



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

www.internationalpublishers.org

Promoting copyright and the freedom to publish globally,
so everybody has the opportunity to create and enjoy content.

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PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL

KARINE PANSA

This year, our Vice President, Gvantsa Jobava, Secretary General, José Borghino, and I have visited over 30 of our members and it has become evident that regardless of diverse local conditions, certain issues resonate consistently within our industry. It should be no surprise that these issues correlate with the IPA's two policy pillars: copyright, now especially relating to AI; and freedom to publish.

The importance of promoting copyright is in sharper focus than ever. As the biggest companies the world has ever known are trying to weaken copyright's basic rules, we are fighting back on a worldwide scale. Not only in our own countries and across regions, but also at places like WIPO, UNESCO, WTO and the United Nations. Our goal is simply to keep the rights to creative work safe and respected. To this end, our Copyright Policy Working Group has developed a comprehensive set of talking points surrounding AI, which our Copyright Committee has endorsed.

Equally critical is the issue of the freedom to publish. Alarming trends show an uptick in instances where both governmental and non-governmental entities are censoring or removing books from circulation. The threats faced by publishers have escalated, with growing societal pressures, for example, to eliminate LGBTQ+ literature in certain regions, posing a serious threat to the freedom of expression.

Our Freedom to Publish Committee continues to monitor development around the world, and this year we celebrated the bravery of our 2023 Prix Voltaire Laureate, Mazin Lateef Ali, from Iraq, as well as the Special Award Laureate, Volodymyr Vakulenko, from Ukraine.

However, while confronting these challenges, we must also look ahead. At our special event at Frankfurt Book Fair, Markus Dohle, the



*President of
the International
Publishers
Association*

former CEO of Penguin Random House, made a strong argument for his belief that we are living in the best time to be publishers since Gutenberg. It's a time when the power of words and ideas have an unparalleled impact on our societies worldwide, and even though misinformation and fake news abound, let's not forget that we stand out because we are the stewards of the truth. Let us also remind ourselves that innovation has always been at the core of our industry.

Throughout history, publishers have constantly delivered great societal, economic, and cultural benefits by pioneering change and progress. We should take immense pride in being part of this noble profession. The dedication, resilience, and commitment demonstrated by each one of you contributes significantly to the betterment of our societies.

Finally, a significant highlight this year is the culmination of the Data and Statistics Project. This initiative brings together the collaborative efforts of WIPO, Nielsen BookData and our diverse network of members. The publication of these two reports at Guadalajara was an achievement in itself but must be seen as just the beginning of something we need to keep working on with the support of our members. We need to be able to tell the story of our own sector through compelling data. I'm sure I can count on our members to help fill the data gaps and tell that story.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to all our members and partners, the IPA team and stakeholders for their continuous support and contribution to our endeavours ■

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

COPYRIGHT

JESSICA SÄNGER

It's been a big year for IPA on the copyright front.

IPA attended the World Intellectual Property Organization's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) twice this year. Relevant topics of discussion included a toolkit on exceptions and limitations for preservation, a work programme on exceptions and limitations proposed by the African Group, a scoping study on Public Lending Right, a scoping study on research, and finally, a planned toolkit on access to preservation copies.

IPA has been well represented with delegation members from Brazil, Canada, the EU, France, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, and the UK. Many thanks to those who joined us and helped us reinforce our message. IPA publishes excellent daily blogs from SCCR and those interested in

understanding developments there as they happen, so I do recommend that you take a look at those on IPA's website.

IPA has made submissions to national consultations in Australia, Brazil, Kenya, Indonesia, Nigeria, and South Africa, as well as monitoring the development of the IP protocol of the African Free Trade Agreement. On that particular issue, IPA coordinated a letter calling for public consultations with publishers' associations, co-signed by members in six African countries, in addition to IPA and the African Publishers Network (APNET).

A key part of our work is exchanging information among IPA members. The Copyright Committee has met twice online, as well as holding in-person meetings at Frankfurt and London book fairs. Our Copyright Policy Working Group continues to meet every month.



*Chair of
the Copyright
Committee*

JESSICA SÄNGER

The IPA has also held three regional copyright meetings to bring us closer to our members in different parts of the world, English-speaking African countries, Latin America, and Arabic-speaking countries. A common challenge in all regions is piracy.

