



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

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PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL

BODOUR AL QASIMI

As the end of my presidency looms, I feel a mixture of satisfaction, nostalgia and, yes, a little relief.

Upon assuming the role in 2021, I vowed to achieve as much as possible in the limited timeframe, despite the unprecedented complexities of COVID-19, which had over the previous year capsized everything: plans, priorities, and life in general.

Like many people, I was initially daunted by the mounting uncertainty and left wondering what progress could really be possible in the narrowing window of opportunity. Yet it soon became clear that while the pandemic brought huge, urgent challenges, it also offered a moment to revisit old assumptions about the publishing industry and the IPA's place in it.

When I instigated the International Sustainable Publishing and Industry Resilience (InSPIRe) plan in the spring of 2020, it was as a stock-taking exercise to gauge the pandemic's effects on publishing markets around the world.

But the global situation was unpredictably fluid and, as InSPIRe matured, we witnessed spreading consensus that publishing is so much more than a constellation of separate, proximate businesses. In reality, it is more productive to treat it as a sprawling, interdependent ecosystem, with finely balanced, equally critical constituent parts.

This is the right approach if we are all to thrive—authors, illustrators, translators, printers, distributors, booksellers, libraries, retailers, publishers—and to surmount the mega challenges of sustainability, technology, and diversity, equity, and inclusion; as well as the backbone issues of copyright and freedom to publish. The consolidation of this mindset will be vital for our mutually assured future success.

As an association, we have made important strides forward, and I'm excited to hand the mantle to President-elect Karine Pansa, with Vice-President Gvantsa Jobava hard on her heels.

This series of women at the top after more than a century of men (with one exception in Ana María Cabanellas) speaks volumes about progress in world publishing, progress that I know Karine and Gvantsa will push forward to the next level.

To my friends and colleagues of the IPA membership, to the staff at the IPA Secretariat in Geneva and in my own team, and to all those who have supported the IPA and me personally, thank you for an unforgettable, instructive, and deeply gratifying two years ■



PRESIDENT

COMMITTEE UPDATES

COPYRIGHT

JESSICA SÄNGER

IPA was back at WIPO for the first time since 2019 for an in-person session of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR). Our excellent delegation, including representatives from Belgium, Brazil, India, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, UAE and the UK, had meetings with regional groups, representatives of individual member states at WIPO and Ambassadors. Ahead of the Committee meeting, WIPO held an information session about the impacts of COVID-19 on creative industries and in the copyright ecosystem. Our EC member, Pranav Gupta, spoke about the impact on publishing and IPA's research was frequently cited in the accompanying report.

In addition to our work at WIPO, we have supported members and publishers in many countries through responses to consultations and policy reviews. Much

of this work is coordinated with our Copyright Policy Working Group.

This year, in coordination with our national and regional members, IPA filed submissions in Australia, Brazil, Greece, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, and South Africa. IPA also supported the advocacy efforts of our members in New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

In the USA, we filed an Amicus Brief alongside other rightholders' organizations in support of American publishers in their law suit against the pirate website Internet Archive for copyright infringement. Our thanks to CISAC, FEP, FIAPF, IFPI, IVF, and STM for their important support and engagement. We also supported our member in New Zealand to stop the New Zealand National Library from enabling its foreign works collection to be digitised by the Internet Archive without



CHAIR OF THE COPYRIGHT COMMITTEE

the permissions required by national and international copyright law.

In addition to our two online meetings of the Copyright Committee (which will continue in an online format for the benefit of our global copyright community), the IPA Secretariat held three regional copyright meetings to bring us closer to our members in different regions, chaired by members of each region. This year's meetings gathered members in African countries, Latin America, and Arab speaking countries. We hope to hold future events in other regions, including Asia.

In June, IPA held a webinar on e-lending, attended by over 150 members of IPA and IFRRO, to raise awareness about the multiple licensing options offered to libraries by publishers around the world. Earlier in the year, in collaboration with

FEP, IPA invited some of our members to speak at two online panels in the EU-African Union Summit for SMEs.

We also held an in-person meeting of the Copyright Committee at Frankfurt Book Fair, where we shared reports from around the world about local copyright developments.

I would like to thank the members of the Copyright Committee, the Copyright Policy Working Group and Vera Castanheira for all their work this year ■

Charles Clark Memorial Lecture

The 2022 Charles Clark Memorial Lecture was the closing event at the London Book Fair at Olympia London in May. The annual Memorial Lecture celebrates and remembers the achievements of Charles Clark who was a publisher, lawyer, and eminent authority on copyright law.

This year's lecture was given by Professor Mark D Cole, Professor of Media and Telecommunication Law at the University of Luxembourg, who took his audience through an interesting overview of the EU's experience of regulating online platforms and what future legislation may look like, explaining how the EU *acquis* has evolved from the EU's e-Commerce Directive and Information Society Directive to the recent Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act.

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) ■



The 2022 Charles Clark Memorial Lecture
by Professor Mark D. Cole

"The answer to platform regulation is in the regulation of platforms"

On current and future approaches to regulating the online platform economy and its relevance for copyright law.

Pillar Hall
Thursday, 7th April
15:00 - 16:30

The lecture will be followed by a drinks reception.

