



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS DE BIBLIOTHÉCAIRES ET DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES

INTERNATIONALER VERBAND DER BIBLIOTHEKARISCHEN VEREINE UND INSTITUTIONEN

FEDERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE ASOCIACIONES DE BIBLIOTECARIOS Y BIBLIOTECAS

МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ БИБЛИОТЕЧНЫХ АССОЦИАЦИЙ И УЧРЕЖДЕНИЙ

国际图书馆协会与机构联合会

الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات ومؤسسات المكتبات

Mr. Evgeny Kuzmin
Co-Chair, Conference Organizing Committee
Chair, Intergovernmental Council, UNESCO Information for All Programme
Chair, Russian Committee, UNESCO Information for All Programme
President, Interregional Library Cooperation Centre
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Greetings from the IFLA President

Dear representatives of the UNESCO Information for All Programme, dear Representatives of the Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information For All Programme, dear Representatives of the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre, Dear Conference Organizers, Dear Chair, dear Participants,

From Vancouver, Canada, I would like to express warm words of greetings to all of you, participating today in the UNESCO IFAP International Conference “Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society”.

It would have been a pleasure and an honour for me to participate in this international Conference, and in that way to represent through IFLA, the international library sector here, but unfortunately, other obligations in Canada caused an overlap.

The theme of the UNESCO IFAP international conference is very well chosen. Digital information is not only transforming the society we live in, it is also transforming the core business of almost every library in the world. The future of libraries is digital. Librarians are moving into digital collections, with eBooks, with databases, with all kinds of new digital materials. Probably, in a couple of years there will be digital works that we have not even thought about today.

For libraries it is important to remain focused on new forms of digital materials. What is the best way to collect the digital materials? How can libraries assure ongoing access to the digital information? What digital materials should be selected for preservation and how should we best preserve that material – not only for the user of today, but also for the user of the future.

Libraries in the digital age have a great future.

For my IFLA presidency I have chosen a leading theme that hopefully guides libraries through the digital future. It is: Libraries: a Force for Change. Libraries play many roles that benefit individuals, communities and society in general. To realize their full potential, libraries must provide inclusive and transformative services, innovate and forge new collaborative alliances.



IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions acts as the trusted global voice of the library and information community, and drives equitable access to information and knowledge for all. Digital content is one of the Key Initiatives for IFLA to work on in the coming year.

I am looking forward to UNESCO's Global Conference on Digital Preservation, which will take place in my hometown Vancouver, in September next year. IFLA will closely cooperate with UNESCO in preparing this conference. I am confident that the outcomes of today's International IFAP Conference will return on the agenda in 2012.

I wish you all a very successful Conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ingrid T. Parent". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ingrid Parent
IFLA President 2011-2013