

On November 5-10, 2012, I took part in **IGF 2012 in Baku, Azerbaijan**, as representative from Russian Library Association and as member of IFLA International Leadership Program 2012-2014. It was my first experience of participation on IGF. I took part in all IFLA IGF events, in one as a remote moderator.

I decided that while IFLA already made available IFLA IGF outcomes (please see in next attachment) I will just make some personal notes and will share how I think to move forward using home association platform. Later I'm going to make a publication about IGF2012 in Russian using not only own experience but also available materials. In case of necessity I can translate planning article into English. I don't have such a plan yet.

Here are some notes.

1. IGF as an open forum indeed gives many opportunity for dialogue between different sectors of society. Even despite on some formal procedures of plenary sessions, like time limit and administrative power of chair to give or not to give a word to somebody from public (funny note, the chair was so far from public that he made a mistake choosing title lady speaking to men and via versa :)
  2. All materials are available via IGF website <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/> : all oral texts transcripts (I even found my own short message about code of ethics on open fora on Thursday – although chair tried to cut my time (that's why the message was short), I had an opportunity to realize my right on freedom of speech :), video and etc. All events with IFLA participation were written about in IFLA IGF outcomes on IFLA website and were sent by Julia Brungs via IFLA mailing list. Each IGF session were translated online, workshops had remote participation. This is really expanding the audience. Another fact: it was about 3000 twits during IGF and 2,8 mln followers, if I didn't make a mistake.
  3. IGF for librarian is a good platform for advocacy and development of social partnership. I see links between what I'm thinking to do in Project 5: Models of Regional Collaboration for strengthening advocacy and the profession. Participation of Russian librarians in Russian (national level) IGF with preparing library position and may be projects on access in public libraries via Internet is a part of collaboration for advocacy and demonstrating value of profession. As Ari Katz from Beyond Access said on IGF, speaking about social inclusion nowadays we can't imagine it without digital inclusion. And who can make it in a best way than already existing for centuries and trusted institutions — public libraries (as it was mention several times by different people on IGF IFLA events)?
  4. Regional, national and global IGFs: is there any difference, common features and what is better to choose for librarian? As I understand these events have no straight links. It is advantage of global IGF that number of regional and national IGF is growing. Speaking about first step for librarian – it's more simple in practical way and more useful for local libraries projects realization to start from national or regional (it depends of what IGF do you have in your region, national or only regional). It is what I will do in Russia. I'm going to use Russian library Association platform for:
    - spreading information about IGF and possible libraries role and impact (via website, facebook, publications in press, translation some existing texts from IGF2012 into Russian)
    - organizing special workshops devoted to the theme, including RLA Annual conference (All-Russian Library Congress) in May, 2013
    - making a statement/position/message from RLA to next national IGF
    - organizing participation of librarians in next national IGF
- Question: Do you have any ideas what we should make in the Project this year (2012-2013)?*
5. Last day closing session was may be most interesting for me. It was like closing notes and remarks, summaries from different participants (in addition to chair's summary). For

example, it was strange to note that Azerbaijan citizens didn't use an opportunity to take part in IGF, although it is very simple to register on site. Several times I heard from Azerbaijan participants answering any question that they didn't have any problems or sharp issues. May be I'm not right. It was interesting to me to heard discussion about offering to develop a code of ethics for Internet using by IGF. Code of ethics is a good instrument of self-regulation, for regulation of many issues which has no common legislative regulation. I knew a Code of netiquette by Shea, draft Code of ethics for information society proposed by UNESCO. But the idea of Code of ethics by IGF were not supported, because there are so many parties involved in IGF, so many ways of opinions and conduct, that union code could not be written in real, and will not be effective. I don't agree, but this idea should be discussed. Code for whom, developed by whom and so on.

6. I've got a lot of paper materials from IGF exhibition. After I will look through them all, I will suggest what will be useful for group/ and what for home association. I made some contacts with panelists from Regional and National IGFs Workshop, because I heard about researches on the theme. When I have information I will share it with you. It also came to Stuart's and mine mind (simultaneously:) that we can make some contacts with Internet Society (ISOC) education and leadership programs <http://www.internetsociety.org/what-we-do/education-and-leadership-programmes> I had a conversation with Christine Runnegar from ISOC, she said we can think how we can collaborate, or be educated. *Question: Do you have any practical thoughts how can we use ISOC educational programs?*
7. Baku left very kind memories and feelings in my mind and in my heart. A lot of sun, seashore air, center city old cozy beautiful buildings. Friendly people. I felt true East hospitality from many people. We have very cozy, cordial and tasty dinner by Jamilya (and her family) from Presidential Library of Azerbaidjan. Thanks to Jamilya I was lucky to see Caspian Sea for a while in the country and visited small Iran shops with spices and herbals. We were walking by seashore and local restaurant owner or worker invited us for cup of tea for free, after we refused dinner. It was strange for me, as I use to know that nothing is free. But I was wrong. Restaurant was almost empty and seems closed because of the end of season. It was almost evening, we were enjoying local tea with local berry jam, it seems like we were invited to visit. It seems to me that I was a guest even in a taxi, when taxi driver thought he should buy a cup of juice for his passenger because of hot weather or high price:))

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