Supported by

CLA Copyright Licensing Agency Publishers Association FEP Federation of European Publishers IPA International Publishers Association PLS Publishers' Licensing Services

FREEDOM TO PUBLISH

KRISTENN EINARSSON

The inaugural World Expression Forum, of which IPA is a stakeholder, took place in May in Lillehammer, Norway and was a great success. At the forum, before freedom of expression defenders from around the world, we presented the 2022 IPA Prix Voltaire shortlist.

The 2022 IPA Prix Voltaire laureate is Same Sky (Fah Deaw Kan) publishing house in Thailand. Same Sky is a perfect example of a brave publisher continuing to publish despite police raids, arrests and intimidation. The Prix Voltaire was awarded to the laureate at the 33rd International Publishers Congress in Jakarta.

We are grateful to all our Prix Voltaire sponsors. We welcomed four new sponsors of the Prix Voltaire in 2022 and would like to increase the regional diversity of our sponsorship.

We held Freedom to Publish forums with guest speakers from IFEX, PEN International and HarperCollins UK, as well as trialling regional formats for Asia and the Americas to cater for different time zones. During the Congress, we held an insightful session on how technology affects the Freedom to Publish.

We also issued statements on the situation in several countries including Vietnam, Peru, Myanmar, Belarus, Turkey and Thailand.

Finally, we welcomed two new members in January: Roberto Banchik (Mexico) and Zeynep Atiker (Turkey). I would like to thank all of our Committee members for their work over the year ■



CHAIR OF THE FREEDOM TO
PUBLISH COMMITTEE

IPA Prix Voltaire 2022

In 2022, there were five exceptionally strong candidates on the shortlist for the Prix Voltaire:

- **Ukrainian Publishers & Booksellers Association (UPBA), Ukraine**
- **Nahid Shahalimi from Afghanistan/Canada**
- **Raúl Figueroa Sarti/F&G Editores from Guatemala**
- **Same Sky (Fah Deaw Kan) Publishing from Thailand**
- **VK Karthika from India**

The Committee selected Same Sky Publishing for its exemplary courage in upholding the freedom to publish and enabling others to exercise their right to freedom of expression. See the section on the Congress in Jakarta for details on the award ceremony ■



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:

LITERACY

Gvantsa Jobava is leading our working group on literacy. We launched a new database on the IPA website to highlight the international network of literacy organisations. We had a campaign on International Literacy Day (8 September) and we are now exploring how literacy is supported by the World Book Capital initiative.

ACCESSIBILITY

Hugo Stetzer and our new co-chair Laura Brady are leading our work on accessibility. We had many discussions about accessibility as prompted by the European Accessibility Act. We are urging everybody to sign up for the Accessible Books Consortium Charter, a great first step for accessible publishing.

DATA AND STATISTICS

Pedro Sobral is leading our work on data and statistics. WIPO published *The Global Publishing Industry in 2020* report, which showed very interesting trends in our sector, but we are still lacking crucial statistics on many markets.



**CHAIR OF THE INCLUSIVE LITERACY
AND PUBLISHING COMMITTEE**

WORLD BOOK CAPITAL CITIES

Olivier Borie is spearheading our work on the UNESCO World Book Capital Cities. This year's World Book Capital is Guadalajara (Mexico). The next two are Accra (Ghana) and Strasbourg (France).

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

More IPA members are launching their own benchmarking surveys on diversity and inclusion, which is a great development, and initiatives like PublisHer are going from strength to strength.

SUSTAINABILITY

Vice President Karine Pansa is heading our work in sustainability. The SDG Publisher's Compact was launched

in 2022, and more than 200 publishing organisations or publishers have signed up. We are sending out a survey to everybody that signed up for the Compact to see how much progress has been made and what more is on the agenda.

In the area of climate change, we are building on the IPA Sustainability Summit which took place in Frankfurt in 2021 and again this year. We hope to share best practices from members, such as the French PA Climate guidelines and the new greening guide from Australia. The UK PA recently launched a "Carbon Calculator" for its members and there are already more than 100 signatories for the pledge to take urgent action on climate change ■

EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHERS FORUM

STEPHAN DE VALK

The Educational Publishers Forum had its first in-person meeting since February 2020 in Tbilisi, Georgia. In April, under the theme *Educational Technology and AI*, 20 delegates met in London to share experiences and forward perspectives. We also shared country reports and updates on initiatives for Ukraine.

We held our 'Virtual Leipzig' meeting in June. Over 40 delegates connected from Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The theme was *The evolving landscapes for Open Educational Resources (OERs)*, led by a survey and analysis of OER case-studies compiled by a researcher from Klett.

We also heard an initial report on our first EPF Members Survey. Responses were positive and constructive, with members feeling connected and wanting to be involved.

With the support of our Brazilian members and ABRELIVROS, Chair of EPF LatAm Eduardo Rodrigues organised an open event at the São Paulo International Book Fair on

2-3 July 2022. The next day, EPF LatAm delegates from six countries convened for a closed meeting to discuss pressing issues, in particular paper shortages, anti-piracy activity, digital transformation, and government acquisition programmes. Working groups have been set up to progress these issues. The EPF LatAm Group met in Guadalajara on 27 November.

