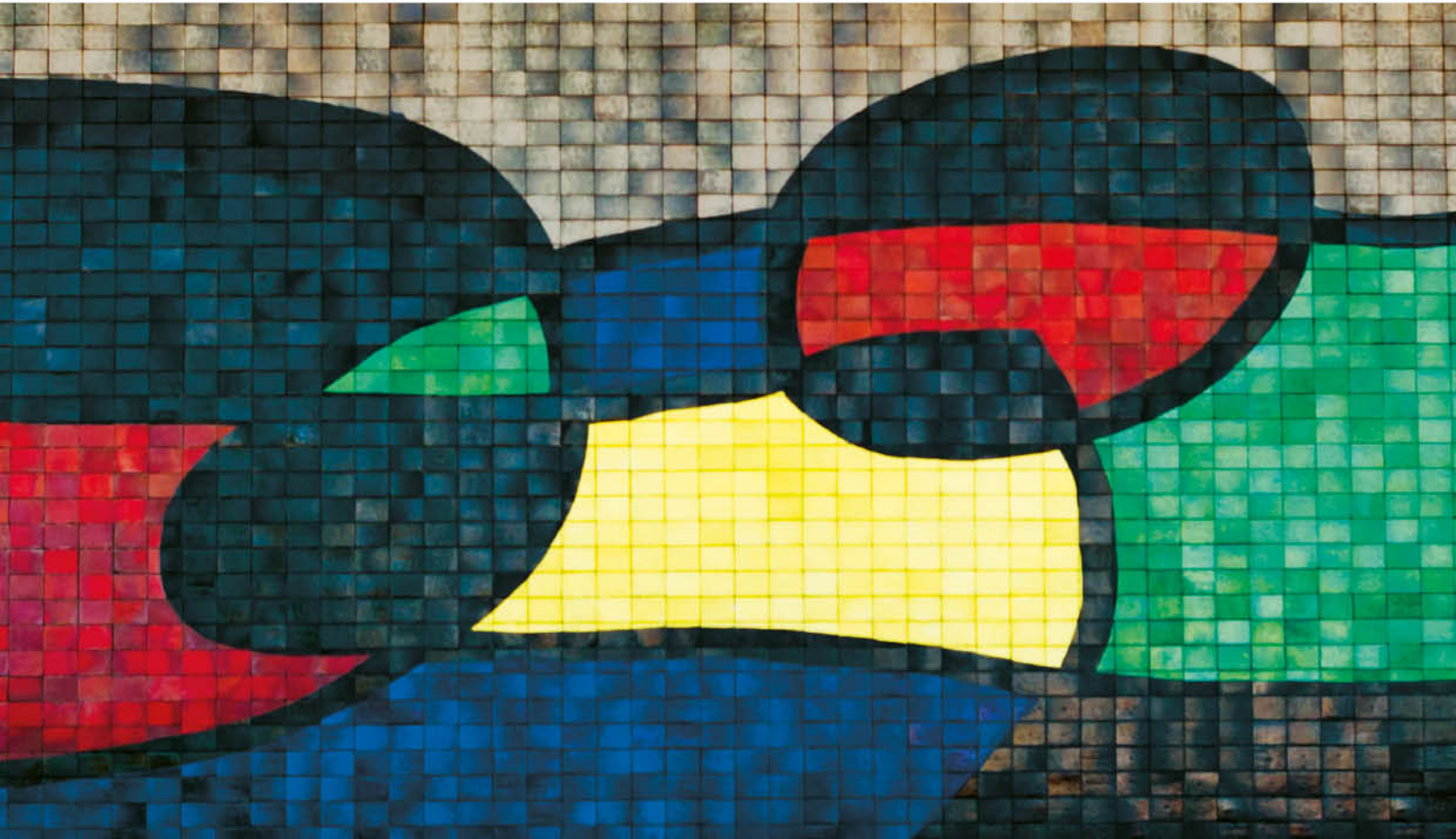




# President's Meeting 2018



## Leading the Way: Libraries as Motors of Change

19 March 2018  
Barcelona, Spain  
Museu Marítim de Barcelona

[president2018.ifla.org](http://president2018.ifla.org)

PRESS KIT

## Introduction

WITH AN IMPRESSIVE PROGRAMME AND AN ARRAY OF EXPERT SPEAKERS, THE IFLA PRESIDENT'S MEETING 2018 PROMISES TO CHALLENGE, INFORM AND STIMULATE PARTICIPANTS!

You may know your public library or remember the one you used at university, but do you realise the vital role libraries play around the world in informing and education citizens, developing society and acting to protect access to information in all its forms? The IFLA President's Meeting offers the opportunity for the press to learn how libraries and librarians support many of the basic human rights.

Held annually since 2007, the IFLA President's Meeting is a forward looking, high level event organised by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). The meeting officially brings to life the [Presidential Theme and Programme](#), through featured presentations by renowned speakers from around the world and stimulating discussions and reflections involving the library and information community. This year's meeting is being held with the partnership and under the auspices of Diputació de Barcelona.

The IFLA President's Meeting 2018 will be also a historical event for IFLA, as the stage where the IFLA Global Vision Report will be presented. After this key milestone, the following two days will be the kick-off of the second round of [IFLA's Global Vision](#) discussion. Starting with this, IFLA will continue in 2018 to engage the library community in developing a global vision and an action plan for the future of libraries, that only a strong and connected field can achieve.

