

CENL

Foundation Conference of European National Librarians

CENL

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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CENL Annual Report 2022-2023

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Foreword by the Chair of CENL

Dear CENL Members,

As we prepare for the next AGM in Paris and reflect on the past year, we cannot help but acknowledge the various challenges the world has faced. From the war in Ukraine to the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria, and the unexpected passing of our dear colleague Filippou Tsimpoglou, it has been a distressing year. Through it all, however, CENL has remained steadfast in its commitment to advance the cause of Europe's national libraries.

The war in Ukraine has been a source of great concern for us all. As an organisation that believes in the power of knowledge and understanding, we are shocked to see the escalation of the conflict, which is causing so much death, displacement and suffering. In the face of such turmoil, we sought to support our colleagues in Ukraine, providing them with resources and support to help them serve their communities and preserve their cultural heritage. We believe that education, especially critical thinking and access to information are essential for building a better future and a strong European community. And we remain committed to working towards that goal, both in Ukraine and on a European level.

The earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria in February 2023 were another devastating event that reminded us of the fragility of life and the importance of community. We mourned the loss of those who perished in these natural disasters, and we sent our thoughts and prayers to those who were affected. For our colleagues in the United Kingdom, the passing of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022 has been a significant event. Her death touched not only them but many people around the world as she was considered a symbol of continuity and stability. Finally, we must also acknowledge the sudden passing of one of our members. The loss of our friend Filippou Tsimpoglou has been felt deeply by us all. We remember him for his dedication, his passion, and his contributions to CENL.

Despite the challenges of the past year, we have much to be proud of as an organisation. We have continued our funds and grants, bringing together our members to share experience and best practices. We have started a new format in addition to our Networking Groups, the CENL Dialogue Forum that we are going to expand in the near future.

In 2022, just a few months before the devastating earthquakes, CENL held its Annual General Meeting in Ankara, Türkiye. Our colleagues of the National Library of Türkiye worked tirelessly to organize a successful event that brought together the CENL members. Besides the professional meeting, the cultural programme going back to the origins of civilization was especially impressive. And most importantly, it was a wonderful opportunity to share ideas, spend time talking to each other and be inspired by one another. We believe that we are stronger together, and that by working together, we can make a real difference in our daily professional lives.

This year, our Annual General Meeting will be held at the BnF Paris, and I look forward to discussing sustainability with all the aspects involved there. Our annual meeting will also provide opportunities for networking, socializing, and getting a glimpse of the rich cultural heritage of France. I believe that the informal interactions are just as important as the formal sessions.

I am excited to welcome all of you to Paris in June, and look forward to another successful AGM that will help us build bridges and promote the power of knowledge and information.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Frank Scholze".

Frank Scholze, CENL Chair, May 2023



2. Activities June 2022 – May 2023

2.1 CENL Executive Committee



Frank Scholze
Chair



Janne Andresoo
Vice Chair



Karin Grönvall
Treasurer



Hans Petschar
EC Member



Sara Lammens
EC Member



Laurence Engel
EC Member



Ivanka Stričević
EC Member

Following the Annual General Meeting in Ankara in June 2022, the Executive Committee met on three occasions:

- 28 September 2022 at German National Library, Frankfurt am Main
- 23 January 2023 at Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris
- 17 April 2023 (Video)

The EC discussed a number of issues at its meetings. Finances, including the reserves that mainly origin from the closure of the European Library (TEL), have been an important issue.

While taking money from the reserves looks like a structural overspending in the budget plan, this is the way CENL has been working for a couple of years: The reserves are CENL's unique opportunity to create and shape its work, and the Grants and Bursary programme is only possible with money from the reserves.

Other important issues discussed were CENL's Strategy 2023-2027, an amendment to the Statutes of CENL, the new Network Groups for the term 2023-2025, the distribution of grants and bursaries and the upcoming Annual General Meeting.



The Executive Committee at the BnF in January 2023.

In February, the Chair of the EC sent a letter to the Executive Director of European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) stressing the urgent need for the EUIPO to develop a data interface (API) for their out of commerce works portal to facilitate automated input and output workflows. As National Libraries and also numerous other cultural heritage institutions preserve and curate millions of out of commerce works, an automated procedure is absolutely necessary. His letter supported an earlier one sent by Europeana.

2.2 CENL Secretariat

Led by the Secretary, the Secretariat manages the day-to-day business of CENL.

The Secretariat keeps in touch with members, answers their questions and provides information on various issues. Now in our second year, there are still questions and situations that require extensive research to provide our members with the appropriate answers.

The team includes the following colleagues from the National Library of Germany who focus on specific topics:



Susanne Oehlschläger



Michael Duchardt



Sabine Schrimpf



Svenia Pohlkamp



Stefanie Schust



Julijana Nadj-Guttandin



Stephan Jockel



Katharina Schöneborn



Lisa Zehner



Kerstin Meinel



Constanze Schwikart

Secretary Susanne Oehlschläger

Finances Michael Duchardt

Funds and grants Sabine Schrimpf

Organisation, minutes and papers Julijana Nadj-Guttandin, Svenia Pohlkamp, Katharina Schöneborn, Constanze Schwikart and Stefanie Schust

Social media, Website, News and Newsletter Stephan Jockel, Kerstin Meinel and Lisa Zehner

2.3 CENL Annual General Meeting

2.3.1. AGM 2022

The Annual General Meeting 2022 took place from 18th to 22nd June in Ankara, Türkiye.



The Ankara meeting was hosted by the National Library of Türkiye. With their perfect organisation, our host Ali Odabaş and his team laid the foundation for a successful meeting.

We are grateful to them for hosting the CENL AGM in 2022, a conference that brought us many new insights and professional friends.



2.3.2 Annual General Meeting 2023

Each AGM is unique in its focus on special topics and its individual cultural perspective. Preparations for this year's AGM to be held at the National Library of France are in full swing.

This year's programme will focus on one of the most important issues of our time: sustainability in all its aspects.

Sustainability is more than just saving energy and protecting the environment.

We are very much looking forward to being guests in Paris and to discussing this important topic with our members and hearing their views on the subject.



After the AGM is before the AGM!

