Bosnia and Herzegovina

Note: The data in the questionnaire represents only the Republic of Srpska. The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is excluded.

Responding institution:
National and University Library of the Republic of Srpska

Bosnia and Herzegovina responded to the IFLA questionnaire in 2003. The data this year, however, reflects only the details of the Republic of Srpska. According to the respondent, there are 47 public libraries in the Republic of Srpska, 32 university research libraries, 204 school libraries and 32 government-funded research libraries.

Although 81-100% of government-funded research libraries have Internet access, only 21-40% of public libraries, 61-80% of university libraries and 41-60% of school libraries offer Internet access to their patrons. Access is free of charge in all such libraries, and the government has made funding available for Internet access in libraries in the last two years.

Very little local content is reported to be available on the Internet and very little in local languages. Filtering of information on library Internet terminals is supported for the following reasons: protection of children, national security, prevention of crime and safeguarding of public morality.

A code of ethics, the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the Glasgow Declaration have been adopted by the library association.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

No anti-terror legislation has been passed that adversely affects the intellectual freedom of library users. The respondent has indicated that any such legislation is likely to impact on user privacy.

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

According to the respondent, there have been no reported violations of intellectual freedom in the past two years. However, IFEX (http://www.ifex.org) reported several incidents of attacks on, and death threats to journalists. In January 2006, a boycott of the state-wide public broadcaster was announced by Republika Srpska. This act was condemned by the International Federation of Journalists (http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/80541/).

HIV/Aids awareness

No libraries have been involved in any programmes to raise awareness of HIV/Aids.

Women and freedom of access to information

There are no special programmes focusing on information provision or promotion of literacy for women.

IFLA Internet Manifesto

The library association has adopted the IFLA Internet Manifesto.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The library association has adopted the IFLA Glasgow Declaration.

Ethics

A code of ethics was adopted by the library association in 1997 (see http://www.bibliotekari-rs.org).

Main indicators

Country name:	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Population:	4 552 198 (July 2007 est.)
Main language:	Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian
Literacy:	96.7%
Literacy reported by respondent:	99%

Population figures, language and literacy are from the
CIA World Factbook, 2007 edition
(https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html).

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Libraries and Internet access

Bosnia and Herzegovina contributed to the World Report series in 2003. The following section compares data and answers from 2007 with the 2003 IFLA/FAIFE World Report and adds context from the respondent's estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*:	47
Estimated number of school libraries:	204
Estimated number of university libraries:	32
Estimated number of government-funded research libraries:	32
Source of these numbers:	National and University Library of the Republic of Srpska (NULRS), Research Department

Internet access

Population online**:	806 400 Internet users as of Sept. 2006 (17.3%) (1.13% in 2003)
Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users:	21-40% (2003: Less than 20%)
Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users:	41-60%
Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users:	61-80%
Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users:	81-100%
In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet:	Very little
To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages:	Very little
Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals:	Yes, to a certain degree – for the protection of children, national security, to prevent crime and to safeguard public morality (2003: No)
Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries:	No (2003: No)
Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers:	Yes, in all libraries (2003: No)
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

* 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.