded article on p. 5. Original article published on the IFLA Newsletter, April 2025 — Vol. 5, No. 4.

Message from MLAS Chair Loida Garcia- Febo



Loida Garcia-Febo with the Romanian Library Association

I am pleased to present the MLAS Report, issued in May 2025, highlighting our Section's accomplishments over the past year. From 2024 to 2025, MLAS advanced its mission by strengthening library associations globally through events, webinars, cross-IFLA collaborations, and regional support aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

As Chair, I had the honor of representing MLAS at IFLA Governing Board meetings, sharing updates and insights informed by consultations with our Standing Committee. I was also privileged to work with associations worldwide, delivering keynote presentations—both in person and online—to help build strong, sustainable organizations.

MLAS sincerely thanks the library leadership at Nazarbayev University in Astana for graciously hosting the MLAS Midterm Meeting in 2024. We also extend our deep appreciation to the German Library Association and the Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin, Berliner Stadtbibliothek, for warmly welcoming MLAS to Berlin for the 2025 Midterm Meeting.

To all our MLAS members and partners—thank you for your continued commitment. Together, we are building stronger, more inclusive, and resilient library associations worldwide.

MLAS extends our deepest gratitude to Loy Jyoon Chin, who is completing two terms as MLAS Secretary. Her dedication, professionalism, and service—including representing MLAS at the IFLA Governing Board—is highly valued.

MLAS recognizes Hella Klauser, who is retiring after two impactful terms. Her generous spirit and thoughtful leadership have greatly enriched our work.

Every MLAS member plays a critical role in coordinating regional activities that uplift associations, libraries, librarians, and the communities they serve. Their leadership ensures our work remains globally relevant and impactful.

We are **especially grateful to the IFLA New Professionals SIG (NPSIG) and Women, Information and Libraries SIG (WILSIG)**. Their Chairs and members are active contributors to our meetings and programs. Without NPSIG's collaboration, our global webinars would not be possible. We are proud to work alongside these dynamic groups.

IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project 2021-2024

By Dr. Dijana Machala, MLAS Standing Committee Member



Dr. Dijana Machala, Past President Croatian Library Association (CLA), Loida Garcia-Febo, Chair MLAS, and Jasenka Pleško, President of CLA

The IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project, launched in 2021 and led by Dr. Dijana Machala (Croatia), is aimed at strengthening practices focusing on the evaluation of library advocacy impacts through providing insightful and highly practical guidelines and recommendations in this context, proceeded its activities in 2024 with the aim to finalize the research and to formulate the project output: The Strengthening Library Advocacy Impact Evaluation Practice.

The members of the project working group were disseminating the project preliminary findings on several international events that was held in 2024:

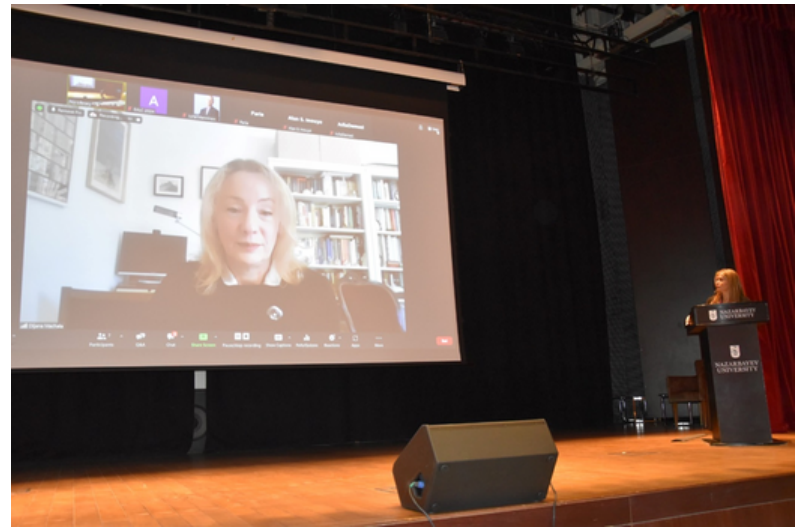
- IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project Work Group Meeting was held in the National and University Library in Zagreb from 20th to 24th of May 2024.
- The XIII Eurasian Academic Libraries Conference that was held in collaboration with IFLA Management of Library Associations in Astana, Kazakhstan from 29th to 31 st of May 2024
- The Croatian Library Association and MLAS joint session "Building strong library associations: strategic planning for success and impactful library services" has been held in Opatija, Croatia in 13 th of November 2024.

The project received a great endorsement from all MLAS members and Chair, Loida Garcia-Febo who provided to the project team her valuable support and willingly shared her knowledge and experience on library advocacy. With her lead a final project webinar on advocacy impact evaluation will be organized in spring 2025.

The initial project working group, Dijana Machala (Croatia), Susan Haigh (Canada), Hella Klauser (Germany), Jorge Moisés Kroll Do Prado (Brazil), Pascal Sanz (France) and Alicia Sellés Carot (Spain), was expanded in 2024 with two more MLAS Standing Committee members, Namutenya Hamwaalwa (Namibia) and Ana Carolina Lopez Scondras (Argentina).

Photos from various events by the IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project Working Group in collaboration with the Croatian Library Association and with the National and University Library in Zagreb

The Croatian Library Association and the National and University Library of Zagreb have greatly collaborated with MLAS to host events related to this project lead by Dr. Dijana Machala, MLAS Member.



