Contents

Foreword from President and Secretary General .................................................. 02
IPA Secretariat ....................................................................................................... 03
1. Freedom to Publish ............................................................................................ 04
2. Copyright ............................................................................................................ 08
3. Educational Publishing ...................................................................................... 12
4. Literacy and Book Industry Policy .................................................................... 14
2015 Global Publishing Statistics ........................................................................... 15
5. Accessible Books Consortium – ABC ................................................................. 18
World Book Capital 2019 ...................................................................................... 19
IPA Congress, from London to Delhi ...................................................................... 21
IPA Members Index ................................................................................................ 22
IPA Governance ..................................................................................................... 24
Foreword

Over the past year, the IPA has grown in strength and influence. New members from Bangladesh, China, Greece, Jordan and Peru mean the IPA now represents 59 PAs in 54 countries and benefits from the broadest geographical and cultural footprint the organization has achieved in its 120 years. This expansion enables the IPA to better execute its dual mission of promoting and defending both copyright and freedom to publish around the world.

Today, our membership represents thousands of individual publishing companies worldwide that together serve 5.5 billion people - 43 percent more than in 2015. This clout is the entry pass to key global fora, such as the UN, because we now speak for most publishers in the majority of markets.

Our governance frameworks have also evolved. At an Extraordinary General Assembly in London, in April 2016, we updated our Statutes and set down new governance guidelines for the three key internal bodies that define our work: the Membership, Freedom to Publish and Copyright Committees. We have streamlined and clarified the democratic mechanisms behind the Association’s decision-making – optimizing our ability to tackle today’s publishing challenges.

Our freedom to publish activity in 2015-16 has been more prolific and better targeted than ever before. We have intervened in Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the Vatican and beyond, and we have reinforced our alliances with NGOs such as PEN International, English PEN, Reporters Without Borders and IFEX. This work has been enhanced by the recruitment, in February 2016, of Ben Steward as our first Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish. Ben’s depth of journalistic and communications experience has taken our output to a new level of professionalism and quality. His quick grasp of and commitment to the IPA’s freedom to publish values has enabled us to refresh our established relationships with likeminded organizations and connect to new ones. The IPA’s freedom to publish prize, the IPA Prix Voltaire, also continues to recognize and celebrate the courage of publishers who find themselves in the firing line.

At the same time, publishers face increasingly concerted and well-funded moves to weaken national, regional and international copyright frameworks, even as established business models are shaken and consumer behaviour fragments. Creators and rightsholders are being told to tighten their belts and expect more restrictions while tech firms seek new ways to access and exploit other people’s creativity.

The IPA’s bulwark against this global assault on copyright in 2015-16 has been the outstanding legal counsel of Carlo Scollo Lavizzari and his team, in particular André Myburgh. From the debates at the World Intellectual Property Organization in Geneva to copyright law reviews at national level, Carlo has shrewdly informed our submissions with a strategic eye on the long game. He also had a hand in drafting the IPA’s first formal WIPO Strategy, which will shape our ongoing lobbying there.

The IPA Secretariat continues to run hyper-efficiently, thanks to our Office Manager, Joanna Bazán Babczonek. Not only does she ensure the IPA functions smoothly, she also enthusiastically and ably pilots the IPA’s role in the UNESCO World Book Capital City programme.

Together, we have achieved much to be proud of in these twelve months. The challenges are undiminished, but the IPA remains the best qualified voice for publishers at world level. Publishers and publishing need the IPA’s cross-border support, even as they have adapted to the digital world and found that their old markets still exist in parallel with innovative business models.

Richard Charkin, President
José Borghino, Secretary General
Freedom to Publish

The assault on freedom to publish continues, with daily reports of writers and publishers being silenced by governments, extremists and private interests. To varying degrees, the denial of the right to publish can be observed right around the world. The world’s freedom to publish black spots appear to be growing larger and more numerous, in step with the creeping illiberalism and a politics of fear that is the regrettable hallmark of recent times.

In 2015 and 2016, publishers in Turkey, already one of the world’s most challenging environments in which to work with the written word, have faced a decisive surge in state pressure, with even more writers, publishers and journalists jailed, attacked or dismissed.

The indefatigable Turkish Publishers Association (TPA) gave its Freedom of Expression and Thought Award in June 2015 to journalist and writer Hasan Cemal. A founding member of the TPA, Hasan Cemal has been repeatedly tried throughout his career, investigated for terrorism, and had two of his books banned by the courts. Afsa Publishing Group also had three books banned. Good bookstore, a 31-year-old national chain in Kırşehir province, was closed in 2015 by an angry mob.

In its 2015-2016 Freedom to Publish Report, the TPA described the outlook in Turkey as ‘pessimistic’, and that the state of emergency decree ordered the immediate closure of 25 Turkish publishing houses, following the failed coup attempt on 15 July. The IPA was quick to bolster the Turkish Publishers Association’s position, stating that while the state of emergency in Turkey was real, the multiple closures were a disproportionately regrettable hallmark of recent times.

