



Member Association Reports to FELA

July - December 2020

April 2021

Foreword of the Chairperson

Since 1979, the national reading associations in Europe, affiliated to the International Reading Association (now International Literacy Association) have acted together. At first they were members of IDEC but in 2008 these associations formed the Federation of Europe Literacy Association (FELA). Then in 2018 IDEC and FELA merged into one large Federation of 28 Countries. These Member Associations of FELA cover the continent from Finland to Portugal, from Iceland to Greece, from Ireland to Russia.


Each Member Association is asked to share on the FELA website its interests, events and achievements. Each Member Association is also responsible for the information linked to their page.


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Dr Máirin Wilson



Chair of the Federation of European Literacy Associations


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<p><i>BULGARIAN READING ASSOCIATION (BuIRA)</i> Address: P.O.B. 205, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria</p> <p>E-mail: lydia.dachkova@gmail.bg, marieta.tzvet@gmail.com</p> <p>Website: www.bulra.org</p> <p>Chairperson: Marieta Tzvetkova, PhD</p> <p>Vice-chairperson: Lydia Dachkova, PhD</p>	
<p>Maximum one A4 Word-format for the web</p>	<p>Date: 9.04.2021</p>
<p>BulRA was registered in April 2001 and chartered as an IRA member organization on July 1, 2003. It was established resulting from the RWCT project, funded and administered by the Open Society Foundation NY and Sofia.</p> <p>BulRA runs projects funded by international and local donors and the projects are oriented to educators on various levels (school, university) and target groups (high school and university students, parents, community). They are oriented to: professional development, course and curriculum design, publishing. BulRA administers projects either initiated by BulRA, local or international partners.</p>	
<p>RECENT ACTIVITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living & Studying Abroad: ONLINE information meetings & discussions with parents & high school students & teachers in Bulgarian schools; cross-cultural, multicultural & academic issues. • Support of the website of BulRA, incl. FB page. Regularly sharing info on BulRA's website and a FB page of BulRA, disseminating info about literacy projects and activities of BulRA, as well as international & local literacy & education organization. • Organizing of additional online consultations on administrative issues raised by the specifics of the COVID-19 pandemic • Expert participation in the final stage of the project "E-Leadership Trainer Accelerator" – under Erasmus + Programme- EP-2018-1-BG01-KA203-047957; • Expert participation of BulRA members in the implementation of the project "Network for Social Learning Related to Air Quality and Environmental Protection" supported by European Climate Foundation 	
<p>UPCOMING EVENTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participation of BulRA members as experts in the implementation of the project "Synergy of the network - The strength of the Civil Organizations is in their Consolidation" supported by Active Citizens Fund – EEA Grants (small initiatives scheme) on regional NGO capacity building in the sphere of literacy 2. High School Exchange Program: regular online consultations on the upcoming 1-year exchange programs for Bulgarian high school students in USA and UK; merit based national competition; partners: ASSIST, USA & HMC, UK. 	
<p>Submitted by: Marieta Tzvetkova, Chair of the Board of BulRA</p>	


<p>Croatian Reading Association Trg Eugena Kvaternika 11, 43000 Bjelovar hcd@hcd.hr www.hcd.hr</p> <p>President: Karolina Zlatar Radigović Vice Presidents: Snježana Berak, Margareta Matijević Kunst FELA representative: Margareta Matijević Kunst</p>	
	<p>Date: 7 April 2021</p>
<p>The Croatian Reading Association is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit and voluntary association whose mission is to encourage, research and promote reading and literacy. The CroRA has approximately 375 members who are mostly librarians, teachers, university professors, pedagogues, special education teachers, psychologists, writers, students, publishers, etc. It organizes different activities for the celebration of the International Literacy Day: the contest Smile... while reading! for the best photography of a reading person, and a conference for librarians, teachers, paediatricians, preschool teachers, parents and educators to raise awareness about the importance of literacy.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference "Literacy and Reading Culture at the Age of Change" was held on 8 September 2020, as a webinar because of the pandemic. • Election assembly (8 September, 2020) new president was elected – Karolina Zlatar Radigović • Publication of "Hamster", magazine published by the association (thematically related to the conference) • 15th Photo contest Smile ...while reading! was held and the best picture of a person reading was chosen. • Continued work on national campaign "Read to me!" • As a part of the Croatian Book Month's central program, on the 23rd October in the organization of the Croatian Reading Association a reading marathon was under the name ONE MINUTE FOR READING. • In September participated in the 5th Picture book festival "Sheep in the box". • Finished the project "Our Street Books" in September (late because of pandemic), held 10 workshops of reading with different age groups, set up a smartbench and a little free library in front of primary school "Botinec" 	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference "Digital Literacy and Strategies for Digital Inclusion" will take place on 8 September, 2021 in partnership with largest publisher in Croatia, Školska knjiga • Publication of "Hamster", magazine published by the association (thematically related to the conference) • 16th Photo contest Smile... while reading! for the best photography of a reading person • Continue our National Campaign "Read to me!" to promote reading to children from early age. • 2021 was proclaimed a "Year of Reading" in Croatia by the Ministry of Culture and Media, so the association prepared a series of activities to support the campaign along with our usual activities to promote reading and literacy. Every month we will publish a new challenge on our web site and social media inviting everyone to join. • Celebrate The International Children's book day 	
<p>Submitted by:</p> <p>Margareta Matijević Kunst</p>	


