



LIBER ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS: LIMASSOL, 4 JULY 2024

8. SUSTAINABLE LIBER ORGANISATION UPDATE

The LIBER community is growing and more and more activities, events and programmes are launched, both online and in person by dedicated colleagues from the library community who participate in LIBER's working groups, projects, board and additional activities. To keep up the ongoing support for European academic libraries LIBER needs to remain financially sustainable. In order to do so LIBER launched a Supportive Membership Programme and created room for fundraising activities.

Supportive Membership Programme

LIBER's Executive Board is grateful to all LIBER Libraries for their support. The financial contribution, along with the participation of colleagues from over 420 research libraries across 40+ countries, enables LIBER to organise a range of activities, such as the Annual Conference and Winter Event, leadership programmes, seminars, webinars and workshops. For a full overview of LIBER's activities, please have a look at the 2023 Annual Report.

In 2023, LIBER presented its [new strategy for 2023-2027](#). A strategy that is full of ambition to better represent the voice of research libraries and to organise activities which contribute to strengthening the library workforce for all our members. To realise this ambitious strategy, and to keep LIBER services affordable for all our members, LIBER announced the creation of the 'Supportive Membership' category during the 2023 Meeting of Participants.

The first edition of the Supportive Membership Programme was implemented in December 2023. LIBER offered the opportunity to contribute a supportive membership fee for 2024 for those libraries who are able to support with a larger contribution than the standard fee. Members could choose between a one-time € 2,500 or € 5,000 contribution. This amount replaced the standard annual fee for their institute. When opting for a supportive membership, the preferred amount was billed as usual in January 2024. After one year the membership fee will be automatically reset to the standard fee applicable to the institute.

Nine Libraries generously responded to the call and an additional € 20.000 were raised. The LIBER Executive Board evaluated the first year as promising and is happy to announce the prolongation of the Programme in 2025.

In September 2024 all LIBER Libraries will receive an invitation to participate to the 2025 Supportive Membership Programme by email.

Allocation Appropriated Reserves 2022

In 2022 the LIBER budget closed with a significant surplus of which € 75.000 was allocated to form Appropriated Reserves for the future movement of the LIBER Office and a future Fundraising plan. As of April 2024, LIBER hired a new staff member for Events and Engagement, to strengthen the sustainability of expertise and continuation of flagship events like the LIBER Annual Conference and Winter Event, and engagement with all our members and participants.



The Executive Director takes the responsibility to implement a future fundraising plan, part of which is the Supportive Membership Programme. Also, in 2024 the option of LIBER obtaining an ANBI-status (public benefit institution), which makes fundraising possible, will be further explored. To prepare for this, the amendments of the LIBER Statutes in 2023 were done in such a way that applying for an ANBI-status is made possible.