In China, the IPA repeatedly made uncompromising statements calling for Beijing to release five Hong Kong-based book trade professionals, who disappeared in suspicious circumstances. Known as the Hong Kong Five, Gui Minhai, Lee Bo, Cheung Chi Ping, Lam Wing Kee and Li Rui were missing in 2015 from various locations, including Hong Kong and Thailand, only to resurface months later in mainland Chinese police custody. A joint IPA-PEN International press release in November 2015 denounced the disappearances and called on the Chinese government to do all in its power to bring them safely back. Additionally, the IPA joined seven other free expression and publishing organizations in co-signing a letter to the Hong Kong Government that urged China to release the five bookellers. The letter, initiated by PEN America, called on Hong Kong chief executive, Leung Chun-yung, to do everything possible to investigate the cases and demand the release of the Hong Kong Five.

In Bangladesh, the pressure on publishers has been coming from another direction, namely frenzied, hate-fueled attacks by Islamist extremists, in what is clearly a deliberate, organized attempt to spread terror and silence dissenters.

IPA President, Richard Charkin, and Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, Ben Steward travelled to Dhaka in June 2016 to deliver a message to Bangladesh’s Secretary of Culture, Akhtari Mamiz, at an unprecedented PEN conference jointly organized by the National Book Centre of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and IPA member, the Academic and Creative Publishers Association of Bangladesh (ACPAB).

Alluding to the government’s approach of pandering to terrorists by criticizing the secular output of the publishers, writers and intellectuals who have been targeted, Steward pointed out that responsibility for the violent attacks lay only with the perpetrators, and not the victims. He said: ‘The government should be unequivocal about that, and urgently reassess its approach to demonstrate that rule of law is paramount. Urgent action is needed to reverse this downward spiral and create a Bangladesh where political and religious views can be discussed in safety.

In the spring, the IPA also joined forces with 15 other NGOs that are monitoring Bangladesh – including PEN Bangladesh, PEN International and Reporters Without Borders – to urge the United Nations to concentrate more effort there. At the 32nd sitting of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) – of which Bangladesh is a member – delegates discussed a statement that was jointly submitted by this group of NGOs. That text called on the UNHRC to press the government of Bangladesh to take urgent, concrete steps to address the worsening conditions that are strangling freedom of expression there.

In these countries, and wherever freedom to publish has been challenged, the IPA has stood firmly with its members in supporting this fundamental right. We will continue to do so as the global situation worsens.

The inaugural IPA Prix Voltaire

On 15 April, 2016, in London, the IPA announced that the joint creator of a journalist’s website, Raif Badawi, had been chosen by the Freedom to Publish Committee to be the first winner of the IPA Prix Voltaire, formerly the IPA Freedom to Publish Prize.

Presenting the prize at the International Publishers Congress gala dinner, in London, the President of English PEN, Maureen Freely, said: ‘We are deeply concerned about the detention of Raif Badawi. This year’s award is a protest against the way he has been treated and it is a protest against the detention of all those who have been targeted in the same way in Saudi Arabia.

‘Raif’s wife, Ensaf Haidar, had travelled from Canada – where she and their three children asked political asylum in 2013 to collect the award. She told the audience that the money would be used in the ongoing fight for Raif’s release and to support the suffering of other free speech activists in Saudi Arabia. Badawi, 32, courageously set up the Free Saudi Liberals’ forum to facilitate political and religious debate in a state known for its opposition to both. He did so knowing he risked a heavy sentence or even his life to publish his pro-reform, secular ideas and those of other Saudi dissenters.

In 2015 the IPA created the IPA Freedom to Publish Prize to honour a person or organization that has made an important contribution to the defence and promotion of freedom to publish. The IPA received in 2015 150 entries. From these, the IPA nominated the IPA Prix Voltaire, in tribute to the French philosopher and writer François-Marie Arouet (penname Voltaire), who preached a doctrine of tolerance and free expression long before such terms were in general use. In addition, from 2015 to 1579 Voltaire lived in Geneva, Switzerland, where the IPA is based, before moving to the nearby French border town of Roya, which was renamed Ferney-Voltaire in his honour after the French Revolution.

The CHF 10,000 prize money is provided by contributions from the following sponsors:

- Penguin Random House
- Oxford University Press
- Simon & Schuster
- Kodansha
- HarperCollins
- Springer Nature
- Elsevier

Please contact Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, Ben Steward (steward@internationalpublishers.org) if your organization would like to sponsor this important and unique prize or help the IPA in its mission to promote and protect the freedom to publish.