<p>Czech Reading Association</p> <p>Prague, M.D.Rettigové 4, CR</p> <p>www.czechra.czweb.org</p> <p>Chairperson: Radka Wildová</p> <p>Vice-chairperson: Marie Ernestová</p> <p>E-mail: m.ernestova@email.cz</p>	 <p>Czech Reading Association</p> <p>Společnost pro podporu a rozvíjení čtenářství (abbr. as CzechRA)</p>
	<p>Date: 4th April 2021</p>
<p>The Czech Reading Association was chartered as a member organisation of the ILA (then IRA) in 2003 and has 25 members and several regular collaborators. The membership comprises university research specialists and lecturers, school teachers at all levels, students, parents, librarians and professional educational psychologists. CzechRA goals are to develop and support reading skills in the Czech Republic, and to promote cooperation between universities and colleges training teachers, education specialists and other consultants in the field of reading.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>Offering courses on reading literacy, reading development, literary education and initial reading and writing as part of a postgraduate lifelong learning project for teachers (USB, Faculty of Education, České Budějovice). Courses organized on Fridays and Saturdays from September till December 2020 were attended by cca 60 teachers and are planned to continue. During the coronavirus crisis courses have been offered via the Teams online platform.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <p>I. Šimková (as the main researcher) will participate in the TACR research project titled „Screening the Sfumato Method (= flowing reading) as it is used in dyslexic pupils’ reading practice“. The aim of the project is to verify the effectivity of flowing reading as a reeducational tool for dyslexic pupils. It is assumed that flowing reading improves the reading skill systematically and mitigates specific symptoms of dyslexia noticeably. The research is being implemented throughout the Czech Republic and involving almost 200 primary school pupils in whom dyslexic problems have been diagnosed. Even the first research results show that this innovative dyslexia therapy offers a way to increase the reading skill level and also the level of pupils’ reading literacy.</p>	
<p>On behalf of the executive committee, CzechRA Report submitted by PhDr. Marie Ernestová, Vice-President CzechRA</p>	


<p>FinRA ry/rf % Selin, Västerlånggatan 26 C 74 FI-20100 Turku/Åbo, Finland finrainfo/at/gmail.com https://finrainfo.fi/en/home/  Chairperson: Ann-Sofie Selin Vice-chairperson: Vuokko Kaartinen</p>	
	<p>Date: 6th April, 2021</p>
<p>FinRA, Finnish Reading Association, reg. assn., est. 1968</p> <p>FinRA, previously Klinikkaopetus- and Suomen puhe-luki-yhdistys, has developed along with and for the needs of the society without losing its focus. FinRA is a membership organisation for teachers, researchers and all interested in working for literacy; 160 members. All activities have been and are still run on a voluntary basis. The association is bilingual (Fin/Swe), in practice most of the activities are in Finnish. The journal <i>Kielikukko</i> is published 4 times per year. The website is published in Finnish, Swedish and English.</p>	
<p>Recent activities: Project planning and applications for funding</p> <p>EstRA and FinRA have applied for funding to create inspiring literacy environments and promote Finnish and Estonian children's literature as well as enhancing the pleasure for reading in both L1 and L2. Furthermore, the aim is to raise children's awareness and the value of the multilingual environment children live in. The decisions for current applications (NordPlus and SuVi) are expected during spring time 2021 and other sources for funding are looked for.</p> <p>The project is called "Reading Nest" and it relies on research results (PISA, PIRLS) as well as the theories of the meaning of a community in reading (Cremin). Supportive and inspiring environments help to shape children who enjoy literacy and reading. They should contain interesting reading materials, comfortable places to read, and material for reading-based activities individually or with peers (Aerila & Kauppinen 2019). In the project, the reading nests are planned to be action centres that support self-regulation, entrepreneurship, readiness for lifelong learning and other essential skills.</p> <p>Reading Nest -project will start a new kind of a Estonian, Finnish and Latvian reading associations cooperation and the long-term aim of this project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collect and share the good practices of reading environments, including methods and activities and describe the theoretical background (handbook) for teachers and parents; - carry out a research-based evaluation of the environment and methods of reading nests, in order to link theory and practice and promote an evidence-based approach to literacy development. 	
<p>Submitted by: Pehr-Olof Rönholm on the behalf of the FinRA Board.</p>	


