



Responding institutions:

Danish Union of Librarians and Danish Library Association

Denmark is responding to the World Report for the fourth time, having previously contributed in 2001, 2003 and 2005. There are 575 public library service points, including 97 main libraries (the 2005 report referred to an estimated 670 public library service points) and 237 research libraries. Only government-funded research libraries, and not the numbers for university libraries and school libraries, have been indicated. (The 2005 response referred to 330 research libraries.)

Online penetration for Denmark is estimated at 69.2%. Internet access in libraries is very healthy, at an estimated 81-100% for all library types. Both local content and local languages are very well covered on the Internet. According to the respondents, the literacy rate is estimated at 100% (the 2007 *CIA World Factbook* indicates 99%).

Access to the Internet is free of charge for all library types. The state or other library authorities have not made extra funding available for Internet access in the library system over the last two years.

The library association in Denmark is to some degree in favour of filtering. (In the 2005 response, it was indicated that the education of parents and children regarding the dangers of the Internet is thought to be a much better way of protecting minors.) Although the use of filtering software is not widespread in the

country, a reason for the possible use of filtering software is offered, namely the protection of children.

Regarding special areas of focus, the respondents have indicated that libraries in Denmark are not troubled by anti-terror legislation and no adverse effects have been reported. No incidents of violation of intellectual freedom have been indicated by the respondents, although two incidents in 2005 and 2006 were highlighted by the international press.

Libraries in Denmark have not been involved in any programmes for raising awareness of HIV/Aids, or for providing HIV/Aids information to members of the community who are unable to read. There are also no special programmes to promote women's information literacy or their access to information, as women's literacy is not an issue in Denmark.

Denmark has adopted both the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the Glasgow Declaration. Librarians do not have a special code of ethics.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

In the autumn of 2007, Danish anti-terror legislation was implemented, having two provisions that potentially affect libraries. It is mandatory to register Internet logging on all public Internet access points. (This, however, does not apply to the libraries, as non-commercial Internet access points such as libraries are exempted from the legislation.) The intelligence service may demand information about library users without an order of the court, if investigating terror suspects. This applies to libraries, but libraries only keep reader records for up to four weeks.

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

According to the respondents, there have been no reported violations of intellectual freedom, unlike in 2005 when it was reported that new music CDs are not available for loan in Danish libraries until four months after they have officially been released (this legislation still exists). Although Denmark is widely noted for its very high standard of intellectual freedom, two incidents in 2005 and 2006 were strongly noted in the international media (as reported by the independent third-party sources listed below).

The first incident concerns the reactions and threats following the Copenhagen-based daily *Jyllands-Posten* publishing cartoons depicting the prophet Muhammad (http://www.rsf.org/IMG/pdf/rapport_en_bd-4.pdf and <http://www.indexonline.org/en/news/articles/2006/1/denmark-paper-s-qualified-apology-for-muhamm.shtml>). In additional feedback, however, the respondents have clarified that there have been no restrictions on access to newspapers containing the original drawings, and also no restrictions on reporters' freedom of expression regarding the cartoons.

The second incident refers to a trial in which the editor of *Berlingske Tidende*, a daily newspaper, and two of his reporters were accused of "harming state security" by publishing leaked Danish intelligence about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq (<http://www.ifex.org/es/content/view/full/79623/>). They were, however, acquitted and the trial was part of clarifying the grounds of whistleblowers.

HIV/Aids awareness

Libraries in Denmark have not been involved in any programmes promoting HIV/Aids awareness. The main participants in programmes and campaigns concerning HIV/Aids are healthcare and social authorities. The libraries give full access to materials and information on HIV/Aids issues. Libraries have also not been involved in programmes to provide HIV/Aids information to members of the community who cannot read. (It should be noted that literacy in Denmark is estimated at 99-100%.) In the 2005 response it was, however, indicated that libraries are

trying to raise awareness of HIV/Aids, although not formally. Where possible, they also make the material available in oral form on tape or CD, which would help members of the community who are unable to read.

Women and freedom of access to information

Libraries in Denmark have not been involved in initiatives designed to promote women's literacy. In Denmark, literacy is not specifically a women's issue. According to the respondents, information literacy should rather be seen in terms of social status and background. (This should be read against the estimated 99-100% literacy level for Denmark.) There are, however, attempts in support of special programmes for promoting women's access to topics (such as social information, the economy, education, health and family planning) through, for example, reading courses and the facilitation of network groups in these fields.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

The IFLA Internet Manifesto has been adopted. As there have not been any restrictions and the flow of Internet-accessible information via libraries and information services has always been unhindered, libraries have not needed to promote the implementation of the Manifesto. Similarly, there have been no attempts to censor or inhibit access to information from the government or any other institutions.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The IFLA Glasgow Declaration has been adopted and is promoted by the two responding bodies via articles.

Ethics

Denmark's library community has not adopted a code of ethics and, according to the respondents, there is also no intention to do so within the next two years. The two responding bodies consider having a code of ethics as a matter for the libraries – each library should discuss the need for a code of ethics and how it is implemented in library work.

Main indicators

Country name:	Denmark
Population:	5 468 120 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Danish (according to the respondents)
Literacy:	99%
Literacy reported by respondents:	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

Denmark contributed to the World Report series in 2005, 2003 and 2001. The following section compares data and answers from 2007 with the 2005 IFLA/FAIFE World Report and adds context from the respondents' estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	575 service points, including 97 main libraries, branch and mobile libraries (2005: 670)
Estimated number of school libraries:	No data provided
Estimated number of university libraries:	No data provided
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	237
Source of these numbers:	Danish National Library Authority

Internet access

Population online**:	3 762 500 Internet users as of Sept. 2005 (69.2%) (2005: 68.5%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100% (2005: 81-100%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
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:	Very much
<i>To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:</i>	Very much
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	Yes to a certain degree – to protect children (2005: Yes to a certain degree – to protect children)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No (2005: Yes, to a certain degree)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in all libraries (2005: Yes, in all libraries)
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:	No (2005: Yes)

* Public library service points, including branch libraries.

** Online population numbers are from Internet World Stats (www.Internetworldstats.com).

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