36th CENL Annual General Meeting
19-21 June 2022 – Ankara, Türkiye
Minutes

Executive Committee Present:

1)	Frank Scholze	Chair (Germany)
2)	Janne Andresoo	Vice Chair (Estonia)
3)	Karin Grönvall	Treasurer (Sweden)
4)	Sara Lammens	Executive Committee Member (Belgium)
5)	Hans Petschar	Executive Committee Member (Austria) – (Proxy representing Johanna Rachinger)
6)	Ivanka Stričević	Executive Committee Member (Croatia)
7)	Susanne Oehlschläger	CENL Secretary (Germany)

Members Present:

8)	Piro Misha	Albania
9)	Anna Chulyan	Armenia
10)	Kerim Tahirov	Azerbaijan
11)	Ismet Ovcina	Bosnia and Herzegovina
12)	Desislava Popova	Bulgaria (Proxy – Krasimira Aleksandrova)
13)	Tomas Foltyn	Czech Republic
14)	Tonny Skovgård Jensen	Denmark (Proxy – Svend Larsen)
15)	Lola Sanaia	Georgia (Proxy – Giorgi Kekelidze)
16)	Filippos Tsimpoglu	Greece
17)	Judit Gerencsér	Hungary (Proxy – representing Dávid Rózsa)
18)	Katherine McSharry	Ireland
19)	Dagnija Baltina	Latvia (Proxy – Andris Vilks)
20)	Renaldas Gudauskas	Lithuania
21)	Claude D. Conter	Luxembourg
22)	Elena Pintelei	Moldova
23)	Dragica Lompar	Montenegro
24)	Lily Knibbeler	Netherlands
25)	Jelisaveta Kostadinova	North Macedonia
26)	Julia Konopka-Żołnierczuk	Poland (Proxy – representing Tomasz Makowski)
27)	Adrian Mihai Cioroianu	Romania
28)	Tamara Butigan Vučaj	Serbia (Proxy – representing Vladimir Pištalo)
29)	Katarína Krištofová	Slovakia
30)	Viljem Leban	Slovenia
31)	Damian Elsig	Switzerland
32)	Ali Odabaş	Türkiye
33)	Roly Keating	United Kingdom
34)	Timothy Janz	Vatican (Proxy – representing Cesare Pasini)

Proxy Voting Forms Received in Absentia:

35) Finland
36) Iceland
37) Liechtenstein
38) Malta
39) Spain

40) Ukraine

In attendance:

Khanpari Jafarova	Azerbaijan
Frédéric Lemmers	Belgium
Ophélie Ramonatxo	France
Bruno Sagna	France
Carlo Blum	Luxembourg
Kim Krier	Luxembourg
Slaađana Sjeklođa	Montenegro
Elsbeth Kwant	Netherlands
Jana Mihajlovska	North Macedonia
Lucia Duchajova	Slovakia
Taner Beyoglu	Türkiye
Asuman Akdemir	Türkiye
Ebru Tokay	Türkiye
Marcie Hopkins	United Kingdom

Apologies:

Johanna Rachinger	Austria (Proxy Hans Petschar)
Krasimira Aleksandrova	Bulgaria (Proxy Desislava Popova)
Demetris Nicolaou	Cyprus
Svend Larsen	Denmark (Proxy Tonny Skovgård Jensen)
Kimmo Tuominen	Finland (Proxy Karin Grönvall)
Laurence Engel	France
Giorgi Kekelidze	Georgia (Proxy Lola Sanaia)
Dávid Rózsa	Hungary (Proxy Judit Gerencsér)
Ingibjörg Steinunn Sverrisdóttir	Iceland (Proxy Karin Grönvall)
Luca Bellingeri	Italy, Florence
Stefano Campagnolo	Italy, Rome
Andris Vilks	Latvia (Proxy Dagnija Baltina)
Wilfried Oehry	Liechtenstein (Proxy Frank Scholze)
Cheryl Falzon	Malta (Proxy Roly Keating)
Aslak Sira Myhre	Norway
Tomasz Makowski	Poland (Proxy Julia Konopka-Żołnierczuk)
Maria Inês Cordeiro	Portugal
Amina Shah	Scotland (Proxy Roly Keating)
Vladimir Pištalo	Serbia (Proxy Tamara Butigan Vučaj)
Ana Santos Aramburo	Spain (Proxy Roly Keating)
Lyubov A. Dubrovina	Ukraine (Proxy Tomasz Makowski)
Cesare Pasini	Vatican (Proxy Timothy Janz)

CENL Secretariat in attendance:

Katharina Schöneborn	CENL Secretariat (minutes)
Stefanie Schust	CENL Secretariat (minutes)

Invited external speakers:

Barbara Lison	President of IFLA
Marina Kaljurand	Member of European Parliament (online)

DAY 1 – MONDAY, 20 June

1. Arrival and registration

All CENL members arrived at the Presidential Library at 8.45 a.m., the Annual General Meeting (AGM) started at 9.20 a.m.

2. Words of welcome from Chair and Host

Frank Scholze welcomed all CENL members for the first time as Chair. He emphasised how glad he is to be there, especially after the difficult circumstances brought about by the pandemic. This time represents a challenge and opportunity to advance, help and shape the future ahead. With the energy of all members involved, in collaboration with other libraries and stakeholders, it should be possible to overcome these challenges. Stability has been shattered, but it is still necessary to preserve it by all means. In particular, with the National Library of Ukraine, there will be discussions on how to create a future together. Frank Scholze accordingly wanted to start the meeting with a guiding principle that came up during Sunday's cultural program: "You can't conquer the world by force." Furthermore, he expressed his gratitude to the colleagues from the National Library of Türkiye for making this kind of meeting possible. He encouraged all members to tweet about the conference with the hashtag #cenl2022.

Ali Odabaş welcomed all colleagues to Ankara and wished them productive days at the AGM. He addressed the relevance of national libraries to society from a Turkish perspective by also highlighting the positive aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This once again underscored the importance of digital transformation and electronic service. Knowledge is power, and libraries are more important today than ever. A national library does not only exist for the people who work there, but also for all people in general and for the preservation of the cultural heritage. Information is only valuable if it is used. Accordingly, national libraries must also reinvent themselves by changing the conditions. This concerns both the renewal of the quality of service and the basic idea that every word has the quality to represent information. The main duty of each and every national library is therefore to be aware of the digital change and evolve from a library of books to a library of knowledge transformation.

According to the host, the electronic publication system at the National Library of Türkiye is still a work in progress. Overall, a number of developments have taken place over the last few years. In 2018, the national deposit of digital publications came into force. The development of a web archive and the licensing of e-books has taken place, resulting in an increase in e-users. In addition, digitisation projects are being driven forward in various subject areas.

Ali Odabaş underlined how important it is for directors to be pioneers. National libraries as central institutions should therefore take a leadership role. He thanked all members of the Executive Committee (EC) and wishes that the final output of this year's AGM will be helpful and that the companionship will continue to be intensified as a result.