In 2024, we will meet at the National Library of Poland in Warsaw from 16-18 June.

Please save the date!

2.4 Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant

In January 2017, CENL introduced a grant to celebrate the valuable contribution Erland Kolding Nielsen (EKN) made to the development of European libraries throughout his long and distinguished career as Director General of the Royal Library in Denmark from 1986-2017.

The annual Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant awards funds of up to 5,000 EUR to national library projects which promote international collaboration and thus strengthen bonds between CENL libraries.

The scheme was intended to run for 5 years initially. In 2022, the Executive Committee agreed that EKN be prolonged for four years (2022-2025).

The grant applications can focus on any aspect of international library collaboration including:

- development of collections (physical and digital)
- improving research
- educational or cultural services including exhibitions
- promoting interlibrary staff communications
- infrastructure development
- staff development



2.4.1. EKN Grants 2022



Estonia – A study tour of the National Library of Estonia management team to the National Library of Luxembourg took place in May 2022. Among others, the Estonian team learned about the activities of the National Library of Luxembourg in coordinating and developing the library network, services and support provided to other libraries – such role is increasingly expected from the National Library of Estonia.

See the report on the CENL website:

<https://www.cenl.org/grantrecipient/ekn-grant-2022-study-tour-for-national-library-of-estonia-management-to-national-library-of-luxembourg/>



Bulgaria – An Exhibition “Wealth of color and tradition” opened in Sofia in November 2022 with representatives from each country and the respective embassies. The exhibition comprised of boards of printed images of traditional national dress, embroidery, decoration and jewellery of 6 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia.

See the report on the CENL website:

<https://www.cenl.org/grantrecipient/ekn-grant-2022-wealth-of-colour-and-tradition-exhibition/>



Lithuania – An Early Reading Forum, to bring together the Lithuanian and international community to professionally speak, discuss and spread the message about the benefits of early reading, took place at the National Library of Lithuania. Due to the increasing number of coronavirus infections in the summer of 2022, the forum's format was changed to a hybrid event.

See the report on the CENL website:

<https://www.cenl.org/grantrecipient/ekn-grant-2022-early-reading-forum/>

2.4.2. EKN Grants 2023

In 2023, three EKN grants were to be awarded. The call for applications for the Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant was open from 3 February 2023 to 10 March 2023. The Secretariat received five applications, and the Executive Committee agreed in its meeting on 17 April 2023, to accept the following:



Hungary - The aim of the cooperation is to improve the web archiving infrastructure of the National Széchényi Library and the Bibliothèque Nationale du Luxembourg, to renew certain workflows and to share knowledge.



France - Three major CENL member libraries, which are carrying out projects to build high-rise, robotic, hypoxic storage facilities (The British Library, National Library of France and the National Library of the Netherlands) want to organize two knowledge-exchange seminars involving the staff of the respective institutions in 2023).



Moldova - Organization of an international conference "Social resilience and stronger professional networks as a precondition for peace" in September 2023 with participants from Moldova, Ukraine, Lithuania and Latvia, with follow-up webinars and informal sessions at each participating library.

2.5 Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursaries

CENL's Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursary programme for members was launched in 2017. Bursaries are available for CENL members to share skills and knowledge. They are up to the value of 1,000 EUR per application.

Applications can be made for any skills and knowledge exchange activity, such as:

- Visiting a national library for face-to-face mentoring and shadowing to learn new skills and share experiences
- Attending a training event (e.g. tutorial, workshop, seminar, conference) run by other members
- Running a workshop for members to attend and share best practice

After two years of decline in the number of interested members due to Corona, interest has increased again as the pandemic has subsided.

2.5.1. Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursaries 2022

Three SKE bursaries were awarded in 2022:



Romania: Visit to the National Library of Sweden (Kungliga Biblioteket - KB) in June 2022.

See the report on the CENL website:

<https://www.cenl.org/bursaryreport/professional-visit-to-the-national-library-of-sweden/>



Bulgaria: Visit to the Albanian National Library in Tirana in April 2022.

See the report on the CENL website.:

<https://www.cenl.org/bursaryreport/visit-of-representatives-of-the-bulgarian-national-library-to-the-albanian-national-library-in-tirana/>



Bosnia and Herzegovina: Visit to the National and University Library of Slovenia in Ljubljana in December 2022.

See the report on the CENL website:

<https://www.cenl.org/bursaryreport/2022-visit-to-the-national-and-university-library-slovenia/>

2.5.2. Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursaries 2023

As 2022 showed a greater demand for Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursaries, the number of bursaries has been increased for 2023.

The call for applications for 2023 was published on 3 February 2023. So far, two applications were approved by the CENL secretariat:

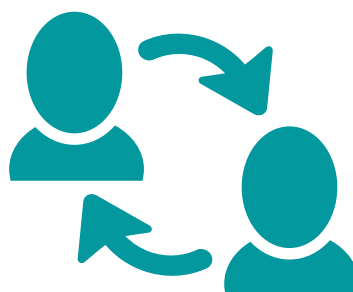


Romania - A staff member of the National Library of Romania will visit the National Library of the Netherlands for one week in June 2023.



Latvia - Two staff members will visit the German National Library's Leipzig site to learn about the organisation of the Humanities and Natural Science Reading Rooms of the DNB.

For the remainder of 2023, there are four more Skills and Knowledge Exchange Bursaries available.



2.6 Covid-19 Support Fund

The Covid-19 Support Fund was a grant to provide funding to help CENL members respond to immediate challenges connected to the Covid-19 crisis, and offer support to adapt and reimagine ways of working together for the longer-term future.

In 2022, one Covid-19 Support Fund was awarded to:



North Macedonia - The project aims to establish a virtual “Book Club” as a kind of digital replacement for the physical presence of the library halls, that have been left without readers during the COVID-19 crisis. The “Book Club” will enable the library’s members to interact with each other, to exchange recommendations, experiences, views on the library’s collections or books in general, to give their suggestions about the improvement of the existing services in the library, to propose new ones, etc.

As the acute situation no longer existed, the Executive Committee agreed to terminate the fund at the end of 2022.

The fund is still listed on the CENL bursaries website, with a notice that it is closed.