In other news, we hosted our regular open seminar at Frankfurt, an EPF in-person meeting in Lisbon in November, and we maintained our regular cycle of liaison meetings with FEP staff over developments in Brussels.

We also organised a session at the 33rd International Publishers Congress on whether educational technology has the potential to improve education and learning results. And launched the ASEAN+ EPF, including representatives from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand ■



CHAIR OF THE EDUCATIONAL
PUBLISHERS FORUM

MEMBERSHIP

JOACHIM KAUFMANN

The Membership Committee was busy considering applications from new candidates applying for membership of the IPA. This year was marked by COVID-19 in our work. We normally meet all new applicants at the London Book Fair in April, but due to limited travel options of the applicants, we decided to conduct these interviews entirely by Zoom, which took place on 4 April.

At the 2022 General Assembly, Malaysia successfully applied for full membership (transitioning from provisional), and Syria, Guatemala and Mozambique became provisional members.

I would like to thank you all for your confidence in the work of our committee during your voting. I would also like to thank the Membership Committee members and the team in Geneva for their work related to the new applicants ■



CHAIR OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



ACTIVITY UPDATES

AFRICA PUBLISHING INNOVATION FUND (APIF)

The Africa Publishing Innovation Fund (APIF) entered its final phase this year and will formally close on 31 December 2022. Since 2019, when Dubai Cares pledged US\$800,000 to be distributed over four calendar years, the program has funded urgent improvement areas in Africa's publishing landscape.

These include innovations in indigenous language publishing, literacy, distance learning in rural communities, library developments and training publishers in accessible (or inclusive) publishing.

COVID-19 delays meant the project's final two iterations were delivered in 2022, with five grants awarded in the first half of the year, and a new initiative to increase the availability of accessible books for people with visual impairments and print disabilities ■



Africa
Publishing
Innovation
Fund

2022 Projects

BEN STEWARD

Book Aid International's *African Story Box* project is increasing access to storybooks among 6-12-year-olds at 36 primary schools in Ghana, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

In its *Read with the Stars* project, the **Association for the Development of Education in Africa** (ADEA) is enlisting celebrities to promote reading through read aloud and ad campaigns in major African cities.

Children's publisher **Yanbow Al Kitab** is giving 300 low-income Moroccan families mini libraries containing 22 books, access to online readings, and parental tips on optimising read-aloud time with children.

Non-profit **PRAESA** is deepening the impact of reading on children via free webinars and written guides on book selection, engaging reading and how to stimulate imagination and critical thinking.

Oliveseed Kenya is working with communities in the Maasai Mara bringing culturally relevant, engaging libraries with related programs, installing solar lighting and small home libraries, and running creative-writing competitions.

"What better way to close it than with a hands-on project like this to increase the canon of accessible works available to African readers with blindness, visual impairments, and other print disabilities? The APIF is almost over, and while that's sad, we can take comfort in the fact that its impact and benefits will likely be felt by children and adults in Africa for well over a generation" ■



APIF PROGRAM MANAGER

Accessible Publishing Program

In the second half of 2022, the APIF formed a partnership with the international DAISY Consortium, a world leader in accessible book publishing, in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

The goal was to have DAISY train African publishers in accessible publishing, and for the newly upskilled publishers to apply for grants to help them bring new accessible works to market.

The DAISY team, under CEO Richard Orme, has trained publishers in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda. And as a founder member of the Accessible Books Consortium (ABC), under the aegis of WIPO, DAISY has also developed online courses for publishers ■

Kick-off, July 2022

On 5, 6, and 7 July the APIF and DAISY organised free webinars in English, French and Arabic, called *Accessible Publishing Fundamentals*.

Close to 200 publishers from 35 countries signed up for the sessions, where DAISY's trainers gave an intensive introduction to accessible publishing, who benefits from it, and why producing 'born accessible' works makes business sense for publishers.

ONLINE TRAINING

Under the WIPO-hosted Accessible Books Consortium (ABC), DAISY developed an online course called *Accessible Publishing Concepts*, which was adapted to the APIF program and made available on DAISY's training platform.

Publishers who passed the course were invited to advanced, workflow-specific training, and to benefit from complementary technical support throughout the autumn of 2022.

Those intending to publish accessible works were eligible to apply for a US\$1,000 APIF grant to help get their project across the line and into the hands of readers.

Richard Orme, the CEO of DAISY Consortium, said: *With modern digital publishing technologies, publishers can make their books usable to everyone, including people with blindness, low vision, and cognitive and physical disabilities. Authors can reach more readers, and people with disabilities gain equal access to reading and education. DAISY is working with publishers around the world to equip them with the skills and tools they need to modernise their workflows. This meets our vision of more publications available to people with disabilities, and publishers can meet the legal and technical requirements of international markets* ■

The APIF in Numbers in 2022

US\$363,100 spent on publishing, books and reading
US\$139,000 spent on library developments
12 publishing and reading projects
5 library projects
Projects in 13 countries
600 applications evaluated ■

