



2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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ABOUT THIS REPORT



This Annual Report documents our activities from June 2018 to May 2019

It clarifies how we support research libraries and provide value to LIBER Participants.

The structure of this report mirrors that of our 2018-2022 Strategy¹, with sections for each of our three strategic priorities. In addition, we provide information about the activities of the Executive Board and Office, the growth of the network, upcoming activities and our financial accounts.



LILLIAD Learning Centre Innovation, Atmosphere Photo

¹ <https://libereurope.eu/strategy>

ABOUT LIBER



We are Europe's largest association of research libraries, representing national, university and special libraries, library consortia and organisations.



Our Mission

- To provide an information infrastructure to enable research in LIBER Institutions to be world class;
- To enhance the experience of users in LIBER Institutions, which is enriched by the facilities and services which LIBER can offer;
- To promote and advocate for European libraries in all European and national fora where the voice of LIBER needs to be heard;
- To develop library and information professionals who are innovative and can offer leadership to LIBER and to the national/international library community.

Our Values

- High-quality services for all users of library and information services;
- Intellectual freedom and access to scholarship;
- Collaboration with campus, local, national, European and global partners;
- Stewardship of collections and institutional resources, in the most appropriate format;
- Leadership, innovation and a willingness to embrace opportunities for change;
- Inclusivity, equality of opportunity and fulfilment of potential.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT



Ms Jeannette Frey, Director of the Bibliothèque Cantonale et Universitaire (BCU) Lausanne, was appointed as LIBER's 12th President at our 2018 Annual Conference, and Mr Julien Roche, University of Lille, France, was appointed as Vice-President.

Under this new leadership, one of the Executive Board's first actions was to make the future viability of LIBER a main focus point in 2018-2019.

The Board felt it imperative to ensure that LIBER's long-term strategy, services and fees are in balance with one another. Between September 2018 and March 2019, members of the Board therefore worked intensely with LIBER's Executive Director to examine the resources needed to meet the goals of our 2018-2022 Strategy and the expectations of Participants.

In parallel with this, two surveys were circulated to Participants: one looking at overall satisfaction with LIBER and another asking which services libraries would like to see LIBER provide. The findings informed our work on sustainability, in particular the strong demand from Participants for new and expanded services.

The result was the proposal *Ensuring LIBER's Viability & Building On Success*², which was circulated in March and updated in May based on Participant feedback. It suggests a three-band model based around GDP per capita for the countries in which LIBER is represented, with the aim of raising the Foundation's overall income to a sustainable level in as equitable a way as possible. This proposal will be voted upon at the Meeting of Participants at our 2019 Annual Conference in Dublin, Ireland.

² <https://libereurope.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Proposal-Ensuring-LIBERs-Viability-Building-On-Success-MAY2019.pdf>

In addition, the Board has kept a close eye on policy developments over the past year, ensuring that LIBER represents its research libraries in discussions on topics such as Plan S, Horizon Europe and the European Open Science Cloud.

A key Board decision in the past year was to publish the minutes of its meetings on the LIBER website in draft form, once approved by the President and the members of the Board by email, and then formally after the approval of the subsequent Board meeting. This allows the record of Board meetings to be made available to Participants as early as possible.

At our 48th Annual Conference, appointments will take place to fill four vacancies on the Board. Nine nominations have been received so far – a tribute to LIBER's enthusiastic community. Appreciation is extended to those Executive Board members stepping down in 2019: Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Dr Matthijs van Otegem and Mr Andris Vilks. Your hard work and dedication to the Foundation is highly valued.

Finally, the Board would like to thank LIBER's sponsors for their invaluable support. Gold Sponsors are EBSCO, Emerald Group and Ex Libris, and Silver Sponsors are OpenEdition, RetroNews and Digital Science. The Board is also grateful for the continuing support of OCLC in sponsoring the LIBER Award for Library Innovation in 2019.

Executive Board Meetings

In 2018-2019, meetings were held at LIBER's 47th Annual Conference in LILLIAD, Lille University, France (July 2018), in the National Library of Technology, Prague, Czech Republic (October 2018) and in the Faculty of Philology and the Svetozar Marković University Library, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia (February 2019). LIBER's Finance Committee met at all Executive Board meetings, and the Appointments Committee in October 2018.



Executive Board in 2018-2019

- **Ms Jeannette Frey**, *President*; Director, Bibliothèque Cantonale et Universitaire (BCU) Lausanne
- **Mr Julien Roche**, *Vice-President*; Director of Libraries, University of Lille
- **Drs Anja Smit**, *Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair*; University Librarian, Utrecht University
- **Mr John MacColl**, *Secretary-General*; University Librarian & Director of Library Services, University of St Andrews
- **Dr Bertil F. Dorch**, *Chair of the Digital Skills & Services Steering Committee*; Library Director, University Library of Southern Denmark
- **Prof Dr Wolfram Horstmann**, *Chair of the Research Infrastructure Steering Committee*; University Librarian, Göttingen State and University Library
- **Dr Giannis Tsakonas**, *Chair of the Innovative Scholarly Communications Steering Committee*; Acting Director, Library & Information Center, University of Patras
- **Dr Lars Burman**, Director, Uppsala University Library
- **Dr Martin Hallik**, Director, University of Tartu (until August 2018)
- **Dr Matthijs van Otegem**, Director, Erasmus University Library Rotterdam
- **Ms Agnès Ponsati Obiols**, Director, Unit of Information Resources for Research, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)
- **Mr Martin Svoboda**, Director, National Library of Technology, Prague (NTK)
- **Mr Andris Vilks**, Director, National Library of Latvia
- **Mr Wilhelm Widmark**, Library Director, University of Stockholm (until July 2018)



Ms Jeannette Frey
President



Mr Julien Roche
Vice-President



Drs Anja Smit
Treasurer & Finance
Committee Chair



Mr John MacColl
Secretary-General



Dr Bertil F. Dorch
Chair of the Digital Skills &
Services Steering Committee



Prof Dr Wolfram Horstmann
Chair of the Research
Infrastructure Steering
Committee



Dr Giannis Tsakonas
Chair of the Innovative
Scholarly Communications
Steering Committee



Dr Lars Burman



Dr Martin Hallik



Dr Matthijs van Otegem



Ms Agnès Ponsati Obiols



Mr Martin Svoboda



Mr Andris Vilks



Mr Wilhelm Widmark

SPECIAL ADVISORS

- **Dr Paul Ayris**, Pro-Vice-Provost, UCL Library Services (until July 2018)
- **Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen**, Director, Library Network Services, National Library of Finland
- **Dr Ann Matheson**, Research Library Professional

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Improving efficiency was a priority of the LIBER office in 2018-2019. We worked intensively to overhaul our administrative, financial and human resource operations.