2.7 Hidden Stories Fund

The Hidden Stories Fund aims to support projects that collect, preserve, research and highlight the stories from, by and related to underrepresented communities in our national collections.

In 2022, two grants for 2,000 EUR each were awarded:



United Kingdom/National Library of Scotland - This project produced a series of short videos, which highlight items in the library's collection that capture the lives and stories of LGBT people throughout history. The project focused on pre-1950s items allowing for the discovery of lesser known items and LGBT individuals and the selected stories will reflect this.

See report on the CENL website:

<https://www.cenl.org/hiddenstoriesfund/2022-national-library-of-scotland/>



United Kingdom/British Library - A youth-led project with support from the Library, working closely with local youth group, KCBNA (Kings Cross Brunswick Neighbourhood Association). The Library will support local young people to develop research and interviewing skills exploring their own family histories with sensitivity. British Library curators will help the young people tell their stories through collections pertaining to specific areas of the world: Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan, Bangladesh and India. The project will be filmed to document the process. The project is still ongoing.

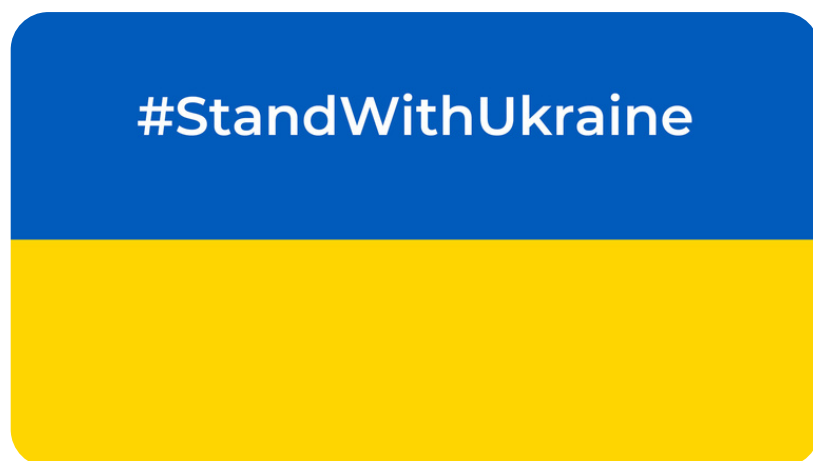
On 28 September 2022, the Executive Committee agreed to continue the Hidden Stories Fund also in 2023. The 2023 call for applications will be opened soon.

2.8 War in Ukraine

Since the first attacks of the Russian Federation on Ukraine on 24 February 2022, the shock in Europe has been great. The willingness to provide help is strong throughout Europe and large parts of the world.

In CENL, too, we have discussed how to support our member Lyubov Andriivna Dubrovina, the staff of the Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine and all Ukrainian colleagues. For our association, with its limited capacity to help, this means above all sharing and disseminating information.

As a result, the CENL Secretariat has set up the page #StandWithUkraine on CENL.org to comprise any information on help for Ukrainian libraries and librarians.



This website is now rather static, containing in particular information for short-term assistance and on important points of contact for refugees. However, contributions are still very welcome. Please contact the Secretariat if you wish to have any information added or amended.

As a consequence of the war, our member Lyubov Andriivna Dubrovina was unable to attend the General Assembly in Ankara and will not be able to come to Paris. Instead, she recorded a video in which she gave an impressive account of the situation in her library. The fact that we could hear the air raid siren as she spoke made it all the more powerful.

We are grateful that under the continuing circumstances she is once again willing to give us an insight into her everyday life during the war.

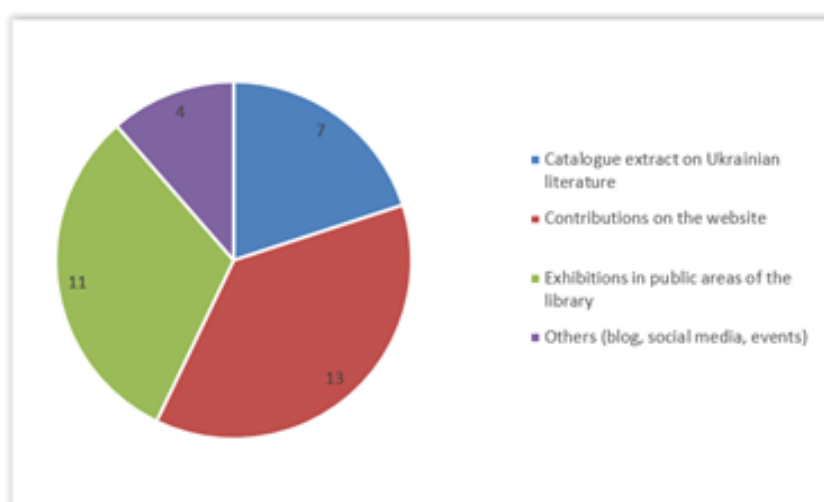


2.8.1. Ukraine survey

From 18 January to 15 March 2023 we conducted a survey of our members to get an overview of the relief efforts for Ukraine. 22 of 46 member libraries (48 %) answered the survey.

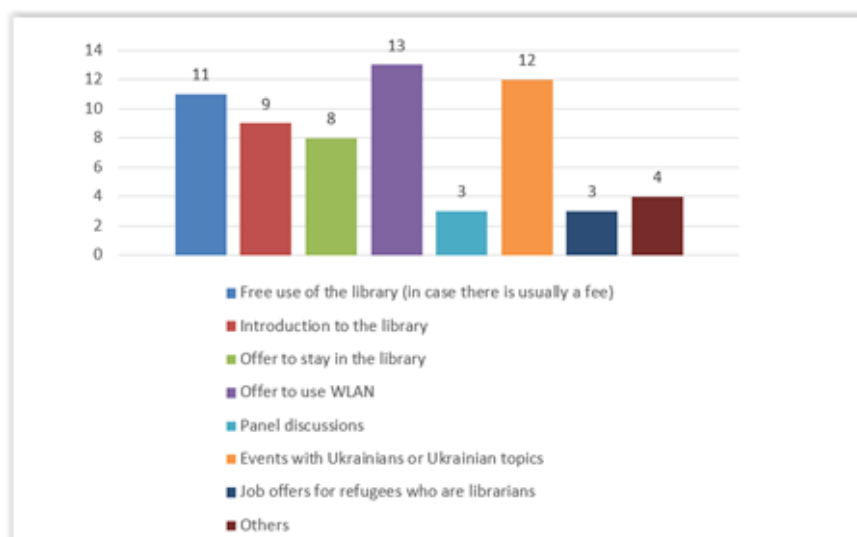
“How do you highlight your collections with a connection to Ukraine?” was the first question. With two exceptions, the responding national libraries have referred to their connection to Ukraine in at least one of the formats mentioned.