InSPIRe – THE INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE PUBLISHING AND INDUSTRY RESILIENCE INITIATIVE



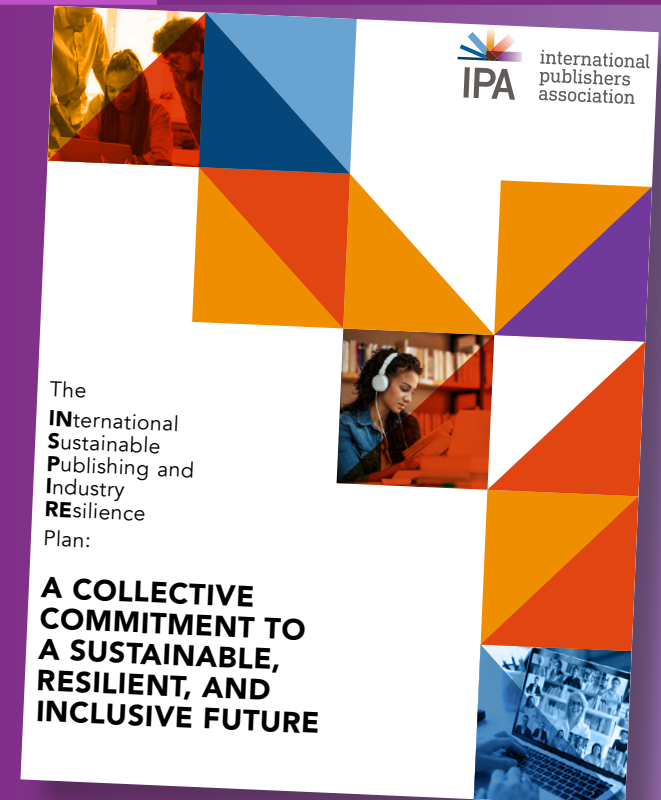
In the spring of 2022, the InSPIRe initiative placed the IPA at the centre of global publishing's post-pandemic recovery. The initiative undertook the development of several primary research studies on the effects of the pandemic on global publishing, and became a forum for catalysing resilience-building publishing ecosystem partnerships ■

Frontline Research

Consultations with more than 80 senior publishing executives and the wider publishing ecosystem in more than 30 countries allowed us to identify key pandemic-induced challenges facing publishers, and gather ideas and recommendations on the way forward. We published three reports from these consultations, which are available in Arabic, English, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

- **From Response to Recovery: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Global Publishing Industry** – Launched in 2020, IPA members highlighted the challenges they faced due to the pandemic and identified emerging good practices for developing operational resilience.

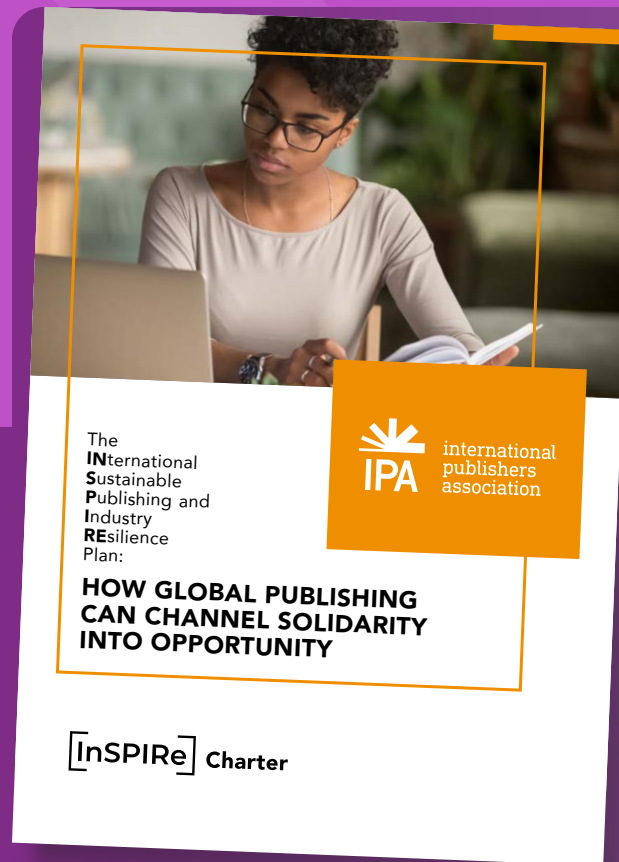
- **How Global Publishing Can Channel Solidarity Into Opportunity** – Launched in 2021, this report provided a status update on how the wider publishing ecosystem was faring a year after the initial wave of the pandemic.
- **A Collective Commitment to A Sustainable, Resilient, and Inclusive Future** – A capstone report released in 2022, the study synthesized the results of InSPIRe thematic work group consultations on copyright, freedom to publish, sustainability, diversity and inclusion, and publishing tech for the InSPIRe Symposium ■



Partnerships and Solidarity

InSPIRe provided a platform to reaffirm industry solidarity and establish relationships with the broader publishing ecosystem.

- **The InSPIRe Charter** – Signed by over 50 publishing ecosystem stakeholders, the Charter affirmed the commitment of signatories to continue the high level of industry-wide cooperation that emerged in the pandemic.
- **The InSPIRe Symposium** and associated discussions on the sidelines of major book fairs promoted knowledge exchange and collaboration ■



IPA ACADEMY

In spring 2021, we launched the IPA Academy, a remote learning portal for publishing professionals to broaden their skillset to face new challenges in the ever-changing book industry.