All delegates introduced themselves to the group.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 35th CENL AGM 2021
Paper 02

The Chair referred members to the minutes of the 2021 AGM held at the Royal Library of Belgium, in Brussels which had been circulated as Paper 2 in advance of this AGM.

He called for a vote for approval of the minutes by show of hands. 39 members voted in favour of the approval of the minutes, with no corrections or comments, and these were formally adopted as an accurate record of proceedings.

4. Matters arising from Minutes

There were no further comments resulting from last year's minutes.

5. CENL Annual Report – Highlights
Paper 03

Frank Scholze opened his Annual Report by thanking the British Library for their outstanding support during the transition of the Secretariat from the British Library to the German National Library.

The first months were busy ones for the new Chair and the Secretariat, not only because of the operational tasks surrounding the transition, but also because the war in Ukraine required an increased activity and exchanges of the EC, not the least because of the cessation of the three Russian National Libraries' memberships after the exclusion of the Russian Federation from the Council of Europe.

In 2022 CENL continued to support member libraries with funds and bursaries.

The Erland Kolding Nielsen (EKN) grant, introduced in 2017 for five years, was awarded to the National Library of Estonia for an in-depth knowledge exchange with the National Library of Luxembourg (BNL) about the role of a national library as a competence centre and coordinator of the library network in the country. During its first meeting in January 2022, the EC agreed to continue the EKN grant for further five years.

The Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursaries were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021 as it was not possible to travel and meet. In 2022, two applications were submitted in February alone (by the National Libraries of Romania and Bulgaria). They were both approved by the CENL secretariat, thereby exploiting the available budget. A third application is pending, depending on the Board of Director's decision on the budget.

In its first meeting in January 2022, the EC agreed also to continue the COVID-19 support fund for one year. Two applications were received by the Secretariat, and in April 2022 the COVID-19 support fund 2022 was awarded to the National and University Library St. Kliment Ohridski (North Macedonia) for its project of a virtual book club.

Four Libraries applied for the Hidden Stories Fund (HSF) in 2022. In April 2022 two funds were awarded. The National Library of Scotland will use the HSF for a project aiming to produce a series of short videos which highlight items in the library's collection that capture the lives and stories of LGBT people throughout history. The British Library and its curators are supporting a youth-led project in cooperation with Kings Cross Brunswick Neighbourhood Association (KCBNA), in order to help young people exploring their own family histories with sensitivity, thereby supporting them to develop research and interviewing skills.

Regarding the war in Ukraine, the EC discussed how to support the director general of the Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine (VNLU) Lyubov A. Dubrovina, her staff and all Ukrainian colleagues. As a result, the Secretariat has set up the page #StandWithUkraine on cenl.org to comprise any information on help for Ukrainian libraries and librarians. This website is growing continuously and additions are still very welcome.

On 16 March 2022 the Russian Federation was excluded from the Council of Europe. As by its statutes only members of the Council of Europe can be members of CENL, the CENL membership of the Directors of the Russian State Library in Moscow, the National Library of Russia and the Yeltsin Presidential Library in St. Petersburg ended automatically. As a consequence, Vadim Duda from the Russian State Library in Moscow also ceased to be a member of the EC.

The EC further discussed financial consequences of the war in Ukraine and decided to suspend the membership fee for the National Library of Ukraine and is open to offer further support for the VNLU within the regular CENL grant and bursary programmes.

Over the past year, the Secretariat continued to work closely with the three CENL Network Groups (Books and Audiences Network Group, Artificial Intelligence Application Networks Group, Copyright Network Group) in order to support them. In December 2022 the term of the network groups will end, i.e. all network groups will have to re-apply if they want to continue their work. New groups may apply as well.

Frank Scholze presented a new format for networking and knowledge exchange, the CENL Dialogue Forum. The new format aims to strengthen communication with stakeholders outside of CENL, e. g. the Federation of European Publishers (FEP). The partnership between CENL and FEP has a long tradition but faded after the reorganization of the working groups in 2019. A Dialogue Forum can have subgroups. In the case of the FEP CENL Dialogue Forum the existing "French-German Meeting of Copyrighted Works in Digital Libraries" is a subgroup, others are welcome. Further stakeholder groups will also be addressed by CENL, the EC will take this discussion further.

Regarding communications through the different channels such as the CENL website, newsletter and Twitter, the new CENL Secretariat continued on the work of the British Library. The presentation by the CENL Secretary Susanne Oehlschläger later on the agenda will give more details.

6. Treasurer's Report
Paper 04

CENL treasurer Karin Grönvall gave the finance report, starting with the budget for 2021.

2021 Budget (income)

CENL budget 2021	Budget	Actual Income	Balance remaining as of end of Dec 21
Membership fees	119 500 €	124 500 €	5 000€
Transfer from reserves (23 990 €), EKN 2019 carried over (5 000 €), Network Groups 2020 budget carried over (11 762 €)	40 152 €	40 152 €	
Total Income	159 652 €	164 652€	

The total cash balance as of 31 December 2021 was at 772.485,09€. After the CENL bank account at the Bank of Britain was closed and transferred to ING Netherlands, banking costs have increased substantially. For 2022 it is already clear that the income from member fees will decrease due to Ukrainian War due to the reasons stated by Frank Scholze earlier (shortfall of fees from Russian Federation and Ukraine). On the other hand, in 2021 there was a continued underspending due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021 Budget (expenses)

CENL budget 2021	CENL budget 2021 (agreed at 2020 AGM)	Actual Expenses	Balance
Financial support AGM	9 000 €	8 690,17 €	303,83 €
Travel costs speakers	4 000 €	- €	4 000,00 €
Skills & knowledge exchange			
• Bursary Programme	10 000 €	6 952,36 €	3 047,64 €
• Hidden Stories Fund	10 000 €	8 340,00 €	1 660,00 €
• CENL Working Groups 2020 carried over	11 762 €	-€	11 762,00 €
• CENL Working Groups 2021	15 000 €	4 015,00 €	10 985,00 €
Erland Kolding Nielsen grant 2021	15 000 €	9 627,63 €	5 372,37 €
EKN 2019 (1 grant carried over)	5 000 €	-€	5 000,00 €
CENL website			
• Maintenance costs	6 000 €	3 116,24 €	2 883,76 €
• Content	9 500 €	17 857,47 €	- 8 357,47 €
Banking costs	1 190 €	3 287,13 €	- 2 097,13 €
Audit and legal costs	8 000 €	7 695.60 €	304,40 €
CENL Secretariat	52 000 €	52 000,00 €	-€
Other office costs	3 200 €	6 473,19 €	- 3 273,19 €
Total Expenses	**159 652 €**	**128 054,79 €**	**31 597,21 €**

The Audit was prepared remotely by RSM auditors including the financial statements for 2021. The audit was finalised on 12 May and sent to the EC on 20 May 2022.

