# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**President’s Editorial** .......................................................... 3

**Committee Updates** ......................................................... 5
  - Copyright ........................................................................ 6
  - Charles Clark Memorial Lecture ................................... 7
  - Freedom to Publish ...................................................... 8
  - IPA Prix Voltaire 2021 .................................................. 9

Inclusive Publishing and Literacy ........................................... 10
  - Literacy ........................................................................... 10
  - Accessibility ................................................................. 10
  - Data and Statistics ....................................................... 10
  - World Book Capital Cities ............................................. 11
  - Diversity and Inclusion ................................................ 11
  - Sustainability .............................................................. 11
  - Educational Publishers Forum ..................................... 12
  - Membership ............................................................... 13

**Activity Updates** .............................................................. 16
  - Africa Publishing Innovation Fund .............................. 15
  - APIF 2021 Grantees .................................................... 16
  - InSPIRe – The International Sustainable Publishing and Industry Resilience Initiative .................................................. 17
  - IPA Academy ............................................................. 19
  - 33rd IPA International Publishers Congress ............... 20

**IPA and International Governmental Organisations** .............. 21
  - The United Nations ...................................................... 22
  - SDG Book Club ........................................................... 22
  - SDG Publishers Compact ............................................. 22
  - UNESCO ................................................................. 23
  - World Book Capital City .......................................... 23
  - Global Education Coalition ....................................... 23
  - WIPO .......................................................................... 24
  - Publishers Circles ..................................................... 24
  - International Publishing Industry Statistics .............. 24
  - Accessible Books Consortium .................................. 24

**About IPA** ......................................................................... 25
  - IPA at 125 .................................................................... 26
  - Our Partners .............................................................. 27
  - Our Members ............................................................ 28
  - Our Staff .................................................................... 29
During 2021 I joked more than once that I couldn’t have chosen a worse year to become IPA President. After all, who wants to take on the responsibility for anything of consequence during such turmoil? Thankfully, the quip always found a sympathetic audience for irony works best when threaded by relatable truth.

Yet while I may have felt slightly apprehensive upon assuming the presidency on 1 January 2021 in the IPA’s 125th year, I soon came to realize that the timing was, in fact, a blessing. Crisis has a unique power to heighten the senses, focus the mind, and tune out background noise. The only possible option was to concentrate on the pandemic, let it inform our priorities and vision of how the IPA might best serve the membership.

Moreover, this approach was the natural carryover from 2020 when, as Vice-President, I initiated a survey to ask members in 33 countries how the pandemic had affected their markets and how the IPA could support. That process birthed the report From Response to Recovery and has since – with the invaluable backing of our members – snowballed into the InSPIRe initiative (page 17), and the IPA Academy (page 19), which will both bear fruit in early 2022.

But though the pandemic has taken centre-stage for nearly two years, the business of publishing has continued regardless, as has the business of executing the IPA’s mission. Protecting copyright and freedom to publish remain absolute priorities alongside the promotion of literacy, accessible books, diversity and inclusion, and sustainable publishing. On the pages that follow, you can read summaries of the new work and initiatives we have been pursuing in all these areas and others under the leadership of our dedicated committee chairs.

Despite of the constraints, I was pleased to be able to meet our members in 12 countries during the year – Egypt, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Turkey, Russia, Georgia, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Spain, Greece, and Italy – and I plan further visits in 2022. These trips and the tentative return to in-person events, notably the book fairs in Frankfurt, Sharjah, and Guadalajara, offer cautious hope that the
International Publishers Congress might have a chance of happening next November. The three-day program is rapidly coming together in the capable hands of IPA Vice-President, Karine Pansa, so let’s cross our fingers we can meet in Jakarta for an outstanding event.

We have also begun the essential process of developing a root-and-branch, multiyear organizational strategy with professional, external guidance. IPA members, me included, have long understood the potential value of this undertaking, but it was the reallocation of unused travel budgets that created the first realistic opportunity. The Brussels-based consultancy that won the tender for this work will set out its proposals in the New Year, after which we will share the finalized strategy with the membership.