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*By bringing together the biggest brain trust in the library field and gathering the best ideas and experience from outside, this event offers a unique chance to hear how leading players are approaching this future. How they are not only responding to this future but also seizing the opportunities it presents. How libraries can break down barriers and form new partnerships. How they can build sustainable foundations for their work. And how they can use digital tools to achieve the goal of access to information for all.*

**Glòria Pérez-Salmerón**

*IFLA President*

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## Speakers

IFLA is honoured to welcome **Mercè Conesa i Pagès**, President of Diputació de Barcelona, who will place the work of libraries in the context of her efforts to promote sustainable development.

Our keynote speaker, **Professor Rafael Ramirez** (Oxford University), will then draw on his work with business and academia to share insights on how we can build scenarios for the future, and use these to plan our own action.

Three excellent panels will follow, sharing the latest lessons on building support, partnerships, and networks in a fast-changing society. **Iskra Mihaylova** MEP (Chair of the Regional Development Committee of the European Parliament), will share her perspectives on building successful policies, followed by **Cassie Robinson** (doteveryone) who will focus on the potential of the social economy and social finance.

**Matt Finch** (library storyteller) will explore the techniques and tools used to build partnerships, while **Roger Baig Viñas** (guifi.net) will share the practical experience of how such partnerships made it possible to set up an independent community-based Internet network.

**Glyn Moody** (author and journalist) will share his reflections on the impact of a networked society on the way information is used and shared, while **Toby Green** (Head of Publishing at the OECD) will give an example of how, through working together, smaller institutions can be successful in a digital world.

And to end the day, **IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner** will be [launching the Global Vision Report](#), the climax of a year of unparalleled discussion and reflection within the library community.

## Registration/Access

If you would like to cover our event, please contact our local partner Diputació de Barcelona (Silvia Capmany, [capmany@diba.cat](mailto:capmany@ diba.cat)) indicating that you would like to be registered as a media representative. There is no registration fee for accredited press but showing your official press credentials at the entrance will be required.

## Media Inquires

For all media and interview inquiries, please contact [communications@ifla.org](mailto:communications@ifla.org).



## IFLA Global Vision Report Summary launch

IFLA's Global Vision discussion, which began in 2017, brings together thousands of representatives of the library field worldwide to explore how a connected library field can meet the challenges of the future.

The launch IFLA's eagerly-awaited Global Vision report summary on Monday 19 March is the result of six regional workshops, hundreds of discussions, and 22,000 responses to our online consultation from 213 countries and territories. This offers for the first time a truly global picture of the challenges and opportunities the library and information profession face. **IFLA Secretary General, Gerald Leitner**, will launch the report summary during the IFLA President's Meeting 2018 and lead the Global Vision discussion into its second, exciting phase - creating global actions to make our vision real.

## Global Vision Participation Statistics

**213** countries and areas of the world / 190 UN countries

**31,063** participants (vote + workshops)

**469,152** years of library experience

**185** workshops/meetings

**9,291** workshop/meeting participants

## Highlights and Opportunities

Being unveiled during the launch are **10 highlights** and **10 opportunities**. This key finding will form the core of the next phase of discussions.

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*"Never before has there been such an initiative, which gives every single librarian in the world the chance to contribute – and never before have so many librarians from so many parts of the world contributed to one global conversation.*

*It is incredible to hear from so many voices. This truly means that the top ten highlights and opportunities are your opportunities. They belong to every library professional in every region of the world.*

*Now we're going to make all these wonderful ideas held in the summary real. We're going to create global actions together. Let us make our vision real! "*

**Gerald Leitner**  
*IFLA Secretary General*

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## Background on IFLA

The [International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions \(IFLA\)](#) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession. IFLA is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization with over 1400 members in over 140 countries, with its Headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands.

We work to improve access to information and cultural heritage resources for the global community in this rapidly changing digital and print environment. Our key initiatives include access to digital content, international leadership, outreach, cultural heritage, and multilingualism.







In our professional programmes we build the capacity of our members, and set the professional agenda through development of guidelines, standards, publications and events around the world.

IFLA's status as the global organization for library and information services ensures that our voice is represented through formal relations with the UN and other organizations.

## IFLA COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Press Releases, announcements and major news pieces in seven languages can be found at: [www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org).

Look for real time reporting on events, interviews, and other media (photos, videos) on our social media channels:

 <a href="https://www.facebook.com/IFLA-International-Federation-of-Library-Associations-and-Institutions-115229368506017">www.facebook.com/IFLA-International-Federation-of-Library-Associations-and-Institutions-115229368506017</a>	 <a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/ifla">www.flickr.com/photos/ifla</a>
 <a href="https://twitter.com/ifla">twitter.com/ifla</a>	 <a href="https://www.vimeo.com/ifla">www.vimeo.com/ifla</a>
 <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/iflahq">www.youtube.com/user/iflahq</a>	 <a href="https://www.instagram.com/iflaglobal">www.instagram.com/iflaglobal</a>

You can follow the conversation in social media using the [#PresidentsMeeting2018](#) and [#iflaGlobalVision](#) hashtags.

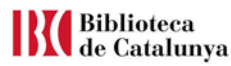
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