We have also held four successful webinars for members on enforcement and artificial intelligence, one of which was in partnership with STM. The sessions are available for viewing by IPA members and their members upon request to the Secretariat.

In response to the questions raised by artificial intelligence, IPA has developed an internal position on generative AI, which has been shared with all members and discussed in two special sessions for members of the Copyright Committee. IPA has also been working closely with members on national and regional developments, in particular

in countries with active discussions or consultations on AI, such as Korea, Canada or Australia.

My thanks go to all those who have actively engaged with the Copyright Committee. Our work can only be successful if we receive input from the

membership. I also thank organizations like STM, IFRRO, APNET, and FEP for their close cooperation.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank Vera Castanheira in the Secretariat for her outstanding work over this past year ■



IPA Delegation at WIPO SCCR 43

Charles Clark Memorial Lecture

The 2023 Charles Clark Memorial Lecture was one of the Copyright highlights of London Book Fair. The lecture celebrates the memory of the brilliant Charles Clark (1933-2006) who spent much of his career focusing his critical mind on the intersection of copyright and technology.

This year's lecture, focusing on the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on publishing, was delivered by Dr Andres Guadamuz, Reader in Intellectual Property Law at the University of Sussex and the Editor in Chief of the *Journal of World Intellectual Property*. This was followed by a 'fireside chat' with Dan Conway, the CEO of the Publishers Association of the UK. In a fascinating lecture, Dr Guadamuz had the opportunity to evoke the work of Charles Clark when considering different copyright regimes around the world, noting Clark's **involvement** in the development of the UK's Copyright Designs and Patents Act (1988).

Dr Guadamuz expressed his concern for individual creators but also specific professions within publishing, such as copy editors, as those most at risk from AI. Given the fact that AI companies are making wholesale copies of works, he shared his belief that licensing would have to be the solution to limiting litigation, and that the most obvious place for this licensing would be at the input stage, particularly around the content used to train AI systems.

Closing on the notions of copyright attribution, Dr Guadamuz affirmed that AI could surprise and delight but that he was troubled by the idea of giving rights to non-humans. At the same time, and despite these ethical concerns, he asked, 'if you can't tell whether something was machine-generated then do we need a copyright police to check it was human-made?'

This event was supported by the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA), Federation of European Publishers (FEP), the Publisher's Association (PA), Publishers' Licensing Services (PLS) and the International Publishers Association (IPA) ■



FREEDOM TO PUBLISH

KRISTENN EINARSSON

The Freedom to Publish Committee has continued to monitor developments around the world. This year we arranged a webinar on the impact of war on the freedom to publish in Ukraine. We had a panel at London Book Fair on the abuse of libel and defamation laws as well as a panel at Frankfurt Book Fair on the different pressures that publishers face at the intersection of inclusion and diversity, and the freedom to publish.

We had a workshop at the World Expression Forum (WEXFO) at Lillehammer in Norway, on how to tackle the challenges to the freedom to publish, and we organized open meetings at Frankfurt and London Book Fairs to enable members to exchange experiences.

There's been some good news. Three publishers supported by us have been released from prison. The 2019 IPA Prix Voltaire laureate Khaled Lotfy, Ahmed

Mahmoud Ibrahim in Saudi Arabia and Yao Wentian in China.

But the pressures on the freedom of expression, the freedom to publish and the freedom to read are growing and affecting every part of the book sector. The global stakeholders in our sector need to work together to promote and protect these freedoms. And based on the Ljubljana Reading Manifesto, which was launched in collaboration with the IPA at Frankfurt Book Fair this year, we are supporting a call for reading as a cornerstone of democratic societies.

I would like to thank the committee members for their work. And a special thanks to Trasvin Jittidecharak, who did not stand for re-election after being in the Freedom to Publish Committee since 2008 ■



*Chair of
the Freedom
to Publish
Committee*

IPA Prix Voltaire 2023

In 2023, there were five incredibly strong candidates on the shortlist for the Prix Voltaire:

- Mazen Lateef Ali, Iraq
- Güneşli Kitaplığı Publishing House, Turkey
- Mehr Husain, Pakistan
- Ahmed Mahmoud Ibrahim Ahmed, Egypt
- Mercier Press, Ireland

Mazen Lateef Ali (Iraq) was selected as the 2023 Prix Voltaire Laureate due to his unwavering commitment to the literary community and freedom of expression in Iraq. As a student in Baghdad, Iraq, Mazen Lateef started buying and selling books on Al-Mutanabi Street. He went on to establish Dar Mesopotamia for Printing, Publishing, and Distribution in 2007, earning a reputation as a distinguished and highly regarded member of Iraq's cultural community. Unfortunately, on January 31st, 2020, he was abducted at gunpoint and has not been heard from since.

