

LIBRARY POLICIES

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„Library Policies“ is a book which gives an interpretation and is looking for dialogue on topical issues arising over the management of modern libraries.

Digitization of cultural heritage, the status of digital resources and observance for copyright, the development of large-scale digitization projects in the U.S. and Europe, the activities of Bulgarian libraries in implementing the digital conversion of cultural material and on the need of creating a *National Strategy for digitization of cultural and literary heritage* – these problems compile the trouble range of the first chapter.

There are discussed the basic stages and features of the projects *Google Book Search*: <<http://books.google.com/>> and *Europeana*: <<http://www.europeana.eu>> with the conviction that the analysis presented will be useful for library professionals, especially in the implementation of digitization projects, which Bulgarian libraries express our national identity in the global information space through.

Copyright, libraries and users are subject that aimed to help the library managers in construction of library policies, in accordance with the requirements of the copyright and related rights law in the offering of library services and resources.

In the second chapter is summarized the current legislative standards and new proposals on exceptions and limitations to copyright for libraries, schools, museums and archives. The aim is to focus attention on the changes needed to harmonize Bulgarian library web space with European and world trends. The emergence of new communication and information technologies, new media and new media predetermines the ambition of copyright legislation worldwide to respond to these developments, to keep pace with changes and to provide the necessary legal framework. Emphasizing the role of libraries as creators of digital content, as gateways for access to digitized information and as a factor in overcome the digital divide and isolation. The text summarizes for the first time at the Bulgarian library community the positions of library organizations *IFLA*, *EBLIDA*, *LIBER*, *ALA*, *eIFL* etc. and their interaction with the *World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)* and the *European Commission* in defending the interests of libraries and their users in preparing changes to information legislation, who aimed placing the management of copyright in line with the digital technologies and expand use of Internet. There is discussed the *Bulgarian Law on Copyright and Related Rights (1993)*.

The topic of information insurance and access to information and education for people with disabilities are presented in the context of the basic formulation that people with disabilities should be able to benefit from the knowledge economy, grounded in the *Green Paper on Copyright in the Knowledge Economy* of the European Union. There was made an overview of discussion that takes place in an international plan for establishing a harmonized global minimum standard for limitations and exceptions to copyright for the blind, vision difficulties and people with reading problems. The book summarizes the communication between the organizations of persons with disabilities with the *Committee on Copyright and Related Rights of WIPO* and jointly prepared documents on extending the limitations and exceptions to copyright for people with disabilities (especially with visual impairments) as well as the opinions of the *European Commission* on these issues. Accessibility of education for all citizens shall be interpreted as an important building block for developing an unified European educational space. There is presented the Bulgarian experience - a project for access to electronic information for disabled people in Bulgarian libraries.

The accumulated information and analysis are aimed at promoting the important role of libraries in ensuring that equality and to support the development of a strategy to serve readers with special needs in every library and to find partners to carry out this activity.

Special emphasis in the book is putting accent of the importance of library education and library associations for the preparation of librarians and information specialists on intellectual property, digital information and basic requirements for modern library operations. Application of new forms of building skills and continuing education, as well as exchange of ideas and creative collaboration between library education and library practice is a key point in „*reinventing the library*“¹ in accordance with changes in the new information environment.

¹ 39th LIBER Annual Conference - *Reinventing the Library. The challenges of the new information environment*, 29 June – 2 July 2010, Aarhus (Denmark). <<http://www.libereurope.eu/node/488>>