

## EIFL 2025 General Assembly Speakers' Bios

*Listed in order of first appearance on the agenda*

### Anna Chulyan



#### **National Library of Armenia, Yerevan**

Anna Chulyan is a Candidate of Sciences in Philology, Associate Professor. She has been the Director of the National Library of Armenia since August 2020. A. Chulyan has many years of experience in the field of librarianship, in particular, for 10 years she served as the Director of the library of Brusov State University and the Head of the Brusov Scientific Centre (2010-2020). She is an Associate Professor at the Department of World literature and Culture of Brusov State University and had been a Lecturer at the Department of Library Information Resources of the International Scientific and Educational Centre of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia. Since 2014 A. Chulyan has also been the Chairman of the Consortium of Electronic Libraries of Armenia, and since 2015 the coordinator of EIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries) in Armenia. In 2019 she founded the "Digital Library Association of Armenia" (DLAA) NGO. She is an IFLA Standing Committee member for the National Libraries Section. In 2021 she was elected Vice President of the Eurasian Library Assembly until 2025. A. Chulyan is an author of numerous articles and publications, also a coordinator of many international projects.

### Emilija Banionytė



#### **Library Director at the Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius Public Library, Chair of the EIFL Management Board**

Emilija Banionytė is a professional librarian. She worked at the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences Library for more than 30 years, after graduating in LIS at Vilnius University in 1984. Since 2019 Emilija has held the position of Library Director at the Vilnius County 'Adomas Mickevičius' Public Library. Emilija is interested in all aspects of library activities. Special fields of interests are: library consortium building, licensing electronic resources and copyright for librarians. She is active in professional librarianship not only in Lithuania, but also internationally, as Chair of the EIFL Management Board, and expert at the Lithuanian Research Library Consortium.

Past positions held include EIFL Copyright Coordinator for Lithuania, President of the Lithuanian Research Library Consortium, President of the County Public Library Association, President of the Lithuanian Librarians' Association, Chair of the Library Board at the Ministry of Culture, member of the Board of Directors of SPARC Europe, member of the EBLIDA Expert Group Information Law, member of the IFLA CLM Committee.

## Rima Kupryte



### EIFL Director

Rima Kupryte is the Director of EIFL. Rima oversees the implementation of EIFL's overall organizational strategy and operations. Rima has been managing EIFL since its inception. Under her leadership, EIFL has grown into a thriving international organization working in more than 50 developing and transition economy countries.

Rima's deep knowledge of library infrastructure and international development has led to the strategic expansion of EIFL's key programmes which help people to access and use information for education, learning, research and sustainable community development. Rima joined EIFL from the Open Society Institute - Budapest (currently known as the Open Society Foundations), where she managed the Network Library Programme, supporting library development in approximately 35 countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Africa.

In 2008, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) awarded Rima the IFLA Medal, one of the highest professional accolades, for her contributions to international librarianship.

## Iryna Kuchma



### EIFL Open Access Programme Manager

Iryna Kuchma is the Open Access Programme Manager for EIFL (EIFL-OA). Her responsibilities include the development, delivery and evaluation of a range of open access related activities. Achievements of EIFL-OA since Iryna joined in 2008 include establishment of more than 1,200 open access repositories and more than 4,100 open access journals in EIFL partner countries, opening up a wealth of new knowledge and research to the world. The programme also supported development of 208 open access and open science policies in EIFL partner and project countries.

Before joining EIFL, Iryna worked as an Information Programme Manager at the International Renaissance Foundation (part of Soros Foundations network) in Ukraine and also coordinated the Arts and Culture Programme there. In 2013, Iryna received the Electronic Publishing Trust (EPT) for Development Annual Award, in recognition of her 'efforts in the furtherance of open access to scholarly publications in the developing and emerging countries'. Iryna sits on the boards of the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR), the Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services (SCOSS) and the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD). In addition, she serves on the advisory board of Open Access Week, and is a member of the Coalition Publi.ca International Committee and the DSpace Community Advisory Team.



### **EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme Manager**

Teresa Hackett is the EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme (EIFL-IP) Manager. Since the launch of the programme in 2005, Teresa has successfully overseen the development and delivery of a unique service for libraries in EIFL partner countries that provides advocacy and technical support, resulting in improved copyright laws for libraries, education and research. At international level, EIFL-IP has under Teresa's leadership supported ratifications of the Marrakesh Treaty for persons with print disabilities in 26 developing and transition economy countries in Africa,

Asia and Europe, more than a fifth of the total number.

Prior to joining EIFL, Teresa was Director of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA); before that she provided support to the European Commission library research programme. Teresa was a member of the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) from 2011-2015 and the World Blind Union (WBU) Marrakesh Strategic Advisory Group.