<p>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Lesen und Schreiben - DGLS</p> <p>sauerborn@ph-heidelberg.de</p> <p>www.dgls.de</p> <p>Chairperson: Dr. Hanna Sauerborn</p> <p>Vice-chairperson: Natalie Bors</p>	
	<p>Date: 10th of March 2021</p>
<p>The German Society for Reading and Writing was founded in 1968. It has about 380 members. Its main aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to stimulate and promote interest in literacy • to sponsor conferences and workshops related to literacy development <p>to disseminate knowledge helpful to the solution of literacy problems.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>Activities & events were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online-Conference in November 2021 with well-known speakers in the field of literacy • Election of board members 	
<p>Submitted by: Hanna Sauerborn</p>	


<p>Hellenic Association for Language and Literacy</p> <p>30 Agisilaou Str.</p> <p>16675 Glyfada</p> <p>Greece</p> <p>etafa@edc.uoc.gr</p> <p>www.eegg.gr</p> <p>Chairperson: Eufimia Tafa</p> <p>Vice-chairperson: Marina Sotiropoulou</p>	
	<p>Date: 2/4/2021</p>
<p>The Greek Reading Association was chartered as a member organisation of the International Reading Association in 1995. Greek Reading Association has approximately 100 members most of whom are teachers working in primary, secondary and higher education, literacy advisors and teacher educators promoting language and literacy development in children.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities & events were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 23rd European Conference on Literacy. 	
<p>Submitted by Eufimia Tafa</p>	

<p>Latvijas Lasīšanas asociācija</p> <p>Latvian Reading Association</p> <p>Dzirnavu iela 34a – 8 Rīga Latvia LV 1010 www.iac.edu.lv</p> <p>Chairperson: Sandra Kalnina</p> <p>Vice-chairperson: Irena Freimane</p>	<p>LLA LatRA</p> 
	<p>Date: April 9, 2021</p>
<p>Latvian Reading Association was chartered as a member organisation of the International Reading Association in 1993; it renewed its activities in 2004.</p> <p>The association has 15 members in good standing. The membership mainly includes teachers, teacher educators, university staff, and librarians.</p> <p>The goals of the association are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to popularize reading as a value • to foster reading literacy in all levels of education • to promote research on reading and writing in Latvia • to promote teaching critical thinking in Latvia 	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>activities & events were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participation in the final event of the reading promotion programme “Children, young adults and parents’ jury 2020” and the Great Reading festival (online) –March, 2021 2. World Book Day – April 23, 2021 	
<p>Submitted by:</p> <p>Sandra Kalnina</p>	


<p>Reading Association in the Netherlands (RAIN)</p> <p>Adriaanstraat 7, 3581 SB. Utrecht</p> <p>Chairperson:</p> <p>Jeroen Clemens jeroencl@gmail.com</p>	
	<p>Date: March, 29 2021</p>
<p>RAIN was chartered as a national affiliate of International Reading Association (now ILA) in 1990. RAIN is an active member of the FELA, Federation of European Literacy Associations, and before that, since 1991, of the IDEC, International development in Europe Committee. RAIN contributed to the founding of FELA and is an active member.</p> <p>RAIN aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stimulate and promote interest in literacy • disseminate knowledge helpful to the solution of literacy problems • work with, stimulate and assist teachers with curriculum development and professional development • to be in the forefront of research and professional development of new literacies/ online literacy, and include this in the new language curriculum 	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>The Association's activities & events were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p>	
<p>Submitted by:</p> <p>Jeroen Clemens</p>	


<p>LITTERA – PORTUGUESE ASSOCIATION FOR LITERACY</p> <p>Rua Nascente, nº 10, Escudeiros, 4705-473 Braga Portugal mldionisio@ie.uminho.pt; litteraapl@gmail.com</p> <p>Chairperson: M. Lourdes Dionísio Vice-chairperson: Iris Pereira</p>	
	Date: january 2021
<p>Littera was founded in 1996 and it was chartered as a member organisation of the International Reading Association in 1997. Since the beginning, the goals of Littera concerned two integrated axes: research and intervention. Because of this, close links with universities and teacher training institutions, as well as school authorities on local as well as national level were established.</p> <p>The aims of the association are: 1. To promote education in all domains of reading and writing; 2. To promote research dealing with all aspects of reading and writing; 3. To promote professional training at the level of the conception and development of reading and writing; 4. To develop awareness of the impact of reading and writing among all individuals by encouraging and promoting the formation of lifetime habits; 5. To improve levels of literacy among all individuals, regardless of their culture, race, religion or gender; 6. To stimulate and promote cooperation among all individuals and organizations concerned with the study, research teaching and animation of reading and writing; 7. To act near the responsible institutions in order to raise awareness to literacy problems</p> <p>Throughout the years, in-service teacher/educators training such as mini-courses, lectures, and seminars have been organized. Lately, due the shortage of money coming from fees and of volunteers all those activities are less frequent.</p> <p>During the last year it was very difficult to recruit new paying members.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>Due to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19, the Association didn't have planned activities for the second semester of 2020. Thus, Littera just kept participating in online debates and seminars promoted by the National Reading Plan. The postponed VII Iberian American Forum on Literacies, initially scheduled for March 2020, will take place in June 2021, and it is being organised as an online event.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <p>VII Iberian American Forum on Literacies, online conference.</p>	
<p>Submitted by</p> <p>Maria de Lourdes Dionísio - President</p>	


