

Europawahl: BID bittet Parteien um Stellungnahme zur gemeinsamen Erklärung der europäischen Bibliotheksverbände

Antwort von Martin Schulz, Spitzenkandidat der SPD

On 27/9/2007 a non legislative resolution "i2010:digital libraries" was adopted by the EP (Rapp. M.-H. Descamps, EPP; PSE Shadow H. Weber).

The Socialist Group supported the resolution. We are of the opinion that there is still a need for library in a new digital landscape and one needs to invest into the libraries, e.g.

1. Recommends setting up in stages a European digital library in the form of a single, direct and multilingual access point for the European cultural heritage;
5. Invites other European cultural institutions, including regional and local institutions, to take part in this project so that it will be representative of the wealth and diversity of European culture; encourages museums to digitise their archives so that they can be included in this project;
8. Encourages Member States to continue their efforts and speed up the rate of digitisation of cultural content to achieve a sufficient mass of content;
9. Encourages Member States, together with cultural institutions, to draw up digitisation plans at national or regional level to establish a European map of all digitisation activities, thus enabling synergies to operate while avoiding duplication of the efforts and costs undertaken by many public and private institutions to digitise their holdings, since it is essential to draw up a survey of work already carried out, broken down by type of institution;
10. Encourages close cooperation between Member States and cultural institutions and an exchange of good practice with regard to digitising works and making them accessible and digitally preserving them;
13. Points out that, although Community programmes are not able to fund digitisation as such, new methods of financing must be developed, including partnerships with the private sector, on the understanding, however, that every effort must be made to prevent digitisation proceeding at different paces in different Member States;
17. Emphasises that the European digital library must be planned and organised on the basis of a pool of resources and technical capabilities able to facilitate the creation, research and utilisation of information and should not consist merely of a digital catalogue of European works;
21. Welcomes the establishment of the high-level expert group and in particular supports its proposals to list all orphan and out-of-print works to develop mechanisms to facilitate search for right holders;
29. Calls for coordination between the groups established by the Commission, in particular the Member States' expert group on digitisation and digital preservation and the above mentioned high-level expert group, to achieve genuine synergy at European level;

31. Suggests the establishment of a Europe-wide coordination body, equivalent to TEL (The European Library), for national museum and archive collections which generate every kind of digitised material connected with the European cultural heritage so as to integrate it into the European digital library search system;
32. Points out that, if integrated coherently into education systems, the European digital library would make it easier to reach young Europeans and could bring them into closer contact with their cultural and literary heritage, whilst familiarising them with new technologies and combating the digital divide.

We support the Vienna Declaration of May 2009 and - in the new legislation - we will strive for its implementation.

In matters related to the protection of intellectual property, the PSE group has always tried to strike a fair balance between the interests of creative people and other rightsholders, and the interests of consumers and others users of intellectual property. Our position on the Crowley report on the extension of the copyright term was reached after detailed consideration of the proposal and a wide range of amendments.

There were also detailed negotiations and discussion with the Council of Ministers, and those will continue if and when the Council reaches a Common Position.

We will give similar detailed consideration to any proposals put forward in the next legislature.