Since its launch, and with sponsorship from the Sharjah Book Authority, the **IPA Academy** has been offering courses co-developed with content partners the **Center for Publishing at New York University**, **Oxford International Centre for Publishing**, and the **Publishing Training Centre** in March 2022.

The Academy provides free access to courses and talks to all IPA member associations, and the approximately 15,000 publishers within their own memberships.

By 31 August 2022, more than 200 people representing 38 IPA members had registered on the site, with the majority

of signups from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Greece, Portugal, and the UAE.

The impetus to develop the IPA Academy, a first for the IPA, came from the increasingly apparent need for unity and solidarity to enable the publishing ecosystem to adapt and move past the pandemic.

The IPA Academy is an interactive community platform that's free of charge to IPA members and their members.

For publishers facing business challenges and skills shortfalls to apply new digital frameworks, this resource offers a bank of training modules on business-critical topics like digitization, marketing and publicity, rights selling and translation.

The IPA Academy is funded through direct sponsorship, and we are very grateful to

our principal sponsor, the Sharjah Book Authority (SBA) for their faith in the IPA's mission. SBA's CHF 100,000 investment got the IPA Academy off the ground, but the IPA is seeking additional sponsors to safeguard the viability and growth of the service in the longer term ■

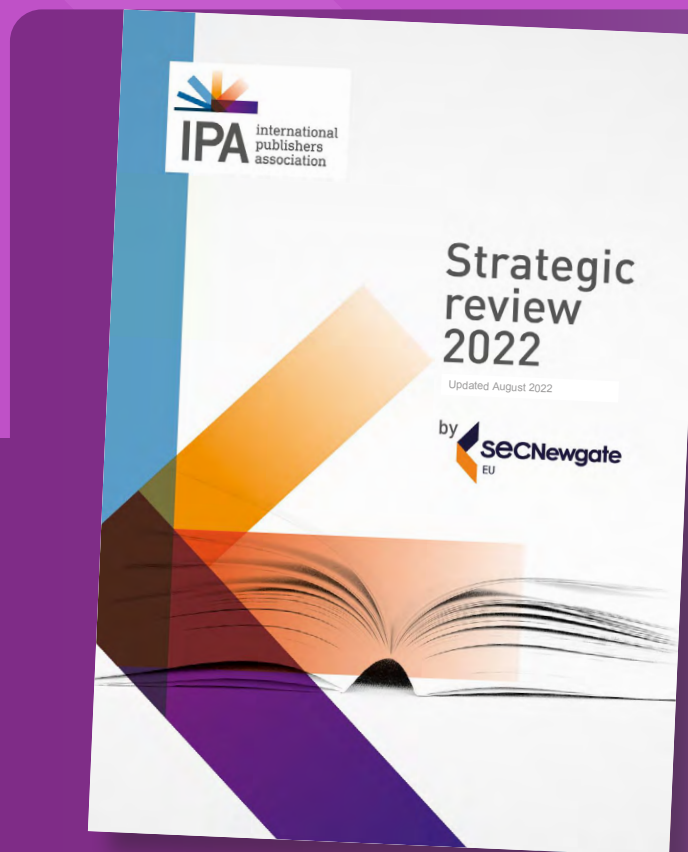


IPA STRATEGY REVIEW

In 2020, the IPA appointed Cambre Associates, now known as SEC Newgate EU, to conduct a strategy review for IPA. The review concluded in 2022 with the delivery of the final report to the IPA General Assembly.

Report was based on documentary analysis, surveys, interviews with members, and discussions with IPA's officers. An IPA Executive Committee working group will take this strategy review forwards by reviewing the report, assessing its recommendations, and putting together a plan wherein the accepted recommendations would be implemented over the coming years.

The IPA thanks SEC Newgate EU for their work ■



33RD IPA INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS CONGRESS

The 33rd International Publishers Congress took place from 10-12 November 2022. With over 600 registered delegates from 63 countries, it was the most successful Congress in recent memory.

Put together over the previous 20 months, the Congress featured 56 speakers over 12 sessions and 2 keynote speeches, as well as 3 awards and a stunning Gala Dinner.

The theme for the Congress was *Reading Matters: Embracing the Future*. The pandemic underlined why reading matters — many people turned to books in those difficult days giving markets bumps in sales. But some children in poorer countries were deprived of schooling. Those children are still catching up. Discussions at the Congress on the freedom to publish and the difficult censorship situations in Thailand and Iran

highlighted how much reading matters to people there. The panel on children's publishing kept coming back to the need to create that love of reading in children. A dedicated session on the evolution of reading rates showed how reading has to compete with other forms of entertainment. The discussions also turned to the future: where are the opportunities? How can we do things better?

The Congress discussions covered everything from artificial intelligence to educational technology, from the power of translations to the importance of diversity in the publishing sector, and the role publishers can play in tackling the climate crisis.

The Congress was also an opportunity to celebrate. Our inaugural IPA Champion and IPA Innovation in Publishing awards went



to Asoke Ghosh (India) and the Brazilian Book Chamber (CBL, Brazil), respectively. The Congress closed with the Gala Dinner featuring the IPA Prix Voltaire ceremony for Same Sky Publishing (Thailand), whose co-founder, Thanapol Eawsakul, was present to receive the award.

