PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME
Second European MIL Forum
27 - 29 June 2016
Riga, Latvia

CONFIRMED – (C)

Day 1
27 June 2016

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<td>12:30 - 13:00</td>
<td>Registration - Welcome Buffet Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td><strong>Opening Session</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Moderator:</strong> Ms Sheila Webber, Senior Lecturer &amp; Director of the Centre for Information Literacy Research, Information School, The University of Sheffield (C)</td>
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Key Speakers
- Ms Inara Murniece, Speaker of the Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia
- Mr Guy Berger, Director for Freedom of Expression and Media Development, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO
- Mr Andris Vilks, Director, National Library of Latvia
- Mr José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Representative of the GAPMIL European Sub-Chapter
- Mr Emīls Anškens, President of the National Youth Council of Latvia
14:00 - 15:30

**Plenary Session 1**

*Promoting media and information literacy in a shifting communication/media landscape for open and secure societies*

Moderator: **Mr Guy Berger**, Director for Freedom of Expression and Media Development, Communication and Information Sector UNESCO

**Description:**

Media and information literacy is a necessary response to a changing and increasingly complex media landscape. This change is brought about both by the digital revolution and by a change of behaviour and attitude on the part of citizens. The digital revolution includes, high levels communications between individuals via digital means, intensive use of mobile devices, connectivity everywhere, all the time and to almost everything. Citizens are no longer mere passive recipients of information and media content, but also content creators and sources of information and media, for example through involvement in social media. The news as we know it through traditional media have morphed into a complex mix of facts, part-facts, propaganda and public relations, and sometimes out-right lies or misinformation with the use social media, blogs etc. making it difficult to determine who is making it difficult to determine what information is credible, who are professional journalists and what are the criteria for defining them today, considering the impact that citizen journalists have. Attendant to this backdrop are the challenges of privacy, an open Internet, censorship and freedom of expression and misuse of media and technology to promote hate speech, discourse of fear and to spread political disinformation.

In this shifting media landscape, regulation is still necessary but it has to be complemented with measures that empower citizens to make sense of the media and information with which they engage, in particular digital media, and interact with it with wisdom, ethics and equality. This opening Plenary will dig into the increased need to implement media and information literacy (MIL) and explore how MIL can be a tool for all stakeholders in the present information and communication environment. It will seek to answer the following questions: What does it mean to live in open and secure societies today? Are citizens prepared to build autonomous life projects in Knowledge Societies? What media and information literacy competencies do citizens need to acquire in this shifting information and media landscape? Are policies on media and literacy tailored to the current media landscape? What are the implications for Human Rights?

**Contributors:**

- **Mr Toms Meisitis**, Member of the board of Latvian Information and Communications Technology Association (LIKTA), topic: ICT and Media convergence (C)
- **Ms Mari Sol Pérez Guevara**, Policy Officer responsible for media literacy, European Commission (C)
- **Ms Sheila Webber**, Senior Lecturer & Director of the Centre for Information Literacy Research, Information School, The University of Sheffield (C)
- **Ms Renee Hobbs**, Professor of Communication Studies at the Harrington School of Communication and Media at the University of Rhode Island (C)

15:30 - 16:00

Break

16:00 - 17:15

**Round table 1**

*MIL, internet industries (including of social media players such Google, Twitter, Facebook etc.) and governance*

Moderator: **Mr José Manuel Pérez Tornero**, Director of the Department of Communication and Education

**Round table 2**

*MIL, interreligious understanding in support of solidarity/living together and peace*