Webinar on June 18, 2025

Advocacy in Action:
Strengthening Library Impact
through Evaluation
Stay updated about details by
visiting [the event page](#) on the
IFLA MLAS website.

IFLA MLAS: Empowering Communities through Stronger Library Associations

By Loida Garcia-Febo, MLAS Chair, IFLA Governing Board Member,
Article originally published on the IFLA Newsletter April 2025 — Vol. 5, No. 4.

Link to website: <https://www.ifla.org/news/ifla-mlas-empowering-communities-through-stronger-library-associations-2/>

The IFLA Management of Library Associations (MLAS) Section is closely aligned with the broader goal of empowering communities in terms of MLAS' core mission to strengthen libraries and their role within society.

On one hand, MLAS and its various activities including the Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project and the Building Strong Library Associations initiative including events with national library associations, webinars featuring needs of regions, and a forthcoming mentoring pilot, aim to strengthen library associations. MLAS contributes by providing library associations with the tools, skills, and support necessary to become more effective, sustainable, and impactful in their regions. By improving the management and capacity of library associations, IFLA seeks to create a network of well-equipped associations that can advocate for libraries, engage with governments and stakeholders, and influence policies that support the library sector.

On the other hand, IFLA's overarching goal of empowering communities focuses on ensuring that libraries are able to serve their local populations effectively, creating inclusive spaces for learning, cultural exchange, and access to information. Libraries are central hubs of knowledge, education, and support, and empowering them strengthens their ability to meet the needs of the communities they serve.



Therefore, MLAS is fostering capacity building for advocacy, collaboration and networking, and sustainable libraries for community empowerment.

- **Capacity Building for Advocacy:**

By strengthening library associations, MLAS directly empowers these associations to advocate for libraries on behalf of the communities they serve. Stronger associations can work more effectively to influence policy decisions that lead to better-funded, better-supported libraries, which in turn can enhance the services libraries provide to their communities.

IFLA MLAS: Empowering Communities through Stronger Library Associations

- **Collaboration and Networking:**

A strong library association fosters collaboration not only within the library community but also with external partners such as governments, schools, non-profit organizations, and other community stakeholders. This network enables libraries to be more responsive to community needs, ensuring that services like literacy programs, digital access, and cultural events are aligned with what communities require to thrive.

- **Sustainable Libraries for Community:**

Empowerment: A well-managed library association is more likely to have a lasting impact on the library sector, ensuring that libraries can continue their work over the long term. When library associations are empowered through better management practices, they create a ripple effect that strengthens libraries' ability to support community development, whether through providing access to education, job skills, health resources, or social services.



- **In summary,** the work of IFLA MLAS together with the federation plays a pivotal role in empowering communities by contributing to ensure that libraries have the resources, management capacity, and advocacy power they need to fulfill their vital roles in society. This strengthening of library associations contributes to libraries' ability to become community-driven, responsive spaces that meet the diverse and evolving needs of their populations. We look forward to collaborating with the IFLA's big tent BSLA in the immediate future.

Author: Loida Garcia-Febo, Chair, IFLA Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) and IFLA Governing Board Member

See an expanded article with MLAS activities here: <https://www.ifla.org/news/ifla-mlas-empowering-communities-through-stronger-library-associations-2/>

IFLA MLAS: Empowering Communities through Stronger Library Associations

Examples of MLAS Work

- Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project: The aim of the Project is to strengthen the advocacy impact evaluation practice in the library field by providing a set of guidance and recommendations about how to measure and evaluate the library advocacy impact. The final project result, the Review of Advocacy Impact Evaluation Practices in the Library Field, is scheduled to be published by August 2025. For more information, monitor the following page for updates about the Project <https://www.ifla.org/news/ifla-mlas-advocacy-impact-evaluation-project/>
- 2024 Midterm in Astana The 2024 MLAS Midterm in Kazakhstan was presented under the theme “Connect, Collaborate, Create: Advancing Library Associations and Partnerships to Future-proof our Profession.” The midterm was presented as part of Kazakhstan’s annual library conference, the 13th Eurasian Academic Libraries Conference (EALC), coordinated by The Nazarbayev University Library, in collaboration with IFLA Management of Library Associations and with the support of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Association of University Libraries in the Republic of Kazakhstan. LINK to event page: <https://www.ifla.org/news/2024-mlas-midterm-in-kazakhstan/>



IFLA MLAS: Empowering Communities through Stronger Library Associations

- 2025 Midterm in Berlin The 2025 MLAS Midterm took place in Berlin from February 3-4, 2025. It was hosted by the German Library Association and by Volker Heller, Chair of the German Library Association and Director of the public library Zentral und Landesbibliothek Berlin, Berliner Stadtbibliothek – and by Hella Klauser, MLAS Member and International Officer for the German Library Association. Link to event page: <https://www.ifla.org/news/2025-mlas-midterm-in-berlin-germany/>



Events with library associations and other IFLA units

Library Associations:

Lebanon: IFLA's Management of Library Associations (MLAS) Section collaborated with the Lebanese Library Association (LLA), the IFLA Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Division, and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA) to present Libraries and the Digital Preservation of Cultural Heritage, 6th Conference of the Lebanese Library Association, taking place from 14-17 May 2024 in Beirut, Lebanon. MLAS Chair participated of the opening ceremony, and MLAS members together with other IFLA leaders presented two programs: IFLA and Cultural Heritage Preservation and IFLA MENA Advocacy and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Thanks to the Lebanon Library Association for the collaboration and MLAS Member, Dr. Imad Bachir for coordinating together with MLAS.