The Prix Voltaire Special Award was given to murdered Ukrainian author Volodymyr Vakulenko, with author Victoria Amelina bringing the award to Vakulenko's parents before being killed herself in a bombing of Kramatorsk ■

 <small>international publishers association</small> 2023 Prix Voltaire Laureate Mazin Lateef Ali Iraq 	 <small>international publishers association</small> 2023 Prix Voltaire Special Award Volodymyr Vakulenko Author, illustrator Ukraine 
 <small>international publishers association</small> 2023 Prix Voltaire SHORTLIST Ahmed Mahmoud Ibrahim Ahmed Egypt 	 <small>international publishers association</small> 2023 Prix Voltaire SHORTLIST Güneşli Kitaplığı Turkey 
 <small>international publishers association</small> 2023 Prix Voltaire SHORTLIST Mehr Husain Zuka Books Pakistan  	 <small>international publishers association</small> 2023 Prix Voltaire SHORTLIST Mercier Press Ireland 

INCLUSIVE PUBLISHING AND LITERACY

MICHIEL KOLMAN

The Inclusive Literacy and Publishing Committee is one of the most extensive committees of the IPA today with 80 members from 41 countries. It comprises the following sub-committees:

ACCESSIBILITY, chaired by Hugo Setzer and Laura Brady:

We continue to promote the Accessible Books Consortium Charter along with other accessibility initiatives. Former IPA President and the current president of the Mexican Publishers Association, **Hugo Setzer**, expressed both the IPA's and publishers' support for accessibility at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Marrakesh Treaty at WIPO in Geneva. Lauren Brady shared a moving **blog post** on the IPA website on the need to put accessibility concerns at the heart of how we publish and emphasized the importance of the ABC Charter. Likewise,

as part of our work on WIPO's Accessible Books Consortium, we continue to engage with Adobe and others so that they will better support the accessibility needs of publishers.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION, chaired by Michiel Kolman:

More IPA members are actively launching their own benchmarking surveys on diversity and inclusion and IPA will continue to promote the sharing of best-practices. The IPA blog hosts a number of great interviews with insights into how different associations and publishers are working on D&I.

LITERACY, chaired by Ana María Cabanellas and Gvantsa Jobava: The IPA promotes literacy initiatives through its blog and has also been a founding supporter of the Ljubljana



*Chair of
the Inclusive
Publishing and
Literacy
Committee*

MICHEL KOLMAN

Manifesto on Reading which highlights the importance of developing higher-level reading.

SUSTAINABILITY, chaired by Kathy Bail and Kristina Kramer:

The IPA held its 3rd Sustainability Summit at the Frankfurt Book Fair, making it part of the IPA's yearly schedule to continue monitoring progress in this area. An official report on the signatory progress of the SDGs Publishers Compact was also launched at the Summit. A Sustainability Checklist for IPA members is in development.

WORLD BOOK CAPITAL CITY, managed by Olivier Borie:

This year's World Book Capital is Accra (Ghana) with our Secretary General and Vice President attending the opening ceremony. The next two capitals are Strasbourg (France) in 2024 and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in 2025.

I would like to thank all our working group chairs for their time and dedication to keeping IPA moving on these important issues ■



José Borghino and Gvantsa Jobva at the Opening Ceremony for the Accra World Book Capital City



Gareth Rapley, Gvantsa Jobava, Karine Pansa and Felix Zeltner at the SDG Media Zone



Gareth Rapley, Juergen Boos, Rachel Martin and Michiel Kolman at the Sustainability Hub at London Book Fair



Launch of the Dutch SDG Book Club

DATA & STATISTICS

PRANAV GUPTA

I am honoured to report on the work of the Data & Statistics Committee at the end of its inaugural year.

We have been very happy to continue IPA's 6-year cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), on global publishing statistics.

In addition, we embarked on an ambitious endeavour this year to create an International Publishing Data Report. Within a remarkably short span of time, we have managed to assemble a unique report that brings immense value to our members.