Regarding the budget for 2022, Karin Grönvall informed that on the side of expenses, there is a proposal to the AGM to increase the budget for the EKN grant as well as the one for banking costs due to the transfer to ING bank. Frank Scholze added that the EC has decided on a policy of continuously and moderately overspending which is a reasonable course of action after the 2021 COVID-19-caused underspending.

Proposed 2022 budget (expenses)

CENL budget 2022	Budget agreed at 2021 AGM	Budget update proposed AGM 2022	Actual Expenses at 20.05.22	Balance at 20.05.22
Financial support AGM	13.000 €	13.000 €	0 €	13.000,00 €
Travel costs speakers	4 000 €	4.000 €	489,50 €	3.510,50 €
Skills & knowledge exchange • Bursary Programme • CENL working group 2022 budget	10.000 € 15.000 €	10.000 € 15.000 €	800,00€ 2.300,00€	9.200,00 € 12.700,00 €
Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant 2022	5.000 €	15.000 €	1.200 €	3.800 €
CENL website • Maintenance costs	8.000 €	8.000 €	3.609,04 €	4.390.96 €
Banking costs	1 500 €	3.400 €	1.794,13 €	- 294,13 €
Audit and legal costs	8 000 €	8.000 €	7.823,86 €	176,14 €
CENL Secretariat	78.000 €	78.000 €	0,00 €	78.000 €
Other office costs	2.500 €	2.500 €	1.149,38 €	1.350,62 €
Total Expenses	**145.000 €**	**156.900 €**	**19.165,91 €**	**125.834,09 €**

The treasurer called for a vote, by show of hands, to approve the updated 2022 budget. 39 members voted in favour of approving the revised budget.

Karin Grönvall gave an outlook on the 2023 budget and reminded the Board of Directors of the new model for the membership fees agreed upon in Brussels that will result in higher fees for some members.

For 2023, the EC proposed an increased budget for the bursaries, the EKN grant and for banking costs. The EC will also discuss a new emergency fund for endangered cultural heritage. No comments on this from the AGM attendees.

Proposed 2023 budget

Income	Amount	Expenses	Amount
CENL membership	114 450 €	Financial support AGM	13.000 €
Reserves	43 050 €	Travel costs speakers	4 000 €
		Skills & knowledge Exchanges • Bursary programme (€10k) • CENL network groups budget (€5k x 3 groups - €15,000)	25 000 €
		Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant • 3 x €5k grant	15 000 €
		CENL website maintenance	8 000 €
		Banking costs	4 000 €
		Audit and legal costs	8 000 €
		CENL Secretariat	78 000 €
		Other office costs	2 500 €
TOTAL INCOME	**157 500 €**	**TOTAL EXPENSES**	**157 500 €**

Karin Grönvall called for a vote, by show of hands, to approve the 2023 budget. 39 members voted in favour of the proposed 2023 budget.

7. CENL Action Plan and Communications
Paper 03

The CENL Secretary thanked her predecessor Marcie Hopkins and her team at the British Library for a perfect hand-over of the Secretariat.

She started the overview on the communication and action plan by informing the Board of Directors that the contract with Line Industries, the support company for the CENL website, was extended, thus ensuring an easier transition from the British Library to the German National Library. News and events of member libraries are being published regularly on the CENL website.

A new sub-site, #StandWithUkraine, was set up in March 2022, to gather support offers of CENL member states for Ukrainian refugees as well as activities of CENL member libraries. The COVID-19 sub-site was removed.

Susanne Oehlschläger reported that there is constant traffic on the CENL website with an average two-minute-stay on the site, which is regarded as a good outcome. There are 400 registered users, of which about 70% have subscribed to the CENL newsletter (newsletter is accessed by 38% of subscribers on average).

Via Twitter, CENL communicates to a broader audience. The account has 345 Followers (an increase of 68 from June 2021 to April 2022). In that period CENL has posted 71 tweets which earned almost 900 impressions on average. The attendees may tweet about the AGM addressing #CENL2022

The Action Plan for 2022 aims to support CENL's current strategic priorities (Priority 1 - Support national libraries to increase their impact and to be strong organisations, Priority 2 - Develop National Library services, Priority 3 - Develop national libraries as memory institutions, Priority 4 - Strengthen CENL as a community). Following the ongoing CENL activities that have already been named in the Annual Report, further ones for 2022 will be the (re-)application process for the network groups, planning the 2023 CENL AGM in Paris, as well as the development of the next CENL 4-year strategy is up in 2022/2023. The latter will by a topic for strategic break-out sessions on day 2.

8. Key note: Barbara Lison, President of IFLA – The Relevance of National Libraries for Society

Barbara Lison thanked the Chair for the opportunity to give a keynote at the AGM.

Regarding the role and importance of national libraries to society, she sees three main aspects that also coincide with her presidency of IFLA:

1. Creating a sustainable future for libraries so that they can not only survive but also grow steadily.
2. Creating a sustainable future for the Federation and how IFLA can continue to be a catalyst for meeting places.
3. Creating a sustainable future for the society as a whole.

The last point in particular was the focus of this lecture, as Barbara Lison's main thesis relates to the fact that a society can only be sustainable if it is socially sustainable. Nevertheless, she pointed out that the society we live in cannot be taken for granted and must be protected accordingly. People

have to create and work together. Since the directors present are all experts in their fields, Barbara Lison wanted to speak more generally about the ways in which national libraries have a unique societal role. In her point of view, national libraries act as

1. Leaders
2. Anchors
3. Cheerleaders

to contribute to society.

National libraries already excel in their leadership role by being architecturally visible and playing a key role in connecting libraries. Despite the duties that need to be accomplished, there is also the opportunity to try new things and serve as inspiration for smaller libraries. Even if the political leadership does not show a high willingness to take risks, this should not diminish the will to develop and establish new ideas. There are few other libraries with comparable resources, which is why she believes that national libraries already have an inherent national social impact. This task is both a privilege and a responsibility, as they are in a unique position to take innovative risks to achieve an overall societal impact, for example, by centralizing important relevant activities.

In their role as societal anchors, national libraries benefit above all from their richness in collections, for they are all mirrors of our societies. These collections are of unparalleled value and present them with the challenge of constantly re-evaluating how comprehensive the collection mission is. Especially in times of the pandemic, national libraries were able to lead the way by making more content available online and developing a sense of what information might be relevant to users. This, according to Barbara Lison, is a good way to link libraries to society and provide context. National libraries, of course, are responsible for building a stronger book sector in general, paving the way for new, diverse voices in the largest public institution. Therefore, libraries' unique collections alone are helping to build a more sustainable society.

The third point, national libraries as cheerleaders, is about how to make governments see the value of memory institutions. Barbara Lison noted that even national libraries cannot consider their future secure. It is therefore not enough to have an impact on society; that impact must also be demonstrated in order to convince decision-makers of the value of the library's work. National libraries, in particular, have better access to policy makers and can therefore significantly influence decisions and needs that are necessary at the national level. Consequently, it is also possible to show other ministries that they cannot achieve their goals without the specific qualities and support of national institutions.