Croatia: The National and University Library in Zagreb hosted a very successful IFLA MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Work Group Meeting in May 2024. The two-day hybrid meeting included a session titled "Library Advocacy: Measuring and Evaluating Impact" featuring the progress of the working group and speakers from different countries.

MLAS also collaborated with the Croatian Library Association to present a program titled "Building Strong Library Associations: strategic planning for success" during its annual conference last November 14, 2024. Thanks to the National and University Library and to the Croatian Library Association for hosting, and to MLAS Member, Dr. Dijana Machala for coordinating with MLAS.

IFLA MLAS: Empowering Communities through Stronger Library Associations

Events with library associations and other IFLA units

Library Associations:

Leshoto: IFLA MLAS Chair collaborated with the Lesotho Library Association, Unisa Library, and the IFLA -Sub-Saharan Regional Division to present a “Building Strong Library Association (BLSA) Planning Workshop for Lesotho Library Association: needs analysis” on August 26, 2024. Honored by the presence of Lesotho Minister of Information, Communications, Science, Technology, and Innovation.

Other IFLA units:

Mexican Information Global Forum (MEXINFO)

The forum addressed aspects of global relevance that affect the information environment, from traditional knowledge to artificial intelligence, having freedom of access to information and freedom of expression as one of its axes.

Within the framework of this Global Forum, five decades of collaboration between the library community of Latin America and the Caribbean and IFLA were celebrated under the title: “New trends in the information environment: 50 years of international cooperation with IFLA”.

Specifically, MLAS collaborated on: International Symposium on Libraries and Censorship “Unshelving Voices: Empowering Libraries Against Censorship”. (FAIFE, LGBTQ+ SIG, School Library Section, and Management of Library Associations (MLAS).

The event was hosted by the Institute of Library Information and Investigation (IIBI) of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), in collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE-IFLA).

Mentorship of Library Associations Pilot

Goal: Library associations to receive advice and support directly from other library associations by connecting them with mentor library associations according to needs. Pilot is set to start late in Spring 2025.

As we can see, through its dynamic initiatives and steadfast collaborations, IFLA MLAS continues to champion the essential role of library associations in fostering resilient, inclusive, and future-ready library ecosystems.

By focusing on advocacy, strategic partnerships, and sustainable development, MLAS empowers associations to serve as catalysts for community transformation. Whether through capacity-building efforts, global conferences, or innovative pilot programs, MLAS reaffirms its commitment to the growth and vitality of libraries worldwide. As we look ahead to new partnerships and the upcoming mentorship pilot, MLAS remains dedicated to building a united, well-resourced global library community—one that is ready to meet the evolving needs of society with strength, creativity, and purpose.

IFLA MLAS Regional Webinars

Save the Dates and Join us!

IFLA's Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) in collaboration with the New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG), the Women, Information and Libraries (WILSIG), and the Regional Divisions is proud to announce upcoming events to be presented from April to July 2025 part of its webinar series, Building Strong Library Associations.

The mission of the Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) is to build and support strong, well-managed library associations. The Section on Management of Library Associations (MLAS) includes dynamic leaders from library associations who seek to advocate for the interests, aspirations and concerns of the library associations represented among IFLA members.

As MLAS has done during the last years, this year MLAS is presenting a webinar series in collaboration with the Regional Divisions. This year, the series is aligned with the MLAS' Building Strong Library Associations initiative and its priority areas: information integrity, library advocacy, membership retention, financial sustainability, and strategic planning. Each webinar will feature different priority areas according to the needs of library associations in each region of the world. The webinars format includes interactive opportunities to engage attendees in conversations in languages spoken in the regions. This webinar series by MLAS and its collaborators is for all library associations across regions of the world.

See more details on the IFLA MLAS website events pages: <https://www.ifla.org/units/mlas/>

We are pleased to feature library associations and librarians from all regions of the world in this webinar series.

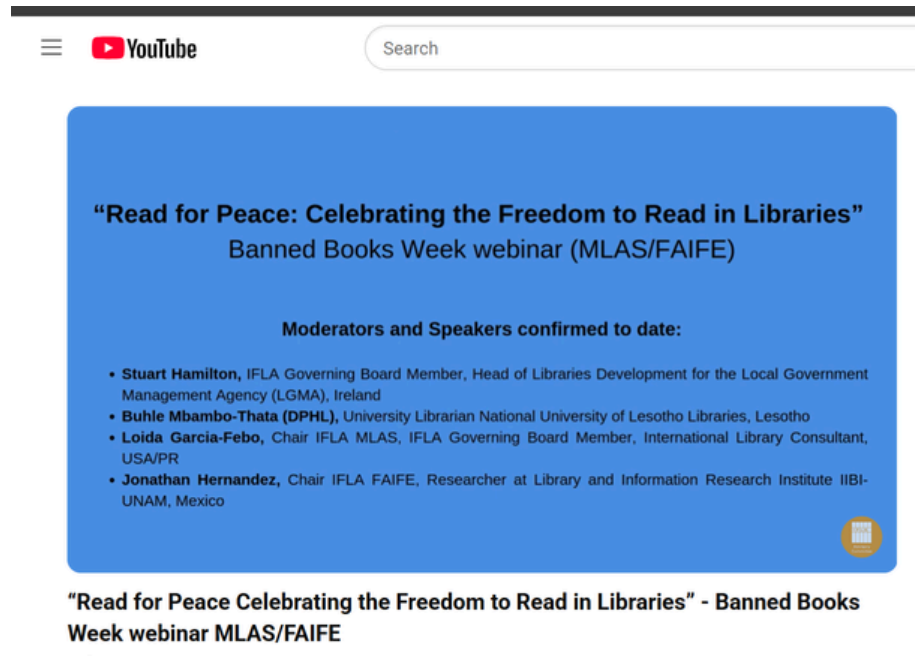
Big Thanks to IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group for their significant collaboration managing zoom and the breakout rooms part of the webinar series- and to each one of the Chairs of the IFLA Regional Divisions, Regional Council and Professional Council for their collaboration and support.

