

FELA Publications Steering Group Members



Petra Potočnik (Društvo Bralna značka Slovenije – ZPMS) Co-chair
[Contact](#)

Petra Potočnik graduated in comparative literature and literary theory. Working as an expert associate professional in the Slovenian Reading Badge Society since 2006, her work focuses on different activities in the field of development of reading culture and literacy among various target audiences (reading mentors, teachers, librarians, young readers) and coordination of organizations engaged in reading culture at the national level. Since 2012, she is the national coordinator for reading culture at the national project Cultural Bazaar led by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education. She also works as the national coordinator of the National Month of Reading Together, a national network for literacy and reading culture, which operates as a joint initiative of nine organizations since 2018. She participates in the development of the online platform Family Literacy (Slovenian Institute for Adult Education). Since 2010, she has been a member of the editorial board of the Manual for reading quality youth literature, which is created every year at the Pionirska – Centre for Youth Literature and Librarianship.



Therese Salzmänn (Leseforum Schweiz – Forum suisse sur la lecture) Co-Chair
[Contact](#)

Therese Salzmänn began her career as a primary school teacher; after working in a school for several years, she graduated in Slavic Studies, Eastern European History and Sociology at the University of Basel. Till 2015: Project manager at the Swiss Institute for Youth and Media (promotion of diversity in children's literature, literacy promotion, family literacy). 2015-2020: General secretary of the Swiss Association of intercultural libraries. Till 2019: Coordinator for public and school libraries in the bilingual canton of Fribourg. Therese Salzmänn is member of the Executive Committee of Leseforum/Forumlecture/Forumlettura, the trilingual Swiss Association for Literacy research and promotion which is a member of FELA since 1992.



Ann-Sofie Selin, ex officio FELA Treasurer [Contact](#)
PhD Ann-Sofie Selin is a special education teacher



Guðmundur B. Kristmundsson (Íslenska lestrarfélagið) [Contact](#)

Graduated teacher from the Icelandic College of Education. Degrees in Icelandic language, linguistics and literature, from University of Iceland. Degree in Language and literacy in Education, from The University of Nottingham UK. Teacher at the College of Education Training school, deputy head and headmaster in the same institution. Part time lecturer at the College of Education. Director of Icelandic Studies at the Ministry of Education. Lecturer and Associate professor at the University of Iceland.

Author of different textbooks on Icelandic language and literacy used in elementary education in Iceland.

Research and developmental work: Most research work and writings on literacy, reading and writing, and adult literacy, research and developmental work in the Scandinavian countries, among others in the field of adult education and literacy of low educated immigrants. Different research and developmental work in Europe.

Visiting scholar in a few universities and institutions in The Scandinavian Countries, Europe and USA.



Pirjo Vaittinen (FinRA) [Contact](#)

Pirjo Vaittinen has a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Turku, and Doctoral Studies in Drama, Theatre and Film (Academy of Finland). She has also completed the Pedagogical Studies for Subject Teachers required of a qualified Mother Tongue and Literature teacher. She has been working as a Professor in Literature, Drama and Theatre at the University of Turku and the University of Oulu, Finland, a Visiting Professor in Finnish and Finno-Ugric Languages and Cultures at Indiana University, IN, USA, and as Fulbright Professor at Finlandia University/Suomi College, Hancock, MI, USA.

Pirjo Vaittinen's areas of specialization as a teacher educator are literature and drama and theatre education. Her research is focused on class-room and online literature discussions. As an expert in writing she has been working as an assistant member of the Finnish matriculation examination. She has been internationally active in the conferences of IAIMTE/ARLE, the association for improving globally mother tongue education. She has written her biography as a mother tongue and literature teacher educator in Eero Ropo & Riitta Jaatinen (ed.), Subject Teacher Education in Transition: Educating Teachers for the Future <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-359-016-8> in the article "Everyday multidisciplinary: Confessions of a mother tongue teacher educator", pages 85–110.



Radka Wildová (Společnost pro podporu a rozvoj čtenářství, Czech Republic) [Contact](#)

Prof. PaedDr. Wildová was a Dean of the Faculty of Education of Charles University from 2009 to 2016 and since 2016 she is a vice-Rector for Education. She is active in the Association of the Deans of Pedagogical Faculties of the Czech Republic and is a member of the team of advisors to the Minister for Education, Youth and Sports. Her main professional interests are the issues of initial literacy, the didactics of primary education, professional preparation of educational workers and educational policy. She is the author of several dozen publications in journals and anthologies in both the Czech Republic and abroad and also of several monographs, the most important of which include Reading Literacy and the Support of its Development in School. Her books for teaching initial literacy are known to the wider pedagogical public. She is a member of the Scientific Councils of several foreign universities and associations (e.g. International Literacy Association) and regularly lectures at foreign universities. She is a delegate at the Education and Democracy Committee of the Council of Europe.