

# IFLA STRATEGY 2019-2024



Engaging Russian LIS Students into Promoting the IFLA Strategy

A success story of the St. Petersburg State University of Culture LIS Department in line with the IFLA Strategy

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*The Library and Information Science (LIS) Department of the St. Petersburg State University of Culture has more than a century of experience in training LIS specialists for libraries in Russia and abroad. Developing educational LIS programs throughout its history, the LIS Department in St. Petersburg has used its worldwide experience to provide this training. The IFLA Strategy and initiatives have been of special focus in designing the LIS curriculum.*

*IFLA's strategy and its initiatives have served as a base for developing LIS student projects. These projects align with the IFLA Strategy 2019–2024.*



## INSPIRE future LIS professionals to become volunteers



In 2018, the LIS Department at the St. Petersburg State University of Culture established the volunteer squad “Postmen of goodness”. The squad was born as the next stage of student Alena Katina’s “Day of Intellectual Donation” project, which was later submitted to Russian Federation’s Ministry of Culture “2017 Librarian of the year” competition. The IFLA [Guidelines for libraries serving hospital patients and the elderly and disabled in long-term care facilities \(2000\)](#), developed by the Section of Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons, served as the foundation for the development of this project, with the goal of increasing children’s literacy. As this initiative was highly assessed by specialists and supported by St. Petersburg public libraries, the project was continued through the establishment of the squad.

The squad consists of more than 60 volunteer LIS students who work directly with the St. Petersburg public libraries. Since 2018, the “Postmen of goodness” has held over 65 projects and events in cooperation with public libraries and children’s hospitals, aimed at reading, intellectual and cultural development, and emotional support. One of the recent projects is the installation of movable bookshelves in children’s hospitals, called “Intellectual boxes” which will help hospital patients develop intellectually.

This programme meets the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – Goal 3 “Good health and Well-being” and Goal 4 “Quality education”. Through this activity, volunteers impact the emotional state of children in hospitals, and at the same time the volunteer LIS students acquire professional competences.

During the pandemic, the squad moved to remote operation and implemented online projects for children (master classes, lectures, challenges etc.) through the library.

Check out the website and social media for more information about the squad “Postmen of goodness”:  
[Main website](#) | [Facebook Page](#) | [Instagram Page](#)

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*Logo of the LIS students-driven project "Postmen of goodness."*

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*Logo of the LIS students-driven project "Postmen of goodness."*

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*Since 2018, the “Postmen of goodness” team has held over 65 projects and events in cooperation with public libraries and children’s hospitals, aimed at reading, intellectual and cultural development, emotional support.*



## ENGAGE and ENABLE future LIS professionals into LIS profession



To be enabled by and engaged with the LIS profession, LIS students must be aware of strategic LIS activities across the globe. Of significance are the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the role IFLA plays in achieving them. Study of this issue is included in the framework of the St. Petersburg State University of Culture LIS Department agenda, as well as the research activity of its students. For instance, in 2019, two graduate students Albina Ziatdinova and Tatiana Zhukovskaya reviewed the actions of libraries and library associations in various countries, which focused on the SDGs. Based on IFLA's resources such as "Libraries, Development and the United Nations 2030 Agenda", "Доступ и возможности для всех", "IFLA Map of the World - SDG Stories Map", and the IFLA Library, LIS students analysed the results of libraries' activities in the framework of achieving the SDGs.

Their results were presented at student LIS conferences in November and December 2019 and later [published](#): Zhukovskaya Tatiana, Ziatdinova Albina (2019), "United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: a review of documents and libraries participation experience", in *Scientific Schools: Youth in Science and Culture of the 21st Century: Proceedings of the International Scientific and Creative Forum (Scientific Conference)*, Chelyabinsk, pp. 297–301. The publication has been widely used in the University's LIS courses and included in course reading lists.



## CONNECT young LIS professionals together no matter what happens



The international disaster of 2020 has affected absolutely every sphere of human life: economic, cultural, social. At such moments it is important to show the professionalism and humanity of the field.

In the spring of 2020, at the beginning of the pandemic, LIS graduate students Nika Liandzberg and Mariia Sokolyuk conducted an analysis of library activities. Daily from 30 March to 12 April, they monitored websites and social media accounts of libraries and library associations, which described measures taken and activities provided by libraries and library associations. LIS students used the resources developed by [IFLA's "COVID-19 and the Global Library Field"](#) and collected information from 14 libraries, including 6 national libraries, library associations in Australia, New Zealand, USA, France, Italy and 36 Russian libraries (including 3 national libraries – Russian State Library, National Library of Russia, Boris Yeltsin Presidential Library; Russian State Children's library and the Russian Academy of Sciences Library), as well as its regional, and municipal public libraries. Data was compiled in tables and the detailed review became [the first publication about Russian libraries in the pandemic](#): Liandzberg Nika, Sokolyuk Mariia (2020), "Rebuilding on the march", in *Bibliotechnoe delo*, issue 10 (364), pp. 3–14.

Based on IFLA's resources to support libraries' adaptation to the new normal, students highlighted and described the activities that were relevant to Russian libraries. They concluded that the actions taken by libraries in different countries were alike and their activities aimed to connect libraries with their communities.

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*“IFLA strategy 2019-2024 is a compass for LIS schools and students alike all over the world, in Russia too. Thanks to the IFLA strategic directions, future LIS specialists are inspired, engaged, enabled and connected with the LIS profession to be heard in the global library field.”*

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**Our vision is  
a strong and united library field  
powering literate, informed and participative societies**

**We are IFLA**



**International  
Federation of  
Library  
Associations and Institutions**