The webinars will be recorded. Follow MLAS on Facebook to stay updated. We will also post news of the webinars on this MLAS site and the IFLA-L.

Webinar Dates:

- **Webinar with IFLA North America Regional Division: April 29, 2025**
- **Webinar with IFLA MENA Regional Division: May 15, 2025**
- **Webinar with IFLA LAC Regional Division: June 20, 2025**
- **Webinar with IFLA A/O Division: July 8, 2025**
- **Webinar with IFLA Sub-Saharan Africa: July 16, 2025**
- **Note that the webinar with IFLA Europe Regional Division was presented on November 28, 2024. Recording here.**

MLAS Collaboration with IFLA FAIFE



IFLA's Management of Library Associations (MLAS) in collaboration with the Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression Advisory Committee (FAIFE), organized a webinar on October 3, 2024 to celebrate the freedom to read.

Moderators and Speakers:

- Stuart Hamilton, IFLA Governing Board Member, Head of Libraries Development for the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), Ireland
- Buhle Mbambo-Thata (DPHL), University Librarian National University of Lesotho Libraries, Lesotho
- Loida Garcia-Febo, Chair IFLA MLAS, IFLA Governing Board Member, International Library Consultant, USA/PR
- Jonathan Hernandez, Chair IFLA FAIFE, Researcher at Library and Information Research Institute IIBI-UNAM, Mexico

Recording available on the [FAIFE YouTube](#) Channel.

MLAS Collaboration with library associations in different countries

MLAS collaborations were made possible by MLAS members participating in the coordination of activities and by the MLAS Chair being invited to speak at events to share findings from MLAS activities.



Lesotho



Monday, August 26, 2024 at 1AM EDT
**BUILDING STRONG
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:
NEED ANALYSIS
WORKSHOP**

Public · Event by Lesotho Library Association





Building Strong Library Associations – MLAS Initiative

Loida Garcia-Febo
August 26, 2024
Chair, IFLA Management of Library Associations
IFLA Governing Board Member, President of the American Library Association (2018-2019)



MLAS Collaboration with library associations in different countries

Romania

MLAS Chair presented in-person the Opening Keynote at the Romanian Library association Annual Conference around the theme: AI and libraries and library associations.

Romania 🇷🇴



**CONFERINȚA NAȚIONALĂ
A ASOCIAȚIEI BIBLIOTECARILOR DIN ROMÂNIA**

ediția a XXXIV-a

**BIBLIOTECA - DE LA TRADIȚIONAL
LA INTELIGENȚA ARTIFICIALĂ**

SIBIU

3 - 6 septembrie 2024



MLAS Collaboration with library associations in different countries

Finland



The Finnish Research Library Association



IFLA Section
Management of
Library Associations

Strong Library Associations: actions for UN Agenda 2030
Loida Garcia-Febo
Chair, IFLA Management of Library Associations
IFLA Governing Board Member, President of the American Library Association (2018-2019)
May 21, 2024

Dominican Republic



SEMANA CULTURAL BIBLIOTECARIA

**Conferencia de Cierre
Empoderando Bibliotecas**
Viernes 2 de mayo | 14 hrs (2:00 p.m.)
Salón de Orientación, Biblioteca Pedro Mir
Vía Zoom