In 2022 I look forward to completing the initiatives we have started and keeping this venerable old organization on a judicious path for a successful future. The IPA’s fate is inextricably bound to that of publishing, publishers’ associations, and, increasingly, that of an expanding book ecosystem of which publishers are one of numerous constituents. It is in all our interests to substitute adversarial habits with collaborative reflexes and determine to pull in the same direction.

Finally, I want to say a sincere thank you to IPA Vice-President, Karine Pansa, the hardworking Secretariat in Geneva, my Chief of Staff, Ben, and my executive assistant, Aimee, who have all striven to make this first – and penultimate – year of my presidency valuable and impactful.
COMMITTEE UPDATES
We have been extremely busy this year promoting the importance of copyright to publishers.

At international level we have maintained our engagement at WIPO. Meetings there, like SCCR, remain virtual but we remain vigilant and took the floor at SCCR to underline the outstanding contribution of publishers to our societies during the pandemic.

At UNESCO we have coordinated with STM on open science and are monitoring discussions around artificial intelligence. In cooperation with the Educational Publishers Forum we are also monitoring discussions around Open Educational Resources.

At national level we have written submissions to public consultations and advocacy initiatives in Canada, Korea, Namibia, Singapore, South Africa and Thailand while continuing to monitor legislative developments in other countries, notably in Brazil, Japan, New Zealand and Nigeria.

We have also held 3 virtual Copyright Committee meetings and hosted two excellent webinars on “Protecting the book market: strategies, challenges & best practices on copyright enforcement” and “Online Enforcement to Fight Book Piracy in the Digital Age”.

We also continued our partnership of the Charles Clark Memorial Lecture which was a fascinating look at the crossroads of copyright and intellectual property. If you haven’t seen it yet, I strongly recommend you do via the IPA website.

My thanks to the Copyright Policy Working Group for all of their engagement and a special thank you to Vera Castanheira for all of her work.
Charles Clark Memorial Lecture

On Wednesday 29 September, London-based copyright consultant Florian Koempel welcomed Judge Kathleen O’Malley of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and British author Dr Tom Chatfield for a revamped and virtual Charles Clark Memorial Lecture. The focus of this year’s lecture was Artificial Intelligence and both Dr Chatfield and Judge O’Malley revelled in a fascinating conversation.

The discussions moved from philosophy to the practical and legal realities of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Dr Chatfield presented a compelling case for the demystification of Artificial Intelligence from recognising AI as machine learning to the acknowledgement that machine learning actually requires human inputs. Judge O’Malley presented the challenges from the perspectives of different legal jurisdictions – whether that be fair use and transformative use, to the issue of moral rights – while also recognizing the fundamental importance of intellectual property as a motivator of creation.

The lecture was possible thanks to a collaboration between the Publishers Association (PA), Publishers’ Licensing Services (PLS), the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA), London Book Fair, the Federation of European Publishers (FEP) and the International Publishers Association (IPA).
The Freedom to Publish Committee continued its hard work in 2021.

We adopted a two-year strategy and action plan where we want to build on our engagement with IPA members - both national associations and regional associations.

We held three virtual open meetings where we have been able to hear about positive initiatives in different countries as well as gather stories from our members. The IPA has joined the board of the newly created World Expression Forum and we are also looking at further cooperation with initiatives like the Banned Books Week.

We have issued a number of statements on the situations in Georgia, Lebanon, Hungary, Hong Kong, Pakistan and Vietnam.

Finally, this year we awarded the 2021 IPA Prix Voltaire to Dar Al-Jadeed publishing house in Lebanon. We were delighted to hold a Freedom to Publish seminar as well as the ceremony for the 2021 IPA Prix Voltaire at Guadalajara International Book Fair. We were joined by Dar Al-Jadeed’s co-founder, Rasha Al Ameer who sadly lost her brother and co-founder, Lokman Slim, in February this year. It was an emotional ceremony that underlined once more why the freedom to publish is so important.
In 2021 there were five exceptionally strong candidates on the shortlist for the Prix Voltaire, they are in alphabetic order:

- Dar Al-Jadeed publishing house from Lebanon;
- Independent Belarusian publishers. Nominated as a group for security reasons;
- Mikado Publishing from Turkey;
- Raul Figueroa Sarti, publisher from Guatemala;
- Samir Mansour Bookshop for Publishing from Palestine.