The 34th International Publishers Congress will take place in Guadalajara, Mexico, from 4-6 December 2024 ■

SAME SKY AWARDED IPA PRIX VOLTAIRE IN JAKARTA

The 2022 IPA Prix Voltaire laureate, Same Sky Publishing, was announced on 22 November. Founded in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2002, Same Sky focuses on political activism and publishes academic journals and books in social science and the humanities, mainly from a critical perspective.



IPA President Bodour Al Qasimi opened the ceremony at the Gala Dinner in Jakarta, saying: *Our support for the freedom to publish should be equal to that of reading and literacy. For millions and millions of children and people in different parts of the world, publishers' work may be the only chance they have between a life of dignity and possibilities and a life of poverty and marginalization.*

The IPA Prix Voltaire was awarded to co-founder Thanapol Eawsakul on behalf of Same Sky. As Same Sky's executive editor, Eawsakul has had to endure monitoring by state officials attempting to persecute him for sedition. In his acceptance speech, he spoke about the exceptional challenges that publishers face in Thailand and the role of Same Sky in promoting the freedom to publish.

Kristenn Einarsson, Chair of the IPA's Freedom to Publish Committee, said: *Same Sky Publishing is a perfect example of a publisher demonstrating their bravery by standing up to intimidation and continuing to publish works they believe in.*

Receiving the prize, Eawsakul thanked all of the Same Sky colleagues past and present who had been part of the publishing house's journey over the last two decades and spoke of his experiences as a publisher in Thailand. He noted the challenges created by the legal framework in Thailand and how defamation lawsuits can have a chilling effect on freedom of expression ■

GUADALAJARA, MEXICO CONFIRMED AS HOST OF 34TH INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS CONGRESS

The 33rd International Publishers Congress closed with the announcement of Guadalajara, Mexico as the host of the next Congress to take place from the 4-6 December 2024. Laura Prinsloo, who chaired the Jakarta Congress Organising Committee, announced Guadalajara, Mexico as the host of the 34th Congress and, together with Jakarta City Government, and Arys Hilman, President of IKAPI, handed over the IPA flag to Hugo Setzer, President of the Mexican Publishers Association.

Receiving the flag, Setzer said: *Thank you for handing me this flag and the responsibility that comes with it. Boy, you have set the bar pretty high. We are going to have to work extremely hard now in Mexico to produce such a fantastic Congress as this Jakarta Congress has been. I would like to invite everyone to the beautiful city of Guadalajara from the 4th-6th December 2024* ■



ASOKE GHOSH RECEIVES INAUGURAL IPA CHAMPION AWARD

Indian publisher Asoke Ghosh was awarded the inaugural IPA Champion Award to celebrate his decades of service to the international publishing community to help the IPA achieve its goals on behalf of the publishing industry. Announcing Asoke Ghosh as the laureate at the 33rd International Publishers Congress, IPA Past President Hugo Setzer said: *Asoke has been strongly involved with the IPA for most of his distinguished publishing career. Mr Ghosh has worked tirelessly, for many years, in promoting and defending IPA's values and has decisively contributed to build the association we have today.*

Asoke Ghosh was responsible for bringing the IPA Congress to New Delhi in 1992 and then again in 2018. He has chaired and addressed numerous sessions of IPA Congresses and served as speaker in IPA Symposia on Copyright and related topics ■



BRAZILIAN BOOK CHAMBER RECEIVES INAUGURAL IPA INNOVATION IN PUBLISHING AWARD



The Brazilian Book Chamber (CBL) was awarded the inaugural IPA Innovation in Publishing Award for its project Conexão Livraria. IPA Past President Hugo Setzer made the announcement at the 33rd International Publishers Congress and invited CBL President, Vitor Tavares, and CBL Director, Fernanda Gomes Garcia Franco to the stage.

Conexão Livraria is an ambitious project that sets out to connect independent bookstores with book wholesalers and a technology platform to facilitate the delivery of books to customers.

This project was born of the COVID-19 pandemic in Brazil where it became obvious that small- and medium-sized bookstores didn't have the technical or logistical capacity to supply increased demands. Conexão Livraria allowed customers to walk into a bookstore and order books that are not physically in the store and receive them within a few hours ■

IPA AT INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIRS

IPA attended several book fairs as countries reopened following limited travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We started with the Cairo International Book Fair, followed by Bologna Children's Book Fair and BBplus with sessions on the InSPIRe plan, the Africa Publishing Innovation Fund, the role of women in publishing and the Sustainable Development Goals Book Club. IPA continues to partner BCBF's BOP Awards.

The war in Ukraine hung over the fair and IPA President, Bodour Al Qasimi joined a session on the role of publishers in times of conflict, that included an address from Oleksandr Afonin, President of the Ukrainian Publishers and Booksellers Association

The São Paulo International Book Fair included a meeting of the Latin American Educational Publishers Forum and a session dedicated to women in publishing. We attended the Lisbon Book Fair and participated in the Estoril Conference ■





IPA AND INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

UNITED NATIONS

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Book Club



The **SDG Book Club** has continued to grow in 2022 with reading lists for children now available in the 6 official UN languages for all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The Club has inspired further offshoots in **Africa** (in English, French, Arabic and Kiswahili), Germany, and in the Portuguese language, with lists in both **Portugal** and **Brazil**, with more to come in 2023.

