

## Schedule and agenda for the FEP General Assembly in Tallinn (12-13 June 2025)

**Creative Hub (Kultuurikatel), Kursi 3, Tallinn, room «Stalker Hall»**

**Thursday, 12 June – 3.00-5.30 pm**

- **The Estonian book market** – overview of the sector- Speaker: **Tauno Vahter** (Editor in Chief of publishing house Tänapäev and a Board Member of the Estonian PA)
- **A short overview of Estonian cultural participation:** survey, statistics and figures related to reading in Estonia - **Karl Viilmann** (Chief Data Officer, Ministry of Culture)
- **Estonia reports the highest rate of reading population – How does it happen?** What are the programs of readership' promotion? Exchange with colleagues about best practices in various countries. Reading promotion - reading program for children "Lugemisisu" (*Appetite of Reading*) - **Katrin Tõnisson** (Estonian Children's Literature Centre)
- **AI and authors – what can cultural policy do?** - **Maria-Kristiina Soomre** (Adviser, Ministry of Culture)
- **e-book lending in Estonia** – PLR vs licensing schemes (as PLR for e-books has not been established in Estonia); and 2) national developments at the intersection of books and AI training. Exchange with **Alex Luik**, Copyright Advisor, Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs, followed by an exchange between FEP members on the situation in the various countries

**We will depart immediately from the meeting place to the Arvo Pärt center for a visit followed by a concert and dinner. A cloakroom for your bags will be available. Return around 11.00 PM to the hotel/city.**

**Friday 9.30 am – 1 pm and 2.00-5.00 pm (coffee breaks at 11.30 am and 3.30 pm; lunch at 1.00 pm). Welcome coffee from 9 am**

- **Administrative matters**
  - o Adoption of the agenda
  - o Adoption of the minutes of the previous General Assembly (as sent on 12/05/25)
  - o Presentation of the 2024 accounts, adoption and discharge of the Board
- **Recommendations from the Board and question to the members: how can FEP be even more useful to your own members? We had a webinar on accessibility, open to all publishers, which other topics would you like us to present to publishers?**
- **Keynote speech:** We can observe a dynamic growth of audio in some parts of Europe, mainly Nordic countries – should we fear that? Is it a threat to our industry as a whole? Or is the way we can move forward? What are the working models in audio downloads – streaming, a la carte, revenue share? **Jesper Monthán**, FEP Board member, former

President of the Swedish PA, CEO of Bonnier Books Denmark and Director of Business Development Bonnier Books Nordic.

- **Statistics**
- **Important European developments (FEP team and colleagues will report on the consequences of the legislation and on actions which the members could take to support FEP advocacy. The information about the previous activities undertaken by FEP team and colleagues can be read in the briefings and in the weekly newsletter).**
  - Multiannual Financial Framework and Cultural Compass for Europe - Joint statement of the book sector to secure sufficient funding in the next EU to be followed by the first ever meeting of the entire European book sector. The Commission is looking for more feedback on the Cultural Compass. This survey is another opportunity to remind the Commission of our concerns also about AI and other topics.
  - Toy Safety Regulation – You have read all about our lobbying efforts in our numerous emails, what are the consequences for children’s book publishers?
  - Deforestation – We keep monitoring the clarifications, how do your publishers conform to the Regulation?
  - AI – Input - While we are working with colleagues to ensure as much as possible that AI developers are transparent about their sources (see our briefing), our French colleagues can update us on their proceedings against META. We will explain how you can help to convince your government and your MEPs as the Commission seems deaf to our arguments.
  - AI – Output - What goes into the machines is one thing, the next issue that will occupy us is the output. FEP co-signed with writers and translators a message for World Book Day, still rather vague but the question is popping up more often especially with the coming MEP Voss’s report on AI and copyright: do we label AI generated content? What status for AI-assisted works? What are the stakes followed by an exchange between FEP members.
  - Late Payment Regulation – Nothing really happens but keep the pressure on the government.
  - Ecodesign Regulation – Affects all types of manufacturers, and therefore also book publishers. It mandates the reporting of the quantities of unsold products that are destroyed every year.
  - Accessibility – 28 June is 15 days (when we meet) away. Exchange on the difficulties to understand the consequences of key provisions such as the transition period for the backlist and the calculation of the disproportionate burden.
- New topic: **Second-hand books** – a resale right collected from industrial retailers? Renaud Lefebvre, CEO of the French PA, on how France intends to deal with the issue and what could be the EU consequences.
- Not a new topic but one which needs constant attention – **Sustainability**. France has developed a new tool: *Chapitres responsables*, to allow the book sector to have tools



to improve their performance. Presentation by SNE followed by information by members of new developments.

- Even less new: **Copyright** or rather how can copyright facilitate access to collections of Public Interest Institutions? debrief by **Renate Punka**, FEP Board member and Latvian delegate, on the first awareness day in Latvia.
- **Tour de table**
  - o Market developments and major legislative updates in your countries
- **Simon Littlewood**, delegate for the British PA, will present the study on: “Publishing and soft power: Our contribution to knowledge exchange and cultural collaboration”; 80% of international adults in a recent survey agreed that British literature and British academic research positively contribute towards the UK’s international reputation, this was higher than music (73%), sports and athletics (72%) and business and economic influence (57%).
- **EU projects** (EUPL, Tales of EUkraine, ThinkPub)
- **IPA briefing**
- **Next meetings**
  - o **European Book Market Statistics 2024/2025 – Presentation in Frankfurt**, 15 October, Frankfurt Studio, 10:30-11:00
  - o **FEP Rendez-Vous in Frankfurt**, 16 October, Rooms Illusion 2-3 (Conference Centre), 12:30-14:30
  - o **FEP General Assembly**, 20-21 November 2025 in Brussels