The committee selected Dar Al-Jadeed for its exemplary courage in upholding the freedom to publish and enabling others to exercise their right to freedom of expression.
The Inclusive Publishing and Literacy Committee is going from strength to strength. As a non-elected Committee all IPA members are welcome to put forward members and we now have over 40 members from around 30 countries. We have established 6 workstreams with experienced chairs to drive progress and I extend my warmest thanks to our chairs for their work.

**LITERACY**
Gvantsa Jobava is leading our working group on literacy and has spearheaded a movement to help build international networks around literacy. You can already see the beginning of that listing on the IPA blog.

**ACCESSIBILITY**
Our immediate Past President, Hugo Setzer, has continued his advocacy on accessibility and we are pleased to see the continuation of the ABC accessible publishing awards that due to COVID were moved into a new home at Frankfurt Book Fair.

**DATA AND STATISTICS**
Pedro Sobral is leading our work on data and statistics and has shared his insights into the impact of COVID on the book sector and worked with the IPA and WIPO to gather international book statistics so vital to our industry.
WORLD BOOK CAPITAL CITIES
Olivier Borie is heading up our work on the UNESCO World book Capital Cities which delivered perhaps the first in-person IPA meeting in nearly two years in Tbilisi, Georgia in April 2021! It will be exciting to see the next two world book capitals: Guadalajara (Mexico) and Accra (Ghana).

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
I have continued my work on Diversity and Inclusion – it was a year with much progress and a few setbacks. We saw increased censorship, but also progress with the Turkish Publishers Association launching their publishers code and in the EU the Every story Matters group launched workshops to develop a possible diversity charter for the book sector.

SUSTAINABILITY
But sustainability is where much of our focus has been and Karine Pansa has chaired that working group which established our SDG dashboard where IPA members can share their Sustainable Development Goal related initiatives. We also continued our cooperation with the UN on the SDG Book Club and the SDG Publishers Compact. Both are growing with the SDG Book Club now producing offshoots in Africa and in the Portuguese language. The Compact has now reached 165 signatories since its launch in October 2020.

Finally, we signed on to a joint-sector statement on the climate, partnered a virtual COP 26 book exhibition and convened three sustainability summits, one at Frankfurt Book Fair and two virtually, which enabled a broad spectrum of the book chain to share its thoughts on what we can do to make our sector more sustainable.

As IPA’s President said in one blog post on climate this year – “more needs to be done.” The Inclusive Publishing and Literacy Committee is up for the challenge.
The Educational Publishers Forum has continued its virtual meetings this year. Since last year’s Annual Report we have held 3 virtual meetings ‘in’ Lisbon, Sharjah and London and our first hybrid meeting at Frankfurt Book Fair.

While missing out on the opportunity to visit those cities, we did not miss out on the local expertise and the opportunity to learn about the particular dynamics of each of those markets as well as hearing from other guest speakers. I am also delighted to see so many colleagues joining us from around the world at these virtual meetings.

Aside from these country focuses, we have also maintained our interest in the evolution of Educational Technology, or EdTech, as well as the way Big Tech is engaging in education. We were delighted to have had speakers from Microsoft Ireland and the Swedish EdTech Association address our members as part of that work. We have also dedicated some of our attention to Open Educational Resources, OERs – an issue that crosses between the work of the EPF and IPA’s broader work with institutions like UNESCO and the OECD.

The pandemic is being used by some as an opportunity to call for broader exceptions to copyright for educational purposes. I thank IPA’s Secretary General, José Borghino, for standing up for educational publishers at WIPO’s SCCR meeting in June and at a UNESCO webinar on OERs.

I would also like to thank the EPF members for their engagement and the Steering Committee for all of their support in bringing together strong speakers for each of our sessions. Special thanks to Graham Taylor for his work keeping things moving.
The Membership Committee has been kept busy again this year considering different applications for presentation to the General Assembly.