Barbara Lison hoped she was able to encourage those in attendance to continue to raise their voices and maximise opportunities for meaningful engagement to make a social impact with their own collections, as they play a key role in doing so. Even as national libraries compete with other policy priorities, policymakers must recognize that investing in libraries is worthwhile. At the same time, the most generous budget is useless if it is not used efficiently. By acting accordingly, national libraries can create for themselves the best conditions for a sustainable future.

A strong IFLA is also in everyone's interest. The association derives its strength especially from the commitment of the volunteer groups, from which many members come from national libraries. IFLA complements the work of CENL at the European level by providing networking opportunities with colleagues around the world. With new elections for IFLA volunteer groups coming up next year, Barbara Lison encouraged all CENL member to get involved to make IFLA even stronger and realise its potential.

In conclusion, Barbara Lison thanked everyone for their attention, reaffirmed the important work that national libraries do for society, and has no doubt that they will continue to expand their role at the European level.

- ***Q&A session with Sara Lammens***

Sara Lammens thanked Barbara Lison for her keynote and started the discussion.

Lily Knibbeler discussed the possible tension between the role in society and the national state role with a position close to the government by bringing up Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that everyone has the right of freedom of opinion and expression. She asked whether Barbara Lison thinks that this issue should be given greater relevance in national libraries in order to take more responsibility?

Barbara Lison affirmed that everyone who wants to invoke to Article 19 should take responsibility. But this should be resolved diplomatically in order to fulfil the task of taking on a national role. In her opinion, this should not be understood as a general political approach, but rather as a personal effort. Public libraries can do this more easily because they have a different starting point than national libraries due to their more direct access to schools and children. Nevertheless, there is a lot of space around national law that should be used as long as everything is in line with the government's tasks.

Viljem Leban asked how Barbara Lison sees the role of national libraries in the digital society?

She explained that national libraries are part of the digital society at any rate. Otherwise there would be no future for memory institutions. Artificial intelligence (AI) is a good example of this: Libraries could take a leading role in that context.

Roly Keating tied into this question by asking whether national libraries should rely on what they've always done, or should they get more engaged?

Barbara Lison argued for more engagement, because it's not just about collecting and cataloging. What defines the collections of each institution should be more connected to the impact they have on society.

Katarína Krištofová would like to know which role CENL plays in this context.

Barbara Lison sees the special role in the nation. It is about the connection to the law, which must be fulfilled. On the other hand, national libraries do more than their respective laws require. Therefore, the limits of the law should be explored as much as possible. National libraries have the potential to fill that gap.

Dagnija Baltina asked for an opinion on whether the relationship between national libraries, national archives and museums should be further developed?

Barbara Lison sees definitely the need for cooperation. She referred to her speech that a cheerleading function should be adopted, which can also be applied to the other memory institutions. This may vary from country to country: Germany, for example, does not have a national museum, while other nations are better able to involve the various institutions. Overall, Barbara Lison promoted an approach that is forward-looking and less technical.

In closing, Sara Lammens asked Barbara Lison to comment on the current situation within IFLA and to give a brief update.

Barbara Lison explained that a couple of things are not going well at the moment, but she hoped for positive changes. The new statutes have brought some changes, e.g. the number of members in the

Governing Board was reduced. Instead of 19 there now are only 11 members. While a larger number of persons with various personalities and different interests and ambitions means diversity, on the other hand this can create a toxic environment if there are too many opposite positions and when personal interests prevail. In the near future elections are due for the new President-elect and the new Treasurer, which she hopes will create a more positive and constructive atmosphere, She emphasised that the rumours about financial or behavioural misconduct of the General Secretary are completely untrue. There will however be a court hearing about the decision of the IFLA Governing Board to terminate the contract of the General Secretary. In the meantime, IFLA is doing everything to stabilise itself. Legal and privacy issues which prevent IFLA to discuss everything openly in the public automatically lead to rumours, which is why IFLA is also fighting against fake news. With so much disinformation and fake news circulating, librarians need to remember the core of their profession.

9. Lyubov Andriivna Dubrovina, Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine – Situation in Ukrainian libraries

Lyubov A. Dubrovina told members in a pre-recorded video message about the changed conditions under which libraries exist in her country since the Russian Federation started the war against Ukraine on 24 February 2022. One of the most important and urgent challenges continues to be the preservation of library collections, especially items of cultural heritage whose value is irreplaceable. In this exceptional situation, it is more important than ever for her as the Director of the National Library of Ukraine to focus on the basic requirements of a national library in order to protect the unique cultural items under all circumstances and at all times.

In her report, she described the historical significance and national importance of the VNLU and its huge collections of historical heritage. VNLU had to change its legal status several times in the course of its history, until today it is subordinated to the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. As part of the Ukrainian territory that belonged to Russia at the time of the library's foundation in 1918, the collection also consists of many abandoned materials that had been confiscated by the Soviet authorities once. The fact that this suppressed and censored Ukrainian cultural heritage could later be made accessible to users has played an important role in underlining the national memory and spirituality of the independent Ukrainian state. Today, Ukraine is a sovereign European state with a National Library that has six specialised research centres with a total of more than 16 million media units. In addition, the VNLU maintains a long-standing international book exchange with partners from all continents according to IFLA standards. Now that the historical and cultural heritage can be represented by the UKRAINICA digital collection, national bibliographic information as well as the digital full-text heritage will be made available as resources for Ukraine but also for countries from all over the world. Accordingly, the VNLU's national importance as an integrator of knowledge and cultural heritage has grown steadily.

Russia's war against Ukraine though has highlighted the economic problems that already exist, such as the lack of financial support. The funds provided for the library had to be returned to Ukraine to support the country under martial law. As a result, the VNLU is in a situation where the equipment is outdated and the conditions for adequate conservation of the collections during the war are lacking. In this context, Lyubov A. Dubrovina also focused on the psychological condition of the library staff and the Ukrainians who lost their homes and became refugees. While library staff has been reduced by half, cultural heritage preservation tasks are increasing. Library activities are slowly resuming, but one of Lyubov A. Dubrovina's biggest concerns is the absence of modern equipment to digitise materials. VNLU has so far survived two world wars and revolutions, during which the library was able to preserve its collections. But now the country's cultural heritage is once again threatened by

the war emanating from Russia. This is not only a danger for Ukraine, but also for many other countries, as the VNLU library collections contain rare editions and samples of books from different countries.

To conclude, she thanked all the directors of the European national libraries for their great participation and support in helping Ukraine to protect its cultural heritage and for their solidarity with the country in the struggle for peace and freedom to be part of the European community.

- ***Q&A-Session with Ophélie Ramonatxo***

Since the keynote speaker was not able to join live for this program item, Ophélie Ramonatxo gave the plenary the opportunity to react to Lyubov A. Dubrovina's message.