One result of these efforts is that we now process most applications to join LIBER in one day, compared to 4-6 weeks previously. Our workflows are now fully compliant with all national and European rules and regulations, as well as Horizon 2020 guidelines.

At the same time as we upgraded many systems, we developed a new sponsorship strategy for LIBER. It will be discussed by the Executive Board in June and includes an ambitious goal of increasing income from corporate partners by 20-25% each year from 2020-2022. The new strategy is underpinned by a partnership model, under which LIBER and its commercial stakeholders support each other's vision and mission and use this as basis for cooperation. Meetings are already planned with several potential sponsors.

The Office has also been reaching out to partners, representing the research library community at key events and collaborating on important initiatives.

We endorsed a Library Manifesto for Europe, along with IFLA, EBLIDA, SPARC Europe and Public Libraries 2030, aiming to engage libraries in European elections, and as a member of the International Alliance of Research Library Associations (IARLA), a coalition of five prominent academic and research library associations, we attended an IARLA meeting in March. This included a discussion about Plan S with Marc Schiltz, president of Science Europe (the coordinating body for Coalition S). LIBER is closely following the implementation of Plan S.

We attended and gave presentations at events including:

- The European Open Science Cloud: Austria takes initiative (October)
- Open Science workshop Budapest (November)
- e-IRG Workshop under the Austrian EU Presidency (November)
- EOSC Stakeholder Forum (November)
- EC EOSC Governance Launch Event (November)
- 14th Berlin Open Access Conference (December)
- RLUK Conference & IARLA Panel (March)
- RDA 13th Plenary (April)
- Spring 2019 Coalition for Networked Information (CNI) (April)

LIBER Office Staff in 2018-2019



Astrid Verheusen
Executive Director



Athina Papadopoulou
Executive Assistant



Vasso Kalaitzi
Head of International Projects



Friedel Grant
Senior Communications Advisor



Martina Torma
Community Engagement and
Communications Officer (from April 2019)



Valentino Cavalli
Open Science Officer
(until December 2018)



Simone Sacchi
European Projects Manager
(until August 2018)

YEAR HIGHLIGHTS



In 2018-2019, LIBER:

- Teamed up with the academic community to secure **one new copyright exception for Text and Data Mining (TDM)** in Europe's revised Copyright Directive, plus improvements to help libraries with digital preservation and mass digitisation.
- Hosted **440 delegates** at our 47th Annual conference in Lille, France and made **13 Conference Fund Awards** so that delegates from selected European countries could attend.
- Distributed over **2500 copies** (physical and digital) of our **Open Science Roadmap**³.
- Represented research libraries in **six funded projects** on topics including altmetrics, the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), Open Science training and Open Access.
- Welcomed **900 people** to **webinars** on topics including copyright, RDM, skills and training and measuring impact.
- Highlighted the key role that LIBER and its research libraries play in the EOSC at **one EU Presidency event**⁴.
- Published over **70 scholarly metrics recommendations** for research libraries⁵.
- Collaborated with the Library Carpentry organisation to run data science training for **16 people** from **13 LIBER institutions**, and with Scientific Knowledge Services and UCL Press on **Focus On Open Science Workshops**⁶ across Europe.



- Conducted **six surveys** looking at the FAIRness of repositories and their data, the landscape of Digital Humanities libraries in Europe, Open Science training, Linked Open Data and OA Monographs.
- Recommended **six ways to improve Plan S guidelines**.
- Worked with **four partners** - IFLA, EBLIDA, SPARC Europe and Public Libraries 2030 - to endorse a **Library Manifesto for Europe**⁷.

³ <https://zenodo.org/record/1303002#WzsCdtUzaM8>

⁴ <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/11/01/liber-at-the-european-open-science-cloud-austria-takes-initiative>

⁵ <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1289831>

⁶ <https://www.focusopscience.org>

⁷ <https://www.europe4libraries2019.eu>

OUR NETWORK



Thank you to all of the libraries, consortia, associations and organisations which make up our community, and their staff who participate enthusiastically in working groups, committees and events.

Network Highlights



GROWING
451 institutions from 39 countries participate in LIBER (up from 430 in 2017).



ENGAGING
50% of our institutions actively participate in our conference, seminars, webinars and working groups.



CONNECTING
80% of library directors and staff say they make valuable connections through LIBER.

Welcome to the 35 institutions which joined LIBER in 2018-2019!