It has been pleasing to see IPA continue to attract interest from potential new members. At the 2021 General Assembly (GA) 4 provisional members successfully applied for full membership as well as 2 new provisional members being approved and 1 associate member.

As of 1 January 2022, IPA will have 89 members in 73 countries.
Since May 2019, the IPA has been in partnership with UAE-based philanthropic organization, Dubai Cares, to get ambitious new literacy and book related initiatives off the ground in Africa.

The IPA created the Africa Publishing Innovation Fund to administer Dubai Cares’ US$ 800,000 donation, which is made at a rate of US$ 200,000 per year from 2020 to 2024. It is the APIF Committee’s job to ensure this money has the greatest ground-level impact in areas such as literacy, book access, indigenous publishing, and library services.

This unique fund is now halfway through its four-year mandate, having disbursed US$ 400,000 to 12 separate initiatives, bringing books and stories to life, developing much-needed libraries, and providing learning opportunities to thousands of underprivileged people.

Every year, the APIF Committee selects a unique theme that informs its call for submissions, which goes out in June. In its first year (2019), the focus was on the protection of indigenous languages. In 2020, the Committee called for innovative solutions to Africa’s remote learning crisis, which had been gravely exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic. In 2021 the appeal was for ideas to tackle a longstanding challenge that may be one of African publishing’s greatest obstacles: the overreliance on physical sales of educational textbooks.

At this goes to print, the APIF Committee is vetting hundreds of submissions informed by this theme and deciding what the fund’s focus will be in 2022.

www.apinnovation.fund
APIF 2021 grantees

GHANA: As schools shifted online due to COVID-19, girls in rural communities have faced challenges in accessing online learning due to a significant urban-rural digital divide. With online learning reaching only 70% of school-age children, the Learners Girls Foundation supporting 400 at-risk Ghanaian girls in Paga, a rural community of 100,000, to continue their education and access educational resources despite technology and internet connectivity challenges.

KENYA: As African publishers embrace digital content due to schools shifting online, many lack expertise in inclusive publishing practices to meet global accessibility standards. Starting in East Africa’s regional publishing hub of Kenya, with plans to scale to 12 African countries, eKitabu will work with publishers to enrich the remote learning of more than nine million students and teachers with accessible digital learning materials.

RWANDA: With the closure of schools, community libraries have taken on an even more important role in building critical literacy skills and fostering a reading culture. Save the Children Rwanda will train 270 librarians in eight community libraries on the use of technology to strengthen a culture of reading in remote and rural communities while providing digitally accessible reading materials in Kinyarwanda that will keep 1.6 million children reading while unable to attend school.

TANZANIA: Competing government budget demands have led to a significant shortage of community and school libraries in the Zanzibar region of Tanzania. Book Aid International has turned three shipping containers into a fully equipped library in Dunga, a rural community of 76,000, where children now enjoy reading, young learners can study for exams, and adults can read and learn new skills.

ZIMBABWE: With schools and rural areas poorly resourced, communities across Zimbabwe lack social infrastructure, such as libraries. Led by Chirikure Chirikure, the country’s most famous poet, this initiative is building a modern community library in Nemashakwe area, Gutu district, that will provide 800 students and youth access to books, a place to study, and programs to attain livelihood skills.
InSPIRe – THE INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE PUBLISHING AND INDUSTRY RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

InSPIRe is a pioneering IPA initiative to improve cooperation across the entire publishing spectrum, from authors, publishers, booksellers, and libraries, to teachers, technology companies, regulators, and everyone in between.

Its stimulus was the 2020 IPA report From Response to Recovery, which presents the findings of an IPA survey that asked publishing executives from 33 countries how the pandemic had affected their businesses and how the IPA could support them.

A key finding of this exercise was a prevalent appetite for closer cooperation across the book space, especially between adjacent industries and functions that have no history of partnership. It also became apparent that markets enriched by such collaboration – between authors, publishers, booksellers, libraries, teachers, technology companies, regulators, and other publishing stakeholders – were more resilient and faster to recover.

Subsequently, IPA President Bodour Al Qasimi formed the International Sustainable Publishing and Industry Resilience (InSPIRe) Taskforce in February 2021 to lead a broad consultation of stakeholders from across the publishing ecosystem. Its primary goal was to define the key pandemic-linked challenges facing publishers and work towards recommendations for action.