I am thrilled to announce that the launch of this groundbreaking report, alongside WIPO's report, took place at the Guadalajara Book Fair in December 2023. This achievement is a result of a collective effort, and I express my gratitude to everyone who has contributed.

The collaboration between WIPO, Nielsen BookData and IPA's member publishers associations worldwide has allowed us to gather data points from over 70 countries, making this report one of the most extensive in the history of our industry.

This report doesn't represent the conclusive story of our sector. Instead, it offers a mere glimpse, a stepping stone for a broader narrative. It functions as a resource for publishers, their associations, and national governments to assess the profound influence our creative industry has on global cultures, economies, educational systems, and beyond.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Nielsen BookData team, under the commendable leadership of Mr Vikrant Mathur, for curating this report in record time.



*Chair of
the Data and
Statistics
Committee*

My heartfelt gratitude goes to my fellow committee members, the IPA Secretariat led by our Secretary General Mr José Borghino, and, of course, our President Ms Karine Pansa, for their unwavering support and guidance throughout.

After this historic report launch, let us remember that this is not just a celebration of data; it is a celebration of our industry's resilience, creativity, and global impact. Let this report be a catalyst for future endeavours, inspiring us to continue measuring and narrating the incredible story of the international publishing community ■



Dimitar Gantchev (WIPO), André Breedts (Nielsen BookData) and Karine Pansa (IPA) at the launch of the publishing data reports

Global Publishing Industry 2022 (WIPO/IPA) and International Publishing Data 2023 (IPA/Nielsen BookData) Reports

At the Guadalajara International Book Fair, two new reports were published, providing data on over 70 publishing markets around the world: WIPO and IPA's '**Global Publishing Industry 2022**' report and the '**International Publishing Data 2023**' report by IPA and Nielsen BookData. Together they represent the most comprehensive overview of the international book market available today.

Publishing plays a vital role culturally, educationally, but also economically in the world. These two statistical reports are part of establishing the evidence base that will enable publishers' associations to explain to policy makers the importance of publishing.

The IPA would like to thank both WIPO and Nielsen BookData for their work on these reports.

WIPO's 'Global Publishing Industry 2022' covers 35 countries through 5 different sources: (a) a publishing industry survey, (b) a legal deposits survey, (c) Nielsen BookScan data, (d) the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) Agency, and (e) the IPA and Nielsen BookData report. Data was gathered with support from publishers' associations, the Federation of European Publishers, the Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro en América Latina y el Caribe (CERLALC), the International ISBN Agency and Nielsen BookData. This is the 5th edition of the report since WIPO and the IPA started working together on publishing sector data in 2017.

The 'International Publishing Data 2023' covers the 76 countries where IPA had members at the beginning of 2023. Based on a combination of member surveys and

desk research it provides data on:

- **Numbers of publishers and ISBN registration data**
- **Demographics and literacy rates**
- **Mobile and internet connectivity**
- **Education systems**
- **Book related policy areas**
- **Taxation data ■**



EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHERS FORUM

STEPHAN DE VALK

We have held 6 EPF meetings with an open meeting at Frankfurt Book Fair, in person EPFs in Lisbon, London, Madrid and Paris, and a virtual meeting 'in' Kyiv. Our guest speakers have included the Portuguese minister of Education, a representative from the Spanish Ministry of Education, Amazon Web Services, and UNESCO speakers on both Open Educational Resources and Greening Education.

We continue to value a mix of virtual and in-person meetings.

The EPF family is growing, with the Latin American EPF now being complemented by an ASEAN Plus EPF and we hope soon an African EPF. We also work closely with FEP around European issues.

We continue to focus our message on three key principles – local content, collaboration between governments, publishers and teachers, and finally,

choice. Our work has crossed with other IPA committees including work on sustainability and, more recently, on freedom to publish, with concerning developments in São Paulo, the Dominican Republic and Mexico.

We have adopted an updated position on EdTech and are finalising an internal EPF report on Open Educational Resources. Do get in touch if you are interested in either of those.

I would like to express my thanks to the outgoing Latin American EPF chair, Eduardo Kruel Rodrigues, for all of his work and welcome Ramiro Villalba as the new chair.

This will also be my final term as Chair of the EPF. It has been an honour and a pleasure to work with the IPA secretariat and EPF members over the last three and a half years and to promote this essential part of the international publishing industry ■



*Chair of
the Educational
Publishers
Forum*

MEMBERSHIP

JOACHIM KAUFFMAN

For the last time as the Chair of the Membership Committee, I am reporting on the Membership Committees activities in the current year.