Julia Konopka-Żołnierczuk described how difficult it was to watch the video, especially with the siren in the background. She said that Poland is in daily contact with Lyubov A. Dubrovina and helps Ukrainian colleagues to find jobs in libraries. In this context, the National Library of Poland was able to offer jobs to six Ukrainians. Julia Konopka-Żołnierczuk reiterated that all support is appreciated.

Roly Keating affirmed that he, too, is at a loss for words after this video message, as it shows that Lyubov A. Dubrovina is living the theories that were discussed earlier. Even if the conflict cannot be resolved today, he reassured that everything possible will be done in small ways.

Adrian Mihai Cioroianu paid tribute to all Baltic states for their efforts on behalf of refugees and specifically singles out Poland and Moldova for their outstanding support. He emphasised that this is not just a war between Russia and Ukraine. He reported that a centre for young people from Ukraine has been set up at the National Library of Romania, where they can meet outside the world of social media. The only problem with this form of support, however, is that there is a language barrier.

Elena Pintelei pointed out that library staff needs to be educated. She described that 80 % of refugees are guests of local families. Public libraries in particular are the first point of contact for Ukrainian refugees, where also places for children are set up. Moldova is working to provide books and games for children, and to create a family placement centre. She explained that there is good communication with the academic library in Odessa in particular, with daily contact.

Frank Scholze summarised that it is a difficult situation overall, also for the EC. CENL as an umbrella organization cannot have a leading role in supporting Ukraine directly, but tries to bring help together. This includes financial support, but it is rather general. An new funding program for endangered cultural heritages will be discussed, which is not exclusively geared for Ukraine. The Chair encouraged members to share information and offers of help and send it to the secretariat where it will be posted on the website, included in the newsletter and/or spread via social media.

10. Key note: Marina Kaljurand, Member of European Parliament – EU digital agenda and responsibilities of big tech companies

After a short introduction by Frank Scholze, the pre-recorded video message from Marina Kaljurand began. She dived into the EU digital agenda by giving an insight into the Estonian e-lifestyle of over 30 years, resulting in paperless e-Government, online voting and a large number of national online services. This digital lifestyle, that was and is slowly adapted by other EU member states also raises questions of digital dependency and cyber security that can only be tackled at a transnational level. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown clearly the dependency on ICT solutions and the import of an ambitious digital strategy. Europe is already in a leading role in this process.

The EU Digital Agenda aims at online security, promoting cyber development and by that a sustainable economy, as well as ensures the respect for fundamental citizen rights. Marina Kaljurand

named several key steps in the process: The Digital Agenda for Europe (2010), the Digital Single Market Strategy (2015) that was followed by the new digital strategy Shaping Europe's Digital Future (2020) as well as the Digital Compass that sets Europe's digital goals for 2030. Some key aspects in these: fair and competitive economy, open, democratic and sustainable society, technology that is people-oriented, improving digital skills, digitisation of key public services.

A major step in this direction also came with the adoption of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in 2016. Further milestones were the Digital Services Act as well as the Digital Markets Act and the AI Act, that is still being debated. The latter aims at setting standards for the Big Tech companies such as Google, Amazon or Apple that have developed a monopoly in the digital sector. These Big Techs, sometimes also called gatekeepers, have assumed unprecedented control over communications, commerce and content. Regulations are required to ensure fairness and competition as well as to secure that citizens' interests are not overlooked.

Marina Kaljurand also stressed the challenges societies are faced with in light of foreign interference in political processes, misinformation as well as the growth of the global spyware industry. She mentioned the manipulations around the US Presidential Elections as well as the Brexit-EU referendum where these issues have reached a point where they threaten fair elections and the core principles of democracy. The EU needs to provide a common ground in fighting against these developments as e.g. the EU elections are only as strong as its weakest member state. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that a progress has been and can be made if necessary. The EU Digital Covid Certificate is a positive example for this. At the same time, the increased need for online connectivity and content has made the questions of cyber security and disinformation even more pressing. The EU Parliament in its Digital Strategy therefore has called for a common strategy to tackle disinformation, to involve civil society to raise public awareness to this issue, and for more public funding for pluralistic, independent media.

A milestone that has already been achieved with great impact is the aforementioned GDPR, e.g. giving EU citizens the right to know what happens with their data in different aspects, the appointment of data protection officers in companies dealing with large amounts of data. The implementation of the GDPR in the Member States has been slow-going however. With the Digital Services Act (DSA), the EU took a further important step in regulating Big Tech, aiming at illegal online content, protection of user privacy, more transparency regarding profiling, and by setting out rules of accountability and responsibility for providers. Marina Kaljurand stated that the impact of the DSA will not only be felt in Europe, but around the world, with Europe setting a standard on how to regulate technology. The DSA will be complemented by the Digital Markets Act (DMA), targeting at large companies with a potential for unfair business practices such as social networks or search engines. The DMA will target at companies with a market capitalisation of a minimum of 75 billion Euros or 7.5 billion Euros annual turnover.

The e-Privacy Regulation, the Regulation of political advertising and the Regulation on Artificial Intelligence are proposals currently in discussion. The goals of these discussions are: Protecting citizens' communications data, regulating targeted advertising and profiling on social media, and harmonising standards for trustworthy AI. An important concern in this regard is the role of AI in biometric mass surveillance.

Marina Kaljurand concluded with an outlook on the plans for the EU digital identity - a topic currently under discussion, with the Estonian e-ID as a model on how an e-state, and in the future an e-EU, can be brought about. The EU Digital Agenda is ambitious but not impossible and by quoting the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen: If Europe is not ready to lead digitisation, it will forever follow in the way of others, who will be setting the standards for us.

- *Q&A Session with Frank Scholze*

After playing the recorded video message, Marina Kaljurand was available live via video to answer questions from members.

Frank Scholze stated that national libraries are deeply integrated in digital developments and asks about the distinction between good and bad AI? The Cultural sector is not mentioned in the AI Directive.

Marina Kaljurand replied that there are still many open questions, the central point being that AI needs to be human-centred, and human-controlled. It is not easy to see where the line is between protecting and interfering with fundamental rights: therefore, AI has to go hand in hand with human and judiciary control.

Tamara Butigan Vučaj wanted to know which of the aspects presented could be adapted for countries outside the EU?

According to Marina Kaljurand, a free and open internet is the most important aspect, no limitations and politisation. Online violence shows many new challenges, where libraries could play an important role by raising awareness for how to use and interpret information. The single states should take advantage of cooperation with tech sector, a prominent example is the Estonia Cyber Defense League, in which actors from private sector come together for free to help the government.

Claude D. Conter explained that one of the main issues for libraries is the fact that ideally, everything that was once accessible should remain accessible. He asked whether there is a law already or a plan to address these issues for the cultural heritage sector?

Marina Kaljurand said that there is no such law in the EU. If something is illegal, it is clear. But what about things that are legal but harmful? She said that this is very difficult to distinguish. Big companies don't want to decide, instead they look for governments, for resolutions. We still have to gain practice. It will take time and, so far, it is not clear how to handle it.