In 2015, the IPA awarded the CHF 10,000 prize to Raif Badawi, co-founder of the Free Saudi Liberals’ forum, in recognition of his courageous efforts to promote free speech, despite the heavy penalties and threats he faced in Saudi Arabia. In 2005 the IPA created the IPA Freedom to Publish Prize to honour a person or organization that has made an important contribution to the defence and promotion of freedom to publish. The IPA created the IPA Prix Voltaire, in tribute to the French philosopher and writer François-Marie Arouet (笔名伏尔泰), who preached a doctrine of tolerance and free expression long before such terms were in general use. In addition, from 1579 to 1579 Voltaire lived in Geneva, Switzerland, where the IPA is based, before moving to the nearby French border town of Roya, which was renamed Ferney-Voltaire in his honour after the French Revolution.

The CHF 10,000 prize money is provided by contributions from the following sponsors:

- Penguin Random House
- Oxford University Press
- Simon & Schuster
- Kodansha
- HarperCollins
- Springer Nature
- Elsevier

Please contact the Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, Ben Steward (steward@internationalpublishers.org) if your organization would like to sponsor this important and unique prize or help the IPA in its mission to promote and protect the freedom to publish.

Please contact Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, Ben Steward (steward@internationalpublishers.org) if your organization would like to sponsor this important and unique prize or help the IPA in its mission to promote and protect the freedom to publish.

Please contact the Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, Ben Steward (steward@internationalpublishers.org) if your organization would like to sponsor this important and unique prize or help the IPA in its mission to promote and protect the freedom to publish.

Please contact Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, Ben Steward (steward@internationalpublishers.org) if your organization would like to sponsor this important and unique prize or help the IPA in its mission to promote and protect the freedom to publish.
Together ACPAB and the IPA have made numerous calls for a decisive government response. In November 2015, IPA Secretary General José Borghino said in a statement, These craven attacks require an immediate and precise response from the Government of Bangladesh. Those who murdered Faisal Abedin Deepan and attempted to murder Tutul must be found and brought to justice.

In February 2016, IPA president Richard Charkin inaugurated the month-long Bangladesh International Book Fair, in Dhaka, and speaking before Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he urged her to ‘ensure extremism does not win over freedom of expression’. A fortnight later, the IPA called for the immediate release and protection of 73-year-old publisher Shamsuzzoha Manik, who had been arrested at the same fair over books deemed ‘offensive to Islam’.

Responding to the news of Manik’s arrest, Richard Charkin said:
Two weeks ago I spoke about the importance of allowing publishing to prosper freely. I call on Prime Minister Hasina now to put this right and ensure Shamsuzzoha Manik is freed immediately and given the protection he needs. Bangladesh needs to take sincere, serious steps to stop this slide into a situation where extremists call the shots and the state does their bidding.

Adding his voice, ACPAB Executive Director Kamrul Hasan Shayok said:
It is a sobering fact that in Bangladesh there is an enormous lack of awareness regarding freedom to publish. We have to work together with the IPA to build up this awareness and to remove the root of militancy from our society. For the sake of progressive and modern Bangladesh we must safeguard freedom to publish.

And in June 2016, a two-person IPA delegation travelled to Dhaka to attend a freedom to publish conference organized jointly by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and ACPAB, and attended by Secretary of Culture, Aktari Mamtaz. This was a unique opportunity to deliver a strong message directly to government (see page 5).

The IPA continues to work with a broad group of global free speech organizations, including PEN International, Reporters Without Borders and IFEX (formerly the International Freedom of Expression Exchange), to ensure that the human rights situation in Bangladesh remains high on the agendas of key international decision makers, including at the United Nations in Geneva.

In October 2015 the IPA General Assembly voted to allow the Academic and Creative Publishers Association of Bangladesh (ACPAB) Provisional IPA membership. It was a move that took the IPA’s reach deeper into Asia via a country of 172 million people where language and the written word underpin the nation’s modern identity.

In recent years in Bangladesh, there has been a radical decline in respect for freedoms we take for granted in the West: freedoms of expression, association, assembly, opinion and belief. Entrenched political differences between the ruling Awami League, and the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party and their allies have given rise to a crackdown on freedom of expression, with Bangladesh’s vibrant civil society also under attack. Regressive legislative changes, poor law enforcement, lack of practical governmental support for the principle of freedom of expression, attempts to weaken independent media and an ineffective justice system have all contributed to an ongoing tragedy, where dissenting voices are being silenced through imprisonment, self-censorship, exile, violence and even murder.

Most disturbingly, radical Islamist groups have begun a campaign to push Bangladesh towards conservatism and religious monoculture, killing numerous bloggers, free thinkers and their publishers – six of them in the past 18 months. In October 2015, the month that the ACPAB joined the IPA, secular publisher Faisal Abedin Deepan was hacked to death and Ahmedur ‘Tutul’ Chowdhury, another publisher, almost lost his life in a frenzied attack by a machete-wielding gang.