Moderator: **Mr Marius Lukosiunas**, Programme

**Round Table 3**

*Libraries, information and MIL: the new strategies*

Moderator: **Mr Marius Lukosiunas**, Programme
| (Scientific Research Group), Autonomous University of Barcelona (C) |
| Description: Almost a third of Europeans use social networks every day or almost every day. In the 15-24 age group, 3 out of 4 Europeans use social media every day. What is the role of social media companies and digital intermediaries to empower the users with media and information literacy competencies? What actions are they already taking or will be taking? What partnership opportunities exist? How can dialogue be stimulated between private and public digital intermediaries, social media companies, relevant regulators and civil society actors be stimulated around MIL? Some of these players are already actively engaged in public debates in other fora or forums. What should be done to introduce MIL in these forums? Are there overall public policy considerations, based on international standards, that should be brought to the fore? |

| Specialist, UNESCO (C) |
| Description: In today’s complex societies, media and information are absolutely necessary to achieving interreligious understanding and reciprocal knowledge sharing, solidarity and peace. It is the unwelcomed truth that many wars, conflicts and violence are carried out in the name of religion which are institutions of peace. Media and the Internet are channels through which religious, beliefs, practices and norms are transmitted. Sometimes messages are distorted. Furthermore, there is an absence of public discourse on religious dialogue in the media. Where such discourse occurs on the Internet it is often conflictual. Media and information literacy competencies can enable individual and groups to be critical about their beliefs and to wisely enquire about the beliefs of others. It can open up knowledge of the “Other” that leads to greater tolerance and dispel certain myth about religion or faith that stirs fear and anxiety. Finally, media and information literacy enables individual groups to effectively appropriate media and technology to promote dialogue and peace. This session will respond to the following questions: Are there existing initiatives in Europe relating to MIL and interreligious or interfaith dialogue? Do relevant tools and material exist? What needs to be to be done to increase public discourse on religious dialogue in the media? What guided interaction is needed between journalists, bloggers, religious leaders, and adherents to stimulate public dialogue What are youth perspectives on media and interreligious dialogue? Can MIL be a counter-tool for reducing the impact that the “discourse of fear” has on the perception of “others” through the media/public discourse? |

| Moderator: Mr Uldis Zariņš, Director of Development, National Library of Latvia (C) |
| Description: Libraries, especially the public libraries, are increasingly becoming the local centres of life-long learning, helping their communities to develop new skills in different areas, with a particular focus on media and information literacy. Libraries are helping people of all ages to acquire ICT skills, to use ICT tools and applications, to search, evaluate and publish information, and to develop critical thinking skills. However, library activities and their role in the field of MIL are currently underrepresented in existing MIL policies and actions, and libraries should get more recognition for what they are doing and get more involved in implementation of MIL policies and actions. The main questions to be tackled are: How do librarians perceive the role of libraries in MIL activities? Are they aware of their role in implementation of MIL policies? Where lies the red line, what libraries can realistically be expected to do in the field of MIL? What are the opportunities for synergies between libraries and other players in the field of MIL? Are librarians skilled enough to be effective in MIL activities? |
### Plenary Session 2

**Bridging concept and practice: mediators of MIL at the local level (the role of libraries and media networks as mediators in promoting MIL (the case of Latvia) and other target groups (parents, teachers, industries)**

**Moderator:** Dr. Xavier Landes, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication at the University of Copenhagen, a visiting lecturer at Stradins University, an expert in media ethics (C)

**Description:**

MIL as a composite concept includes knowledge, skills and attitudes that cannot be developed separately. MIL fulfils inalienable part of the study process as well as the daily life. The concept in practice could be delivered and promoted through different mediators (parents, schools, libraries, media, industries, etc.) but in most of the cases the potential does not go along with the capacity needed for the promotion of MIL.

The unique situation in Latvia shows that libraries play a crucial role as mediators in promoting MIL especially for children at the local level because of the good infrastructure and the access to the internet. The lack of time, human resources and capacity often hinder the support needed for children from the adults (parents, librarians, teachers, etc.) in developing MIL. Many library associations and a number of media networks, print and broadcast unions as well as journalist associations in Europe have been playing instrumental roles as mediators of MIL. This second plenary session will deal with the questions that could help to find ways how to synergize the target groups of the mediators and bridge the concepts and practices. The following questions will be raised: How MIL has seen from prospective of each of the target groups (parents, schools, libraries, industries, etc.)? How the potential and the capacity of different mediators could be raised and strengthened? How to synergize the activities of each of the target groups to help girls and boys by promoting the MIL? Can these mediators do more to promote MIL as a tool for gender equality advocacy? And further on, can mediators use MIL as a tool for better representation of marginalized and minority groups and communities,
considering that the media plays a critical role in how these groups and communities are portrayed?