The majority published contributions on their websites (13). Many libraries (11) offer exhibitions in public areas of the library to their customers.



In terms of concrete support, 14 of 22 the responding national libraries made their premises available for public access (offer to stay in the library and/or to use WLAN). 12 offered events with Ukrainians or on Ukrainian topics. Library-specific services (use of the library and/or introductions to the library) were provided in 14 national libraries.

Some libraries (3) offered job positions for refugees who are librarians, one of them in the IT sector (rest without details). Other offers - if mentioned - included the learning of the national language or the provision of digital media in Ukrainian language (audio guide, ebooks).



The full survey results will be published on the website.



3. CENL Network Groups update

As the term 2020-2022 of the previous three Network Groups ended on 31 December 2022, the secretariat asked CENL members in October to encourage their staff to apply for a network group by 1 December. At its meeting in Paris in January 2023, the CENL Executive Committee reviewed and discussed seven Network Group applications received. As a result, they selected three of them for the next term (2023-2025).

Two of the groups are well known to CENL members from their previous term: The Artificial Intelligence in Libraries Network Group and the Books and Audiences Network Group (BANG). As a new group, the proposal of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Network Group was selected.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Secretariat thanked all those who applied and congratulated those selected for the next term.

3.1 Books and Audiences Network Group

Chair Vanessa Braekeveld, Royal Library of Belgium

Treasurer & Secretary Ineta Vaivode, National Library of Latvia

Members Royal Library of Belgium (KBR), German National Library, National Library of Latvia, Royal Library of the Netherlands, British Library, National Library of Scotland, Lodret Vandret - Independent Book Publishers, University of Leicester, University of Manchester, The Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge, UCL Special Collections, National Museum of Scotland, Kalāči

Core team Ineta Vaivode (National Library of Latvia), Vanessa Braekeveld (Group Chair, Royal Library of Belgium (KBR)), Inga Surgunte (Kalāči), Armand De Filippo (University of Leicester), Susana Sanchez-Gonzalez (University of Manchester)

Mission To provide a dynamic environment for discussion, dialogue and exchange of ideas and practices for bringing books and audiences together in exhibition settings, with an ambition to bring our findings to fruition.

The logo for the BANG! CENL Books and Audiences Network Group is displayed on a black rectangular background. The word "BANG!" is written in a large, bold, yellow, sans-serif font. To the right of "BANG!", the text "CENL Books and Audiences Network Group" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines.

Activities Autumn 2022 – March 2023

BANG! organizes a webinar every year in autumn, related to a specific theme. The webinar was planned for 24 November 2022, but due to issues in the agenda of our keynote speaker and technical support, we had to postpone the webinar. It finally took place on 14 February 2023.

The webinar had the topic: **Book exhibitions and wellbeing: how can they relate**. Wellbeing is a very topical theme in the cultural sector. It has been scientifically proven that participating in culture and hanging out in museums is good for your mental health. But how can book exhibitions, museums with mainly books as exhibits, contribute to this phenomenon?

BANG! invited several speakers from different fields to discuss about their experiences and challenges. It was a most interesting and expiring webinar. You can relive it through our videos on our YouTube channel over here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaJbMMzm0rUbzLOFVNfWMXQ>

An overview of the speakers and their cases:

- Keynote conversations between Dr. Diana Walters and Jolien Posthumus, representing the Museum of the Mind in Haarlem, the Netherlands, winner of the Museum of the Year Award 2022.
- Art as medicine – Prof. Tessa Kerre, Head of Clinic Hematology, Universital Hospital Ghent, Belgium
- More Light! – Inga Surgunte, Eduards Veidenbaums Memorial Museum, Riga, Latvia
- Archive and Library Exhibitions as Spaces of Wellbeing – Peter Lester, Independent Researcher, Leicester, UK
- From the story of a book to the story of a life – Ineta Vaivode and Anita Smeltere, National Library of Latvia
- Museums on prescription – G  lle Gzuimi, Culture, Tourisme and Events, Brussels, Belgium

We've had more than 80 registrations for the webinar. 60 people attended the webinar and stayed from the beginning to the end. Which in our opinion means that we really had a successful webinar which interested a lot of people.

Plans for 2023

- Meeting with all the members
- New webinar / seminar : to be discussed in one of the meetings
- Talking head series 2
- Launch of the BANG! website
- Expand the working group by inviting representatives from different fields involved in the organisation of exhibitions: designers, artists, museum educators. The aim is to hear more voices involved in creating exhibitions in libraries, to broaden the field.

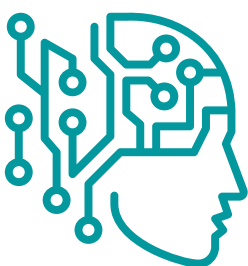
3.2 Artificial Intelligence in Libraries Network Group

Chair Jean-Philippe Moreux, BnF

Treasurer & Secretary Svein Arne Brygfeldt, National Library of Norway

Members National Library of Austria, Royal Library of Belgium, National Library of the Czech Republic, National Library of Denmark, National Library of Estonia, National Library of France, German National Library, National Library of Luxembourg, National Library of Norway, National Library of Sweden, Swiss National Library, British Library

Introduction and goals of the network group



The demand for better knowledge in the field of Artificial Intelligence is significant, both in the short-term and concrete use of AI in libraries as well as in the long-term potential of the technology. This group will contribute to the general understanding of AI in libraries, and thus leverage the use of AI in libraries.

2022 Activity (June-December)

Workshop at the National Library of France

A workshop was organised by the group and hosted by the BnF Datalab in October 2022. This 2 day workshop included short presentations and lightning talks from the group members, a round table about AI strategy and roadmap for European libraries and a prospective reflection on the future of this network group.