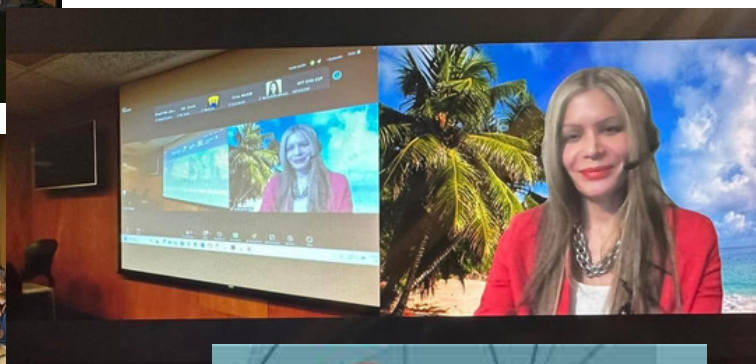
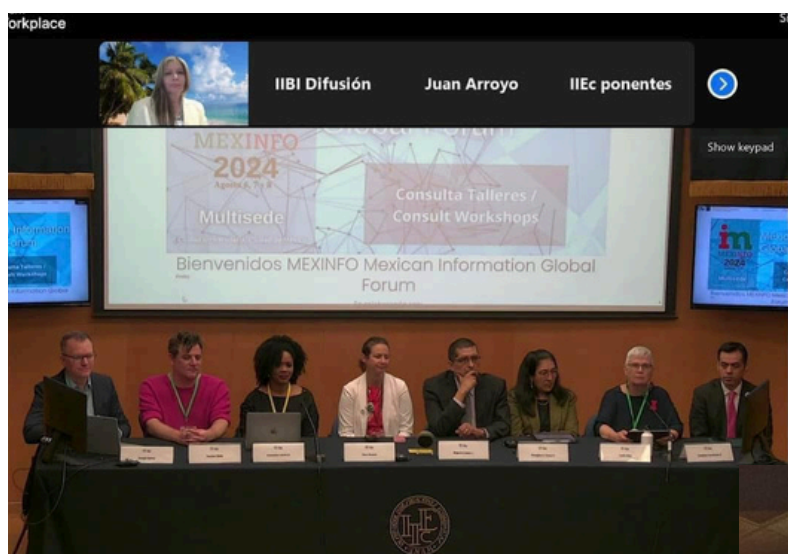
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A cargo de la **Dra. Loida García-Febo**,
Miembro de la Junta de Gobierno de la IFLA, Presidenta de
la Sección de Gestión de Asociaciones Bibliotecarias (MLAS)

MLAS Collaboration with library associations in different countries

Mexican Information Global Forum

MLAS Chair and members collaborated with several IFLA Sections to present the MexINFO event last August 2024. MLAS members reviewed papers proposals for sessions and the Chair presented online during the event.



Updates from Special Interest Groups Sponsored by MLAS Up to December 2023



IFLA New Professionals SIG

NPSIG at the WLIC 2025 in Astana!

The members and volunteers of New Professionals SIG are working on several projects and activities for WLIC. We have also worked on different activities in the past months. A list and description of our activities are below:

WLIC - IFLACamp #10

The IFLACamp program is designed to foster cultural exchange, networking, and skill-building among participants. NPSIG will hold its IFLACamp in Riviera International School in Astana on August 16th. We are also exploring Astana together on August 15th. Our day indoors is spent on interesting discussions surrounding trends and hot topics in our field. The day begins with informal networking chats, where attendees can create their name badges and get to know one another. This is followed by an engaging discussion and activity session followed by exploring the culture, language, and customs of Kazakhstan. We will take a group photo with our flags before having lunch. The afternoon session is our signature Skillcamp. Our participants will become speakers and discuss and share their skills with others.

Updates from Special Interest Groups Sponsored by MLAS Up to December 2023

IFLA New Professionals SIG-Continuation

We are planning the activities for our day outdoors. NPSIG members and volunteers who actively helped organize these sessions are: Adrienne van den Bosch, Jacob Long, Jelisaveta Blagojevic, Mahmoud Khalifa, Lena Konrad, Masoomah Niknia, Muhammad Fayiz, Nathalie Gerbault, Ronja Apel, Sandun Weerasinghe, and Shannon Brockhurst.

WLIC - Flashmob

NPSIG is back with its very famous flashmob. The day, time, and location are confirmed:

Day - August 18

Time - 6 pm

Location - Mega Silky Way Mall

We are working on the city permit and adding the flashmob to the conference program.



Article in IFLA Newsletter

One of NPSIG's volunteers, Jacob Long, wrote an article for IFLA's newsletter which was published in December. The article introduces our SIG and activities. You can read the article at:

<https://mailchi.mp/ifla/vol-4-no-12>

IFLA New Professionals SIG- Continuation

WLIC - Sessions and Poster

NPSIG members are going to be very busy in WLIC. We have submitted a session proposal about holding two AI workshops for new professionals to introduce AI to our participants and have hands-on experience for them using two AI tools. We are waiting to receive approval from the conference committee to start planning the workshops. NPSIG is also working with AI SIG to hold a World Cafe about AI. The cafe will be a discussion between our participants about different topics. Throughout the sessions, our participants will move around, go to other tables, and discuss different topics. At the end we will create a list of tips and tricks that we shared with each other during the discussions. This session has been approved and we are starting to plan the discussion topics. Our fourth session during the congress is with the Library Services to Multicultural Population Section. This session has a very unique taste - we are asking our participants to bring a cultural item with themselves to the session, discuss briefly with people at their table why this item brings them happiness, and then swap it with someone else's item. Our session is going to encourage cultural engagement and discussions where our participants will learn about different cultures from each other. The Library Theory and Research section has also asked to collaborate with NPSIG on a session. We are looking forward to their sessions submission and approval to support their session and help with moderating the IFLA Camp as or any other part LTR may need our help.

Finally, two members of NPSIG have submitted a poster proposal that discusses the achievements of our SIG and how our activities have helped new librarians find their place in IFLA and build meaningful connections with their peers across the world.

Multicultural Cafés - Webinars with IFLA Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section

We continued our collaboration with MCULTP and delivered a webinar about library tourism. Our next multicultural cafe is about library pets. We will discuss how libraries have incorporated animals in their services and activities. You can sign up for the webinar here: <https://tinyurl.com/MulticulturalCafe05> NPSIG members and volunteers, Adrienne van den Bosch and Jacob Long were actively engaged in these webinars.