In 2015, Teresa was awarded a Flash Grant as an agent of social change by the Shuttleworth Foundation for her work on copyright, and in 2018, she was awarded an IFLA Medal in recognition of distinguished contribution to IFLA and international librarianship, particularly in the field of copyright. In 2020, EIFL was selected as a finalist for the ABC International Excellence Award for Accessible Publishing, in recognition of the work of the EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme.

### **Britt-Marie Wideberg**



### **Licensing Programme Manager**

Britt-Marie Wideberg oversees renewals of current licensing agreements and seeks new agreements for publisher/vendor content, open access publishing and research support services for EIFL partner countries. This includes reaching out to publishers/vendors, negotiating pricing, terms and conditions, and analyzing the effectiveness of agreements. Britt-Marie also organizes educational webinars for EIFL Licensing coordinators and librarians in our partner countries, and develops strategies and activities to raise awareness

about licensing agreements and to encourage uptake.

Prior to joining EIFL in 2024, Britt-Marie worked at the National Library of Sweden, coordinating the Bibsam Consortium. The consortium has 95 participating institutions (universities and other higher education institutions, governmental organizations and research institutes) and 45+ agreements for 100 e-resources packages (e-journals, abstracts, indexing databases, reference works and e-books.)

She has been part of the Bibsam Consortium Steering Committee for ten years and has been a member of the Copyright Clearance Center Open Scholarly Communications Advisory Group.

Britt-Marie has also been an active partner in international collaborations, including OA2020, ESAC, ICOLC and served on SCOAP3 Governing Council (2017-2023).



### **EIFL Public Library Innovation Programme Manager**

Ramune Petuchovaite is the EIFL Public Library Innovation Programme (EIFL-PLIP) Manager for EIFL. Her responsibilities include the development, delivery and evaluation of a range of activities that support innovative public library services that contribute to community development. In addition, Ramune has led development of a framework for capacity building for public librarians in Africa to integrate technology into their services and the EIFL-PLIP training-of-trainers programme to equip library staff with the necessary digital and training skills to train in their communities. Since 2014, EIFL-PLIP capacity building initiatives have reached over 2,200 librarians from public and community libraries already equipped with computers and the internet in Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Uganda and Zambia.

Before she joined EIFL in 2012, Ramune served as Chief Specialist at the Division of Information Society Development of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, where she was responsible for coordinating implementation of the state-funded library renovation and modernization programme. During her term at the Ministry, Ramune worked on the US\$36-million national 'Libraries for Innovation' project, co-funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which improved public access to computer and internet services in over 1,300 public libraries. Ramune has also lectured library and information students on library management, project management and other subjects at the Faculty of Communication, Vilnius University, Lithuania.



### **Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs, Yerevan State University**

Rafayel Barkhudaryan is a Candidate of Sciences in Physico-Mathematics. He studied at Yerevan State University, where, completing his Bachelor's degree at the Faculty of Mathematics in 2002. In 2002–2004 he continued his education in the master's programme of the same faculty, and in 2004–2007 he pursued his PhD studies at the Institute of Mathematics of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia.

His professional career began at the Institute of Mathematics of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia, where from 2007 to 2011 he served as Scientific Secretary, from 2011 to 2014 as Deputy Director, and from 2014 to 2019 as Director. Since 2019 he has been serving as Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs at Yerevan State University.

His scientific research focuses on numerical analysis, free boundary problems, obstacle-type problems, and convergence acceleration methods. He is the author of numerous scientific publications, including works in these fields. He has delivered reports at many international conferences and has participated in scientific programmes abroad, including a fellowship at the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences at the University of Cambridge in 2014 and participation in the ICNAAM 2013 conference in Greece.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the A. Alikhanyan National Science Laboratory, the Scientific Council of Yerevan State University, the Scientific Council of the Institute of Mathematics, the editorial board of the Armenian Journal of Mathematics, the Armenian Mathematical Union, and



the European Mathematical Society. Since 2019 he has been a reviewer for the American Mathematical Society.

He continues to contribute actively to the advancement of mathematical sciences and to the development of international scientific cooperation.

## Anne-Catherine Fritzinger



### **Deputy General Director at Sorbonne Université**

Anne-Catherine Fritzinger has been Deputy General Director at Sorbonne Université, in charge of Public Engagement and Knowledge Dissemination, since September 2023. She previously held the position of Director of Libraries. In 2022, she was appointed Senior Advisor for Open Science to the President of the University. She is also an active member of the LERU policy group on open science and, at national level, represents the Udice network of French universities on the Permanent Secretariat for Open Science. Anne-Catherine holds degrees in philosophy and art history from the University of Strasbourg.