Austria

- IST Austria Library, Austria

Belgium

- Hasselt Limburg Library
- Hasselt University Library
- Royal Library of Belgium

Croatia

- University of Zagreb- Electrical Engineering and Computing Library

Finland

- Tampere University Library
- The Library of the Finnish Literature Society

France

- Edition Diffusion Press Sciences
- French National Network of Mathematics Libraries
- Le Mans University Library
- Paris Observatory Library
- Université Clermont Auberge Library
- University Library of Poitiers
- University Library, University of Corsica Pascal Paoli
- University of Rennes 1 Academic Library

Germany

- Max Planck Digital Library
- Scientific Knowledge Services (SKS)
- University Library of the Free University Berlin
- University Library of Technische Universität Braunschweig

Greece

- National Library of Greece

Ireland

- Library, National University of Ireland Galway
- Luke Wadding Library
- RCSI Library

Luxembourg

- Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for International, European and Regulatory Procedural Law

North Macedonia

- St Clement of Ohrid National & University Library

Norway

- Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences Library, Norway

Serbia

- University Library "Nikola Tesla"
- University Library, University of Kragujevac

Spain

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Library Services

Sweden

- Borås University Library, Sweden
- Jönköping University Library, Sweden

Turkey

- Library and Documentation Office of Istanbul Arel University
- MEF University Library

United Kingdom

- AECC University College Library
- Glasgow Caledonian University Library

2018-2022 STRATEGY



The five-year period 2018-2022 promises to bring radical changes to the research landscape.

Our Strategy focuses on those developments where a leading role by LIBER will bring the most added value. It is built on a vision of the research landscape, within which research libraries add value by Powering Sustainable Knowledge in the Digital Age. In practical terms, this means working towards a world in which:

- Open Access is the predominant form of publishing;
- Research Data is Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR);
- Digital Skills underpin a more open and transparent research life cycle;
- Research Infrastructure is participatory, tailored and scaled to the needs of the diverse disciplines;
- The cultural heritage of tomorrow is built on today's digital information.

To realise these, LIBER is working together with its network on the themes identified by three (interconnected) strategic directions: Innovative Scholarly Communication, Digital Skills and Services, and Research Infrastructure.

As an organisation, LIBER brings added value and support in the form of the following enablers:

- Advocacy and communication capacity;
- Engagement in international projects;
- Policy development;
- Leadership capacity building;
- Connecting to our international network and partners.



Strategic Direction #1: Innovative Scholarly Communication

We are strengthening and expanding the roles of research libraries in Innovative Scholarly Communications through our **Copyright & Legal Matters**, **Innovative Metrics** and **Open Access** working groups.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Our Copyright & Legal Matters Working Group worked tirelessly to achieve **meaningful improvements to copyright law**⁸. As Europe's new Copyright Directive took shape they signed open letters⁹, highlighted the impact of the proposals on the Digital Humanities¹⁰ and sent voting recommendations to MEPs. Ultimately this resulted in a **copyright exception for Text and Data Mining (TDM) for research** and many other benefits for libraries.

Our Innovative Metrics Working Group published **Scholarly Metrics Recommendations for Research Libraries**¹¹ and presented it at the 2019 **EUA Workshop on Research Assessment in the Transition to Open Science**. Members of the group also presented papers at the ILIDE Conference in Slovakia.

An **Open Access Monographs** survey run by our Open Access Working Group received more than 60 responses. It asked questions about how the growth of OA to long-form research outputs could be fostered, and what libraries could do specifically to contribute to a more balanced OA landscape.

“LIBER were essential in shaping the discussions on the Copyright in the Digital Single Market Directive, and its provisions on preservation of cultural heritage, use of out of commerce works by cultural heritage institutions, cross-border uses of works and text and data mining. The association’s constructive engagement during the reform helped European legislators to better understand the technical and legal operation of national, university and libraries in general.”

- Julia Reda, MEP

In addition, Open Access Working Group members Matthijs van Otegem and Sofie Wennström, represented LIBER in the governance of the SCOSS¹⁶ and Think.Check.Submit¹⁷ initiatives.

“The European University Association (EUA) has worked together with organisations representing the European academic, library, education, research and digital rights communities to advocate its views on the Copyright Directive. The collaboration with LIBER was especially relevant to raise awareness on the shared positions of European universities and libraries to members of the European Parliament and permanent representations of EU member states.”

- Lidia-Borrel Damian, EUA

This group also reacted to **Plan S guidelines** by calling for an inclusive approach and recommending six specific improvements¹², conducted interviews with Open Access personalities Paola Gargiulo¹³ and Anu Alaterä of FinELib¹⁴, and held a workshop at LIBER 2018: **Libraries leading the Open Access Transformation**¹⁵.

8 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2019/03/29/new-european-copyright-directive-a-detailed-look>

9 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/11/13/europe-needs-a-broad-mandatory-tdm-exception>

10 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/11/26/copyright-dh>

11 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/06/28/scholarlymetricsreport>

12 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2019/02/04/open-access-working-group-statement-on-plan-s-guidelines/>

13 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/10/21/open-access-in-practice-interview-with-paola-gargiulo/>

14 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/05/15/open-access-in-practice-finelib-speaks-about-transparency-and-publisher-negotiations/>

15 <https://zenodo.org/record/1345016#.XOKjQRQzaCh>

16 <http://scoss.org>

17 <https://thinkchecksubmit.org>

COMING UP

We are closely following the **implementation of the Copyright Directive** and will help libraries, universities and their staff to actively engage in government consultations on implementation¹⁸.

Significant policy and legislative changes (e.g., Plan S, the Copyright Directive, Public Sector Information Directive and Horizon Europe) will be discussed in the Copyright Working Group's LIBER 2019 workshop. Library and open science leaders will be given the tools they need to get more actively involved in these topics and committed to striving for better IPR that supports open access to research.

The **Innovative Metrics Working Group** will run a workshop **Where to from now?** at LIBER 2019, discussing strengths and weaknesses of new and old measures, the effects of the performance-based measures on the ethical standards of researchers, the possibilities of developing new measures based not quality (rather than quantity) of research and, of course, what role research libraries should play in this.

Conclusions from the **Open Access Monographs** survey will be released in a report, and presented at LIBER 2019 in a workshop.

A new **Citizen Science Working Group**¹⁹ will start work on topics such as the role of libraries in citizen education and the required associated services.

