Workshop on E-Books and e-Lending in Libraries – Challenges and Opportunities

Organizing team: IFLA – CLM Committee (Copyright and Other Legal Matters Committee)

Moderator: Plamena Popova (Member of IFLA - CLM Committee)

The proposed event is part of the 2013 program of IFLA (International Federation of Library Association) as well IFLA – CLM Committee on eBooks and e-lending. *The proposed event is also part of the activities of a research project with international participation "Copyright Policies of libraries and other cultural institutions" (2012-2014), (financed by National Science Fund of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education, Youth and Science, Contract № ДФНИ-К01/0002-21.11.2012).*

The transformation of the markets and the emergence of eBooks is causing great changes to library models worldwide.

The essence of the problem: Over hundreds of years libraries decided what books to buy and use for public lending in accordance with their collection building policies. In the world of e-books libraries no longer have such a right. It is a significant - and in many cases unacceptable - change that today the acquisition policies of libraries may be decided by publishers and not by libraries themselves. The challenge is to find solutions to this problem.

The workshop is to highlight the issues on eBooks worldwide and in Bulgaria as well as the positions of both libraries and publishers.

The first part shall present the current situation and issues related to eBooks, its essence and its influence on the markets.

The second part is aimed to discuss the obstacles in front of the libraries, and the ways of public lending and e-Lending of books.

It is aimed to present the IFLA (International Federation of Library Association) position and principles on e-Lending in public libraries (issued in April, 2013).

Depending on the make-up and engagement of the audience, audience members could be invited to respond to/comment on each question as well, or alternatively audience participation could begin once the panellists have finished discussing all questions.