Call for the CENL network groups 2023-2025

Following the workshop, a proposition to the CENL call was prepared and sent to the secretariat. The EC agreed to continue the AI in Libraries Network Group.

Plans for 2023

Online meetings of the group have resumed and work on the 2023 action plan has begun, including the scheduling of webinars, the establishment of a remote technical collaboration program between members, and the preparation of a joint event with ai4lam, at the 2023 ai4lam conference (Vancouver, CA). In May and June 2023, the CENL “AI in Libraries” Network Group will host three webinars on various uses of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in national libraries.

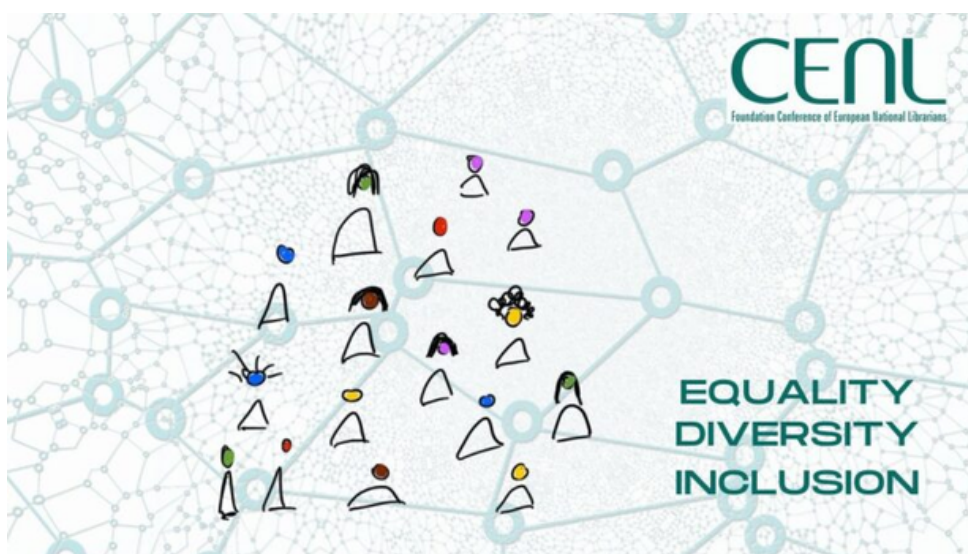
3.3 Copyright Network Group (2020-2022)

The term of the Copyright Network Group ended in December 2022. Copyright issues continue to be an important topic for national libraries. However, the Executive Committee agreed unanimously that they want to support the establishment of a new network group in the term 2023 - 2025 and thanked the former Copyright network group for their work.

The idea of a Network Group includes getting to know colleagues dealing with the same issues in other national libraries. After three years, the members of that former network group know each other well and thus will be able to directly address their colleagues in other national libraries. They are no longer dependent on the formal existence of such a group to establish their work relationships. In this respect, we hope that the work of the former network group may find a sustainable continuation in direct and personal contacts between those colleagues.

3.4 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Network Group

The Executive Committee agreed on the establishment of a new network group for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).



Chair Elizabeth Kirwan (National Library of Ireland)

Treasurer & Secretary Lauren Turner (British Library)

Members National and University Library in Zagreb, National Library of France, National Library of Ireland, National and University Library "St Clement of Ohrid", National Library of Serbia, Royal Library of the Netherlands, British Library

4. CENL Dialogue Forum



In 2022, the Executive Committee agreed to launch a new format for CENL members to get in touch with other groups and stakeholders. The CENL Dialogue Forum is intended to be an informal format where CENL members can meet with representatives of other interest groups or organisations to discuss topics of mutual interest.

4.1 FEP CENL Dialogue Forum

One of the first Dialogue Forums has been the **FEP-CENL Dialogue Forum**. The group is chaired by Ute Schwens (German National Library).

In Autumn 2022 and in Spring 2023 the FEP CENL Dialogue Forum representatives from the Italian, German and French Publisher Associations and from STM met colleagues from the Norwegian, Dutch, French, British and German National Libraries.

Topics of discussion in the group were:

- Implementation of the 2019 EU copyright directive
- Digitization of out-of-commerce works
- Use of research data – legal aspects and scientific demands
- The aftermaths of the COVID waves
- National developments and best practices on issues in the field of digital libraries, digitization processes, TDM, e-Publishing etc.



On 29. September 2022, the **French-German Meeting on Copyrighted Works in Digital Libraries** as a subgroup of the FEP CENL Dialogue Forum met at the German National Library in Frankfurt.