Ms Guna Spurava, Head of the UNESCO Chair on Media and Information Literacy at the University of Latvia (C)
Mr Jukka Relander, President of EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations) (C)
Mr Fabian Franke, Director, University Library, University of Bamberg, Germany (Representative of IFLA, Information Literacy) (C)
Ms Sophie Scribe, Deputy Executive Director, ENPA - European Newspaper Publishers’ Association (C)
Speaker from Sarajevo

19:00 - 21:00 Official Reception

Day 2
28 June 2016

09:00 - 10:30 Plenary Session 3a
GAPMIL European sub-chapter: MIL European projects building stakeholders actions in support of MIL

Moderator: Ms Sheila Webber, Senior Lecturer & Director of the Centre for Information Literacy Research, Information School, The University of Sheffield (C)

Description:
Many stakeholders and institutions worldwide are implementing MIL-related activities of different scope and impact. Nevertheless, only a handful has national MIL-related policies and comprehensive strategies to implement them. Europe is one of the regions where partnerships has enabled collaborative actions resulting in a trend towards achieving positive progress in the area. A lot of examples of policies for MIL demonstrate vision and consensus among stakeholders in the continent. GAPMIL European Sub-Chapter is an encouraging sign of the potential of regional partnership. At the same time, more efforts are needed in order to boost collaborative actions, learn about what is happening in the rest of the world on this topic and enhance policies and actions. The third plenary session will address the state of art of European partnership in MIL, identify new challenges on this area, share inspiring experiences and propose some dialogue and action lines to foster stakeholder’s collaboration in support of MIL.

The panellists will address some important questions such as: How can GAPMIL consolidated its networks regionally? What efforts need to be done in order to strengthen their capacities and articulations? What projects on this area can be inspiring for other GAPMIL chapters? Are there examples of gender-specific MIL projects or projects directly related to the sustainable development goals? Are there examples of MIL projects that target marginalized, minority and vulnerable groups and communities in their media representation? What are the main challenges to drive MIL development and impact at European and global level today? How can the European Sub-Chapter collaborate with other GAPMIL Chapter globally around promoting awareness citizens engagement in the implementation and monitoring of the sustainable development goals?
Ms Carolyn Wilson, Chair, GAPMIL International Steering Committee (C)
Mr José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Director of the Department of Communication and Education (Scientific Research Group), Autonomous University of Barcelona (C)
Mr Igor Kanizaj, Croatia Vice-dean, science and international cooperation / University of Zagreb, Faculty of Political Science (C)
Ms Divina Frau-Meigs, Representative of the GAPMIL European Sub-Chapter, Professor, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle (C)