The Committee deals with the applications of potential new members, examines them, obtains the assessment of the Copyright Committee, the Freedom to Publish Committee, and the Executive Committee, and makes a recommendation to the IPA General Assembly as to which candidates should be accepted in which membership category.

We had quite a large number of applications this year: 11. However, we have already had years in which we had significantly fewer applications but had to hold much more intensive discussions internally. Out of the 11 new applications for membership this year, two were deemed ineligible. The remaining nine applicants were interviewed by our

Committee during the London Book Fair and the week before the fair via Zoom and in person.

We had very good discussions in which we were able to clarify all open questions, including those of the other IPA committees. In the end, we recommended all of the remaining nine applicants for admission to our organization, seven of them as Provisional Members and two of them as Patron Members. It was great to see the General Assembly support our recommendation and welcome 9 new members to IPA.

In this context, the MC also examined the guidelines for Patron Membership, which in our opinion were not clear enough and in some places are now, we think, much clearer and more focused.

I had the honour to serve this committee for seven years, six of them as the Chair.



*Chair of the
Membership
Committee*

In these years, I have experienced the MC in intense discussions dealing with new applicants. We discussed our sometimes different views always in a good manner and could always agree upon a clear recommendation in the end.

I want to thank all the committee members as well as José Borghino and his team.

I wish the new elected Membership Committee equally good and enriching discussions, and good and clear decisions.

The work is worthwhile for the IPA and I thank you very much for this enrichment in my professional life.

New IPA members from 1 January 2024 will be:

Provisional members:

- Bangladesh Publishers & Booksellers Association
- Bulgarian Book Association
- Cámara Costarricense del Libro
- Book Publishers Association of Malawi
- Book Development Association of the Philippines
- Publishers Association of Tanzania
- Cámara Uruguaya del Libro

Patron members :

- Bologna Children's Book Fair
- Philippine Book Publishing Development Federation ■

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ACTIVITY UPDATES

34TH IPA INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS CONGRESS

The 34th International Publishers Congress will be held in Guadalajara, Mexico from 3 to 6 December, 2024. It will be organized by the Mexican Publishers Association (CANIEM) and IPA in collaboration with the Association of American Publishers (AAP), and in coordination with the Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara (FIL Guadalajara). Early bird tickets and accommodation packages are on sale now at www.publisherscongress.com

The Congress will run under the theme: *Turning Pages: Publishing and the Future Society*.

The first keynote speaker for the 34th International Publishers Congress will be Mexican historian and author, Enrique Krauze. His perspective, as a

historian and a leading Mexican author, on the pages our industry will turn in the future will be a real highlight of the Congress.

The venue of the Congress has been confirmed as the magnificent 'Conjunto Santander de Artes Escénicas', with sessions covering copyright, freedom to publish, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as well as focuses on trade, education and STM publishing to be expected. Through a variety of sessions from mini 'Page Turner' presentations, to 'On The Same Page' panel discussions and 'Blank Page' workshops, the Congress will live its theme of *'Turning Pages: Publishing and the Future Society'* to produce concrete outcomes for the benefit of the global publishing community.

We are preparing a very special Congress for 2024. There is always a special energy and excitement around Guadalajara Book Fair, and we can't wait to bring publishers from around the world to this wonderful city ■



IPA AT INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIRS

IPA was present at book fairs around the world as the publishing industry continued to thrive in 2023.

In the first half of 2023, IPA President began the year by underlining the importance of Data and Statistics at Digital Book World in New York City in January. In February, IPA Vice President Gvantsa Jobava attended and spoke at the inaugural Chennai International Book Fair, India. IPA Secretary General, José Borghino, and Chair of the IPA Copyright Committee, Jessica Sängér, both spoke at the 'Intellectual Property Rights Conference: Protecting Creativity in the New Republic' on the fringe of the Cairo International book Fair. In March, the IPA was present at the Bologna International Book Fair and culminated the month with a packed programme at London Book Fair 2023. IPA ended the first half of 2023 with a busy program at the World Expression Forum in Lillehammer, Norway, in May, where the Prix Voltaire ceremony conferred the prize

to Mazin Lateef Ali (Iraq) and a Special Award for Volodymyr Vakulenko (Ukraine).