Bangladesh is facing an ill-defined terrorist crisis, and compounding the problem is a government, embattled by Islamist and conservative opposition groups, which is unwilling to risk losing popular support by strongly defending secular thinkers. Moreover, the government’s muted response to the killings has even been laced with insinuations that the bloggers contributed in part to their own murders.
Copyright

One of the greatest challenges facing publishers today is the popular misconception that technological innovation and copyright protection are somehow incompatible, and that a choice must be made between them. Despite copyright’s incontestable credentials as a driver of innovation and cultural enrichment, this fallacy has led to a number of key decisions around the so-called ‘fair use’ doctrine in the United States and proposals to adopt it in other countries.

As US copyright sage Jon Baumgarten explained during the 2016 IPA Congress:

"The astonishing promise of new technologies is seductive to the consuming public, to jurists, and to policy makers alike, throughout the world; and there are more than a few who see and portray copyright as a fatal impediment or, at best, a troublesome inconvenience, to be swept aside or largely diminished in the interest of technological innovation and progress."”

Mr. Baumgarten also noted that in the rush to ‘choose’ innovation over copyright, ‘fair use’ expansionists overlook the "symbolic need for compelling creative content to move over their newly invented magical channels". Robust protection and adequate compensation for the use of copyrighted works must be parts of the equation for this symbiotic relationship to thrive.

Moreover, ‘fair use’ devotees choose to disregard many innovative platforms and tools developed by publishers and other rightsholders, assuming that only large technology companies are capable of meaningful innovation. In reality, it is the copyright system that has enabled publishers to invest and innovate.

Parallel to the rise of ‘fair use’, we are observing a failure to properly recognize and remunerate publisher contributions to the creation and dissemination of copyrighted works in other jurisdictions and contexts. In both the Newfert Parkland vs. Apple/Replay case, decided by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), and the German Federal Supreme Court Vogel case, judges declined to recognize publishers as rightsholders that are entitled to fair compensation under levy systems related to private copying exceptions. The rulings – which contradict legislative intent, cogent statutory interpretation, and longstanding government-supervised distribution practices of collective management organizations – have curtailed another vital revenue stream for publishers, just like overbroad applications of the ‘fair use’ doctrine, the rulings deny publishers compensation entirely instead of seeking a balance between reasonably drawn exceptions and fair compensation via license or levy mechanisms.

Education exceptions are another area pervaded by the spectre of imbalance, with drastic consequences for publishers. The harmful effects of Canada’s 2012 amendment to its Copyright Act to include a broadly interpreted education exception are now clear: substantial revenue and royalty losses to publishers and authors, educational publishers that rely on income from universities facing closure, and the inexorable further decline of local publishing interests.

These are but a few examples of the challenges to copyright that come through ill-informed legislative, judicial and policy decisions around the world. The IPA’s unique global perspective on copyright allows it to engage governments worldwide on behalf of its members on these and other important issues, to seek corrections where necessary and to prevent the further adoption of flawed copyright laws and policies that are, ultimately, not in the public interest.

The WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR)

The WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) made no leaps forward in the past 12 months; it did make perceptible headway that should lead to something substantial in the coming months. The biggest brake on the committee’s progress is a 20-year-old debate on a possible Broadcasting Treaty (BCT), which has remained in near stasis since day one.

The danger for publishers is that WIPO delegations with no direct stake in this treaty may use it to leverage their interests in other copyright agenda items — in particular exceptions and limitations in education, libraries and archives. Specifically, these include: a possible treaty on library exceptions; a legal instrument on exceptions in research and education; and another for persons with disabilities other than print disabilities (which was covered by 2013’s Marrakesh Treaty), such as hearing or other sensory, cognitive and motor impediments.

There are wide divisions in the SCCR — chiefly between developed and developing nations — over the merits of copyright protection and the sensible scope of exceptions. This schism is mirrored in other WIPO committees, including those on patent law and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. Many NGOs that attend the SCCR strongly advocate a universal rollout of the US-style ‘fair use’ doctrine. But the meaning of ‘fair use’ — once a theory promoting the reuse of existing works in the creation of new ones — has mutated into a doctrine that permits any use of a work that, however tenuously, seems to be in the public interest and may be labelled ‘transformative’. Mounting pressure from anti-copyright activists poses the greatest threat to the international IP framework and could result in permanent damage to the notion of an exception remaining an exception, and not becoming the rule.

At WIPO, the IPA will continue to lobby for sound copyright laws, oppose overbroad exceptions and limitations, and fight against an internationalized ‘fair use’, which would undermine the tried and tested Berne Convention ‘three-step test’.

"Carlo Scollo Lavizzari is the IPA’s legal counsel for all matters, but especially copyright. He guides the IPA and its members through tricky legislative challenges and provides specialized expertise in international publishing law."
Copyright

In 2012, the Canadian government passed the Copyright Modernization Act (CMA), an initiative to make important changes to Canadian copyright law, in particular, by introducing a ‘fair dealing’ exception for education. In response, the IPA called upon the Canadian Government to urgently reconsider the changes, which are doing significant damage to Canadian educational publishing.