<p>Asociația Lectura și Scrierea pentru Dezvoltarea Gândirii Critice România/ Romanian Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking Association</p> <p>400343 Cluj-Napoca, 6/ 22 Luceafarului St</p> <p>office@alsdgc.ro https://www.facebook.com/alsdgc www.alsdgc.ro</p> <p>Chairperson: Ariana-Stanca Vacaretu Vice-chairperson: Maria Kovacs</p>	 <p>LECTURA ȘI SCRIEREA PENTRU DEZVOLTAREA GÂNDIRII CRITICE</p>
	<p>Date: 8.04.2021</p>
<p>The Association was chartered as a member organisation of the International Reading Association on 10 June 2008. It has 78 members. The membership consists of teachers, teacher educators, and other education-related professionals, regular and honorary members.</p> <p>The goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for teachers' pre-service and in-service training, for improving the quality of education, • Support for the professional development of teaching staff by using reading and writing as means of professional development, <p>Provision of a professional framework for sharing experiences in the field of reading, writing, critical thinking and instruction.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued the implementation of the project Making the most of the magic of reading (3MR) (Erasmus+, KA2). We finalized the testing of the 3MR training curriculum with 3 groups of pre-primary teachers, librarians & volunteers (see https://readingmagic.eu/ & https://www.facebook.com/3mrproject/) and organized an online multiplier event. • We finalized the delivery of the online version of the in-service teacher training programme Literacy and Critical Thinking for Learning with 1 group of teachers within the Edu Networks project. • Continued the implementation of the Get Readers on the Wavelength of Emotions (GROWE) – Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships for school education (KA201) (see https://groweproject.eu/ & https://www.facebook.com/groweproject/). We participated in the GROWE ToT developed the RO version of the GROWE training curriculum and organized an online multiplier event. 	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to the elaboration of the 3MR toolkits for professionals and parents. • Creating the GROWE online in-service teacher training course and preparing the testing of the GROWE course. • Organizing online events for promoting the 3MR intellectual outputs. 	
<p>Submitted by: Ariana-Stanca Vacaretu</p>	


<p>Name: Reading Association of Russia Address: 24 Obrucheveva St, 119421 Moscow, Reading Centre (Office) E-mail: nataly.smetannikova2015@yandex.ru Website: http://www.rusreadorg.ru Chairperson: Nataly Smetannikova Vice-chairperson: Elena Popova</p>	
	Date: April 2021
<p>RAR was chartered on September 8, 2010. It unites 25 Local Councils from 6 Federal Districts in Russia (Central, Northwestern, Urals, Southern, Volga, Far Eastern) out of 8 and 1 Local Council in Switzerland (Geneva). RAR has about 650 members.</p> <p>Our goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion of reading and literacy in education and culture • development of partnership relations through competition: The Reading Regions of Russia • development and promotion of SWLT ideas to other spheres of life • promotion of professional development of teachers, school teacher-librarians and librarians • support of local councils and RAR development –hot issue <p>The Association promotes reading and literacy in education and culture through partnership, professional development, research and publications</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>Ongoing projects: SWLT: intervention programme for poor readers, Million Pages (quantitative research aimed at how many pages average school pupils of different ages read per day/per week/per month/per year)</p> <p>Conferences: The 6th international conference “Reading and literacy in education and culture: Letters in Digits”, 19 – 20 November 2020 (online)</p> <p>Seminars: “Academy of Readers’ Mastery”, 26 – 28 November 2020 (online), a series of seminars and workshops for teachers, members and non-members of RAR. “Reading Practices in Modern Library” a series of seminars and workshops for librarians.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Academy of Readers’ Mastery” and Round Table (online), 17 April 2021 2. Participation in “Red Square” Book Festival, 3 – 6 June 2021 3. “Academy of Pedagogical Mastery” November, 2021 4. Participation in ILA, FELA meetings, webinars, other activities 5. Participation in 22nd European Conference on Literacy. Dublin, Ireland, 2022 	
Submitted by Nataly Smetannikova, Chairperson of RAR	