Frank Scholze explained that any things are collected and brought to users legally, but maybe they are not universally accessible, like e.g. harvested websites. Libraries have an obligation to collect, but are not allowed to bring the collection of former freely accessible material back to their users due to copyright restrictions, e.g. in Germany.

Roly Keating asked how libraries fit in, and where they could support the EU plans? As libraries always have been driving forces in digitisation, they have also a unique standing. They are well liked and accepted.

According to Frank Scholze this question linked to the presentation given by Barbara Lison who addressed the question of what role national libraries can play.

Elsbeth Kwant wanted to know whether the European data space on cultural heritage will be the non-commercial internet?

Marina Kaljurand said that the digital will not replace but complement the cultural sphere. She emphasised that the digital will never again disappear, but it will be our choice how to use it. We will have to come to a sensible coexistence of the digital and the analogue.

11. Case studies I

11.1 National Library of Montenegro "Djurdje Crnojevic"
Dragica Lompar, National Library of Montenegro

Slađana Sjekloća spoke on behalf of Dragica Lompar and presented the National Library of Montenegro "Đurđe Crnojević" (NLM) in her lecture.

As one of the most important cultural institutions in Montenegro, the NLM is spread over two locations in Cetinje, which are historical mansions originating from the Italian and French embassies. In total, the library collection includes two million media works and is divided into three main areas: Basic Fund, Special Collections and Museum Fund. In addition, the collection includes bequests from seven prominent personalities from Montenegro. The Virtual Library is one of the most important projects of the NLM. With cobiss.net (Co-operative Online Bibliographic System and Services) exists a platform that promotes knowledge and intercultural exchange with several neighbouring countries, while COBISS Montenegro as a database for all Montenegrin libraries, is a part of the network. The digital library (www.dlib.me) comprises the digitisation and presentation of NLM's most valuable collections and has been available since 2016 after a redesign. In addition, the library has its own publishing production with titles from the field of library and information science. Regarding staff, Slađana Sjekloća further reported that NLM is strongly committed to providing professional support to librarians in Montenegro, e.g., by organizing relevant workshops. The NLM is also represented on an international level and maintains a close exchange with over 50 national libraries within and outside Europe. In addition to its CENL membership, NLM is active in many other international library associations and agencies.

- *Q&A*

Since there were no further questions from the members, Frank Scholze thanked Slađana Sjekloća for her presentation.

11.2 Relevance and value of national libraries for society – a newcomer's perspective
Tonny Skovgård Jensen, Royal Danish Library

The Royal Library of Denmark is by far no newcomer, but it has undergone a number of developments in its history that have made it a melting pot resulting from mergers. In the course of these mergers, it has become increasingly important to rethink the unique tasks of a national library when the cultural heritage department of this "new" library also covers many of these areas. As the new Head of Cultural Heritage, Tonny Skovgård Jensen sees himself as a newcomer and reported from his perspective on the relevance and value of national libraries to society. His presentation was not about a single service, because there are so many activities taking place in libraries that create value for citizens. Rather, the question at hand is which kind of value these activities really create for users. He said that it is therefore important to explore which tools are useful for strategic thinking, for which CENL is the ideal place to gather inspiration on how to define value.

Tonny Skovgård Jensen 's presentation showed that cultural heritage is the starting point where value is created, while the user is the end target. The value is defined by what is used. It is important to note at this point that this use may already be happening today or may become relevant in the future. For this reason, it is mandatory to communicate with users to learn what information is relevant to them. It is equally important to be clear about what is being delivered - both the physical and digital collections. Digitising physical materials, in particular, creates even greater value. Tonny Skovgård Jensen distinguishes at this point between direct and indirect value: The direct value is achieved through active usage of the library collections. A problem is that many people do not know

about national libraries; they receive the value of these institutions indirectly. It is possible to count how many people visit a library, but it is not possible to measure how the indirect value is created. National libraries create value, but they need to figure out what counts and what activities are worth investing in. Ministries only see countable factors in this context, but Tonny Skovgård Jensen wants to raise awareness that categories like value can be indirect, so their meaning is hard to explain. It is a challenge for all librarians to find answers for this, which is why we are all newcomers to this field in a certain way.

- **Q&A**

Tonny Skovgård Jensen introduced the Q&A session by asking members what tools they use to measure their own value?

Tomas Foltyn asked the counter question about what strategy is used in Denmark and reported that in the Czech Republic there is a national system for measuring cost and value that is available to all libraries. Libraries as institutions are at the forefront of this.

Elsbeth Kwant reported that the Europeana Impact Group is trying to find ways for describing impact that cannot be measured quantitatively but only qualitatively.

11.3 The cooperative system for the management and long-term preservation of the modern National Book Collections
Tomas Foltyn, National Library of the Czech Republic

Tomas Foltyn began his presentation by highlighting preservation as a key role for national libraries, because many physical materials are in a desolate state and need to be saved. As the number of ingested media units increases, it is necessary to install procedure that scale up well. In the National Library of the Czech Republic, a procedure has been developed for this purpose which does not separate the individual steps from each other, but represents a uniform system which proves to be more cost-effective. In this, the library is supported by the Ministry of Culture financially, even in the event of a possible change of government in the future. He explained that the activities are carried out within the framework of this six-point programme:

1. Survey the collections
   Source of decision making about mass preservation
2. Digitize
   Standards are defined by the National Library for all libraries, which makes it much easier
3. Restore
   Distinction between historical and modern documents
4. Start with deacidification
   Cooperation with German companies
5. Preserve it in non-acid paper boxes
   Also a service for other libraries, too expensive for them to install such a big system for themselves
6. Run the R&D activities
   Vacuum Chamber, Videocomparator and many other tools, who are specialised

Challenges and plans for the future include establishing compactus systems for storage, even if they are not accessible to users.

- *Q&A*

Marcie Hopkins noted that the British Library has included another step between points one and two of the six-point programme: Preservation for Digitisation.

Tomas Foltyn informed that this programme is only applicable if the item is not available in the rest of the Czech Republic.

11.4 Thinking the data of the future. Web archiving and Ephemera as challenges for national libraries
Claude D. Conter, National Library of Luxembourg

In his presentation, Claude D. Conter explored the question of the extent to which national libraries meet the requirements of research with their data. To illustrate the problem, he gave the example of a possible study on restaurants. It can be seen that the information found depends to a large extent on the legal deposit of the respective country, and thus different results can be obtained. This example in particular shows that research also needs documents that usually are not collected in national libraries: Printed ephemera and websites. These are data resources of the future, sporadically already collected in libraries, but Claude D. Conter also pointed out more unusual documents such as bar receipts, postcards, and posters. Menus are rarely found by researchers, although these documents contain valuable information, proving that it is not enough what national libraries collect. These documents are not part of the legal deposit unless web archiving is explicitly part of a library's collection mission. One problem is that websites are not static, but can change their address or disappear from the internet altogether. But without websites, there is a risk that historical traces will be left behind because no one will collect them. Moreover, researchers will not be able to avoid using websites as primary sources. The biggest difficulties for national libraries in this context arise from legal restrictions and technical challenges. Claude D. Conter nevertheless pleaded for thinking more outside the box, but without neglecting copyright limitations. The challenge is to put this into an appropriate form for users, because it is difficult to explain why access to websites that are still available is only possible in the reading rooms.

