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**Responding institution:**  
***Slovak Librarians Association***

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The Slovak Republic responded once previously in 2003. There are an estimated number of 2 855 public libraries, 5 483 school libraries and 46 university libraries (3 university research libraries and 43 academic libraries). The number of government-funded research libraries is given as 9. The source for the data is the State Statistics Institute.

Internet penetration is fairly high in the Slovak Republic, with 46.5% of the population being Internet users. Of the university libraries and government-funded research libraries 81-100% offer Internet access to their users, whereas less than 20% of all public and school libraries do so. Internet access is provided free of charge in university and school libraries. The state has made extra funding available to improve Internet access in the last two years.

The respondent has indicated that an average amount of local content is available on the Internet, and an average amount of content is available in local languages. The literacy rate is given as 99.6%. The digital literacy rate is given as 33% and rising. A detailed analysis of the digital literacy rate can be found at [http://www.ivo.sk/buxus/docs/publicistika/subor/produkt\\_2315.pdf](http://www.ivo.sk/buxus/docs/publicistika/subor/produkt_2315.pdf).

The library association is in favour of filtering information to a certain extent (e.g. for children) and filtering software is widely used on children's terminals.

The library association has adopted both the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the Glasgow Declaration, and a code of ethics is being prepared.

**User privacy and anti-terror legislation**

No anti-terror legislation has been passed. It is felt that keeping user records will in some cases affect the freedom of expression of the individual Internet library user.

**Reported incidents/violations of intellectual freedom in the past two years**

The respondent has indicated that no violations of intellectual freedom or of freedom of access to information have been reported in the last two years. The Amnesty International reports for 2006 (<http://web.amnesty.org/report2006/svk-summary-eng>) and 2007 (<http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Europe-and-Central-Asia/Slovak-Republic>) have indicated that Romani pupils suffer lack of access to education and are often taught in segregated schools or are overrepresented in special schools for children with mental disabilities.

**HIV/Aids awareness**

Events are organised on this topic for users. As the literacy rate is very high, there are no special programmes for members of the community who are unable to read.

**Women and freedom of access to information**

Libraries have no special programmes that focus on the promotion of women's literacy, and also no

programmes that focus specifically on women's access to certain topics (e.g. social information, the economy, education, health and family planning). The reason given is that women are treated equal to men and that there are no differences in access to information.

**IFLA Internet Manifesto**

The IFLA Internet Manifesto has been adopted and is available at <http://www.infolib.sk>.

**IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom**

The Glasgow Declaration has been adopted and is available at <http://www.infolib.sk>.

**Ethics**

The library association has not yet adopted a code of ethics, but is in the process of preparing one that will be adopted soon.

### Main indicators

Country name:	Slovak Republic
Population:	5 447 502 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Slovak (official) 83.9%, Hungarian 10.7%, Roma 1.8%, Ukrainian 1%, other or unspecified 2.6% (2001 census)
Literacy:	99.6%
Literacy reported by respondent:	Nearly 100%

Population figures, language and literacy are from the *CIA World Factbook*, 2007 edition (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>).



### Libraries and Internet access

The Slovak Republic contributed to the World Report series in 2003. The following section compares data and answers from 2007 with the 2003 IFLA/FAIFE World Report and adds context from the respondent's estimates, where possible.

#### Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	2 855 (There are 2 657 libraries as administrative units; they have 198 library branches, which are included in the total number of libraries)
Estimated number of school libraries:	5 483
Estimated number of university libraries:	46 (3 university research libraries and 43 academic libraries)
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	9 state research libraries
Source of these numbers:	State Statistics Institute

#### Internet access

Population online**:	2 500 000 Internet users as of Sept. 2006 (46.5%) (2003: 12.91% in 2000)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	Less than 20% (2005: 41-60%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	Less than 20%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Average
<i>To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:</i>	Average
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	Yes, to a certain degree – for the protection of children (2005: No)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	Yes, to a certain degree (2005: No)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in university libraries and school libraries (2005: No, although extra funding has been made available from the state or other library authorities for increasing Internet access in the library system)
Has the state or other library authorities made any extra funding available for Internet access in the library system of your country in the last two years:	Yes

\* Public library service points, including branch libraries.

\*\* Online population numbers are from Internet World Stats ([www.internetworldstats.com](http://www.internetworldstats.com)).

\*\*\* Local content is defined as content that originates in the country.