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| 11:00 - 12:30 | **Round table 4**  
MIL: a privacy shield | **Ms Divina Frau-Meigs**, Professor, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle, GAPMIL Europe head, ECREA representative (C) | The explosion of digital technology and proliferation of media platforms have led to a widespread use of the Internet and social media for communication, commerce, politics, development, as well as fierce competition among media actors etc. The Internet is also being increasingly abused by those who want to promote hate, radicalization, extremism and illegal activities. Governments feel it necessary to carry our surveillance to protect their citizens. Commercial enterprises collect more and more information on citizens to compete and the stated intent to serve them better. People get used to share personal details about their private lives. The boundaries between private and public life are weakened and blurred in the era of Internet, which implies several threats to privacy. Beyond awareness raising on the risks of sharing inappropriate information, MIL can afford competencies to citizens to assess their risks, assess what to share and what to share and why, how to prevent identity theft etc., to manage the level of access that software and online platforms have to their person device, to engage in debates about privacy versus security and privacy policies of digital intermediaries etc. This session will foreground these issues. In addition it will answer the questions: What are citizens’ perspectives on privacy? Do women/girls and men/boys have different perspectives? Do young/old... |
|               | **Round table 5**  
MIL to build trust media: Media and information ethics and sustainable media and information environment | **Ms Tatjana Ljubic**, Media Literacy Consultant and Trainer, Independent Journalists’ Association of Serbia (C) | Information, media and technological communication platform are indispensable resources that enable participation in public decision making and promote values for sustainable development and more humane societies. To achieve professional and ethical journalism and media in which citizens can put their trust require three broad actions. These include capacity building for journalists and media as well as media self-regulation and co-regulation and media and information literate citizens. The third action is often overlooked or not well grasped by stakeholders. MIL can contribute to building trust in media, through the awareness of ethical principles and the penetration of a critical and creative citizenship in the information production and distribution. Understanding that the functions of media and other information providers, and the conditions under which these functions can be effective exercised, is at the core of being able to exercise one’s right to freedom of expression and access to information. This roundtable will illuminate these propositions. It speaks to the following questions: Can build trust in media help to consolidate sustainable media and information environments? What are the key tenets of professional and ethical journalism in a healthy democracy? Can citizens really demand quality media and to hold media accountable to the public? What are good practices of existing initiatives in Europe? How do we tackle journalism online, citizens journalists, professional bloggers etc.? In the emergence of citizen journalism, there is a wide debate about the definition of a journalist today. Aside from rights, do citizen journalists have obligations and should they abide by ethical... |
have different perspectives? How is privacy being treated in MIL curricula and training globally?

Mr Kārlis Podiņš, Threat analyst (CERT.LV) (C)
Mr Joseph Cannataci, UN special rapporteur on privacy (C)
Ms Sherri Hope Culver, Director, Center for Media and Information Literacy (Privacy in MIL Training) (C)
Paul de Theux, Director Media Animation asbl, SIGNIS, World Catholic Association for Communication (C)
Ms Jillian York, Director for International Freedom of Expression Electronic Frontier Foundation (C)

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Ms Jillian York, Director for International Freedom of Expression Electronic Frontier Foundation (C)

Dr. Xavier Landes, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication at the University of Copenhagen, a visiting lecturer at Stradins University, an expert in media ethics (C)
Mr Tihomir Loza, Executive Director, South East European Network for Professionalization of Media (C)
Mr Miomir Rizcevic, President, Media Education Centre (C)
Mr Aidan White, Director, Ethical Journalism Network (C)
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| 16:00 - 17:30 | **Round table 6**  
MIL and research strategies; Promoting media and information literacy in a shifting communication and information landscape for open and secure societies.  
Moderator: **Aikaterini Dimitrakopoulou**, European Commission (C)  
Description:  
The research community has made tremendous contribution to the understanding and importance of MIL over the four decades. New developments in media and technology are constantly demanding a repositioning of relevant competencies (knowledge, skills and attitudes) needed by citizens. Despite the strides made by the research community, in order to develop effective MIL strategies, more theoretical and pragmatic research needs to be undertaken. A deeper scientific assessment of citizens interaction with media and information literacy competencies is a priority - including levels of media and information literacy among populations and specific needs in terms of use of media. This roundtable will address the state of art of research on MIL as well as the contribution of the latter to launch effective strategies. The speakers will identify gaps in research, methodological approaches and new lines to develop in the field. It will further a common research agenda on MIL in Europe and suggest what. |
| 16:00 - 17:30 | **Round table 7**  
Curricula, MIL education, and new resources and strategies for teacher training in Europe  
Moderator: **Ms Hannah Grainger Clemson**, European Commission/Directorate General for Education and Culture (C)  
Description:  
In information and knowledge societies, the school is called to extend the range of literacy and related pedagogies beyond reading, writing and computing abilities. This has been long established. New information and communications media imply different and more complex ways to learn and process information. At the same time, new competencies are demanded for meaning-building and multichannel communications. The school faces the challenge of guiding the acquisition of these competencies. UNESCO’s Media and Information Literacy Curriculum for Teachers is an important resource to guide the integration of teaching about and through MIL in schools and integrate MIL into the extra-curriculum activities. What are the main strategies for teacher training in Europe? How is MIL being integrated into the formal teacher education system? How is MIL in schools building capacities? What other actions need to be undertaken the widespread integration MIL in schools? What new tools and resource exists and are these open education resources? Are MIL MOOCS viable alternatives? What are some successes in... |
| 16:00 - 17:30 | **Closed Meeting** among Development Partners such as EC, COE, OECD, UNESCO etc. cooperation on MIL development |
A framework could allow a closer co-operation between action policies and the scientific and academic sector and practitioners of the MIL field.