<p>Slovenská asociácia na rozvoj čítania (SARČ) - SLOVAK READING ASSOCIATION (SRA)</p> <p>Račianska 59, Bratislava, 813 34, Slovakia</p> <p>zapotocna@savba.sk zuzana.petrova@truni.sk</p> <p>Chairperson: Oľga Zápotočná</p> <p>Vice-chairperson: Zuzana Petrová</p>	
	Date: March 30, 2021
<p>SLOVAK READING ASSOCIATION (SRA) was founded in 1999. The main purpose of the association is the support of literacy research and practice, with specific interest in early literacy development and beginning reading. This interest has resulted from the need to overcome the main-stream focus on developing low-level text processing skills in national curricular documents and to establish literacy curriculum and literacy practices on the national level. Due to this, close collaboration with national educational authorities and teachers unions was established.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research study evaluating the effects of two models of early literacy instruction in preschool education – one built on phonic, bottom up model and one on emergent literacy and holistic approach, supported by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (2018 – 2020) • research study addressing current trends in reading and literacy in today's information society focusing on reading and information behaviours of children (preschool and primary school age) in different information environments, supported by Slovak Research and Development Agency (2020 – 2024) • analyses of early literacy classroom practices focused on evaluation of implementing new national literacy curriculum in early childhood classroom in Slovakia (in collaboration with State School Inspection, coordinated by O. Zápotočná) • collaboration with National Institute for Certified Educational Measurements on analysing and interpreting PISA 2018 data in reading literacy 	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preparing guidelines for compulsory preschool education in area of early literacy development (for National Institute for Education in Slovak Republic) - analysing data collected within comparative study of the effects of early literacy programs on measures of literacy and publication of results. 	
Submitted by: Oľga Zápotočná	


<p>Bralno društvo Slovenije (BDS) – Slovenian Reading Association</p> <p>Peričeva ulica 4, SI – 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija</p> <p>E-mail: bralno.drustvo.slovenije@gmail.com</p> <p>website: http://www.bralno-drustvo.si/</p> <p>Chairperson: Savina Zwitter</p>	
	<p>Date: 2 April 2021</p>
<p>Bralno društvo Slovenije – Slovenian Reading Association was founded in 1995. One of its aims was to foster partnership in research and exchange of information: the association became a member organisation of the International Reading Association (today International Literacy Association) in 1996 and a member of FELA in 2008.</p> <p>In recent years, Slovenian Reading Association has put a lot of effort into bringing together and establishing connections between various institutions and individuals, experts in the field of reading and literacy. It has done so by inviting them to symposia on up-to-date topics (readers with special needs, migrants, e-materials and reading, gender of 'bookworms'...), round tables and other events, while its members have actively participated in the events of other associations and organisations.</p> <p>Successful partnerships have been established especially with the following associations and institutions: Slovenian Reading Badge Society, The Slovenian Section of IBBY, The Section for Children and Young Adult Literature of the Slovene Writers' Association, The Centre for Youth Literature and Librarianship, JAK – Slovenian Book Agency, National Education Institute Slovenia, Faculty of Arts (University of Ljubljana) and more.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booking Around 2020: My favourite literary character – presentation of awards for this common project of The Section for Children and Young Adult Literature of the Slovene Writers' Association and Slovenian Reading Association. • 8 September 2020: interdisciplinary symposium <i>Reading as a value?</i>, organised by Slovenian Reading Association as an executive producer, with the cooperation of Ministries for Culture and Education, Slovenian Book Agency, National Education Institute Slovenia, Slovenian Institute for Adult Education, Slovenian Reading Badge Society and Cankarjev dom. • 8 September–11 October 2020: National Month of Reading Together 2020 – third joint campaign to promote reading and literacy. • 6 October 2020: Cultural Bazaar – participation of members at round tables and events. • The Digital Levstik Avenue of Laureates – continuation and upgrading of a joint project with the University of Ljubljana and Mladinska knjiga Publishing House; financed by The Public Scholarship, Development, Disability and Maintenance Fund of the Republic of Slovenia and the European Social Fund. 	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 June 2021: Cultural Bazaar – participation of members at round tables and events at this one-day annual fair offering cultural institutions and artists a space to present their programmes to educators of children and young people. • 8 September 2021: symposium <i>Enticing into reading: The online life of books and reading</i>. • 8 September–10 October 2021: National Month of Reading Together 2021 – fourth joint campaign to promote reading and literacy. 	
<p>Submitted by Petra Mikeln</p>	