In a letter sent to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, Mélanie Joly, and the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep Bains, IPA Secretary General José Borghino warned that ‘the net effect of these decisions will be to drive down the quality of education in Canada’.

Borghini also reminded the ministers of a 2015 PricewaterhouseCoopers study, which found that the introduction of a broad educational exception in the Canadian copyright law had already ‘dealt a very serious blow to the Canadian educational publishing sector, where a number of Canadian publishers have closed down and others are reducing staff.

In closing, Borghino wrote: ‘Urgent reconsideration is needed of what uses of copyright materials should be classified as ‘unremunerated fair dealing uses’ while a review of the copyright legislation passed by the previous government should also be undertaken without delay.’

The inclusion of a ‘fair dealing’ exception for education in the CMA has created great uncertainty in the education sector regarding what constitutes ‘fair’, and therefore uncompensated, use of education materials in K-20 classrooms.

The IPA has been a vital partner with the Canadian Publishers’ Council in raising the issue with the relevant government Ministers in Canada, and urging a critical re-examination of the ‘fair dealing’ exception for Education. The IPA’s expertise in the areas of international copyright law and education in particular makes their intervention especially important. The IPA’s voice has brought much-needed weight to arguments for reconsideration, and has added to a critical dialogue that has the potential to influence other jurisdictions that are currently considering copyright reform.

Canada was, unfortunately a leader in adopting in 2012 a catastrophic new copyright law that proved to be highly detrimental to rightsholders, book publishers and writers. At that time the IPA showed firm solidarity by expressing its strong concerns to the Canadian Government. Last spring, the IPA again supported the efforts of the Canadian book publishing industry by lobbying our Ministers of Canadian Heritage and of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, regarding the Copyright Board of Canada’s decision to reduce the tariff of copyright fees for K–12 schools.

We truly appreciate IPA’s support in our battle for Canadian writers’ and publishers’ rights, and we hope that through our international association the voice of the world book publishing community will finally be heard in Canada.
Educational Publishing

Educational publishing is a strategic resource for the global knowledge economy, in the developed world, and even more so in developing countries. However, the production of high-quality, suitable educational resources is a process that is little understood and routinely undervalued by lawmakers and educational authorities. This is why we have seen a deeply worrying increase in governments interfering in – or even commandeering entirely – the production and delivery of educational resources.

One example is Georgia, where a government scheme to control the textbook market has driven several educational publishers out of business and left others hanging in the balance. In the name of providing free textbooks to schoolchildren, a decree passed in 2013 lets the state summarily seize publishers’ digital textbook files, print the books and give them away. The publishers have no legal recourse to recover their losses and, at the time of writing, their case awaits the attention of the European Court of Human Rights.

Similarly, in Kenya, the introduction of VAT on books three years ago has already inflicted terrible damage on textbook publishing. The 16% levy has caused book sales to plummet and piracy to soar so high that the illegal book economy is now thought to be bigger than the legitimate market. Kenyan Publishers Association (KPA) Chairman, David Waweru, told the IPA in May 2016: ‘Since VAT was introduced, we have seen a downturn in the entire publishing industry. There are publishers whose volumes have gone down as much as 50%, but the national average is about 35% in sales since 2013.’

The IPA is closely following these and other cases, and continues to work with members to press policymakers at national and international level and stress the need for strong, independent, competitive, local, educational publishing as a precondition for economic, cultural and social development.

About the EPF

Since 2009, the IPA-led Educational Publishers Forum (EPF) has assembled educational (K-12) publishers from around the world to exchange views on the development of learning resources and technologies, and its impacts on the classroom. The EPF has links with the European Commission, OECD, UNESCO, WIPO and the World Bank, and aspires to be the leading global forum for debate about the evolution of learning resources.

The EPF meets at least three times per year at changing venues and organizes an annual international education conference, entitled ‘What Works?’, which was held in April 2016, during the International Publishers Congress and London Book Fair. The EPF has a European Affairs committee and the Asia-Pacific Educational Publishers Forum, which addresses the needs of educational publishers in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the newly formed EPF Americas, which is scheduled to meet for the first time in Guadalajara, Mexico, in November 2016.

IPA members can each send two delegates to EPF meetings and individual publishers can also pay to attend. Representatives from the following countries have participated in EPF activities:
Literacy & Book Industry Policy

The IPA’s Literacy & Book Industry Policy (LIBS) Committee provides guidance on industry policy matters, including taxation, fixed book price, import/export restrictions and other policies impacting publishing markets. The Committee also guides specific initiatives to promote literacy and reading, such as the World Book Capital City project (see page 19).

