EBLIDA is seeking to recruit a new Director

This full-time position is an exciting opportunity to act as a key player and influencer, lobbying on behalf of and representing the views of library and information professionals at European level.

The new director will be committed to delivering EBLIDA’s objectives. The ideal candidate will possess good academic and professional qualifications, will be familiar with the institutions and procedures of the European Union, as well as current developments in the European library and information sector.

The successful candidate will bring fresh ideas and be creative in their approach to work, be a dynamic and motivated self-starter who will enjoy working independently with the secretariat on delivering value to the EBLIDA members.

Who we are
EBLIDA, the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations, is an independent non-governmental umbrella association with some 125 members from all types of libraries, information, documentation and archive associations and individual institutions from 32 countries in Europe.

EBLIDA’s main objectives
- to serve and promote the interests of the library, and information professions and to lobby for them amongst the European institutions;
- to be the information hub for members, based on monitoring processes and developments in the professional field and in the European Union;
- to foster cooperation between the members and with other pan European organisations and initiatives in the sector.

EBLIDA’s key focus areas
- Libraries and Sustainable Development Goals in Europe;
- Impact of libraries on society and supporting democracy;
- Library legislation including copyright and E-lending;
- Advocating the value of libraries;
- Identifying funding opportunities for libraries in Europe.

Examples of this work can be found in EBLIDA’s publications, the engagement with the EU Workplan for Culture 2023-2026 and the creation of instruments like E-PANEMA.
Read more in the EBLIDA Strategic Plan 2022-2025

Responsibilities of EBLIDA Director
- Leads and implements EBLIDA’s strategy and operations.
- Undertakes advocacy and lobbying activities in the interest of the members.
- Represents EBLIDA’s interests at EU level through frequent presence at meetings with European institutions.
• Establishes and sustains partnerships with key stakeholders and international organisations, and interest groups.
• Engages with EBLIDA members through communication, on conferences, and Council meeting and is dedicated to deliver added value to the members.
• Supports and is accountable to the Executive Committee.
• Organizes and facilitates Expert groups and working groups.
• Leads as head of the EBLIDA secretariat.
• Assures solid administrative and financial management of the Association.
• Ensures the continuity of the Association in terms of growth of membership, diversification of income e.g., from projects, funds and sponsoring through year plans.

Your profile
In short you are a strategic thinker, a leader, an excellent communicator, a good manager of relationships, someone with the drive and resilience to deliver results.

This demands you qualify as:

• Self-starter with a drive to deliver value to the EBLIDA members.
• Good academic and professional qualifications or experience to that level.
• People manager with the ability to create and maintain partnerships and networks.
• Project management and administrative skills (budgets, time, results).
• Experience in lobbying activities.
• Experience in professional associations, preferably in international context.
• Affinity with libraries, archives, and information institutions.
• Understanding of the culture and information society in Europe.
• Knowledge of the procedures, institutions and administrative structures of the European Union and European funds.
• Self-confidence in both political and professional arenas.
• Highly developed presentation and communication skills to all audiences.
• Fluent in English, written and verbal.
• An entrepreneurial approach to maximise funding opportunities and new projects.
• Proven organisational and administrative abilities, including ICT skills.
• Flexible and creative approach to work; (online, peak hours, travelling)

Our offer
We offer a varied and interesting full-time job for those who would like to add international experience to their CV and to extend their network as well as for those who are more experienced and want to apply this in an international context.

The contract will be for one year starting January 1, 2024, or as soon as possible later and with the intention of yearly renewal.

EBLIDA operates under Dutch legislation, which implies a strong preference for secondment instead of employment. Conditions and salary will therefore be negotiated and finalised with the final candidate. For this full-time job a gross budget (including employers’ taxes and fees) is available of €65,000 per year. Business travel and expenses will be reimbursed.

EBLIDA is based in the Hague, The Netherlands, in the Royal Library. Lobbying at EU level requires frequent presence in Brussels. Moving to one of these cities is preferred.
The director reports to the EBLIDA president. The EBLIDA Secretariat offers a positive and supportive (online) working environment within a flexible and informal team.

**How to apply**
- Please send your application to: majella.cunnane@eblida.org with the Subject: Application EBLIDA Director.
- Include a full CV with contact details of two professional referees.
- A statement (not more than 500 words) on your motivation and view of EBLIDA in the European library field.

**Key Dates:**
- **Closing date for applications:** 13th November 2023
- **First round of online interviews:** 24th November 2023
- **In person interviews in The Hague:** 8th December 2023

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**EBLIDA**

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