¹⁸ <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2019/05/14/europes-new-copyright-directive-golden-opportunity-or-missed-opportunity-for-libraries-and-universities/>

¹⁹ <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2019/03/28/explore-citizen-science-join-libers-newest-working-group>



Strategic Direction #2: Digital Skills & Services

We aim to develop research libraries as hubs for digital skills and services in both physical and virtual environments, and contribute to this goal through three working groups: **Digital Humanities & Digital Cultural Heritage**, **Digital Skills for Library Staff & Researchers** and **Leadership Programmes**.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Twenty-five future library leaders graduated from our 2017-2018 **Emerging Leaders Programme** and 27 new candidates enrolled for the 2019-2020 programme. The Leadership Programmes Working Group which oversees the Emerging Leaders seminars, also organised a networking meeting for alumni at LIBER 2018.

A mini survey of Digital Humanities in European Research libraries²⁰ was conducted. This was followed by a broader survey of the entire **landscape of Digital Humanities libraries in Europe**, which was answered by 54 LIBER libraries and is being analysed by the Digital Humanities & Digital Cultural Heritage Working Group.

The Digital Skills Working Group ran a workshop on new **digital skills required by libraries** at LIBER 2018²¹ and ran a webinar with the EOSC pilot project: Skills and Training in Open Science and the EOSC Ecosystem²².

A **Job Description Repository** was launched and extended²³ by the Leadership Programmes Working Group. It aims to help libraries recruit the right people for the right positions.

20 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/08/27/a-mini-survey-of-digital-humanities-in-european-research-libraries>

21 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/07/12/digital-skills-liber-2018>

22 <https://youtu.be/2GZ7sy-oX2c>

23 <https://libereurope.eu/job-descriptions/>

COMING UP

The next **LIBER Journées** – an exclusive leadership programme for library directors – will take place from **13-15 May 2020** in Budapest at the Library and Information Centre, Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

A report on the results of the **Digital Humanities landscape survey** will be released and discussed at a workshop at LIBER 2019. The aim is to discuss deficits, needs and opportunities that result from the survey with workshop participants, in order to focus the activities of the Digital Humanities & Digital Cultural Heritage Working Group in 2020–2021.

This same Working Group will also continue collaborating with the **Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)**, and will organise a **workshop at DH 2019** together with the Libraries and Digital Humanities Special Interest Group of the international Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO).

A **competence development plan** for research library employees and a **starter's guide for Open Science-oriented library services** will also be developed by this working group.

Both the Digital Humanities and Digital Skills working groups will participate in a joint workshop with the SSHOC project at LIBER 2019.

A set of **case studies** will be published by the Digital Skills Working Group, featuring the insights of libraries already actively developing the **Open Science skills** of their staff. The first of these case studies, and a list of resources, will be discussed at a LIBER 2019 workshop.



Strategic Direction #3: Research Infrastructure

We promote the development of interoperable and scalable infrastructure – which supports sustainable knowledge and is seamlessly linked with institutional services – through our **Architecture, Linked Open Data** and **Research Data Management** working groups.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

The Research Data Management Working was active on a number of fronts. They **hosted webinars**²⁴, discussed **research data support in libraries** at a LIBER 2018 workshop²⁵, and launched and updated a **Data Management Plan Catalogue**²⁶ to inspire researchers and others in the process of writing a Data Management Plan.

On FAIR data, the group surveyed repository managers and technical staff to analyse the **FAIRness of repositories** and their data, and to create recommendations for the implementation of the FAIR principles²⁷.

Two **case studies on RDM services** were also published²⁸: one from TU Delft on the disciplines of design, engineering and technical sciences and one from UiT on services targeting language and linguistics.

The **Linked Open Data Working Group** kicked off its work last year with a LIBER 2018 workshop on semantic interoperability. A survey on library Linked Open Data publishing was also circulated, and best practices will be drawn from the results of that survey.

24 <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHA3IUmrYM3sR0sdjTEED4ahsCO3GTx9w>

25 <https://zenodo.org/record/1492589#.XOKmvxQzaCh>

26 <https://libereurope.eu/dmpcatalogue>

27 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/11/27/data-repository-survey>

28 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2019/05/15/two-new-liber-case-studies-on-research-data-management-support-released/>

COMING UP

An evaluation of the **FAIRness of repositories and their data** will be released by the Research Data Management working group at LIBER 2019.

The Research Data Management working group will discuss **how to turn FAIR into reality**, taking into account the European Commission's FAIR Action Plan²⁹, at a LIBER 2019 workshop. Libraries are mentioned in the FAIR Action Plan as one of the stakeholder groups for data stewards.

Best practices for releasing linked open library data will be reviewed and discussed at a LIBER 2019 workshop run by the Linked Open Data Working Group.

The Linked Open Data (LOD) working group will **update the LOD Cloud**³⁰ **with linked open library data**. Libraries will also be encouraged to submit their own updates.

The Architecture group will hold its 20th seminar on **Designing for Learning and Scholarship** at The University of Luxembourg Learning Center, Belval Campus, on **1-3 April 2020**.

29 https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/turning_fair_into_reality_1.pdf

30 <https://lod-cloud.net>



by Ignaci Bonei

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Our participation in strategic and innovative projects helps us to connect and represent our research libraries

Through projects, we ensure that our libraries stay updated on the latest innovations and that the research library perspective is accounted for in the research agenda.

In 2018-2019, we participated in six projects. This created many valuable resources and opportunities for libraries, including training sessions, workshops, white papers and webinars.

Most of these projects have now ended. We are applying for new project work and looking for ways to involve our libraries in these initiatives. In addition, we are participating in the Community of Practice for training coordinators and managers³¹, led by OpenAIRE. The CoP has regular calls on advancing making training FAIR, especially when it comes to training within the EOSC.

In the coming year, we aim to invite all LIBER libraries to share their skills and project ambitions with us. In this way, we can identify and invite LIBER libraries to become official project partners as part of our standard procedure when searching and applying for projects.

31 <https://www.openaire.eu/cop-training>

SSHOC



About: SSHOC (sshopencloud.eu) kicked off in January 2019. It is realising the social sciences and humanities (SSH) part of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) by offering a scalable and flexible access to research data and related services adapted to the needs of the SSH community.