On 8 September 2015, International Literacy Day, the IPA allied itself with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the International Authors Forum (IAF) and the Reading & Writing Foundation (RWF) to call on UN member states to implement coherent and properly resourced strategies to promote literacy for all.

The goal of this joint action was to underscore the power of libraries, authors and publishers to enable UN member states to reach their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on literacy. For example, SDG4 in particular calls for ‘inclusive and equitable quality education and the promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all’. It makes specific mention of youth and adult literacy, and highlights the link between education and sustainable development.

Part of the IPA/IFLA/IAF/RWF statement reads: ‘The ability to read and to write is essential to education and life in an information economy. The IPA supports a broad range of initiatives that promote literacy and reading contributing to the development of a sustainable local publishing industry. Local publishers give local writers a voice, and ensure that local readers of every age have reading material that reflects their experience, cultural context and way of life.

CHAIR: JOSÉ-MANUEL GÓMEZ Chairman and CEO Grupo Anaya, Spain

The ability to read and to write is essential to education and life in an information economy. The IPA supports a broad range of initiatives that promote literacy and reading contributing to the development of a sustainable local publishing industry. Local publishers give local writers a voice, and ensure that local readers of every age have reading material that reflects their experience, cultural context and way of life.

2015 Global Publishing Statistics

Since 2009, the IPA has been collecting publishing data according to six metrics:

- New titles plus re-editions;
- Copies sold;
- E-book titles published;
- Publishers’ net revenue (from book sales, exports, rights and licenses for print and digital);
- Market value at consumer (retail) prices;
- Value of educational publishing (private and public spending on educational materials).

Gathering this information is a challenge, since our many diverse contributors collate different kinds of publishing industry data and some carry out their research at different times of the year. Regrettably, this means that, despite our best efforts, there are gaps in some of the tables where the figures were unobtainable.

An added difficulty has come with the advent of e-books, audio books and self-publishing, which have made the task of counting the number of new titles much more complex. We can no longer rely on registered ISBNs as a direct indicator of the number of new titles published, because a single title today generates three or four different ISBNs, depending on the formats in which it is made available.

What is more, some industry watchers – such as Bowker, which provided the new titles data for the USA – include the vast output of self-publishing platforms among the total number of titles produced. We have decided to exclude these and focus only on the output of ‘traditional’ publishing companies, since the inclusion of the number of self-published titles in a minority of markets would dramatically and misleadingly skew the results.

In all cases the values have been rounded conservatively and all foreign currencies are converted to euros (€), using the average yearly exchange rate.

The top markets 2014–2015: Revenues

For the third year running, the USA and China continued to lead the world, both in terms of revenue and number of new titles published (Table 1). Individualy, however, these two markets posted very different results. The USA recorded a healthy bounce back to growth with an increase in total revenue of €2bn to €24.9 billion (USD 27.8 billion), up 9% year-on-year. This is a dramatic reversal compared to its 2013-2014 revenue slump of €1.3bn. At the same time, China saw a slight decline in revenue, from €10.6 billion to €10.5 billion (down 0.63%) in 2014-2015, compared to growth of €1.4bn the previous year.

By comparison, the total revenue in the European Union plus the European Economic Area (EU+EEA), when treated as a single market, was €22bn in 2014 (figure courtesy of the Federation of European Publishers), putting it just behind the USA (at the time of writing, the 2015 EU+EEA figures were unavailable).

Biggest growers 2015: Sweden (+50%); Saudi Arabia (+21%); Thailand (+9.55%); Brazil (-13%).

Biggest contractors 2015: Switzerland (-35%); Iceland (-15.15%); Norway (-14%); France (-13%).

Table 1  | Table 1 | Top publishing markets 2014–2015 by revenue (mEUR), for which figures were available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>VOT TRENDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>29618</td>
<td>29486</td>
<td>+0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>10579</td>
<td>10512</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>5451</td>
<td>5430</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>4682</td>
<td>4317</td>
<td>-7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>2652</td>
<td>2687</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>1650</td>
<td>1433</td>
<td>-13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1576</td>
<td>1584</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1058</td>
<td>1058</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>-2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>-5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>-32.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An added difficulty has come with the advent of e-books, audio books and self-publishing, which have made the task of counting the number of new titles much more complex. We can no longer rely on registered ISBNs as a direct indicator of the number of new titles published, because a single title today generates three or four different ISBNs, depending on the formats in which it is made available.

What is more, some industry watchers – such as Bowker, which provided the new titles data for the USA – include the vast output of self-publishing platforms among the total number of titles produced. We have decided to exclude these and focus only on the output of ‘traditional’ publishing companies, since the inclusion of the number of self-published titles in a minority of markets would dramatically and misleadingly skew the results.

In all cases the values have been rounded conservatively and all foreign currencies are converted to euros (€), using the average yearly exchange rate.

