Open Access:
an essential issue
within the agenda of IFLA

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Universal and equitable access to information is vital for the social, educational, cultural, democratic, and economic well-being of people, communities, and organizations.
Access-to-information Divide

Scholarly Information: Between countries

• Big Deals: hardly affordable
• Pricing policy:
  HINARI Program, set up by WHO
  National licences? Few examples
Access-to-information Divide

Scholarly Information: Within a country

- Licences for privilaged groups/organizations
  Universities, research institutes
- The have-nots
  Health care institutions, patient organizations, vocational schools, individuals
  Interlibrary loan for journal articles is inefficient
Libraries’ support for Open Access

Libraries have

• educated faculty and administrators about scholarly communication
• partnered with faculty to set up OA repositories
• helped faculty and students to deposit their research outputs
• provided support in research data curation and sharing
• helped scholarly publishers to publish OA journals and books
• worked with educators to produce open educational resources
IFLA and Open Access

- The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions should engage in Open Access
- As an initial action, IFLA has signed the Berlin Declaration
- And now: ....
IFLA Statement on Open Access
Clarifying IFLA’s position and strategy
Focus on the Access Issue

The present model of scholarly communication

- does not guarantee access
- is not sustainable
Co-operation and synergy

IFLA will establish partnerships with and provide support to organizations and initiatives that are promoting Open Access, such as:

- SPARC (Europe)
- OASPA
- DOAJ
- COAR
- EiFL
- ....
Working with the membership

- Promoting Open Access in national policies
- Stimulating to promote OA in their communities
- Enriching local and national information infrastructure in order to stimulate OA
- Providing assistance in the work for national policies regarding OA
- Providing advocacy material and practical guidelines
The IFLA Organization

- Make the Open Access issue strongly visible
- A permanent Open Access Committee
- Work on the recommendations on short notice!
- Transform IFLA’s publications into Open Access
Thank you!