The Taskforce soon developed the InSPIRe Charter, an on-paper commitment to cooperate on supporting publishing’s post-Covid revival, and began approaching
dozens of organizations. To date, the Charter has more than 50 signatories comprising publishers, booksellers, authors, educators, bookfairs, international reading and literacy organizations, and free expression groups.

In parallel, the IPA published another report, titled **InSPIRe: How Global Publishing Can Channel Solidarity into Opportunity**, which took its cues from the inputs of the 60 publishing ecosystem stakeholders questioned. This document, launched during Frankfurt Book Fair, synthesizes the prevailing themes of the conversations, and represents another step forward in the process.

So, what’s next? In early 2022, we will hold an online InSPIRe Symposium as a platform to further develop the information gathered during this year’s InSPIRe consultations. This will be rapidly followed by the publication of a clear and comprehensive set of recommendations on steps that InSPIRe participants can take to build a more resilient, future-proof publishing industry worldwide.

But InSPIRe will not stop there. This ambitious project is a work in progress that will continue to evolve and improve with the gradual accretion of further inputs from an ever-widening circle of stakeholders.
IPA ACADEMY

In 2021, the International Publishers Association began building the IPA Academy, a remote learning portal where publishing professionals can upskill and better meet the challenges of a fast-changing book business.

Users will also be able to share knowledge and work together to bolster the resilience of the global publishing industry as it returns to strength. The Academy, which will be launched next spring, will offer tools they need to reshape their business models and turn today’s challenges into tomorrow’s opportunities.

We are currently working with external expert partners, including Oxford Brookes University, New York University, and the UK Publishing Training Centre, to custom-build training content according to our members’ requirements.

The impetus to develop the IPA Academy, which is unprecedented in the IPA’s history, came from the increasingly clear need for unity and solidarity to enable the publishing ecosystem, including adjacent industries, to adapt to and move on from the pandemic.

The IPA Academy will be an interactive community platform that is free of charge to IPA members and their members, but which can be used by non-members for a fee. For publishers facing business challenges and lacking skills to apply new digital frameworks, this resource will offer a bank of multilingual training modules on business-critical topics like digitization, marketing and publicity, rights selling and translation.

The IPA Academy is funded through direct sponsorship, and we are very grateful to our principal sponsor, the Sharjah Book Authority (SBA) for their confidence in the IPA. SBA’s support has enabled the IPA Academy to get off the ground. However, we are continuing to seek additional sponsorship to safeguard the viability and growth of the service long into the future.

To find out about sponsorship opportunities, please email IPA Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, James Taylor: taylor@internationalpublishers.org
As has been the case since preparing for the 2018 Congress in New Delhi, the IPA Vice President chairs the Programming Committee for the next Congress. In early 2021 the Executive Committee chose Jakarta as the host for the next Congress. Throughout 2021, IPA Vice President, Karine Pansa, has overseen a committee broadly comprising representatives of IPA members including the Indonesian member IKAPI plus the Jakarta Book City Committee in the task of devising a three-day Congress. To be held from 10 to 12 November 2022, the Congress will feature a wide range of speakers debating crucial issues for publishers around the world, with topics including Artificial Intelligence and Copyright, EdTech and Educational Publishing, Social Media’s influence on Freedom to Publish, Sustainability, Diversity, Innovation and Translation.
SDG Book Club
The SDG Book Club continued to grow in 2021 with reading lists for children now available in all 6 official UN languages for 15 of the 17 Goals. The Club has inspired further offshoots in Africa (in English, French, Arabic and Kiswahili) and for the Portuguese language with lists in both Portugal and Brazil.

SDG Publishers Compact
Following its launch at Frankfurt Book Fair in October 2020, the SDG Publishers Compact has already gathered 165 signatories and has now launched a newsletter for signatories. You can see IPA’s SDG site for information about the Compact and videos from publishers that have signed.
UNESCO

World Book Capital City

IPA is part of the Advisory Committee for UNESCO’s World Book Capital Cities alongside UNESCO, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, and the International Authors Forum. 2021 saw Sharjah, UAE, hand over the mantle of World Book Capital City to Tbilisi, Georgia.