Table 1  | Top publishing markets 2014–2015 by revenue (mEUR), for which figures were available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>VOT TRENDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>29618</td>
<td>29486</td>
<td>+0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>10579</td>
<td>10512</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>5451</td>
<td>5430</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>4682</td>
<td>4317</td>
<td>-7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>2652</td>
<td>2687</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>1650</td>
<td>1433</td>
<td>-13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1576</td>
<td>1584</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1058</td>
<td>1058</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>-2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>-5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>-32.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The top markets 2014–2015: New Titles

If we illustrate the evolution of world publishing markets using new titles released, the rankings differ slightly (Table 2). For instance, while China produced more than 130,000 more titles than the USA in 2015, the sales of these titles did not translate into revenue as effectively as it did in the USA.

In the UK, Brazil and Iceland, there would appear to be a direct correlation between a drop in number of titles published and a fall in publishers’ revenues, although this correlation is by no means applicable to every market. China, for instance, produced many more titles yet saw a drop in revenues.

New titles per million inhabitants

An important indicator of the health of a national publishing industry is the number of titles published per million inhabitants. Since the invention of the printing press, an estimated 150 million different book titles have been published worldwide, although this number will almost certainly shoot up in the next decade through digital publishing.

The IPA, together with a number of other international literacy stakeholders, including the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the International Authors and Publishers Association (IAPA), and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the International Authors and Publishers Association (IAPA), and the International Literacy Association (ILA), produced its first comprehensive report on global literacy and publishing in 2016. The report, entitled "The Global Literacy and Publishing Landscape: A Global Literacy and Publishing Landscape: A Reckoning of the Future," provides an overview of the current state of global literacy and publishing, and offers recommendations for future action.

This year’s figures tell a story of relative stability at the top of the world publishing market, with the top five publishers retaining their rankings from 2015 and comparatively little movement among the other companies in the top 20.

Pearson held on to the top spot in 2015, even though its revenue fell by around USD 447 million. This drop can be explained by a major reorganization undertaken by the UK-based company, which sold off the Financial Times and its stake in The Economist.

In January 2016, Pearson announced 4,000 layoffs from its global education business. The company attributed the move to changing consumer habits, with more students opting for digital learning materials over traditional textbooks. Pearson’s revenues are expected to decline in 2016 and 2017 as a result of this reorganization.

The rankings are based on sales generated in calendar year 2015, or, for companies that report based on fiscal years, in fiscal year 2015. The rankings are calculated using the annual report published by companies, if available, or, for companies that do not publish an annual report, using data from publicly available sources or from individual companies and industry associations for their help in gathering these statistics.

In-depth analysis and the full table of the top 52 companies can be found here: http://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/international/2015-2016.html

The IPA is sincerely grateful to its members and other publishers for their help in gathering these statistics.
Accessible Books Consortium – ABC

According to the World Blind Union, less than 5% of the million or so books published each year in the world are made available in formats accessible to visually impaired persons. And according to the World Health Organization, there are more than 314 million blind and visually impaired persons in the world, 90% of them in developing countries.

The ABC's objective is to increase the number of books worldwide in accessible formats, such as braille, audio and large print, and to make them available to people who are print disabled. The ABC complements the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh VIP Treaty), which came into force on 30 September 2016, three months after Canada became the twentieth country to ratify the treaty.

Once Canada had ratified, WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry, said: 'This is great news for people who are blind, visually impaired and print disabled'.

The Marrakesh Treaty addresses the 'book famine' by requiring participating countries to adopt national law provisions to permit the reproduction, distribution and making available of published works in accessible formats through limitations and exceptions to the rights of creators, publishers and other rights holders. It also provides for the exchange of these accessible format works across borders by organisations that serve blind, visually impaired and print disabled people.

The Marrakesh Treaty addresses the 'book famine' by requiring participating countries to adopt national law provisions to permit the reproduction, distribution and making available of published works in accessible formats through limitations and exceptions to the rights of creators, publishers and other rights holders. It also provides for the exchange of these accessible format works across borders by organisations that serve blind, visually impaired and print disabled people.

Cross-border sharing of accessible works will increase the overall number by eliminating duplication and increasing efficiency of organizations serving people with print disabilities. For example, instead of five libraries for the blind reproducing braille versions of the same work, these organizations will each be able to produce an accessible version of a different work that can then be shared.

The treaty is also designed to provide assurances to authors and publishers that the system will not expose their published works to misuse or distribution to anyone other than the intended beneficiaries. The treaty reiterates the requirement that the cross-border sharing of accessible works envisaged by the Marrakesh Treaty must be limited to certain special cases which do not conflict with the normal exploitation of the work and do not unreasonably prejudice the legitimate interests of rightsholders.

www.accessiblebooksconsortium.org

World Book Capital 2019

By Joanna Bazán Babczonek

The UNESCO-led World Book Capital sprang from the runaway success of World Book and Copyright Day, which was launched in 1996. In 2001 Madrid became the first UNESCO World Book Capital City.

