



Motivation Statement of Candidacy

Candidate for the position of Executive Committee:
2024-2027



Guillaume Gast *France*

(1st Term)

**ABF, Association des Bibliothécaires
Français**
(French Association of Librarians)

My name is Guillaume Gast. I'm a librarian in Strasbourg and a candidate for the Eblida executive committee on the behalf of the French librarian association. I'm currently in charge of the Frida Kahlo library, which is just about to open.

Working in libraries is often seen as a meaningful profession that promotes a fair, democratic and sustainable society. I hope to be able to commit myself fully alongside the other members of Eblida's Executive Committee, Director, and secretariat to defend these values and objectives on a European scale.

I believe that the current changes and challenges facing libraries need to be considered at the highest levels of national and European decision-making authorities, to support and encourage dynamics on a continental scale. Eblida can play this advocacy role, and I'd like to be involved in it.

As for an example, European legal framework and greater harmonization of digital lending practices in different member states would, I believe, strengthen the position of libraries in future negotiations. By encouraging the dissemination of knowledge, democracy is strengthened, and this is a key element in the structuring of the European territory.

My travels have given me the chance to visit many European libraries. But it was through European funding that I first worked on European issues. I spoke twice at the Eblida Congress on these topics. I'm an active member of the International Commission of the French Libraries association, and have twice taken part in the IFLA congress, in Lyon and Dublin.

Finally, as a librarian in Strasbourg, I'm lucky enough to work in a European Capital. And this year, Strasbourg will also be the UNESCO World Book Capital 2024 and I've been able to get involved to prepare this exceptional year. This local and international dynamic therefore intersects with a personal one, and it's for these reasons that I'm proposing my candidacy for the Eblida Executive Committee.