

The Lyon Declaration and Library Acquisition and Collection Development

A Statement from the Acquisition and Collection Development Section (ACD), International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

Providing information & knowledge

Libraries in the ACD (Acquisition and Collection Development) section's subject area are strongly related to the [Lyon Declaration on Access to Information and Development](#), since providing information and knowledge, and making them equally accessible to the users are the main goals of this section.

Indeed, items' acquisition and the use of a consistent collection development policy ensure equitable access to information, since every citizen is encouraged to use the collections. That's why ACD units, by acquiring or licensing all necessary quality information and data, are crucial for supporting development.

Free and equal access to information

Despite the fact that access to information may be really expensive, libraries provide it for free. Without them and their acquisition sections and collection development policies, information and knowledge could only be unequally accessed, since a lot of resources would be unaffordable to the majority of the population.

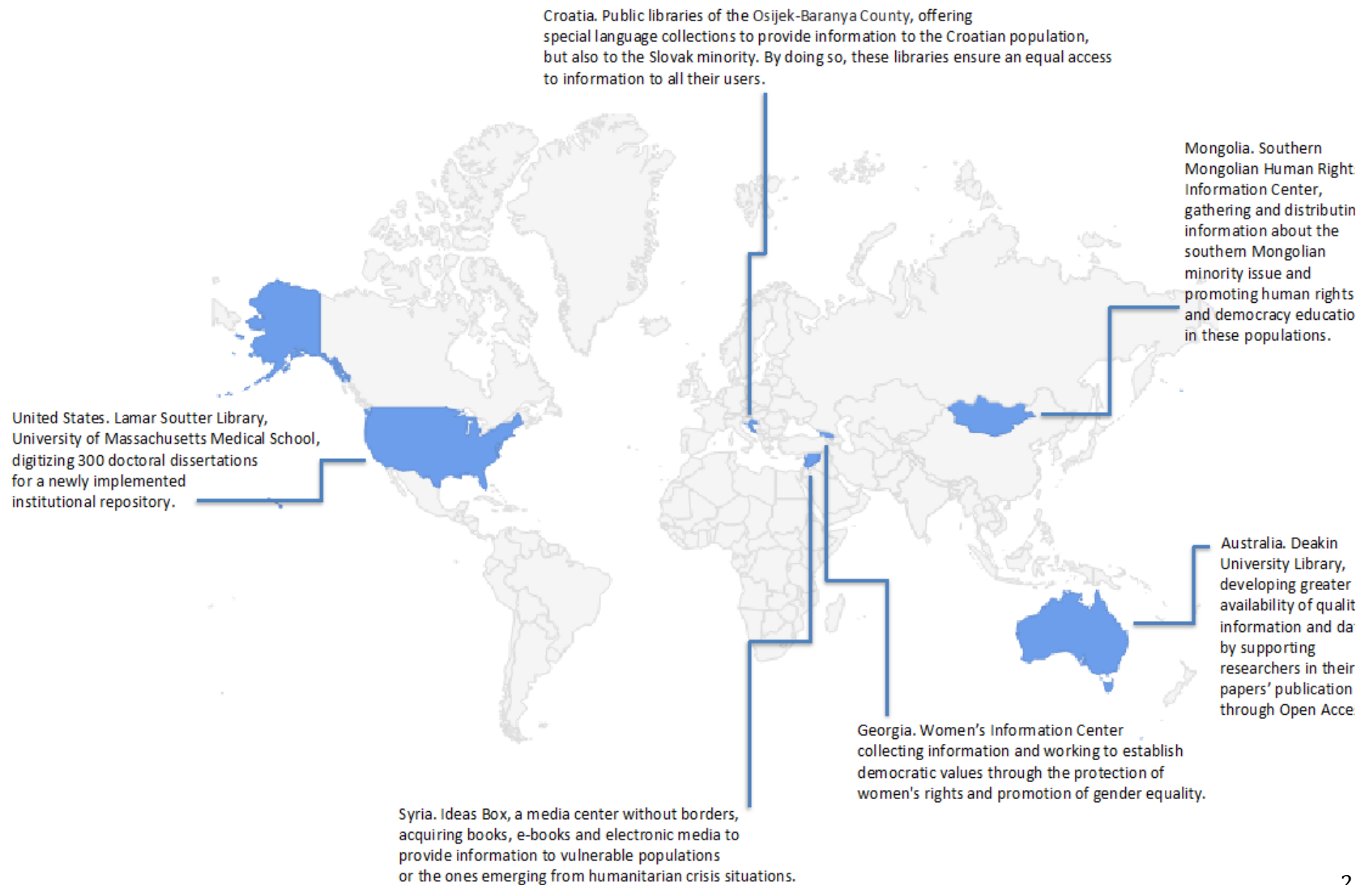
Thanks to libraries and their acquisition policies, the appearance of a pool of highly advantaged people can be avoided. Through the development of Open Access (OA), free access to quality information and data is also facilitated. Providing support to authors concerning OA issues also helps scientific communities to get involved in the creation of free available data and information, what plays a great role to the overall access to information.

Cultural heritage preservation

Cultural heritage and long-term preservation are also topics related to the ACD units, since these aspects are mostly included in collection development policies. In this matter, information intermediaries, such as libraries, have to identify and focus their attention on relevant and pressing needs and problems within a population. This task is usually taken over by the acquisitions departments and reinforces their role in cultural heritage preservation issues.

Who? Where?

Does what in that matter?



Checklist of action points for policy makers

Library services need to be supported to help further economic, social and cultural development. From the ACD Section's perspective, the following action points should be taken into consideration:

- Focus on the development of sustainable business models, in particular new, adapted and more efficient e-books business models.
- Adapt the copyright law to the electronic environment. Libraries should be able to acquire and preserve items in all forms, including electronic items. Copyright exceptions for libraries should also remain valid for e-media usage.
- Support Open Access projects to facilitate the free dispersion of scientific research results.
- Facilitate a collaborative environment between libraries. By supporting the creation of library consortia, libraries will be strengthened when dealing with commercial publishers.
- Raise awareness about library ethics. This aspect is crucial for acquisition and collection development processes, since it guarantees a neutral selection of the information and the items to be acquired.
- Support institutions and associations that engage in ACD initiatives and project. They are the ones that can best inform and raise awareness about the existing acquisition and collection development issues. In the current evolving context, they also initiate discussions concerning items' selection methods, copyright matters and open access issues.