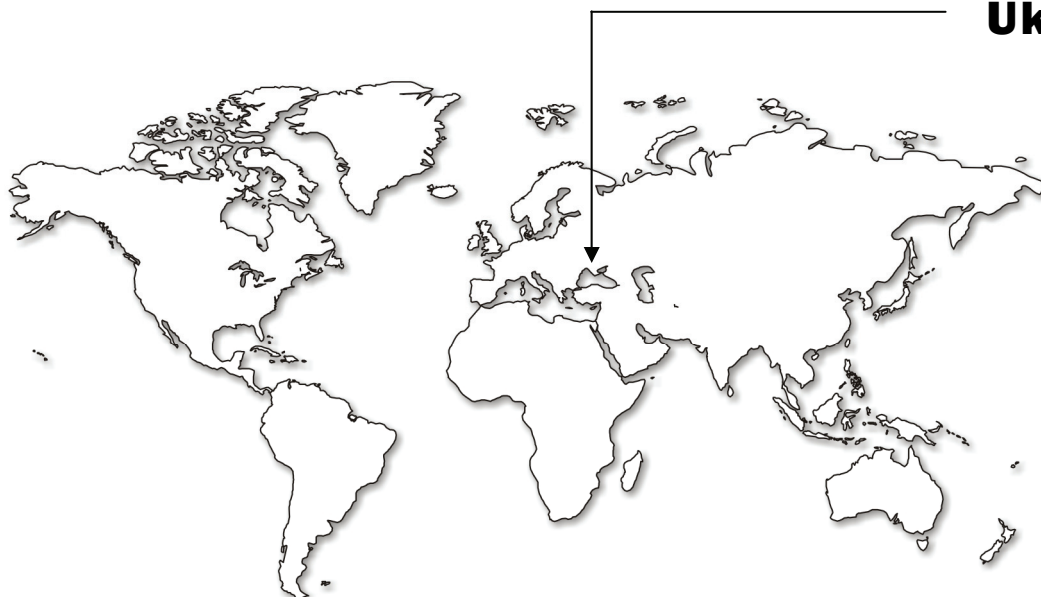


Ukraine



Responding institution:
Ukrainian Library Association

Ukraine has responded to the IFLA questionnaire three times previously: in 2001, 2003 and 2005. There are an estimated number of 19 805 public libraries and 22 247 research libraries. The respondent has indicated that there are approximately 20 600 school libraries in Ukraine, but has provided no data for university and government-funded research libraries. The source for this information has been given as the website of the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine.

Internet penetration is fairly low, with 11.5% of the population being Internet users. Less than 20% of all public libraries and school libraries, and 21-40% of the university libraries and government-funded libraries, offer Internet access to their users. Internet access is offered free of charge in public, university and school libraries, but patrons pay for access in some libraries. Local authorities have made extra funding available to improve Internet access in the last two years.

The respondent has indicated that very little local content is available on the Internet, and that very little content is available in local languages. The literacy rate is given as 100% (99.4% according to the 2007 *CIA World Factbook*).

The library association is not in favour of filtering information and the use of filtering software is not widespread in libraries. The main reason for this is that filtering does not comply with the principle of

intellectual freedom, as worded in the statement of the Ukrainian Library Association of 2001. A lesser reason given by the respondent is that some “librarians are not very sophisticated in these issues”.

The library association has adopted the IFLA Internet Manifesto and a code of ethics was adopted in 1996. The Glasgow Declaration has not yet been adopted, but the intention is to do so within the next two years.

According to the respondent, Ukraine was ranked by Freedom House as a free country for the first time in 2006. The country is moving towards international standards, including a constitution that allows for freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

No anti-terror legislation has been passed. The respondent feels that keeping user records would affect the freedom of expression of the individual Internet library user. The government currently does not restrict access to the Internet, but has the ability to monitor all Internet publications and emails for the population with Internet access. It has been stated that “any decision to monitor or censor the Internet would have an impact on libraries and their users. Several attempts to restrict freedom of speech on the Internet in 2005 were criticised by international and national watchdog organisations and later rescinded”.

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

The respondent has mentioned several factors that adversely affect the freedom of access to information

and the freedom of expression. The first deals with a lack of funds and a complicated tender process: the "Law on Purchasing Goods, Works and Services for Public Funds, with the prescribed procedure of tenders, has rendered impossible book collection development and subscriptions to periodicals. Currently, university and public libraries often lack funding to subscribe to periodicals and databases". In addition, the majority of library buildings do not allow access by handicapped persons.

When asked to list any information that might further explain the situation regarding freedom of access to information in Ukraine, the respondent indicated that "in 2006, Freedom House, an independent non-governmental organisation that supports the expansion of freedom in the world, ranked Ukraine as a free country for the first time. To a great extent, this was due to changes that occurred in the sphere of freedom of expression and information. Although the freedom of the press ranking by Freedom House was only evaluated as 'Partly Free', the organisation underlined that Ukraine's legal framework is moving towards international standards, including a constitution that provides for freedom of speech and of the press and other laws that guarantee citizens' access to information and protection of journalists' professional activities". This information was verified and can be found at <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=251&year=2006>.

HIV/Aids awareness

Libraries are involved in programmes to raise awareness of HIV/Aids, as well as other programmes

on socially important issues. Provision has not been made specifically for users who are unable to read – the 100% literacy rate has been given as a reason for this.

Women and freedom of access to information

Libraries in Ukraine have special programmes that focus on the promotion of women's literacy (also the promotion of literacy for all), as well as programmes that focus specifically on women's access to specific topics (e.g. social information, the economy, education, health and family planning).

IFLA Internet Manifesto

The IFLA Internet Manifesto has been adopted, translated into Ukrainian and published in several books. The Ukrainian translation is available on the Internet at <http://www.uba.org.ua/htdocs/modules/tnycontent/index.php?id=17>.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The Glasgow Declaration has not been adopted. It has been indicated that it should be translated into Ukrainian and be adopted in two years' time.

Ethics

The library association adopted a code of ethics in 1996 (see <http://www.uba.org.ua/htdocs/modules/tnycontent/index.php?id=14>). When asked how the code is implemented in the daily work of librarians, the respondent stated that "unfortunately, librarians pay little attention to these issues".

Main indicators

Country name:	Ukraine
Population:	46 299 862 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Ukrainian (official) 67%, Russian 24%, other 9% (includes small Romanian, Polish and Hungarian-speaking minorities)
Literacy:	99.4%
Literacy reported by respondent:	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

Ukraine 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 respondent's estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	19 805 (2005: 18 664)
Estimated number of school libraries:	20 600
Estimated number of university libraries:	No breakdown provided
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	No breakdown provided (there are 22 247 research libraries)
Source of these numbers:	Website of the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine

Internet access

Population online**:	5 278 100 Internet users as of March 2005 (11.5%) (2005: 6%)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	Less than 20% (2005: Less than 20%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	Less than 20%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	21-40%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	21-40%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Very little
<i>To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:</i>	Very little
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	No (2005: No)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No (2005: No)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in public libraries, university libraries and school libraries – in some libraries patrons pay for access to the Internet (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:	Yes, in some cases – local authorities in some regions (Kyiv, etc.) provide funding for connectivity (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.