Our Role: LIBER leads the work package **Fostering Communities, Empowering Users and Building Expertise**. We are developing strategies to foster communities and build Expertise, and will be involved in workshops, webinars and a final conference. We also support general project communications, and are helping with planning the project's governance and sustainability.

Value for LIBER Libraries: SSHOC links to the focus areas of our working groups for Digital Humanities³² and Digital Skills³³. Through SSHOC, LIBER will survey its libraries to better understand how many are involved in SSH activities, the type of work they do in this area and the challenges they face. LIBER libraries will have many chances to participate in training activities, including during a LIBER 2019 pre-conference workshop and at a workshop in collaboration with DANS and DARIAH at the Digital Humanities Conference 2019³⁴.

LIBER Libraries Involved in SSHOC: SciencesPo, France. Tilburg University, Netherlands. University of Amsterdam, Netherlands. University College London, UK. University of Nottingham, UK.

32 <https://libereurope.eu/strategy/digital-skills-services/digitalhumanities>

33 <https://libereurope.eu/strategy/digital-skills-services/digitalskills>

34 <https://dh2019.adho.org>

EOSCpilot



About: EOSCpilot (eoscipilot.eu) established a governance framework for the European Open Science Cloud and contributed to the development of Open Science policies and best practices.

Our Role: LIBER played a significant role in the Engagement and Communication activities of the project. We coordinated the engagement strategy which established effective and clear communication channels and outreach activities with various stakeholder groups. LIBER also participated in project activities to identify and catalogue current competencies and capabilities and analyse future requirements.

Value for LIBER Libraries: In collaboration with EOSCpilot, we ran two webinars: one on Ethical Issues and Skills in the European Open Science Cloud³⁵ and another on Skills and Training in Open Science and the EOSC ecosystem³⁶. We also ran a workshop at LIBER 2018³⁷, published a Vision for Open Science³⁸, and have contributed to a report on a EOSC strategy for a sustainable development of skills and capabilities. Finally, EOSCpilot developed a competencies framework which includes a strong component related to FAIR data and can be leveraged for future work in building capacity within the research library community.

LIBER Libraries Involved in EOSCpilot: European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Germany. University of Göttingen, Germany. KIT Library, Germany. The University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom. The University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

35 <https://youtu.be/ArYY3r1Qlg>

36 <https://youtu.be/2GZ7sy-oX2c>

37 https://zenodo.org/record/1319411#.W_K5TDhKipo

38 https://zenodo.org/record/1491303#.W_KeQzhKipo

FOSTER Plus



About: FOSTER Plus (fosteropenscience.eu) was a two-year project which aimed to contribute to a real and lasting shift in the behaviour of European researchers to ensure that Open Science becomes the norm.

Our Role: We were involved in Open Science training, outreach and advocacy work.

Value for LIBER Libraries: Training days and workshops in locations including Riga, Debrecen, Kaunas, Belgrade, Lisbon, Salamanca and The Hague equipped over 250 young high-potential researchers to deliver Open Science training within their own institutions. Other achievements included the development of a Trainers Directory³⁹, the publication of an Open Science Toolkit⁴⁰ and Training Handbook⁴¹ and the organisation of a webinar Open Science – Inspiring Cultural Change in your Library⁴².

LIBER Libraries Involved in FOSTER Plus: University of Göttingen, Germany. The Open University Library, United Kingdom. University of Minho – Documentation Services, Portugal. University of Edinburgh, Library, United Kingdom. Glasgow University Library, United Kingdom. Technical University of Denmark, Denmark.

AARC2



About: AARC2 was the second phase of the Authentication and Authorisation for Research and Collaboration initiative (aarc-project.eu). It aimed to continue to develop and pilot an integrated cross-discipline authentication and authorisation framework, building on existing authentication and authorisation infrastructures (AAIs).

Our Role: LIBER participated in NA2 “Training and Outreach” of the AARC2 project.

Value for LIBER Libraries: In collaboration with AARC2, LIBER has helped spearhead a Federated Identity Management for Libraries (FIM4L) group. A document identifying key issues has been drafted and will lead to recommendations and implementation, after the formal end of the project. In addition, we outlined the benefits of Federated Identity Management and how to get started in a blog post⁴³.

LIBER Libraries Involved in AARC2: The Moravian Library, Czech Republic. KIT Library, Germany.

OpenAIRE 2020



About: OpenAIRE2020 (openaire.eu/openaire2020-project) aimed to implement European Commission Open Access policies and increase their impact by extending the infrastructure that makes it possible to manage and monitor EC-funded research.

Our Role: LIBER led the implementation of the EC/Open-AIRE FP7 Post-Grant Open Access Pilot. It distributed a 4 million budget for funding Open Access publishing fees for publications arising from over 8,000 finished FP7 projects across Europe.

Value for LIBER Libraries: Our work with OpenAIRE 2020 funded the publication of Open Access material for many researchers. It also gave insights on the current state of the open-access publishing market, and the potential for European policymakers to enhance market competition and sustainability in parallel to increasing access.

LIBER Libraries Involved in OpenAIRE: Couperin, France. Georg August Universität, Germany. Konstanz University Library, Germany. Bielefeld University Library, Germany. University and National Library Debrecen, Hungary. Latvia University Library, Latvia. Library University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg. Malta University Library, Malta. TU Delft Library, Netherlands. University of Amsterdam Library, Netherlands. Oslo University Library, Norway. University of Warsaw Library, Poland. University of Minho – Documentation Services, Portugal. Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, Slovakia. National Library of Sweden, Sweden. Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey

39 <https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/trainers-directory>

40 <https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/toolkit>

41 <https://open-science-training-handbook.gitbook.io/book>

42 <https://youtu.be/3niZxR5-vCM>

43 <https://libereurope.eu/blog/2018/11/27/strategy-update-2018>

HuMetricHSS



About the Project: Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, HuMetricHSS (humetricshss.org) aimed to reverse-engineer the process of using evaluation metrics. We initiated the process by identifying with what matters – goals, objectives, and values for individuals and academic institutions– and worked backwards from there to develop indicators that can help academics understand if they are achieving their aims.