Inspired by the initiative's success in Madrid, the IPA suggested that the best city programme to promote books and reading should be nominated between one World Book Day (23 April) and the next.

The IPA’s idea, plus a proposal by the Government of Spain and expressions of support by many other countries, persuaded the UNESCO General Conference on 2 November 2001 to support the conception and implementation of World Book Capital City (WBCC) by inviting international professional book chain organizations to work together for its concretization.

The idea for World Book Capital originated in the mind of Pere Vicens, when he was IPA president (2000–2004). It was based on the positive outcomes of World Book and Copyright Day which, incidentally, was also Pere’s idea. He had successfully pitched it to UNESCO in 1995, when president of the Spanish Association of Publishers (FGEE).

Following the public call for applications, the nominating committee, made up of the European and International Bookellers Federation (EIBF) until 2016), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the IPA and UNESCO, would meet at UNESCO headquarters, in Paris, to appoint a World Book Capital City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of title</th>
<th>Number of applicants</th>
<th>Winning city</th>
<th>Population in municipality only</th>
<th>Adult literacy rate in country (15 yrs+)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Madrid appointed</td>
<td>Madrid</td>
<td>2,938,723</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>iva</td>
<td>Alexandria</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>iva</td>
<td>New Delhi</td>
<td>11,345,000</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Antwerp</td>
<td>38,220</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>1,600,000</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Turin</td>
<td>900,589</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bogotá</td>
<td>7,000,000</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
<td>747,093</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>360,000</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ujjain</td>
<td>2,722,226</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>2,700,000</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yerevan</td>
<td>1,060,138</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>8,426,000</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Port Harcourt</td>
<td>638,360</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Incheon</td>
<td>2,957,931</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Warsaw</td>
<td>635,800</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Conakry</td>
<td>2,100,000</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Athens</td>
<td>664,046</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IPA Congress, from London to Delhi

The 31st International Publishers Congress, from 9 to 12 April, 2016, gathered more than 220 delegates from 41 countries in London’s Olympia Conference Centre. This was the second time the Congress had taken place in the UK capital, but the first time it had run parallel to The London Book Fair.

Sunday 10 April was a day of debates about the big issues facing publishers, such as the changing global copyright landscape, challenges and opportunities of digital and the deteriorating state of freedom to publish in many parts of the world.

On 11 April, the IPA held an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) where members adopted several governance amendments that optimize the democratic mechanisms underpinning the IPA’s decision-making.

Four IPA working groups had been reviewing the IPA statutes and committee guidelines since December 2015 to make sure they would continue to serve as an appropriate framework for the modern IPA.

Their proposals to clarify the IPA statutes and governance of the Membership, Copyright and Freedom to Publish committees, were overwhelmingly adopted by the IPA membership.

The next International Publishers Congress, in 2018, will be hosted by Indian member, the Federation of Indian Publishers (FIP), in New Delhi. The FIP plans to hold the 2018 IPA Congress in the plush Taj Palace Hotel, in the first half of February, 2018, for around 900 delegates. It will be timed to coincide with the New Delhi World Book Fair.

This is the second time the FIP has assumed responsibility for the now biennial congress, having first staged it in 1992.

Modern India is a world publishing powerhouse built on a rich literary tradition. Books are published in 21 local languages, including English, which remains the language of higher education.

Since the first IPA Congress, which was in Paris, in 1896, the event has attracted the world’s leading publishers. Today it continues to offer a vital platform for publishers to discuss the industry’s most important challenges, to network and learn from each other.
IPA Governance

Non-voting observers, representing IPA Associate Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RASHAD, Mohamed</td>
<td>President, Egyptian Publishers Association</td>
<td>APA (Arab Region)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUDSON, Christopher</td>
<td>Publisher, Museum of Modern Art, New York</td>
<td>AAP (Society Publishers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTA, Henrique</td>
<td>Founder, Principa Editora</td>
<td>FEP (Europe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MABE, Michael</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>STM (Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECHEVERRÍA, José Ignacio</td>
<td>Editoriales e impresoras Profesionales</td>
<td>GIE (Americas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOLAWOLE, Samuel</td>
<td>Nigerian Publishers Association</td>
<td>APNET (Africa)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chairs of the IPA Working Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copyright</td>
<td>OSIDA, Paul</td>
<td>Elsevier (USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Publishers Forum</td>
<td>DISNEY, Jay</td>
<td>Association of American Publishers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom to Publish</td>
<td>WALLIN, Dil</td>
<td>Corbo Ersatz (Sweden)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy &amp; Book Industry Policy</td>
<td>GOMEZ, José Manuel</td>
<td>Ediciones Anaya (Spain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>KOLMAN, Michiel</td>
<td>Elsevier (NL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International Publishers Association:
Promoting and protecting publishing worldwide.