

Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities Section 2019-2023 candidates' profiles

Name	Title	Institution	Country	Brief summary
Kazuhiro Ando	Assistant Director, Library Support Division, Kansai-kan	National Diet Library	Japan	<p>I have been engaged in producing accessible academic literature content in DAISY or EPUB format for persons with print disabilities for over four years. There is stronger demand for text-based data than audio-based data among researchers and students, and the reading environment of EPUB for DAISY users has been enhanced in Japan. I am interested in technical specifications of accessible e-books in EPUB format, and how to use them. I want to produce accessible content in EPUB format matching users' expectations inside and outside Japan, considering international exchange based on the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled. Japan will join the Marrakesh Treaty in 2019, and the National Diet Library is going to become a contact point in Japan to exchange accessible format copies for beneficiaries. I want to respond to the needs of domestic and overseas beneficiaries, incorporating approaches and best practices from overseas libraries. Speaking of my contribution to the IFLA, I made a presentation at the Satellite Conference of the Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities Section in 2016. Also, I have served as a corresponding member of the Section since 2017.</p>

Saskia Boets	Operational Manager and Head of Communications	Luisterpuntbibliothe ek (Flemish library for persons with print disabilities)	As I work in a library serving persons with print disabilities, I 'm very familiar with and of course interested in the challenges and aspirations of our kind of library work, worldwide. I already paricipated as a co-projectleader of the IFLA guidelines for library services to persons with dyslexia (LSN / LPD). I will be part of the projectgroup that will work on new guidelines for library services to persons with a print disability. Thanks to the Marrakech Treaty many opportunities and many challenges are waiting for action! I want to broaden the target groups. So many more persons, such as newcomers / migrants, can benefit from Daisy audio books to learn (a) new language. I think it is important to count them in, but they are unfortunately not mentioned in the Marrakech Treaty. I am also aware of the need to take care of the accessibility of texts, formats, templates, websites, published by IFLA. I remember that the template for the dysexia guidelines was not at all dyslexia friendly. We should all be aware of this minus and cooperate to improve the accessibility for all.
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Galina Elfimova	Deputy Director	Russian State Library for the Blind	Russian Federation	<p>For 20 year I've worked in the Russian State Library for the Blind—the largest organization serving Persons with Print Disabilities in the Russian Federation. My duties in the Library include organization and management different Library's researches, projects and publishing activity. I have a Degree in Technical Science and I specialize in problems of non-visual access to digital information. I have more than 40 articles and some monographs dedicated to this problem. Projects implemented under my guidance include Integrated Virtual Informational Space of the Library, Educational and Informational Centre of Early Intervention for blind children and their parents, DB Library of Tactile Images, the Laboratory of 3d-modeling. Since 2000 to 2008 I've been a member of the Standing Committee of IFLA Section Libraries for the Blind (now — Section of Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities): I took part in international conferences, translate and distribute to Russian libraries information materials of the Section. I hope that participation of the Russian State Library for the Blind in the field of the Section will contribute to the development of such important points as international exchange of digital information in accessible formats and expansion of accessible information resources and services range in different languages.</p>
Christiane Felsmann	Head of Library Services and Costumer Relationship	German Central Library for the Blind	Germany	<p>As the departmental manager for the Library Services and anything related with the costumers I can provide an Expertise of more than ten years work. Within the network of Medibus we work on different projects which focus on the costumers needs. On the other handside we work on production tools so to create accessible media. Accompanying the implementation of the Marrakech Treaty in Germany I am cognizant and specialised in the fields of the institutions, the readers and the media.</p>

Karen Keninger	Director	National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, U.S.A.	United States	As director of a national program providing library service to print-disabled Americans, I have responsibility and high interest in this field. I find discussions with committee members very valuable and want to advance the work of the committee in order to improve access to information for all people with disabilities worldwide.
Koen Krikhaar	Senior Account Specialist	Dedicon	Nederland	Accessibility of Library services
Jelena Lesaja	Director	Croatian Library for the Blind	Croatia	- working in the library that serves print disabled users for 9 years (3 years as a librarian, 4 years as a Head of the lending department, 2 years as a director) - following the work of fellow libraries (thanks to IFLA), enables us to implement new services and innovations in technology - following the progress of the Marrakesh treaty and organizing regional symposium on that topic, initiating the translation of IFLA Guide etc. - working on the open dialogue between the librarians, publishers, National copyright agency and producers of the accessible formats in Croatia
Dipendra Manocha	Director Developing countries Program	DAISY Consortium	India	25 years of experience in the field of using technology to make persons with print disabilities independent in reading and writing. Managed projects of setting up of online library for persons with disabilities. Assistant project manager of DAISY For All project that established DAISY Focal points in 5 South Asian countries. President of DAISY Forum of India which is a network of 175 organisations providing books in accessible format to persons with print disabilities. Managed capacity building program on behalf of Accessible Books Consortium (WIPO).

Yasmine Mohamed Youssef	Training and Outreach Librarian	Bibliotheca Alexandrina	Egypt	I have a 12 year experience in the field of serving people with print disabilities serving in few different roles: reference librarian, Digital Talking Books Production Specialist and currently serving as Training and Outreach Librarian in the Digital Talking Book section of Bibliotheca Alexandrina. I have working knowledge of: information services for persons with visual impairment, assistive technology training, Braille printing services, consultation services as well as organizing outreach activities that give advocate for rights of persons with disabilities in Egypt, producing Arabic DAISY books, testing DTB authoring and playback tools and checking their compliance with Arabic script, conducting training to professionals working in the field, localizing authoring tools and networking with other organizations working in the service of print disabled. In 2010, I was awarded the Ulverscroft/IFLA Best Practice Award best award. I've been selected for a one month visit to DAISY South Africa in order to give hands on advice and instruction on all aspects of production of accessible material in DAISY format. I have served the LPD section for four years as a secretary, and I hope to make a significant contribution to the LPD section.
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Milan Vasiljevic	Manager of Electronic Resources and Licensing Department	Qatar National Library	Qatar	At the Qatar National Library i'm working closely with Mada Assistive Technology Centre in order to make our collection and services accessible to people with Print Disabilities. Qatar has recently ratified Marrakesh Treaty and there are plans for joint project with libraries around the globe. During 2017 we have licensed Bookshare for residents of Qatar and we are looking for the new services for people with Print Disabilities. I hope i will be able to contribute to this SC.
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Lisa Wadors Verne	Senior Program Manager:Education, Research and Partnerships	Benetech	United States	I have dedicated my life to providing access to information for persons with disabilities. I know that my background as a Doctor of Philosophy in Special Education and my experience leading the library programming at Benetech will be a great asset to the IFLA Libraries for Persons with Print Disabilities. This past year I have participated in both the mid year and annual IFLA LPD meetings and have already started to contribute to the discussions around supporting PWD.
Kirsi Yläanne	Accessibility Specialist	Celia Library	Finland	I have a long experience working at the library for the print disabled and know accessible publishing. I was a member of Finnish Braille Authority 2006-2018. I was one of co-authors of the Finnish Accessibility Guidelines for Public Libraries published in 2016 and am interested in sharing my knowledge about accessible library services internationally. My first term as a SC member is ending and I'm very interested in continuing working in SC of LPD.