Our Role: The research library community has been long invested in the use of bibliometrics and altmetrics in scholarly communication. LIBER contributed expertise in the area of scholarly communication and metrics, participated in mapping scholarly communication outputs to practices and values and helped develop indicators, including a data model for the extraction of indicators from syllabi.

Value for LIBER Libraries: Through HuMetricHSS, LIBER shared the expertise of European research libraries internationally, and promoted and fostered international collaborations across the Atlantic.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Our Annual Conference is going from strength to strength.

At LIBER 2018 in Lille, France we welcomed 440 colleagues for three days of networking and learning, with over 40 speakers and parallel talks, not to mention pre-conference workshops. In 2019, nearly 500 delegates are attending our yearly meeting at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

Looking back over the past decade, the average number of people attending our Annual Conferences has risen by 45%. This is a fantastic reflection of our vibrant and active network, and interest in LIBER's activities.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to making the conference even better in the years to come.

2019 Conference Fund Awardees

Our Annual Conference Fund allows library representatives from specific European countries to attend the conference. Sixteen eligible applications were received and the following 13 people were selected to receive the fund:

- **Ismet Ovčina**, National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Serhat Uran**, Koç University - Suna Kıraç Library, Turkey
- **Mustafa Ergül**, Koç University - Suna Kıraç Library, Turkey
- **Jasenka Zajec**, The National and University Library in Zagreb, Croatia
- **Leonidas Papachristopoulos**, Hellenic Open University Distance Library and Information Center, Greece

- **Cem Ozel**, Koç University - Suna Kıraç Library, Turkey
- **Hüseyin Kaya**, Atılım University, Turkey
- **Sonja Borak**, National and University Library in Zagreb, Croatia
- **Elena Lagoudi**, National Documentation Centre (EKT), Greece
- **Zeynep İspir**, Özyeğin University Libraries, Turkey
- **Milena Kostić**, University library "Svetozar Markovic", Serbia
- **Šejla Džidić**, University library "Svetozar Markovic", Serbia
- **Dilyana Mladenova-Davidova**, New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria

Future Conferences

2019

Dublin, Ireland / 26-28 June
(Trinity College Dublin)

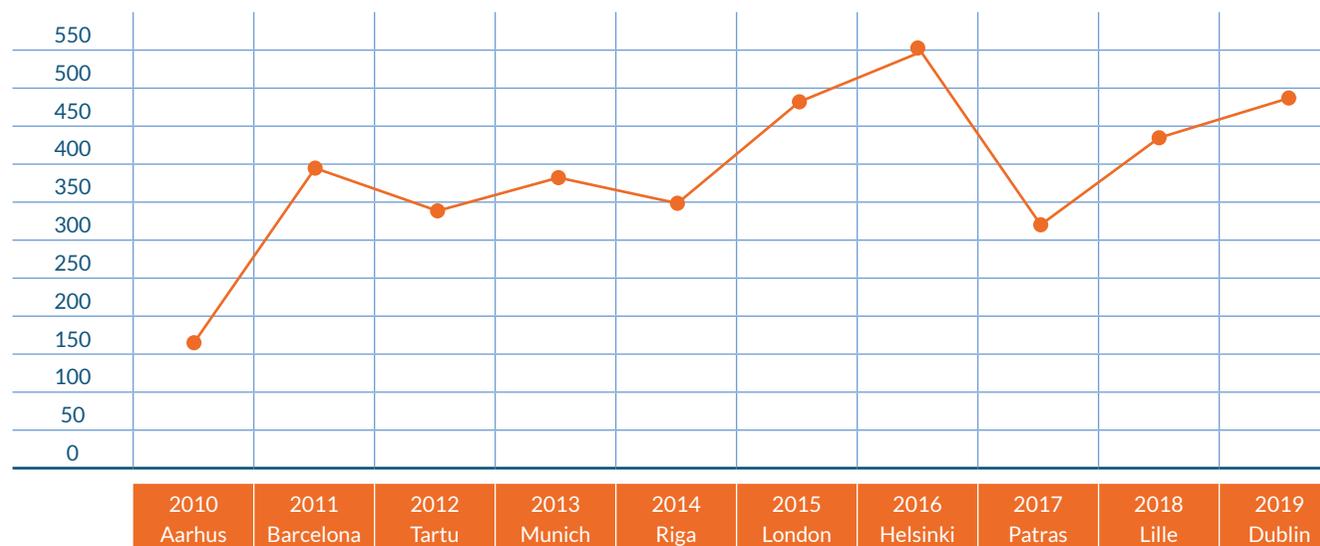
2020

Belgrade, Serbia / 24-26 June
(University of Belgrade, University Library "Svetozar Markovic")

2021

Lausanne, Switzerland
(BCU Lausanne)

Attendees





LILLIAD Learning Centre Innovation, Atmosphere Photo



LIBER Quarterly (liberquarterly.eu) is our peer-reviewed, Open Access journal. It covers all aspects of modern research librarianship and information delivery, and publishes both theoretical contributions as well as examples of best practices.

In 2018, the journal published 20 of 37 submitted papers and case studies, amounting to 415 pages of content in total.

Impact

Article-level metrics give an indication of LIBER Quarterly's impact. Statistics for the 20 papers published in 2018 (between their date of publication and May 2019) is as follows:

	Views	Downloads	Twitter
Total	7086	1489	275
Average per paper	354	74	14
Average for 'case studies'	233	45	12
Average for 'articles'	420	90	15

For all available content, over 4,681 downloads were recorded in 2018. Interest in the journal's publications comes from around the world, with the most visits recorded from the USA, India, Nigeria, the UK, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Spain.