<p>The Slovenian Reading Badge Society Dimičeva 9, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija info@bralnaznacka.si https://www.bralnaznacka.si/</p> <p>Chairperson: Marko Kravos Vice-chairpersons: Tilka Jamnik, Slavko Pregl</p>	
	<p>Date: 26 March 2021</p>
<p><i>The Slovenian Reading Badge Society</i> is a movement with 60 years of tradition that takes place at schools, kindergartens and libraries. Mentors are teachers and librarians. The society also cooperates with experts from the field of children's literature, libraries, with the Slovenian section of IBBY, the Reading Association of Slovenia, the Slovenian Writers' Association, the Association of Slovenian publishers ..., mass media, cultural and educational institutions, with the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the Slovenian Book Agency and many more.</p> <p>The main objectives of <i>The Reading Badge</i> movement are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to develop reading habits and reading culture among children and young people (children and young people are introduced into the world of literature and are therein supported in their quest of beauty in the rich world of literature); to develop and support family and intergenerational reading; to educate the reading mentors (teachers and librarians), parents and the whole community by organizing lectures and workshops with inventive teachers, librarians, supervisors and specialists in the field of youth literature, and to keep the community connected and informed; to help organize meetings (cultural events) for young readers with important Slovenian writers, illustrators and other cultural workers/artists (we offer financial and other types of support). <p>Books play a key role in this initiative: more than 600,000 books were donated to young readers, teachers/ mentors and libraries in the past 17 years.</p>	
<p>Recent activities (July-December 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 September–11 October: National Month of Reading Together 2020 and a public awareness campaign <i>Reading Together</i>; 8 September: co-organization of the interdisciplinary symposium <i>Reading as a value?</i>; 17 September: a donation of 25,500 copies of picture books for all first-graders in Slovenia and among Slovenians abroad; 17 September: the start of celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the <i>Reading Badge</i> movement; 24 September: the seminar <i>Reading beyond the Surface</i>; <i>Week of the child</i>[®] (first week in October): the <i>Reading backpack</i>: every Slovenian kindergarten gets one backpack, filled with a children's magazine, a picture book and leaflets; promotion of family reading; 24–27 November: the symposium <i>60 years of Reading beyond the Surface</i>; We have fully developed an online tool for book evaluation on our home website (the books for young readers, recommended by the Reading badge, can be evaluated by young readers, mentors and parents); A special poetic communication made by our president and Slovenian poet Marko Kravos: <i>A Missive in 12 syllables</i>; "syllables" of poetry, written when in lockdown (20 March–10 May), finally edited and published in July as a special edition for members/mentors. 	
<p>Upcoming events (2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 March: the seminar The importance of the involvement of parents for a child's reading development; May/June: publishing of a special book edition for young readers (9000 copies), distributed as a gift to "Golden Readers" (most loyal readers at the end of primary school); May: numerous celebrations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Reading Badge movement all over Slovenia; 8 September–10 October: National Month of Reading Together 2021 and a public awareness campaign Reading Together; 17 September: a donation of 25,500 copies of picture books for all first-graders in Slovenia and among Slovenians abroad; 24 September: the seminar Evaluation of youth literature and motivation of teenagers for leisure reading; Week of the child[®] (first week in October): the Reading backpack: every Slovenian kindergarten gets one backpack, filled with a children's magazine, a picture book and leaflets; promotion of family reading; November: the symposium Motivation of teenagers for leisure reading; March–December 2021: 8 online "<i>Reading Tea Parties</i>" (two-hour long meetings on various topics related to the development of reading culture and the books/literature for children and young people). 	
<p>Submitted by: Petra Potočnik, Cultural associate professional, The Slovene Reading Badge Society</p>	

<p>Spanish Reading and Writing Association - AELE Romero, 15. 28260. Galapagar. Madrid. Spain. Phone: +34 91 858 51 34 E-mail: aele@asociacionaele.org Web site: www.asociacionaele.com www.escribircomolectores.org Chairperson: Estela D'Angelo Menéndez Vice-chairperson: María Sáinz Martín</p>	
	<p>Date: April 2021</p>
<p>The Spanish Reading and Writing Association (AELE in its Spanish acronym) was chartered as a member organization of the International Reading Association in 2005. The Association has approximately 250 members between partners and supporters, and maintains a close relationship with Latin American reader associations. In addition, AELE is member of FELA and Spanish Book Council.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laboratory of ideas of reading and writing: "Analyse the experience to visualize evidence". Ibero-American dialogues online. October 24 and November 7 and 14, 2020. A group of teachers, trainers and authors from the Ibero-American Program "Write as a readers of a literacy work" discuss the evidence that they have registered in different countries (Argentina, Chile, Spain, Mexico, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay) concerning the development of this program. ▪ Ibero-American Scientific Symposium "Evidence on inclusive language practices", Madrid, 14-16 November 2019. The purpose of this event was to disseminate and transfer to scientific and cultural groups the scientific evidence on reading and writing practices of an inclusive nature in schools that emerge from the research that the research group has developed over the last decade in the context of it Iberoamerican Network research. 	
<p>Upcoming events: Iberoamerican Network Research The AELE and Research Group of Complutense University of Madrid "Communication and languages studies for inclusion and equity in education" – (ECOLE in its Spanish acronym) are developing projects with the Iberoamerican Network Research "Speaking, reading and writing practices: interrelationship between instructions and development of linguistic communicative competence". Iberoamerican Program: "Write as readers of a literary work". In Spain, this Program is included in the Reading Promotion Plan of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports (MECyD in its Spanish acronym). This Project develops different interrelated activities to promote groups of children and adolescents to participate in shared reading and writing processes of a novel. Namely, the Program "Write as readers" coordinates communities of readers and writers of literature in classrooms, libraries, etc. The Program began in 2009 with the integration of literacy teams from four countries: Argentina, Chile, Peru and Spain. In 2017, teams from Mexico, Colombia and the Dominican Republic joined the project. Heretofore, more than 50 thousand children and young people and 2.371 teachers/librarians from different countries have attended this Program. Additional information: www.escribircomolectores.org Iberoamerican Program: "Write as readers of illustrated narratives" (pilot experience in Spain). This version of "Write as readers" proposed that children and adolescents access the exhibition "Illustrate. Contemporary illustration in children's and young people's literature" (which includes the winning illustrations of the eight editions of the Bologna International Fair Illustration Award - SM Foundation) and some of the books produced by these awards; and participate in workshops that, coordinated by illustrators of this exhibition and by writers of literature, have proposed to them to be writers of the stories that each one finds in the illustrations and, in turn, as illustrators who tell stories. At the end of the process, they exhibit their own productions in an exhibition. Additional information: www.escribircomolectores.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanent projects: a) Teacher training courses, seminars and workshops under attendance, semi-attendance and digital form; and b) reading and writing workshops in cultural centers, libraries, schools, etc. in different Spanish cities. 	
<p>Submitted by: Laura Benítez</p>	