## Jeroen Bosman



### **Scholarly communications specialist, OA policy advisor and geoscience librarian at Utrecht University Library**

Jeroen (@jeroenbosman / @jeroenbosman@akademienl.social) is a scholarly communications specialist, open science policy advisor and geoscience librarian at Utrecht University Library. He is member of the national expert panel on scholarly communication of OpenScience NL. He is an expert in the field of open science and open access policy, practices and tools, as well as scholarly search engines. His main current interests are Open Access and Open Science in all academic fields, metascience, academic resilience, research evaluation and copyright issues related top open science.

He participated in numerous national and European projects and reports by DIAMAS, UNL, Science Europe, cOAlition-S, LERU and more. He has 25+ years teaching experience in academic information skills and has led dozens of Open Science workshops, including internationally. He is co-lead of the 101 Innovations in Scholarly Communication project that surveys and charts developments in scholarly communication, research workflow tools and practices. He is an avid advocate for Open Access, Open Science and Scholarly Commons and for applying open principles. All activities are carried out in the open and resulting materials are fully open (CC-BY or CC0) and linked to his ORCID account.



### **Project Coordinator for the EIFL Open Access Programme**

Milica Ševkušić is a Project Coordinator for the EIFL Open Access Programme and a librarian at the Institute of Technical Sciences of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. In her capacity as the EIFL Open Access Coordinator she has been supporting Open Access journals in Serbia since 2014.

Her professional interests focus on Open Science, library services aimed at supporting research activities, training in academic services and tools, support to Open Access journals, information literacy and research ethics. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2888-6611>



### **Serbian Library Consortium for Coordinated Acquisition (KoBSON) and National Library of Serbia**

Since 2014 Tatjana is a Head of Department of Scientific Information and coordinator of Serbian Library Consortium (KoBSON). Also, she runs a Serbian National DOI agency, is a member and national representative in a variety of international associations and consortiums. Tatjana participated in a lot of national and international professional meetings and conferences and published various articles in the field of Library and Information Science, also lectured many trainings and educational courses and has a lot of experience in organizing and realizing national and

international meetings, workshops and conferences.



### **Chief, Tribhuvan University Central Library, Nepal**

Sagar Raj Subedi holds a master's degree in Library and Information Science and a master's degree in Business Administration (MBA). He began his career as a librarian in 1994 as a School Librarian. After completing a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science in the year 2000 he worked as a Media Librarian, and began working at Tribhuvan University Central Library as Assistant Librarian (Third class officer) from 2005. He was promoted to Deputy Librarian (2012) and worked at the Tribhuvan University Institute of Engineering, In 2025 he was promoted as Associate Librarian (First Class officer) and currently works as Chief of Tribhuvan University Central Library.



**Information Studies department at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Paul S. Muneja (Ph.D) is a member of academic staff in the Information Studies department at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. His teaching and research focuses on scholarly communication, open access, open science, digital libraries and digital literacy. Dr Muneja coordinates access to electronic resources negotiated by EIFL for the Consortium of Tanzania University and Research Libraries (COTUL) as a country coordinator. As one of the leaders of COTUL, he serves as the Executive Secretary of the consortium. He is currently an associate editor of the University of Dar es Salaam Library Journal (UDSMLJ), which publishes in Diamond open access.



**Deputy University Librarian, Addis Ababa University | Country Coordinator, EIFL | Coordinator, CEARL Ethiopia**

Girma Aweke Denkeyehu is an experienced information science professional and academic leader with over 15 years of experience in advancing academic libraries, digital transformation and open knowledge initiatives in Ethiopia. He is Deputy University Librarian at Addis Ababa University Library, Coordinator of the Consortium of Ethiopian Academic and Research Libraries (CEARL), and EIFL Country Coordinator in Ethiopia.

He holds a BSc and MSc in Information Science from Addis Ababa University and is a PhD candidate researching university-industry linkages, with a focus on knowledge diffusion, open access and digital platforms at Addis Ababa University.



**Associate Professor and Regional Librarian, East Africa at Aga Khan University, Kenya**

Prof. Arnold Mwanu is an Associate Professor and Regional Librarian, East Africa, at Aga Khan University. He is the Chairman of the Kenya Libraries & Information Services Consortium (KLISC) and Vice Chairman of SCANUL ECS. He holds a PhD in Information Science, a master's in Information Science, a master of Science in Organizational Development, an MIS certification from University of Antwerp, Belgium, and a Certificate in University Leadership from a DAAD Programme at the University of Oldenburg, Germany.

He has certification in CopyrightX from Harvard University and Evidence Synthesis from ESI (Cornell, Carnegie Mellon and University of Minnesota). He is an IFLA/OCLC Fellow, a Standing Committee member of IFLA ENSULIB; the Country Coordinator for EIFL and Research4life. He has authored over 26 articles in peer-reviewed journals and three book chapters.