Future Development

LIBER Quarterly is run by an Editorial Board, with oversight and key funding provided by LIBER.

A future challenge is to ensure that LIBER Quarterly remains available as a peer-reviewed communication channel for library practitioners, while at the same time bringing it more in line with LIBER's current Strategy, in particular the emphasis on Open Science (e.g., by working with some model of open peer review). Since the search for a practical long-term way forward is complex, a special working group has been set up to investigate this and to come up with a detailed proposal.

Editorial Board

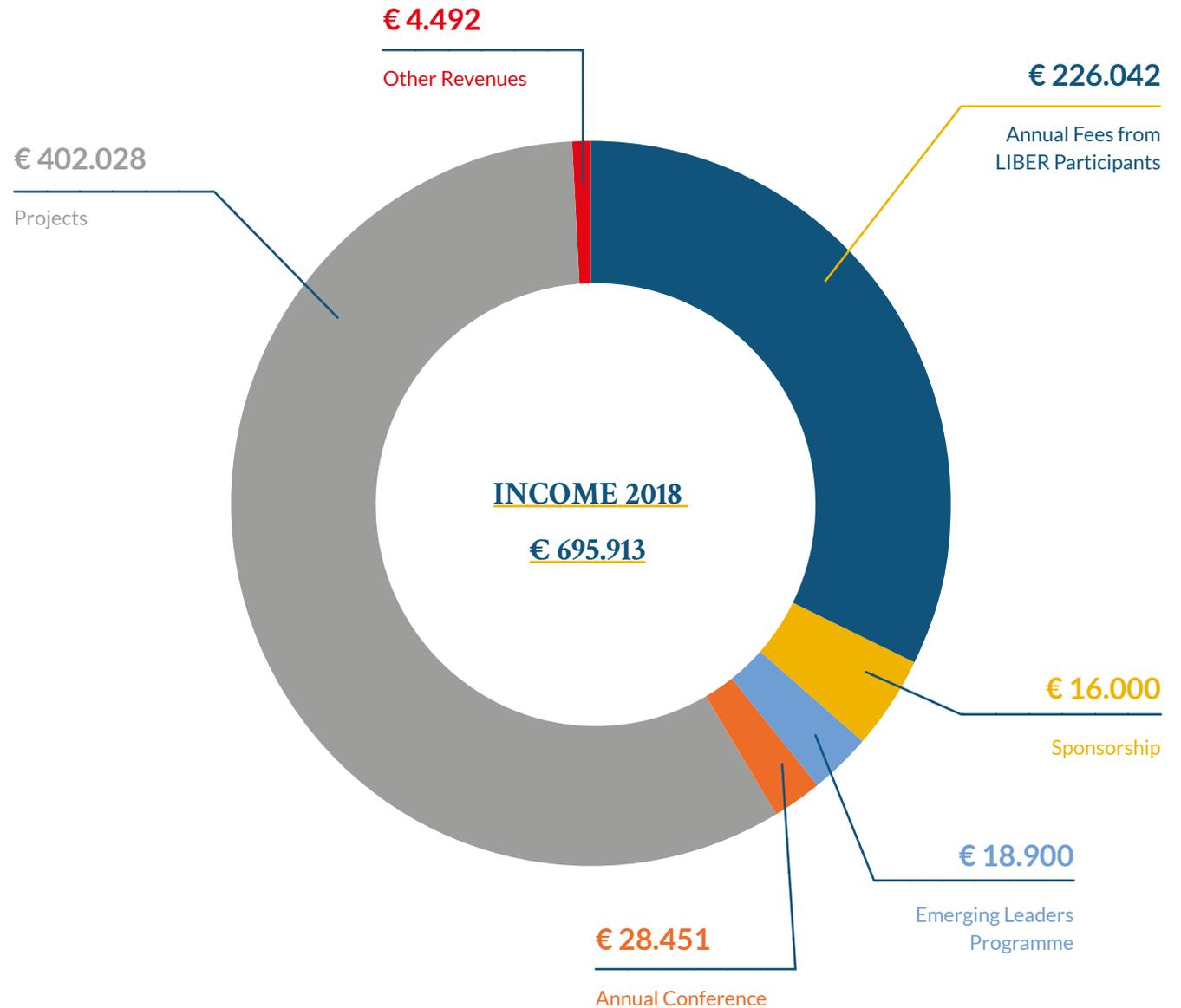
- **Mel Collier**, *Chairman*, KU Leuven, Belgium
- **Raf Dekeyser**, *Managing Editor*, KU Leuven, Belgium
- **Marc Martinez**, *Co-Editor*, Library Services Lyon 3 Jean Moulin University, France
- **Paul Ayris**, University College London, United Kingdom
- **Donatella Castelli**, Istituto di Scienza e Tecnologie dell'Informazione (ISTI), Pisa, Italy
- **Nicolaie Constantinescu**, Kosson Community, Romania
- **Stefan Gradmann**, KU Leuven, Belgium
- **Tibor Koltay**, Eszterházy Károly University, Hungary
- **Derek Law**, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, United Kingdom
- **Zinaida Manžuch**, Vilnius University, Lithuania
- **Achim Oßwald**, Technische Hochschule Köln, Germany
- **Angela Repanovici**, Transilvania University Braşov, Romania
- **Christian Schlögl**, University of Graz, Austria,
- **Yaşar Tonta**, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey
- **Cristóbal Urbano**, Facultat de Biblioteconomia i Documentació Universitat de Barcelona, Spain
- **Herbert Van de Sompel**, Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS) The Hague, Netherlands
- **Julian Warner**, Queen's University Belfast, United Kingdom
- **Wilhelm Widmark**, Stockholm University Library, Sweden