Multicultural Cafés -

Webinars with IFLA Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section

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IFLA New Professionals SIG- Continuation

Get to Know NPSIG -

Our Business Meeting

We held a business meeting in January and introduced NPSIG to those who are interested in joining us. Our session was 40 minutes where we talked about NPSIG and all the fun activities we have. After the business meeting, we received 4 emails from participants who were interested to join NPSIG. Our event was very successful since we now have 4 new volunteers. Members who helped with the business meeting were: Adrienne van den Bosch, Jacob Long, Laura Heller, Lena Konrad, Massoomeh Niknia, Muhammad Fayiz, and Nathalie Gerbault.



NPSIG & ALA STUDENT CHAPTER OF TWU

Professional development for early-career librarians. A space to hear from experts and ask questions about entering the field after graduation.

BECKY CALZADA
ALA President

SUGARTE A.M. HOWARD
ALA Past President

VICKI McDONALD
ALA President

**Apr 30, 2025
7:00 PM CST**

Join us for a panel about job applications, interviews, and professional development.

Register at
<https://tinyurl.com/NPSIG-TWU-Panel>

Professional Development for New Professionals - Webinar with ALA Student Chapter

Our last webinar before WLIC is about professional development, training, and certificates that are useful for new professionals after they graduate from their LIS program.

This is a joint session with the ALA student chapter of Texas Woman's University. We have started planning this webinar and contacting speakers.

IFLA New Professionals SIG- Continuation

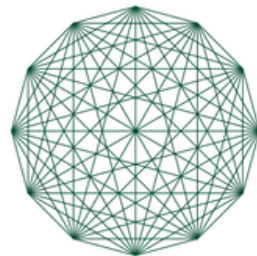
New Librarians Global Connection - Webinar with IT Section

NPSIG holds an annual webinar about a topic of interest for new professionals in the field. We are working with the Information Technology section to hold a webinar in May about

“The Future of Libraries: Enhancing User-Centered Services in the Digital Age”.

Members

helping the webinar are: Jacob Long, and Jelisaveta Blagojevic.



New Librarians
global connection
webinar IFLA CPDWL/NPSIG ALA

New Award Proposal

We submitted a new award proposal to the IFLA governing board a few months ago. The new award will be celebrating the achievements of a new professional who has shown outstanding service to the field during their first few years of their career as a librarian or information professional. We are hoping the proposal is accepted and approved before WLIC. This will be an amazing achievement for our SIG and members.

New Professionals is a very active SIG, as shown in this report. We couldn't have accomplished these tasks without the support of our volunteers who are actively working on these projects but their names are missing from our official roster on the webpage: Enas Saleh, Jacob Long, Laura Heller, Lena Konrad, Muhammad Fayiz, Massoomeh Niknia, and Jelisaveta Blagojevic. And our new volunteers: Sandun Weerasinghe, Shannon Brockhurst, and Ronja Apel.



Updates from Special Interest Groups Sponsored by MLAS

Up to December 2023

IFLA Women, Information and Libraries SIG

FROM MLAS to all the members of the WILSIG: Thank you so much for your dedication and work. We value your contributions.



Although the WILSIG will close by this August 2025, we provide the following update on the insightful activities outlined in the Action Plan 2023–2025:

Upcoming Webinar

A webinar highlighting WILSIG's achievements, organized in collaboration with MLAS, is scheduled for 14 July. Former convenors have been contacted, and all—except Beba—have confirmed their participation in a discussion on WILSIG's work and the broader position of women in the LIS field.

Additionally, WILSIG convenor Jelisaveta, in her role as a volunteer with NPSIG, co-authored a piece on NPSIG activities for the upcoming newsletter.

WILSIG Newsletter

Article review and partial proofreading have been completed. The newsletter is scheduled for publication in early June.

Children's Books on Women's Rights and Gender Equality Bibliography

Antonella, chair of the working group for this project, is in communication with the Children and Young Adults Section to facilitate the transfer of this activity.

-->The IFLA September 2025 newsletter will feature an acknowledgement of the SIG's work by the Professional Council and a link to an article about the contributions of the WILSIG.

To prepare for the closure in August 2025, here is the given task list from the Professional Council for WILSIG to complete.

- Before 15 August: Construct a retrospective article highlighting the SIGs accomplishments for posting. Finalize any in-progress projects or secure an appropriate IFLA Committee to continue the work. Upload any significant resources to the IFLA Repository - minutes are optional if they've not already been uploaded. Close the SIG mailing list. Disconnect people from and delete SIG social media accounts. Delete meeting recordings from the SIG's Basecamp
- 15 August - Post the retrospective article to the SIG website. Contact IFLA Communications to link the article to both the SIG and the Sponsoring Section webpages.
- 30 September - the SIG is removed from the Committee Finder on the IFLA Website - Note: If the SIG comes back in another form later, the page can be resurrected and edited.
- 15 August - archive the SIG Basecamp

Updates from Around the World



Macau, China by Wilson Hoi, Macao Library and Information Management Association and IFLA MLAS Member
<http://www.mlima.org.mo/>

The 3rd edition of The World Through Picture Books exhibition is going strong in Macau!

Our greatest gratitude goes to the IFLA Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section for initiating this global coordination to collect picture books from around the world. We are honoured to feature eight books from Macau along with so many works of art in this edition.