4.2 CENL Dialogue Forum National Libraries as Data Infrastructures

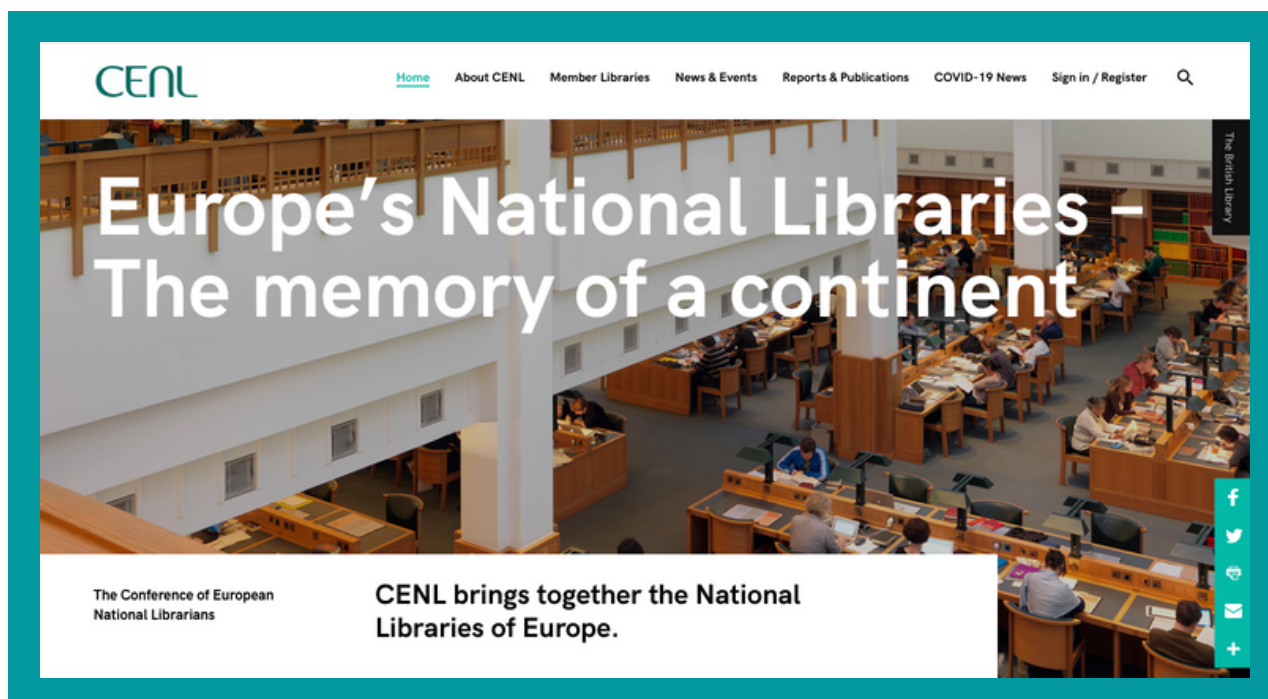
National Libraries are not only pioneers in the development of data infrastructures, but they also play an essential role in facilitating research. And National Libraries have all the data digital humanities researchers need. On the other hand, European Research Infrastructures such as CLARIN, the Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure, and DARIAH, Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities have been established to support research in the Humanities and Social Sciences using digital methods.

To facilitate structural and strategic collaboration between Europe's National Libraries and Research Infrastructures, the idea of a CENL Dialogue Forum "National Libraries as Data infrastructures", was born and approved by the CENL Executive Committee in Autumn 2022.

Sally Chambers, DARIAH-EU Director, Ghent University will explain "**The Idea behind the CENL Dialogue Forum**" at our AGM in Paris and report of the activities so far.

5. CENL communication

5.1 CENL website



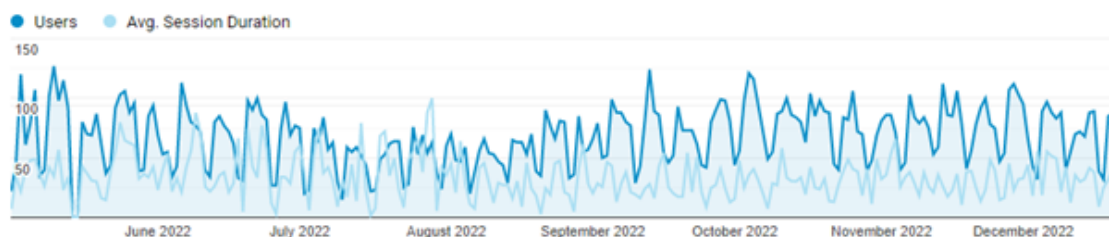
The website is the central information channel of CENL. The Secretariat regularly publishes news and events of the CENL member libraries there.

We are working with Line Industries as the support company for the website and extended the contract for another year.

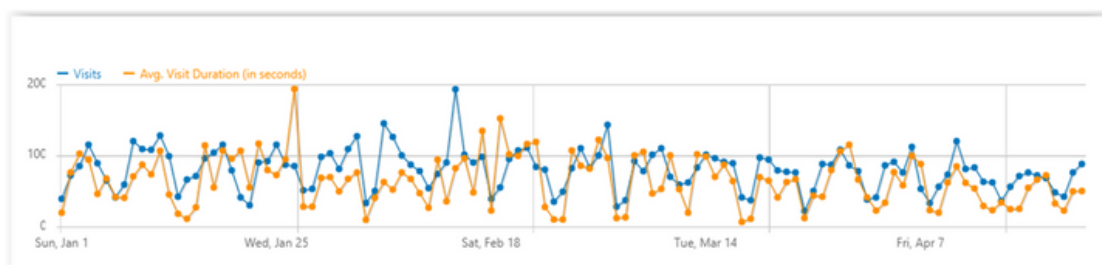
Regarding web statistics, we switched from Google Analytics to Matomo at the beginning of 2023. The reason for this is that Google is not compliant with the EU GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation), which has been confirmed several times by the courts. That is why the statistics part consists of data collected with Google Analytics (May 2022 to December 2022) as well as data collected with Matomo (January to April 2023).

5.1.1 Audience overview

During the period from May 2022 to April 2023, the CENL website has been visited regularly and the data shows a steady flow of visitors. On average, visitors stay on the site for about two minutes and look at two to three pages.

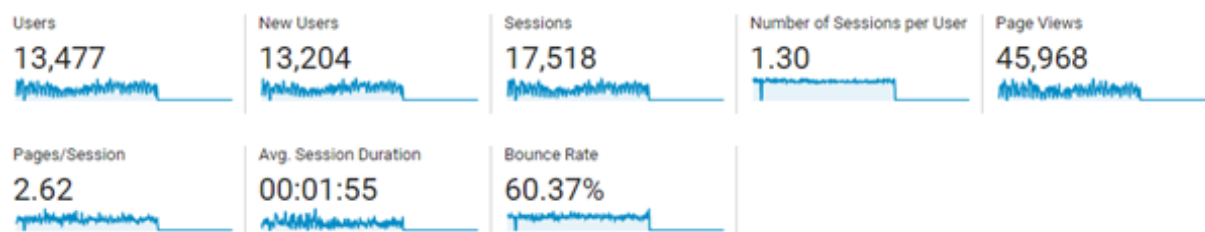


May 2022 to December 2022 (Google Analytics)