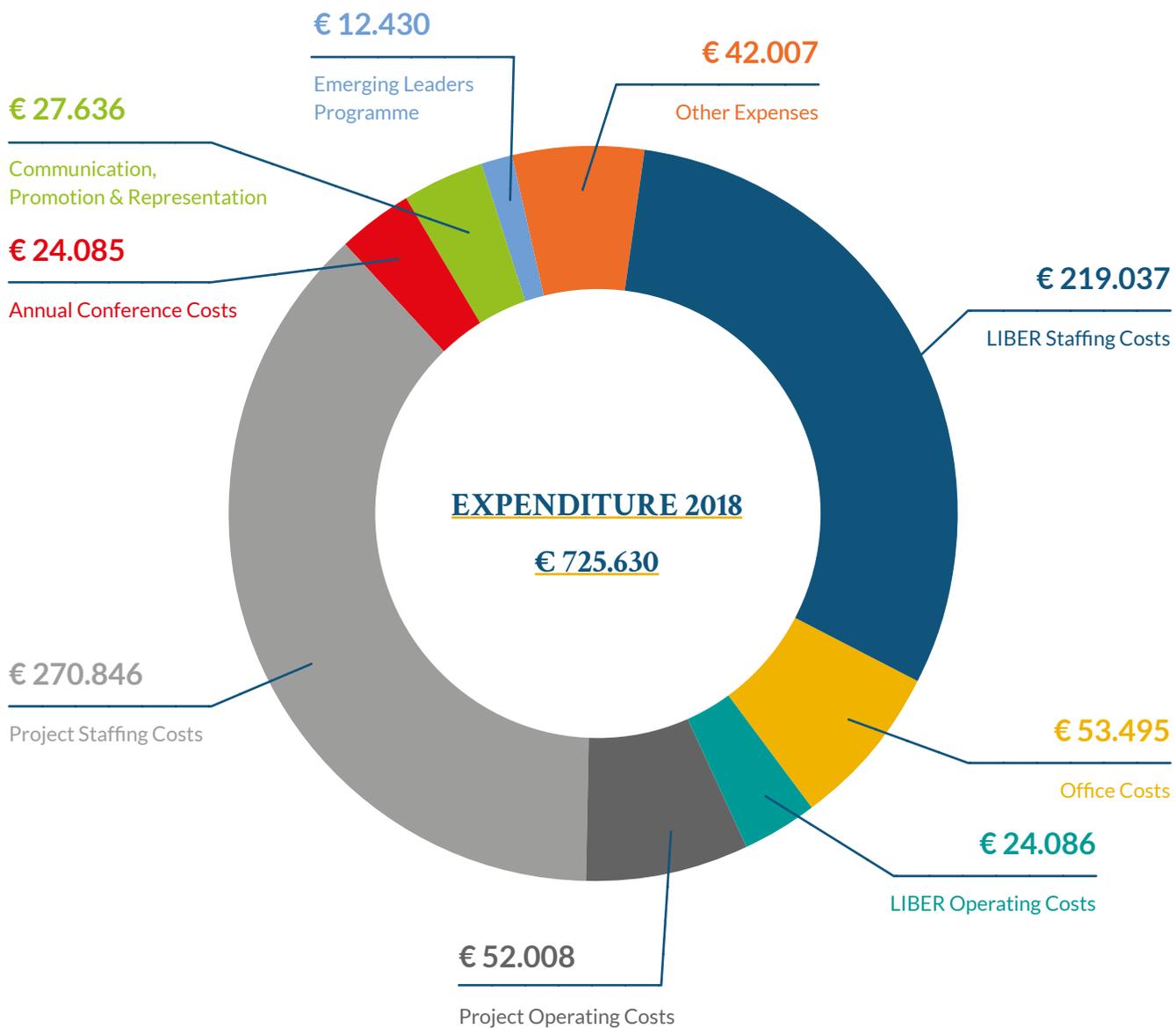
ACCOUNTS



LIBER's financial result in 2018 shows a loss of €29.717. This has been covered from our general reserves, which now stand at €540.589.

This level of reserves matches what LIBER requires to cover risks and operating costs for approximately one year. The Board recommends keeping this level of reserves going forward. A healthy reserve is essential for LIBER to secure its sustainability into the future.





INCOME

	2018
FROM REGULAR ACTIVITIES	
LIBER Participants	226.042
EVENTS & SPONSORSHIP	
Annual Conference - from host library	22.033
Annual Conference - from sponsor stands	2.500
Annual Conference - from sponsor strategy slots	3.500
Annual Conference - from sponsor of Innovation Awards	418
Emerging Leaders Programme	18.900
Sponsorship	16.000
OTHER	
Other revenues	4.492
	293.885
PROJECTS	
Future TDM	5.635
OpenAIRE	66.164
OpenMinTed	74.144
EOSC	165.818
EUDAT	12.848
AARC2	14.031
FOSTER+	55.738
HuMetrics	7.650
	402.028
TOTAL	695.913



LILLIAD Learning Centre Innovation, Atmosphere Photo

EXPENDITURE

	2018
STAFFING COSTS	
LIBER Foundation	219.037
Projects	270.846
OPERATING & OFFICE COSTS⁴⁴	
Office Costs	53.495
Operating Costs LIBER Foundation	24.086
Operating Costs Project	52.008
EVENTS	
Annual Conference Costs	24.085
Emerging Leaders Programme	12.430
COMMUNICATION, PROMOTION & REPRESENTATION	
General Promotion	8.165
Steering Committees	5.809
LIBER Quarterly	2.286
Travel costs for Representation (Executive Board & Staff)	11.376
OTHER EXPENSES	
Financial Administration Project	38.732
Banking Costs	797
Other	2.478
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	725.630
RESULT	-€29.717

⁴⁴ Operating Costs include, for example, costs for hiring legal expertise to ensure compliance with legislation and regulations, and costs for lobbying in Brussels. Office Costs include costs for office supplies, the administration of memberships, finances and payroll, office space and IT. Office costs are lower in 2018 versus 2017 because of the results of our work to improve our financial systems and because some items are now included in the communication budget





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