Claude D. Conter went on to report that the BNL has been web harvesting since 2016 and to date has over 230,000 hosts with 4 crawls per year. A SOLRwaybackmachine is also currently being implemented to provide another tool for research. The BNL is in a position to support such research as in the case of the restaurants, from 2016 onwards. A systematic collection of printed ephemera will be established as a collection from 2023/2024. According to Claude D. Conter, national libraries must fundamentally ask themselves to what extent printed ephemera could be included in the legal deposit. In principle, he sees library work facing a change: it is no longer a matter of individual cataloguing, but of archive-oriented cataloguing at the dossier level. The demand for completeness through deposit must be abandoned in favour of the acquisition of predominantly commercial documents. Websites and printed ephemera represent a valuable source of information that is underused because it is not adequately preserved and collected. Therein lies an opportunity for national libraries, as these documents not only complement their collections, but also cover an area of increasing importance for future research. Claude D. Conter therefore believes that national libraries must address this area if they are to remain relevant to society.

- *Q&A*

Karin Grönvall added that the National Library of Sweden has many printed ephemera, but it requires a lot of staff resources. She thanked Claude D. Conter for the presentation and sees an interesting development of the topic in the future.

12. Closing remarks

Frank Scholze thanked all speakers for an inspiring first day with interesting presentations and all members for participating so lively in asking questions.

DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 21 June

The Chair opened the day thanking all members for joining again.

13. Case Studies II

13.1 Case Study on Innovation

Roly Keating, British Library

Roly Keating reported how businesses are supported by the British Library. Since 1972, the British Library has been required by an Act of Parliament to use its library collections to support the economy, encouraging business growth and innovation. In 2015, the vision was rewritten by making this approach one of the six key purposes. To this end, the Business and Intellectual Property Centre (BIPC) has been established as a new kind of space within the library where people are actively invited to come together and share business ideas. The mission is to support entrepreneurs with the knowledge of librarians in obtaining information, but also to increase people's chances of success by democratising entrepreneurship. The service offered by BIPC consists of four core pillars: providing free access to business databases, business activities such as workshops, peer-to-peer learning through networking events and creating a trusted environment where people can ask questions and get help. Over the last ten years, this model has been extended to the whole of the UK: With the 'National Network' including six partners whose BIPCs follow the same model as the British Library. In order to be able to grow further, the government has also supported this project financially with a grant. The opportunity for people to find their purpose in business with the help of librarians has greatly changed the image of libraries as they are adding economic value through internal investment. This has led to the creation of more jobs and the establishment of more than 12,000 businesses, which have boosted the local economy. The statistics have also caught the attention of government funders as they show the impact of the model on social inclusion. It has been shown that this model reaches particularly women who want to start a new business. Roly Keating explained that the physical centres had to be closed for a while during the pandemic and worked digitally then. For this reason, the virtual programme "Reset. Restart" was launched, which offered first aid for this difficult time. Due to the high demand, it is planned to continue and expand the program in the coming years. In general, the aim is long-term sustainability and future expansion of the BIPC National Network, which is also included in the next phase of the British Library's strategy. Other opportunities are also being explored to partner with Central Government to provide broader support to the business support landscape. This can reach parts of the community that other national programs cannot.

- *Q&A*

Dagnija Baltina asked for advice, as resistance is also to be expected here.

Roly Keating replied that it is important to highlight what different services a library can offer. Unfortunately, there is no connection to the heritage side of library business, which may change in the future.

13.2 Future Needs Provence, or: The Importance of Provenance History for the Self-Understanding of Modern Societies

Dr. Stephanie Jacobs, German National Library (online)

Stephanie Jacobs began her presentation by saying that especially in times of war, the importance of the origin of cultural heritage is more relevant than ever, since identity and origin are literally under attack. Memory institutions such as libraries, museums and archives can only fulfil their social responsibility if they provide information about the origins of their collections and thus also make it clear to users that collecting materials is not always synonymous with an apolitical act. The central questions of provenance research are therefore:

1. With what (historical as well as ideological) intentions did the collections end up in the memory institutions?
2. What is the history behind the collections? Are there traces of robbery, persecution and destruction?
3. Who acquired what and why?

The Museum of Books and Writing of the German National Library in Leipzig is intensively engaged in such a search for traces, but faces the difficulty of how to deal with digital objects and metadata. While the analysis of cultural-historical artefacts is long and well established, the digital field is still in its infancy due to a lack of standards. One difficulty is that digital data do not carry their historicity as openly as books. It marks a paradigm shift from the analysis of historical sources to technically driven media archaeology. This is particularly important as more and more digital bequests reach the institutions. The concept of current provenance research is accordingly shifting to the technical devices themselves, which are no longer just instruments but an active part of the curation process. In this sense, according to Stephanie Jacobs, memory institutions need to rethink and should seek more intensive collaboration with other research fields that are already familiar with handling large amounts of data, such as natural science research disciplines. In the process, the Museum of Books and Writing of the German National Library examines more than one million objects and writes not only about the museum's own historical collections, but also about contemporary stories of cultural transmission. This shows that research on the origin of cultural objects will never be finished. In Stephanie Jacobs' view, this is precisely the responsibility of memory institutions: To tell origin stories of cultural heritage, whether analogue or digital, taking into account that society is becoming more and more diverse.

14. Presentation by CENL Network Groups

14.1 Books and Audiences – Anete Krūmiņa (online)

Anete Krūmiņa, Head of Exhibitions at the National Library of Latvia and Chair of the Books and Audiences Network Group (BANG) gave an overview of the group's activities over the last three years in trying to bring books and audiences closer together. In 2020 two webinars took place in October, focussing on the future of book exhibitions and their audiences and what should be told and how in a contemporary book exhibition. In 2021 a third webinar with the title "Unbound: exploring accessibility in book exhibitions" was offered a fourth webinar is to come in November 2022.

BANG Talking Heads, a video series, was established on BANG's YouTube Channel, in order to make the communication of the network more appealing to users. A new "season" is to come in autumn 2022. On the BANG website, all resources accumulated of the past three years have been made available and linked to the CENL website. Latvian designers developed the BANG corporate design.

14.2 Copyright – Matthew Lambert (online)

Representing the Copyright Network Group, Matthew Lambert of the British Library noted in his report that the pressure to make content available has been increasing a lot because of the COVID-19 pandemic, making copyright questions all the more important. The new Copyright and single market directive was adopted in 2021, but its implementation in Member States is still an issue. With the help of professional colleagues, a database on the rules and regulations of the different countries has been built up, which has proved to be very helpful. There are also plans for a new section for copyright on the website.

