Slovenia

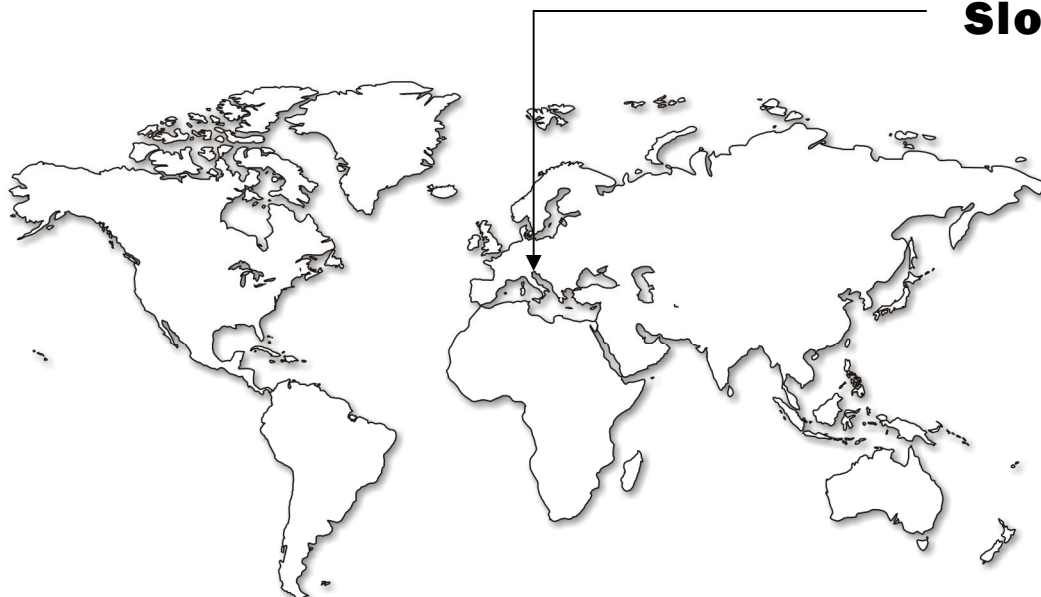**Responding institution:**
National and University Library of Slovenia

Slovenia has responded three times previously: in 2001, 2003 and 2005. There are an estimated number of 260 public libraries in Slovenia, as well as 648 school libraries and 62 university libraries. The number of government-funded research libraries is given as 20. The source for the data is given as the national statistics for 2006, collected by the Library System Development Centre at the National and University Library.

Internet penetration is relatively high in Slovenia, with 55.5% of the population being Internet users. Levels of access in the country's libraries are correspondingly high – 81-100% of all university, school and government-funded libraries and 61-80% of all public libraries offer Internet access to their users. In all the libraries where Internet access is provided, it is free of charge. The state has made extra funding available to improve Internet access in the last two years.

The respondent has indicated that an average amount of local content is available on the Internet, and an average amount of content is available in local languages. The literacy rate is given as 99.5%.

The library association is not in favour of filtering information and the use of filtering software is not widespread in libraries. It has adopted both the IFLA Internet Manifesto and the Glasgow Declaration, and a code of ethics was adopted in 1995.

User privacy and anti-terror legislation

No anti-terror legislation has been passed. It has been indicated that the keeping of user records will affect the freedom of expression of the individual Internet library user.

Reported incidents/violations of intellectual freedom in the past two years

The respondent has indicated that no incidents occurred in the last two years that adversely affected the freedom of access to information or the freedom of expression, and referred to the following two sites for more information: http://www.media-forum.si/slo/pravo/strokovna-mnenja/svoboda-izrazanja/ and at http://mediawatch.mirovni-institut.si/teme/pravo/svoboda.

There are nevertheless some concerns among journalists, as a petition against censorship and political pressure on journalists in Slovenia (http://www.peticijazopercenzuro.com) was signed during September and October 2007 by 571 Slovenian journalists. They accused the political powers, and the government in particular, of placing media freedom under pressure.

Amnesty International reports, in addition, that Romani pupils suffer lack of access to education and are often taught in segregated schools or are overrepresented in special schools for children with mental disabilities (http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR050022006?open&of=ENG-SVN).

HIV/Aids awareness

The respondent has indicated that the state-supported healthcare system and civil initiatives provide information on HIV/Aids, and therefore there are no specific programmes ran by libraries to disseminate this type of information.

Women and freedom of access to information

Libraries in Slovenia have no special programmes that focus on the promotion of women's literacy, and also no programmes that focus specifically on women's access to certain topics (e.g. social information, the economy, education, health and family planning).

IFLA Internet Manifesto

The IFLA Internet Manifesto has been adopted. It has been translated into Slovenian and disseminated among libraries.

IFLA Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

The Glasgow Declaration has been adopted, translated into Slovenian and disseminated. The respondent has indicated that librarians in general show no interest in this subject.

Ethics

The library association adopted a code of ethics in 1995, but there is not much interest in it. The code is available on the Internet at http://www.zbdszveza.si/eticni_kodeks.asp.

Main indicators

Country name: Slovenia

Population: 2 009 245 (July 2007 est.)

Main language: Slovenian 91.1%, Serbo-Croatian 4.5%, other or unspecified 4.4% (2002 census)

Literacy: 99.7%

Literacy reported by respondent: 99.5%

Population figures, language and literacy are from the
CIA World Factbook, 2007 edition
(https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html).

Slovenia

Libraries and Internet access

Slovenia contributed to the World Report series in 2005, 2003 and 2001. The following section compares data and answers from 2007 with the 2005 IFLA/FAIFE World Report and adds context from the respondent's estimates, where possible.

Library services

Estimated number of public libraries*: 260 (2005: 366)

Estimated number of school libraries: 648

Estimated number of university libraries: 62

Estimated number of government-funded research libraries: 20

Source of these numbers: National statistics 2006, collected by the Library System Development Centre, National and University Library (NUL)

Internet access

Population online**: 1 090 000 Internet users as of Sept. 2006 (55.5%) (2005: 40.7%)

Percentage of public libraries offering Internet access to users: 61-80% (2005: 41-60%)

Percentage of school libraries offering Internet access to users: 81-100%

Percentage of university libraries offering Internet access to users: 81-100%

Percentage of government-funded research libraries offering Internet access to users: 81-100%

In your estimate, how much local content*** is available on the Internet: Average

To what degree is content on the Internet available in local languages: Average

Is the library association in favour of filtering information on library Internet terminals: No (2005: No)

Is the use of filtering software widespread in your country's libraries: No (2005: No)

Is it free of charge for library users to access the Internet on library computers: Yes, in all libraries (2005: Yes, in all libraries)

Has the state or other library authorities made any extra funding available for Internet access in the library system of your country in the last two years: Yes (2005: Yes)

* Public library service points, including branch libraries.
** Online population numbers are from Internet World Stats (www.internetworldstats.com).
*** Local content is defined as content that originates in the country.