This is a celebration of different stories from different contexts in the art form of picture books and we are very happy to be a part of it. <https://www.facebook.com/tu.xie.3/>

https://www.ifla.org/g/libraries-for-children-and-ya/the-world-through-picture-books/?fbclid=IwY2xjawJr6iZleHRuA2FlbQlXMAABHgpP6fIZam1Ses9vR7hx6TKl5OuTjN4DBgGtF-vUj_d_AsdWEDLEwUQ0z2-aem_aPNLE7cip2f8AmlaUqcKkQ

Reading Month in the City of Macao

In response to World Reading Day on April 23, the Macau Library and Information Management Association participates in the "2025 Macau City Reading Month", which will be held from April 23 to May 22. There will be more than 100 reading activities to promote the reading culture of all people and strive to build a "City of Reading".

Updates from Around the World



Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM)

by Loy Jyoon Chin, IFLA MLAS Secretary

The Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM) and the Library Association of Singapore (LAS) will be celebrating its 70th Anniversary in 2025. PPM and LAS have come a long way to evolve to the current stable, strong library associations that we can be proud of. The close relationships that existed between librarians in Malaysia and Singapore when the association was first formed in 1955 are still present today. The 70th Anniversary is a joyous moment for any association as PPM and LAS indeed have much to celebrate. PPM and LAS will be hosting a 70th Anniversary Dinner on 17 June 2025 in conjunction with the hosting of CONSAL XIX 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Updates from Around the World



**Greetings from the CONSAL XIX 2025 Main Organising Committee Malaysia
Welcome to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's dazzling capital city.**

On behalf of the CONSAL XIX 2025 Main Organising Committee, we would like to welcome you to the 19 th Congress of Southeast Librarians General Conference and Meeting (CONSAL XIX) 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia which will take place from 16 th to 19 th June 2025 at the World Trade Centre (WTC) Kuala Lumpur.

CONSALXIX 2025 Opening Ceremony will be officiated by the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim. CONSAL XIX 2025 is also a programme under Malaysia Chair of ASEAN 2025.

This will be Malaysia's third time to host CONSAL's conference since we had previously hosted the CONSAL General Conference and Meeting in 1981 and 1996. Countries within Southeast Asia take turns to host the which is held once every three years. CONSAL is an ASEAN regional librarians' association and its members comprised of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The theme for CONSAL XIX 2025 is "Inclusive Knowledge: Bridging Divides, Empowering All" with the tagline "Leveraging Inclusivity, Empowering Humanity." The theme aptly emphasizes that libraries, librarians and library associations play an important role in ensuring that every individual within the community they serve have equal opportunities and that no one is left behind.

The four-day event comprised of a CONSAL Executive Board Meeting and a Pre-CONSAL Conference Workshop on 16 June; CONSAL General Conference from 17 to 18 June; welcome dinner on 17 June; and library and tourism visits on 19 June 2025. There will be 2 keynote address, 96 paper presenters as well as trade exhibition during the General Conference.

To date, we have participants registered for the conference from the ASEAN countries, United States, Taiwan (R.O.C), India, Australia, Malawi and Republic of China. We look forward to welcoming all our colleagues and friends from all over the world to attend CONSAL XIX 2025. Register before 30 April 2025 to catch the early bird conference registration rate via this link: <https://consalxix.my/registration/>

MLAS Members Responsibilities

Officers

Loida Garcia-Febo
Chair

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
International Library Consultant

Loy Jyoon Chin
Secretary

MALAYSIA
Life Member
Librarians Association of Malaysia

Micheline Brûlé
Information Coordinator

CANADA
Executive Director
Fédération des milieux documentaires

Members

Lynn Jibril
BOTSWANA

Librarian
University of Botswana

Yanhang Wang

CHINA
Secretary General
Library Society of China

Wai Tat Wilson Hoi

CHINA
Vice Director
Macau Library and Information
Management Association

Julia Demasi

URAGUAY
President
Asociacion de Bibliotecologos
del Uruguay

Irina Trushina

RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Executive Director
Russian Library Association

Imad Bachir

LEBANON
Dean of Libraries/ American University of
Iraq Baghdad (AUIB)
Professor in Library and Information
Management/ Lebanese University
Lebanese Library Association

Deepali Talagala

SRI LANKA
Senior Consultant
Information Studies Unit
Open University of Sri Lanka

Adama Kone

CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Head Library and Archives
Department, National
Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire

Dijana Machala

CROATIA
Assistant Director General for
University Library Affairs
National and University Library,
Zagreb

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Sociedades de Archivística,
Biblioteconomía,
Documentación y Museística
(FESABID)

Jorge Moisés Kroll Do Prado

BRAZIL
President
Federação Brasileira de
Associações de Bibliotecários,
Cientistas da Informação e
Instituições

Namutenya Hamwaalwa

NAMIBIA
Deputy Director
Ministry of Education, Arts
and Culture

Ana Carolina Lopez Scondras

ARGENTINA
Bibliotecaria Biblioteca ABGRA
Asociación de Bibliotecarios
graduados de la
Republica Argentina

Antoine Torrens-Montebello

FRANCE
Directeur de l'Institut français
d'Algérie à Constantine
Institut Français d'Algérie

Hella Klauser

GERMANY
International Cooperation
German Library Association

Marwa El Sahn

EGYPT
Director of the Centre d'Activités
Francophones (CAF)
Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Convenors Special Interest Groups Sponsored by MLAS