In the second half of 2023, IPA President Karine Pansa visited both the Seoul and Beijing International Book Fairs in July, with Vice President Gvantsa Jobava visiting the 11th International Book Arsenal Festival in Kyiv also in July. In September, the IPA attended IFLA's annual World Library and Information Congress and IPA President Karine Pansa delivered a keynote speech at Portugal's Book 2.0. The IPA continued its strong presence with online papers at the Buenos Aires Book Fair in April and the Rio de Janeiro Bienal in September, along with a plethora of engaging events at the Frankfurt Book Fair in October including the 3rd Sustainability Summit. Likewise, IPA Secretary General José Borghino attended the WIPO-IFPRO workshop of the Algiers Book Fair, and IPA Vice President was present as a speaker at Canon's Future Book Forum in Munich. In November, IPA President Karine Pansa was a keynote

speaker and represented the IPA at the 40th Istanbul Book Fair. Finally, concluding the year, the IPA President delivered an inspiring speech as she opened the 37th Guadalajara International Book Fair. The fair was also the occasion for the release of two new reports on data and statistics from the book sector ■



Launch event for the 34th International Publishers Congress at Guadalajara International Book Fair



Attendees of the 3rd Sustainability Summit at Frankfurt Book Fair

AFRICA PUBLISHING INNOVATION FUND

The Africa Publishing Innovation Fund has ended after three intensive years, funding grassroots projects to tackle publishing-linked challenges in Africa.

Born of a 2019 agreement between the International Publishers Association (IPA) and Dubai Cares, the APIF's founding premise was that local challenges need local solutions.

Using US \$800,000 provided by Dubai Cares, the APIF has financed 18 projects covering indigenous language publishing, literacy, distance learning, library access in remote communities, and accessible book publishing for visually impaired readers.

The objectives of this unprecedented undertaking were to remove barriers to reading and learning; to encourage and enable homegrown talent; and to reward the problem-solving spirit that's the hallmark of African innovation and business.

Today, tens of thousands of people in more than 20 countries are feeling the benefits of work done by changemakers funded by the APIF.

In the APIF's final report, we describe the full extent of our work in the hope of demonstrating that we have at last partly succeeded in those aims ■



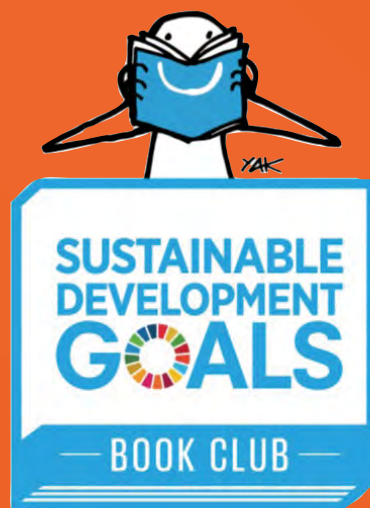
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IPA AND INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

UNITED NATIONS

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Book Club

The UN Publications team has now published a wonderful catalogue of the 17 reading lists from the SDG Book Club. One reading list for each of the UN's 17 Global Goals in all six official UN languages! You can browse the full catalogue of inspiring reads [here](#)



SDG Publishers Compact

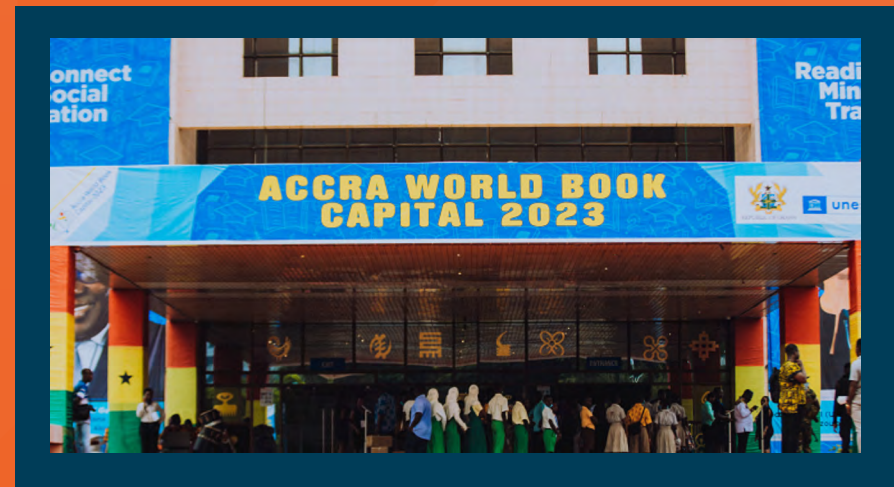
The SDG Publishers Compact continued growing throughout 2023 reaching 300 signatories during the year. The results of the 2022 First Annual Survey of the SDG Publishers Compact have been published are available [here](#) ■