<p>SCIRA, Swedish Council of International Reading Association</p> <p>www.scira.nu</p> <p>Chairperson: Marie Kallin Fredriksson marie.k.fredriksson@gmail.com Vice-chairperson: Ulla-Britt Persson ulla-britt.persson@liu.se</p>	
	<p>Date: 2021-03-18</p>
<p>About the association:</p> <p>SCIRA was established in 1964 and has less than 100 members, constantly decreasing. Local groups exist in the areas of Linköping in the region of Östergötland, and Umeå in the region of Västerbotten, where meetings, lectures, and other activities are arranged regularly. Most activities are related to competence development for teachers, but in Östergötland a writing competition for students in grades 2, 4 and 7 is arranged annually, and the winners are awarded with books, often donated by the authors. The competition was launched in 1990 in connection with IRA World Congress which took place in Stockholm that year.</p> <p>Since 2011 SCIRA's board is responsible for selecting winners of the Eve Malmquist Prize for Reading Research, which was also instigated in 1990 to reward literacy research carried out in Sweden. The winners get 25 000 Swedish Kronor (appr. 2 300 €).</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>Due to the Corona pandemic the 2020 annual meeting, scheduled for Umeå, was postponed, but a digital board meeting was held on 28 April. A digital annual meeting was held on 7 Nov, with participants from the two local groups in Västerbotten and Östergötland. One of the main points was to decide on an earlier discussed update of the bye-laws, which was approved. The 2020 Honorary Award was given to Barbro Westlund, who has been instrumental in making reading comprehension strategies well known among Swedish teachers and pupils.</p> <p>Most activities in the local groups have been cancelled throughout the year. However, the writing competition in Linköping was arranged as usual. The theme was 'My world 30 years from now' and 160 pupils took part. The proud winners received their book prizes on the 8 Sept under Corona-safe circumstances at the main library, where their essays were exhibited.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <p>The 2021 annual meeting, scheduled to be held in Linköping in April is postponed until 9 Oct. We hope to have a physical meeting, but we are prepared to convert it into digital form without changing the date further.</p> <p>The theme of this year's writing competition in Linköping is 'My best party ever'.</p>	
<p>Submitted by: Ulla-Britt Persson</p>	