SDG Publishers Compact

Following its launch at Frankfurt Book Fair in October 2020, the **SDG Publishers Compact** exceeded 200 signatories in March 2022. There is a newsletter for signatories and more is planned for 2023. You can see IPA's **SDG site** for information about the Compact and videos from publishers who have signed ■



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 2022 saw Tbilisi, Georgia, hand over the mantle of World Book Capital City to Guadalajara, Mexico.

Accra, Ghana, will be the next World Book Capital City from 23 April 2023, and UNESCO has announced that Strasbourg, France, will be the 2024 Capital.

In April, the IPA was strongly represented at the Caucasus and Black Sea Countries' Regional Publishing Conference in Tbilisi, which coincided with a foundational meeting of UNESCO's World Book Capital City Network. This Network was formally inaugurated in by the IPA and its Advisory Committee partners Wroclaw, Poland, in September.

Global Education Coalition

Following its creation in 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic led to school closures around the world, IPA continues to share the excellent work of educational publishers around the world to keep pupils learning with this UNESCO body ■



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

On 21 November 2022, WIPO published its latest international publishing industry statistics as part of its **2022 World Intellectual Property Indicators** report.

Accessible Books Consortium

IPA Past President Hugo Setzer and IPA Secretary General José Borghino have been joined as publisher representatives on the board of the ABC by Laura Brady who **took over** from Michiel Kolman in September. In March this year, the ABC announced Kogan Page (UK) and Mr Ashoka Bandula Weerawardhana (Sri Lanka) as the **winners** of its International Excellence Awards for accessibility. Our congratulations to both winners in what was, again, a competitive **shortlist**. Hugo Setzer moderated a **session** on Accessibility at Guadalajara International Book Fair, which included the ceremony for the announcement of the International Excellence Awards ■



Accessible
Books
Consortium

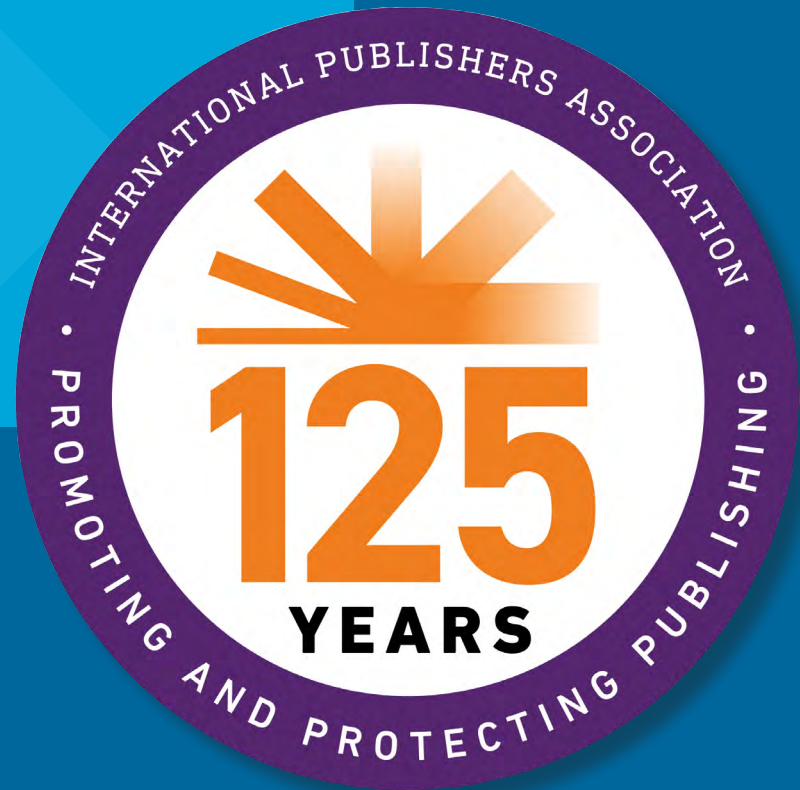
ABOUT IPA

IPA AT 125

On 15 June 1896, the first International Publishers Congress was held in Paris. The International Publishers Congress would later become the International Publishers Association, and in June 2021, we marked our 125th anniversary. You can find our special anniversary logo, biographies of past Presidents, a timeline of IPA, podcasts and a beautiful mini-documentary talking to many IPA Past Presidents, as well as a centenary book on our anniversary website:

www.ipa125.org

In December 2022, we published *The Fifth Quarter Century: IPA 1996-2021*, authored by IPA Past President Hugo Setzer.



OUR PARTNERS

You can see the full list of IPA partners on our [website](#).

We extend our thanks to our Global Transport Partner, Emirates, who has enabled us to attend a number of events this year ■

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Partnerships and regional action


The IPA is able to do more international advocacy and capacity building thanks in part to partnerships, which amplify our impact through the combination of diverse expertise and knowledge, and extended reach. We are grateful to our partners for their trust, and proud to work with them for common goals that stand to benefit millions of people.