UNESCO

World Book Capital City

IPA is part of the Advisory Committee for UNESCO's World Book Capital Cities alongside UNESCO, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, and the International Authors Forum. The year 2023 saw Accra, Ghana take over the mantle of World Book Capital City from Guadalajara, Mexico, with IPA Vice President Gvantsa Jobava and Secretary General José Borghino attending the **opening ceremony**. The President of Ghana, Nana Akufo-Addo, officially opened the year of events and stressed the importance of education and literacy for his country. UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay was also there to launch the event, and in her speech, she said 'the potential of books is especially important in Africa, where the population is young, increasingly literate and connected.' 2023 also saw the **announcement** of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) as the 2025 World Book Capital, following Strasbourg (France) in 2024.



Global Education Coalition

IPA is a founding member of UNESCO's Global Education Coalition and is working closely with UNESCO to help deliver high-quality education outcomes through collaboration with African publishers ■

WIPO

Publishers Circles

IPA continued to work with WIPO to implement training programs for publishers from developing countries in Africa and Asia within the Publishers Circles.

International Publishing Industry Statistics

In November 2023, WIPO published its **Global Publishing Industry 2022** report, as well as its **2023 World Intellectual Property Indicators** report, on international publishing industry statistics.

Accessible Books Consortium

IPA Past President Hugo Setzer, IPA Secretary General José Borghino, and Canadian publishing consultant Laura Brady continue to serve as publisher representatives on the board of the ABC. In October this year, the ABC announced Bokförlaget Hegas AB (Sweden), the Accessible Reading Materials Library (India), and the Kalimat Foundation (UAE) as the **winners** of its International Excellence Awards for accessibility. Our congratulations go to all three winners in what was, again, a competitive **shortlist**. Following the announcement of Bokförlaget Hegas AB as the winners, IPA held an **interview** with Elin Ljungvall, who is in charge of publishing at Hegas ■



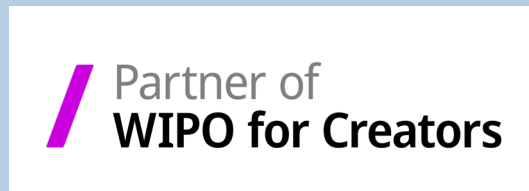
Accessible
Books
Consortium

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ABOUT IPA

OUR PARTNERS

The IPA is proud to work with a number of partners around shared goals. If you or your organization want to talk to the IPA about partnerships, let us know by writing to secretariat@internationalpublishers.org. You can see the full list of IPA partners on our [website](#) ■



OUR MEMBERS

■ Full members

■ Provisional Members

New Provisional Members

Bangladesh Publishers & Booksellers Association
Bulgarian Book Association
Cámara Costarricense del Libro
Book Publishers Association of Malawi
Book Development Association of the Philippines
Publishers Association of Tanzania
Cámara Uruguaya del Libro