<p>Leseforum Schweiz – Forumlecture suisse – Forumlettura Svizzera c/o Schweiz. Institut für Kinder- und Jugendmedien SIKJM</p> <p>Georgengasse 6, CH-8006 Zürich thsalzmänn@bluewin.ch; dieter.isler@mac.com www leseforum.ch www forumlecture.ch, www forumlettura.ch</p> <p>Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Dieter Isler Representative of Leseforum at FELA/IDEC: Therese Salzmänn (board-member)</p>	 forumlecture.ch  leseforum.ch  forumlettura.ch
	Date: April 05, 2021
<p>«Forumlecture suisse» / «Leseforum Schweiz» / «Forumlettura svizzera» is the literacy association of Switzerland. The purpose of the association is the support of literacy research and practice. The goals include exchange and collaboration between research and practice, and organisations engaged in literacy. Perspectives on literacy include different age groups, life domains, and research disciplines.</p> <p>The main activity of «Forumlecture suisse» / «Leseforum Schweiz» / «Forumlettura svizzera» is the publication of an online journal on literacy providing three thematic issues per year, each consisting about 8-10 articles by authors from French, German or Italian speaking countries. The journal is edited by a board of literacy experts and funded by their home institutions.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>In 2020, three issues of the journal have been published, including 32 articles in French, German and Italian:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1/2020 Parcours vers la litt��ratie / Wege zur Literalit��t / Percorsi verso la lettura/scrittura (Paths to Literacy) – 2/2020 Litt��ratie : Evolution au cours de dix derni��res ann��es / Literacy: Entwicklungen in den letzten zehn Jahren / La lettura/scrittura : Sviluppi degli ultimi dieci anni (Literacy – Developments in the last ten years) – 3/2020 Evaluation formative et sommative de la litt��ratie / Formative und summative Beurteilung von Literalit��t / Valutazione formativa e sommativa della literacy (Formative and summative assessment of literacy) <p>Since 2020, our platform is trilingual (French, German and Italian). We are planning to provide central information (website content, abstracts of published articles) in English, as well.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 pandemic, we were not able to realize the National Literacy Conference in August 2020 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Platform. FELA-Members should also have participated as presenters in this conference. In addition, our association would have hosted the FELA General Assembly in Lausanne after the conference.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events:</p> <p>In 2021, three issues of the journal will be published, covering the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1/2021 Genre et litt��ratie / Gender und Literalit��t / Genere e letteralit�� (Gender and literacy) – 2/2021 Mat��rialit�� et litt��ratie / Materialit��t und Literalit��t / Materialit�� e letteralit�� (Materiality and Literacy) – 3/2021 Moyens num��riques et litt��ratie / Digitale Perspektiven auf Literalit��t / Prospettive digitali sulla letteralit�� (Digital perspectives on literacy) <p>Due to the uncertain epistemological situation, the postponed anniversary event in Lausanne will not take place in August 2021, either. It is still uncertain whether we will be able to hold the event at all.</p>	
Submitted by Dieter Isler and Therese Salzmänn	

<p>United Kingdom Literacy Association Room 9 c/o VAL 9 Newarke St Leicester LE1 5SN</p> <p>Tel: 044-116-254-4116</p> <p>admin@ukla.org</p> <p>www.ukla.org</p> <p>Chairperson: Cathy Burnett Vice-chairperson: Roger McDonald</p>	
<p>Maximum one A4 page in Word for the web</p>	<p>Date: April 2021</p>
<p>UKLA was founded in 1963 as the United Kingdom Reading Association, changing its name to the United Kingdom Literacy Association in 2003, to reflect more accurately its wide remit. UKLA seeks, through education and advocacy, to promote research and good practice in language and literacy teaching. It is energetic in its work to influence UK education policy. Its sub-committees promote research, international relations, publications, conferences and awards. It has a strong publications section, with two refereed journals, <i>Literacy</i> and <i>Journal of Research in Reading</i>. It also publishes, in conjunction with the English Association, <i>English 4-11</i>, as well as a broad range of books, position papers, and practice and planning guides. The full range of titles can be viewed on our website.</p> <p>Our awards programme is extensive and includes the UKLA Book Award, the Brenda Eastwood Award for good practice in teaching for diversity and inclusion, the John Downing Award which celebrates a class' response to books shortlisted for the Book Award, the UKLA Digital Book Award, the UKLA Wiley-Blackwell Research in Literacy Award, the UKLA Academic Book Award and the UKLA Literacy School of the Year. Further details are again available on our website.</p> <p>UKLA is a member of FELA and is further strengthening its ties with colleagues across the world through an International Ambassador scheme. It supports a number of literacy projects in Africa, notably in Zanzibar and Ethiopia.</p>	
<p>Recent activities:</p> <p>Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, UKLA has remained very active on virtual platforms, responding to current events and providing webinars to support professional development. Our Twitter account is lively and we have recently held two very successful events: in December national and international members contributed to daily <i>Winter Poems</i>, and in March we ran <i>Bookworlds</i> with members reading aloud from a favourite text and providing a short explanation for its choice. Our Regional Reps have regular #UKLAchat sessions which are lively and current, and our range of webinars is ever increasing. Many of our resources can be found on the public pages of our website.</p> <p>The OU/UKLA Reading for Pleasure Conference took place virtually on Saturday 7th November and was well supported.</p>	
<p>Upcoming events.</p> <p>UKLA Annual Research Symposium: 5-7pm Monday 17th May 2021 [Online]</p> <p>2-4 July 2021: UKLA 56th International Conference, Oxford: '<i>We need to talk about literacy</i>': <i>why spoken language matters in literacy learning and teaching</i> [Online]. Details on the website.</p>	
<p>Submitted by Liz Broad</p>	

Six-monthly reports of FELA member associations

Written and submitted by national FELA representatives and/or members of respective executive boards

Compiled in April 2021
Dublin, Ireland & Ljubljana, Slovenia