This configuration, supported by the IPA's large, openhanded member network, enables a collaborative, flexible approach to program delivery that means the IPA punches well above its weight. As well as our core mission to promote copyright and freedom to publish, other challenges we address together include development of publishing ecosystems, boosting literacy rates and reading culture, and making books universally accessible, in particular to the visually impaired and print disabled.


If you or your organization want to talk to the IPA about partnerships, let us know by writing to taylor@internationalpublishers.org

PARTNERSHIPS


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In October 2018 the IPA entered a partnership with the International Board on Books for Young People



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OUR MEMBERS

■ Full members

New full member

Malaysia: Malaysian Publishers Association (MABOPA)

■ Provisional members

New provisional members

Guatemala: Asociación Gremial de Editores de Guatemala (AGEG)

Mozambique: Associação Moçambicana de Editores e Livreiros (AMEL)

Syria: Syrian Publishers Association (SPA)

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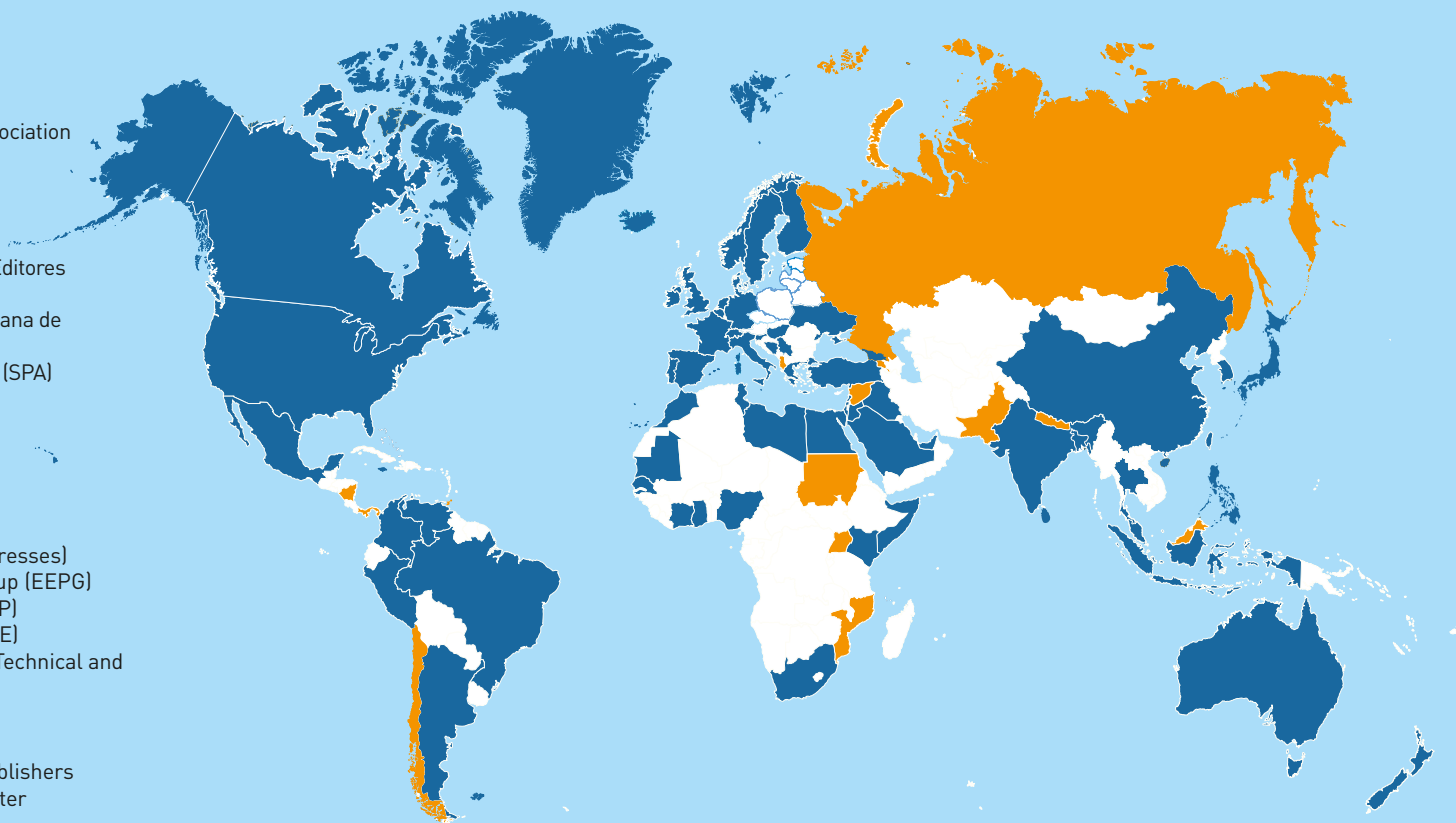
Grupo Ibero-Americano de Editores (GIE)

International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM)

Patron Members

The Motovun Group of International Publishers

North Korean Writers in Exile PEN Center



OUR STAFF

JOSÉ BORCHINO



Secretary General

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.

JAMES TAYLOR



Director of Communications
and Freedom to Publish

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.

VERA CASTANHEIRA



Counsellor for International Copyright
Policy and Programs

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.

OLIVIER BORIE



Office and Program Manager

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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