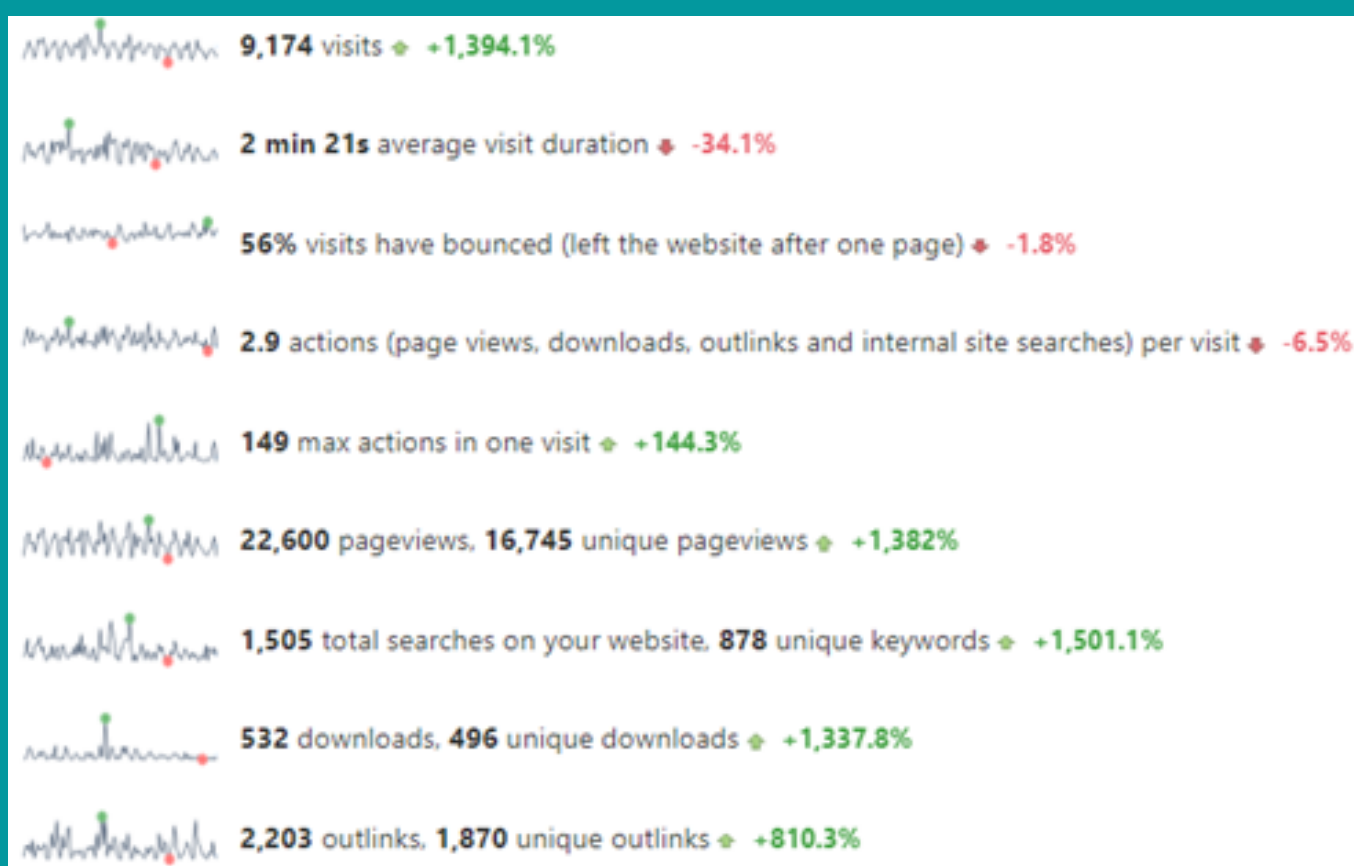


January to April 2023 (Matomo)

From May 2022 to April 2023 approximately 23,000 users visited the CENL website with approximately 66,000 page views. The average session duration of about two minutes corresponds to a still decreasing bounce rate of 60% (Google Analytics) or 56% (Matomo). The bounce rate indicates the number of users who left the site after one page. In comparison, from June 2020 to April 2021, the average session duration was only one minute with a bounce rate of 70%, so users are now spending more time on the CENL website. Since its launch in November 2019, the CENL website has received approximately 300,000 page views. The CENL website currently has approximately 500 registered users, of which approximately 65% are unassigned meaning that the account was not registered with an e-mail address from a member library. Approximately 70% of the users are subscribed to the monthly newsletter.



May 2022 to December 2022 (Google Analytics)



January to April 2023 (Matomo)

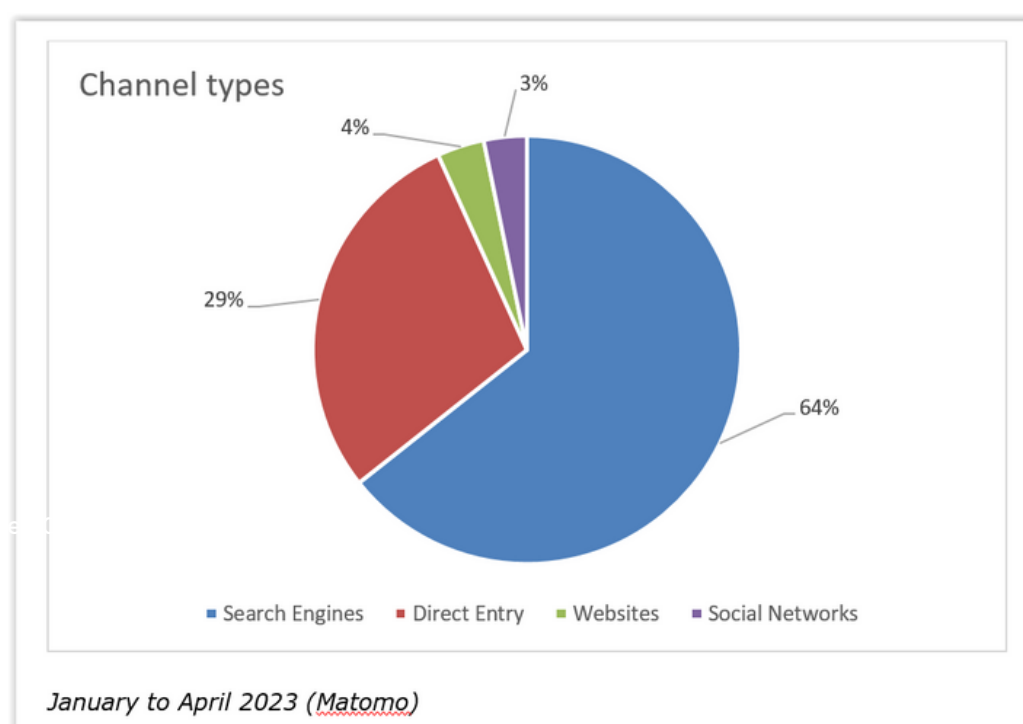
The list below shows a top 10 ranking of page views for the period from January to April 2023 (Matomo). As expected, the home page – as the landing page of the site – has the highest number of page views. Further down the list are the member libraries pages, the section about CENL, and the news and events pages – this is similar to that what was reported for last year.

The Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)	3,340
About CENL – The Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)	1,410
Member Libraries – The Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)	2,068
News & Events – The Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)	1,335
Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma / The Central National Library of Rome – The Conference o...	818
Bibliothèque nationale de France / National Library of France – The Conference of European Nati...	609
Biblioteca Națională a României / National Library of Romania – The Conference of European Nati...	625
Biblioteca Nacional de España / National Library of Spain – The Conference of European National ...	459
Reports & Publications – The Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)	531

January to April 2023 (Matomo)

5.1.2 Users reach to the CENL website

Between May 2022 and April 2023 the top channels through which users arrive at the CENL website are mostly via search engines and direct entry. Direct entry increased from 17% from the previous year to 29% now. In equal lower shares users came from social channels such as Facebook and Twitter or from other websites. The engagement in social media seems to be on the decline because only 3% visit of the CENL users came from Twitter and the like.



Social Channels

The top 3 of social networks bringing visitors to the CENL website (see chart above) are Twitter (1.6%), Facebook (1.3%) and LinkedIn (0.3%). Although CENL does not have an official Facebook page, many of our member libraries do. Therefore, when promoting shared content, their links are directly accessible through the CENL News & Events pages.

5.1.3 Geographical location of usage

The list below represents the geographical spread of countries that consistently engage with the CENL website.

	United States	12.9% 1,181
	Germany	6.4% 584
	United Kingdom	6.3% 576
	Romania	3.8% 347
	Italy	3.5% 324
	China	3.4% 310
	France	3.1% 282
	Spain	3% 273
	Turkey	2.7% 251
	Serbia	2.6% 236

	Moldova	2.5% 230
	Croatia	2.4% 220
	Poland	2.4% 219
	Latvia	2% 182
	Hungary	1.9% 176
	Netherlands	1.9% 171
	Canada	1.8% 165
	Russia	1.8% 162
	Bulgaria	1.7% 158
	Portugal	1.7% 152

January to April 2023 (Matomo)

5.2 CENL newsletter

Twelve CENL newsletters were distributed between May 2022 and April 2023.

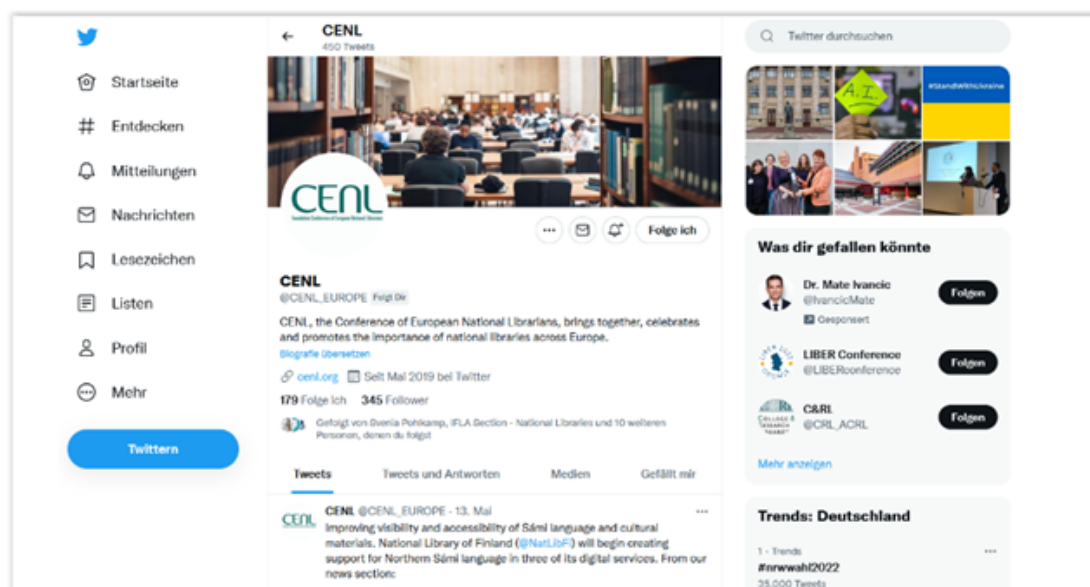
The newsletters contain contributions from all member libraries as well as important CENL news.

The newsletter currently has 402 subscribers.
The average open rate is 30%.



5.3 CENL Twitter account

Since 2019, CENL has been communicating to a wider audience via Twitter (@CENL_EUROPE). The tweets focus on news from member libraries, mostly generated from and linked to the CENL website - the CENL AGM with highlights of the programme was another important topic.



The account @CENL_EUROPE has 395 followers as of 17 April 2023, with 46 new followers since .

During this period, CENL has posted 114 tweets, averaging 363 impressions.

6. Members

In the early days of February 2023, we were saddened to learn of the passing of our esteemed member Filippos Tsimpoglou, Director General of the National Library of Greece. Many of us saw him for the last time at the AGM in Ankara, where he actively contributed to our discussions.

We will remember him as a personal and professional friend in the Conference of European National Librarians.



Filippos Tsimpoglou (l.) with Frank Scholze and Sara Lammens (r.) in Ankara

We welcome our new members:

- Taner Beyoğlu, Director General of National Library of Türkiye
- Rahmetula Kuqi, Director of St. Kliment Ohridski National and University Library, North Macedonia
- Reverend Don Mauro Mantovani, SDB, Prefect of the Vatican Library
- Dr Audrey Whitty, Director of the National Library of Ireland

A very warm welcome to all of you, we look forward to working with you!