Associate Members

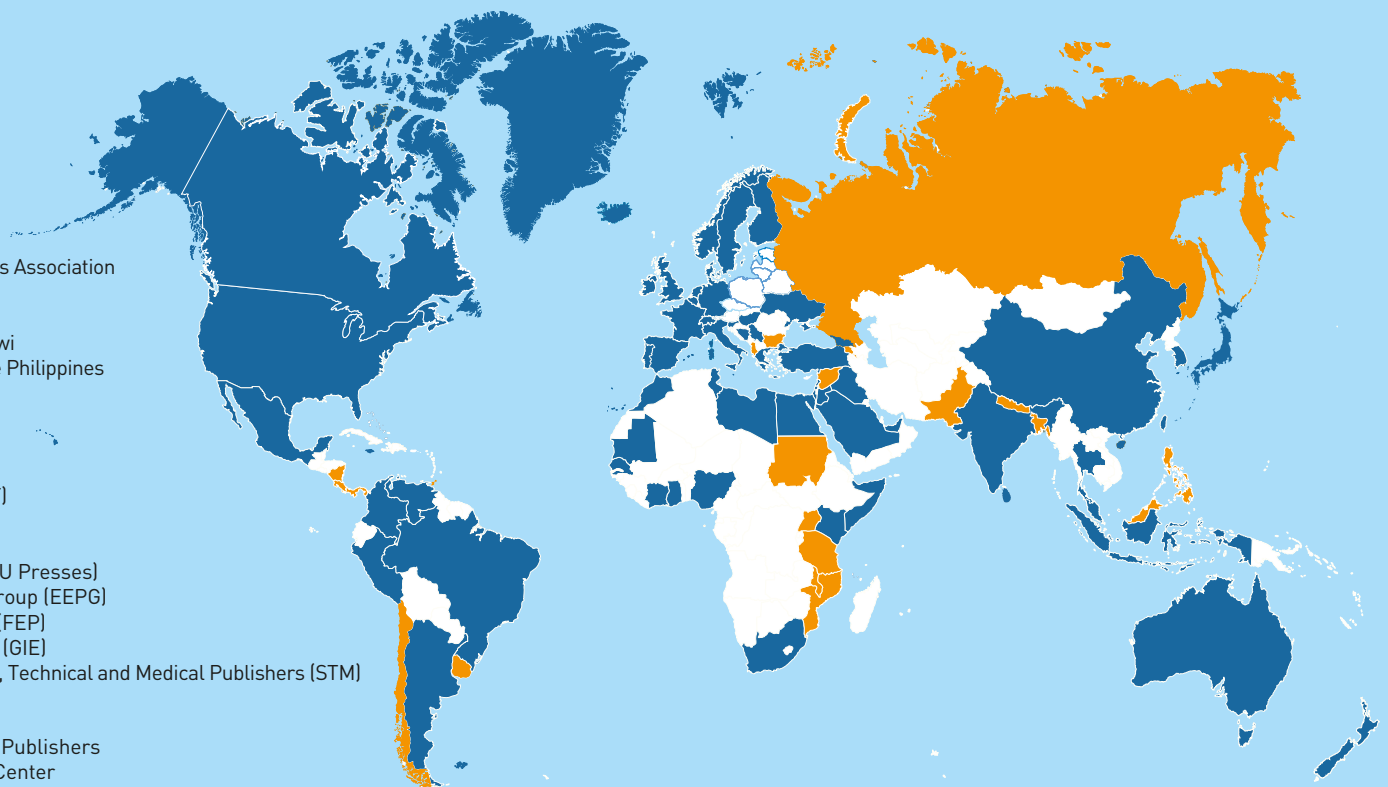
African Publishers Network (APNET)
Afrilivres
Arab Publishers Association (APA)
Association of University Presses (AU Presses)
European Educational Publishers Group (EEPG)
Federation of European Publishers (FEP)
Grupo Ibero-Americano de Editores (GIE)
International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM)

Patron Members

The Motovun Group of International Publishers
North Korean Writers in Exile PEN Center

New Patron Members

Bologna Children's Book Fair
Philippine Book Publishing Development Federation



OUR STAFF

JOSÉ BORGHINO



Secretary General

JAMES TAYLOR



Director of Communications
and Freedom to Publish

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José was appointed Secretary General in September 2015, having joined IPA as Policy Director in March 2013. He came to the IPA from the Australian Publishers Association where he served as Manager of Industry Representation. His previous professional roles include lecturer in journalism and creative industries at the University of Sydney, editor of the online news magazine NewMatilda.com, executive director of the Australian Society of Authors, and senior positions at the Literature Board of the Australia Council.

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James joined the IPA in January 2018, moving to Geneva from Brussels. James's career in Brussels was focused on communications for membership-based organisations at the junction between the creative industries and policymakers: IMPALA, the independent music companies' association, and then SAA, the grouping of collective management organisations for screenwriters and directors.

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Vera joined IPA in June 2018. As international legal advisor & IP specialist, she worked with multiple creative industry companies and international organizations. Vera's previous roles include legal deputy to the Portuguese Secretary of State for Culture, General Counsel for AGICOA (film producers' international licensing organisation), Board Member of an anti-piracy coalition, Executive Director of Portuguese collective management organisation, AGE COP.

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Olivier joined the IPA in September 2019. He has a background in international relations and technological innovation. Olivier previously worked for various institutions, including the Geneva Book Fair and member-based industry associations such as the World Economic Forum and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.



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