Guadalajara, Mexico will be the next World Book Capital City from 23 April 2022, and UNESCO has announced that Accra, Ghana will be the 2023 Capital.

Global Education Coalition

Following the creation of the Global Education Coalition in 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic led to school closures around the world, IPA continues to share the excellent work of educational publishers to help keep pupils learning.
Publishers Circles
IPA continued to work with WIPO to implement training programs for publishers from developing countries in Africa and Asia within the Publishers Circles.

International Publishing Industry Statistics
On 8 November 2021, WIPO published its latest international publishing industry statistics as part of its 2021 World Intellectual Property Indicators report.

Accessible Books Consortium (ABC)
IPA Past President, Hugo Setzer and IPA Secretary General, José Borghino have been joined as publisher representatives on the board of the ABC by Laura Brady who took over from Michiel Kolman in September. In March this year, the ABC announced Taylor & Francis (UK) and NNELS as the winners of its International Excellence Awards for accessibility. Our congratulations to both winners in what was again a competitive shortlist. IPA Director of Communications and Freedom to Publish, James Taylor, moderated a session on the European Accessibility Act at Frankfurt Book Fair which included the ceremony for the International Excellence Awards.
ABOUT IPA
On 15 June 1896, the first International Publishers Congress was held in Paris. The International Publishers Congress would later become the International Publishers Association and in June 2021 we marked our 125th anniversary. You can find biographies of past Presidents, a timeline of IPA, podcasts and a beautiful mini-documentary talking to many IPA Past-Presidents as well as a centenary book on our anniversary website:

www.ipa125.org
This year IPA partnered with a number of organisations. We were delighted to be a partner of the inaugural BBPlus and to be re-united with friends from Frankfurter Buchmesse, Sharjah International Book Fair and Guadalajara International Book Fair.

Our thanks also to Exact Editions for the cooperation on the excellent COP26 exhibition.

IPA also thanks our Global Transport Partner, Emirates.

IPA is represented on the boards of IFRRO, EDItEUR, International ISBN Agency, International PLR Committee, WIPO for Creators, the World Expression Forum (WEXFO), and the Accessible Books Consortium.
OUR MEMBERS

New full members
Jamaica, Ghana
Libya and Somalia

New provisional members
Pakistan and Sudan

Full members

Provisional members

Associate Members
African Publishers Network (APNET)
AfriLivres
Arab Publishers Association (APA)
Association of University Presses (AUPresses)
European Educational Publishers Group (EEP6)
Federation of European Publishers (FEP)
Grupo Ibero-Americano de Editores (GIE)
International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM)
International Federation of Scholarly Publishers (IFSP)

Patron Members
The Motovun Group of International Publishers
North Korean Writers in Exile PEN Center
José was appointed Secretary General in 2015, having joined IPA as Policy Director in March 2013. He came to the IPA from the Australian Publishers Association where he served as Manager of Industry Representation. His previous professional roles include lecturer in journalism and creative industries at the University of Sydney, editor of the online news magazine NewMatilda.com, executive director of the Australian Society of Authors, and senior positions at the Literature Board of the Australia Council.

taylor@internationalpublishers.org
James joined the IPA in 2018, moving to Geneva from Brussels. James’s career in Brussels was focused on communications for membership based organisations at the junction between the creative industries and policy makers: IMPALA, the independent music companies’ association, and then SAA, the grouping of collective management organisations for screenwriters and directors.

castanheira@internationalpublishers.org
Vera joined IPA in 2018 bringing 15 years of copyright policy development experience at both national and international levels. Vera has previously served as legal deputy to the Portuguese Secretary of State for Culture, General Counsel for AGICOA (the international collective licensing organisation for film producers) and Executive Director of Portuguese collective management organisation, AGECOP.

borie@internationalpublishers.org
Olivier joined the IPA in 2019. He has a background in international relations and technological innovation. Olivier previously worked for various institutions, including the Geneva Book Fair and member-based industry associations such as the World Economic Forum and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.