Matthew Lambert stressed the importance of the professional exchange amongst the heads of the legal departments of 20 national libraries, he sees this as an invaluable opportunity for exchange.

14.3 Artificial Intelligence Application – Svein Arne Brygfjeld (online)

Svein Arne Brygfjeld, treasurer and secretary of the Artificial Intelligence in Libraries Network Group (AING) explained in his report that several new members have joined the network group since 2019. Activities of the AING included the development of best practises and guidelines for all members, a survey on the state-of-the-art regarding AI in CENL libraries as well as opportunities for community collaboration through different channels: virtual meetings, open presentations and the round table AI4LM conference at the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF).

The survey conducted in 2021 focused on the current practice and maturity of AI in national libraries, 23 of 46 members participated in the survey. The results were published in March 2022 and can be requested from Svein Arne Brygfjeld. The survey's focus laid on administrative structures, information types as well as community awareness to existing networks.

Upcoming next is a workshop at the BnF in September 2022, giving the possibility for practical collaboration with AI4LAM and sharing resources.

Ophélie Ramonatxo added that BnF is looking for partners in AI and for the Horizon programme. BnF will inform about the details and try to create a consortium by e-mail.

15. EKN grant holder report
National Library of Estonia – Janne Andresoo

Janne Andresoo reported on the study tour of the National Library of Estonia management team to the BNL, which took place May 2-5, 2022 and was made possible by the EKN grant.

The building of the National Library of Estonia needs to be renovated, so the construction work will last at least until 2026. The aim of the exchange was to learn about the policies and practical activities of the BNL in relation to its role as a centre of excellence of the library network. At the same time, the Estonian side wanted to learn more about organisational management (human resources, marketing, communication, etc.).

On the first day, the group consisting of five members of the Estonian National Library, received a tour of the building and exchanged ideas with their Luxembourg colleagues on topics such as user participation, specialized services, the planning process of the renovation, and much more. The second day focused on discussions about the role of the BNL in the nationwide library network, the possibilities of digitisation and the equipment of the stacks.

The Estonian team also learned a lot about:
1. How the BNL coordinates the library network and supports other libraries;

2. how to implement the Alma library system, which is also an option for the Estonian library network;
3. the digital archive software used in Luxembourg with its advantages and disadvantages; and
4. that it is a worthwhile idea to outsource services (especially in the field of digitisation and web archiving) to achieve the best result for the conditions of a small country.

Janne Andresoo summarised that the exchange was very inspiring for her team to find solutions for the National Library building in Estonia and to get valuable advice from the Luxembourg colleagues. She thanked CENL for making this visit possible through the grant.

16. IFLA's Library Map of the World (Europe)
Marcie Hopkins, British Library

Marcie Hopkins from the British Library presented the IFLA's Library Map of the World (https://librarymap.ifla.org), a website that offers users library statistics as well as country profiles, and stories on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

So far, 134 libraries have shared their data, 56 SDG stories have been collected; and a total of 27 country profiles are available. Marcie Hopkins encouraged all attendees to work on getting more resources into the Library Map in order to complete that map for Europe. The idea is to have one main contributor per country. Until now, 42 European libraries have shared their data, there are 21 SDG stories and 13 European country profiles.

Regarding the SGD stories, any library in the world can contribute directly to IFLA with their story, there is also a YouTube playlist and many resources on the IFLA's Library Map of the World website on how to get involved.

17. Strategic priorities for national libraries & CENL for the next 4 years
Break-out groups
Paper 05

Three groups have been formed for the breakout sessions. These were moderated by Ophélie Ramonatxo, Damian Elsig and Ivanka Stričević with Timothy Janz.

Frank Scholze thanked all members for the lively discussion within each group and said, he felt a productive atmosphere during the sessions. The purpose of this group work was to discuss among the members what should be changed in the draft of the Strategic priorities and what the three most important topics are from their point of view. In the plenum, the individual groups presented their results.

First group: Ophélie Ramonatxo reported that her group had a very active discussion that has led to the following considerations:

- **Priority 1:** Defining the identity and value of CENL and reflections about the specifics of CENL. Proposals for surveys conducted by a member on a specific topic.

- **Priority 2:** Programming something like a workshop, maybe in Paris. Creating a dialogue platform with the Council of Europe to exchange more and promote our role.

- **Priority 3**: Addresses the philosophical question: What is the CENL community? Involvement of the National Library teams. More transparency desired linked to the consideration of opening the CENL website to non-members.

Frank Scholze explained that by its statutes CENL is a group of the Directors of European national libraries. However, he reminded all of the fact that although only the directors can become members of CENL, all staff members of their libraries are entitled to register with their official national library's e-mail address and thus can access the members' area, too. He encouraged all of the members to inform their colleagues about this possibility.

Second group: Damian Elsig presented the results of his group:

- **Priority 1:** CENL could have a discussion about their value, based on the situation of the war in Ukraine it is also necessary to search for more values.

- **Priority 2:** Increase awareness of CENL by providing easy access to information as the collections are at the heart of the library's work. It is also important to think more about digital content.

- **Priority 3:** Concrete measures: Proposal to organise a conference on transnational goals and activities. Improve the exchange of cross-country thinking.

Third group: Timothy Janz summarised his group's thoughts:

- **Priority 1:** Nothing is missing in the draft, but it should be tightened up. More thought should be given to what is really the key and how to define it more precisely.

- **Priority 2:** The individual goals of the libraries (e.g. collection management) are not the same as the goals of CENL (advocacy, impacting on a political level). Priority of the topic should be the networking of libraries among themselves.

- **Priority 3:** Not even the directors who are here know what CENL can do for them. Focus more on how high the potential really is for everyone.

Frank Scholze thanked everyone for their active participation and announced that the final version of the strategy will be finished for the AGM in Paris 2023.

18. Presentation by the 2023 host

Ophélie Ramonatxo greeted members and apologised for the absence of Laurence Engel, who is disappointed that she is unfortunately unable to show the presentation herself on short notice due to illness.

The National Library of France is delighted to host the next AGM, which will be held 18-21 June 2023 at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, National Library of France in Paris.

She talked about the renovation of the oldest part of the library, the Richelieu site, and the resulting innovations. Ophélie Ramonatxo thanked everyone for their attention and said that she looked forward to welcoming all members to Paris in 2023.

19. Closing remarks

Frank Scholze officially declared the conference concluded and emphasised once again how special and unique each AGM is. CENL is a network of professional friends to be maintained, with the special feature that it is based on trust. He underlined that he is happy to be there and thanked everyone involved for making his first AGM as Chair so easy. Furthermore, he also thanked Ali Odabaş and his team who organised and hosted the AGM in Ankara very well. Frank Scholze pointed out that all presentations would be soon available in the members' area of the website.

He handed over his closing remarks to Kerim Tahirov, who mentioned that the National Library of Azerbaijan will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2023. For this purpose, he invited all members to come to Baku in September 2023 to celebrate this event.

The AGM closed with a guided tour of the Presidential Library.