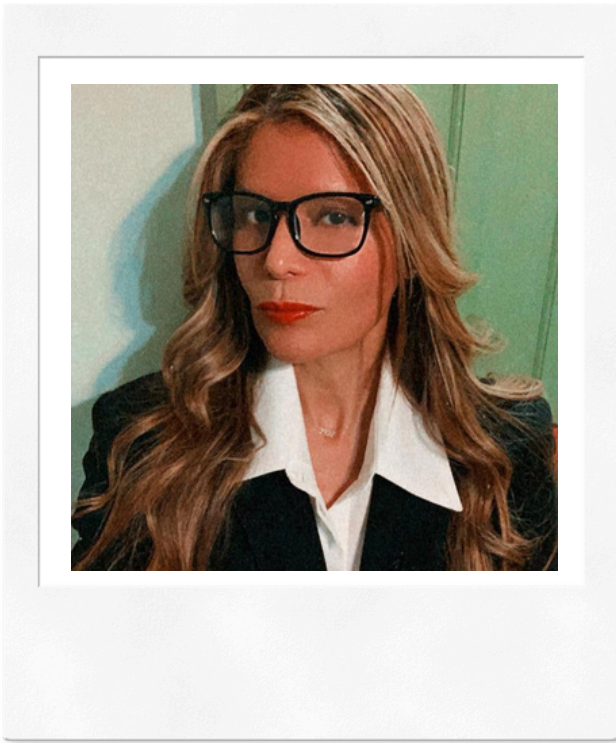
Paria Aria

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Assessment Librarian, Texas A&M University

Jelisaveta Blagojevic Miljanic

MONTENEGRO
Head of the Library
Parliament of Montenegro

MLAS Members Officers



Loida Garcia-Febo, MLAS Chair

Garcia-Febo is a Puerto Rican American librarian and International Library Consultant expert in library services to diverse populations and human rights. **President of the American Library Association 2018-2019 and Governing Board Member of IFLA.** Garcia-Febo is worldwide known for her passion about diversity, communities, sustainability, innovation and digital transformation, library workers, library advocacy, wellness for library workers, and new librarians about which she has taught in 46 countries. In her job, she helps libraries, companies and organizations strategize programs, services and strategies in areas related to these topics and many others. Garcia-Febo has a Bachelors in Business Education, Masters in Library and Information Sciences.

Garcia-Febo has a long history of service at library associations. Highlights include- At IFLA: Governing Board 2013-2017, Co-Founder of IFLA New Professionals (NPSIG), two-term Member/Expert resource person of the Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression Committee of IFLA (FAIFE), two-term member of the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section of IFLA (CPDWL). Currently: CPDWL Advisor, NPSIG Advisor. Currently at ALA: Chair, ALA IRC United Nations Subcommittee, Chair Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship. Born, raised, and educated in Puerto Rico. She has advocated for libraries at the United Nations, the European Union Parliament, U.S. Congress, NY State Senate, NY City Hall, and on sidewalks and streets in various states.

MLAS Members Officers



Loy Jyoon Chin, MLAS Secretary

I am Loy Jyoon Chin from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and currently the Secretary of the IFLA Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) and an IFLA Non-salaried Affiliate Member. This is my second term in MLAS being re-elected as a Committee Member in 2023. Besides being the secretary, I was also involved in the various MLAS Working Group such as IFLA MLAS Webinar on Sustainable Development Goals and Library Associations; IFLA MLAS WLIC Open Session 2022, MLAS Communications Group, and the MLAS Midterms.

As IFLA was founded as a federation of library associations, MLAS plays an important role in representing the library associations and their members. MLAS Chair is an ex - officio of the IFLA Governing Board with voting rights. During the interim period of electing a new MLAS Chair in 2023, I was elected as the MLAS Deputized Representative to the IFLA Governing Board.

Besides MLAS, I also participated in the IFLA Building Strong Library Associations Pilot Project Workshop in 2009; IFLA Global Vision Asia Oceania Regional Workshop 2017; IFLA Library Map of the World and Project Manager in the Malaysia National Committee IFLA WLIC 2018 in Kuala Lumpur.

Career Achievements: I was conferred the **Member of the Order of the Defender of the Realm by the King of Malaysia** for extraordinary and meritorious service rendered to the King and country.

I have been an active member of the Librarians Association of Malaysia for over 25 years serving in various positions such as Vice-President and Treasurer. **I am currently the Secretary of the Main Organising Committee for CONSAL XIX General Conference and Meeting which will be held in Kuala Lumpur in 2025.**

I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA with a Master of Arts in Library and Information Studies. I started my career as an Assistant Library Officer attached to the various Departments at the National Library of Malaysia and retired as Director in 2017 after 36 years of service. I was also actively involved at the regional level such as the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL) Executive Board; International Network of Emerging Library Innovators-Association of Southeast Asian Nations (INELI-ASEAN); and Conference of Directors of National Library Asia-Oceania (CDNLAO).

MLAS Members Officers



Micheline Brûlé,
MLAS Information
Coordinator

Micheline Brûlé is now Executive Director of Services Documentaires Multimédia. She was Executive Director of the Fédération des milieux documentaires and Executive Director of Éditions ASTED for nearly 5 years. She was elected to the MLAS section of IFLA in 2023 as Information Coordinator.

Follow MLAS Updates

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