Mr José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Director of the Department of Communication and Education (Scientific Research Group), Autonomous University of Barcelona (C)
Ms Divina Frau-Meigs, Professor, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle (C)
Ms Ilva Skulte, Associate professor at the Riga Stradiņa university, (MIL in Latvia; teachers and their comprehension of MIL; research on media and youth, use of media, creativity) (C)
Ms Emily Keaney, Senior Research Manager, OFCOM (C)
Ms Maija Katkouska, Net-Safe, Latvia Safer Internet centre

Ms Solvita Denisa, Assistant Professor, Vidzeme`s University of Applied Sciences (C)
Mr Julian McDougall, Director, Centre for Excellence in Media Practice, Bournemouth University (C)
Ms Sirkku Kotilainen, Professor in media literacy, University of Tampere (C)
Ms Adeline Bossu, European project coordinator, MOOC ECO in France, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle (C)

Other Proposals:
Ms Mara Jakobsone, Vice-president of Latvian Information and Communications Technology Association (LIKTA)

17:30 - 18:30
Plenary Session 3b
GAPMIL European sub-chapter coordination meeting: the way forward

Ms Carolyn Wilson, Chair, GAPMIL
Ms Divina Frau-Meigs, Representative of the GAPMIL European Sub-Chapter, Professor, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle (C)
Ms Sheila Webber, Senior Lecturer & Director of the Centre for Information Literacy Research, Information School, The University of Sheffield (C)
Mr José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Representative of the GAPMIL European Sub-Chapter
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| 09:00 - 10:30 | **Plenary Session 5**                                                            | MIL: human rights and healthy democracy, countering radicalization and hate speech; intercultural and interreligious understanding  
Moderator: H. E. Mr Imants Viesturs Liegis Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France, Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Latvia  
Description:  
Today, the world is witnessing an unprecedented increase of radicalization and hate speech either explicitly or masked as the “discourse of fear” which in turn challenges human rights. The roots of this conflict are deep: poor governance, political exclusion, social, economic inequity, power struggles, ideological beliefs and intolerance etc. In such a critical juncture, old and new media are powerful platforms to promote positive values and strengthen orientation towards the culture of peace and dialogue. On the other hand, a savvy and participatory citizenship is crucial to influence political decisions and develop more humane and democratic societies. This session will address how can MIL strategies promote a culture of democracy, tolerance, peace and a rights-based approach. Speakers will address the respective themes as per session title while zeroing in on: What are some success stories of enlisting MIL in these areas? What are some challenges? Is there sufficient research on MIL in relation to these themes? What are some public policy implications? | Mr Maciej Tomaszewski, Policy Officer - DG JUST, European Commission (C)  
Mr Alton Grizzle, Programme Specialist, UNESCO (C)  
Ms Berangere Blondeau, Project of MOOC ECFOLI (C)  
Ms Ivana Jelaca, Media Diversity Institute (C)  
Ms Ewa Thorslund, Director, Statens medieråd (C) |
| 10:30 - 11:00 | Break                                                                            |                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                 |
| 11:00 - 12:30 | **Round Table 8**                                                                | MIL, young people and new publics and communities  
Moderator: Ms Sanita Jemberga, chairperson, Latvian Journalism Association and Re: Baltica Investigative Journalism Centre, a veteran investigative journalist and editor (also expert in IPDC/UNESCO) (C)  
Description:  
Media and information literacy is multi-dimensional – precise sub- | Round Table 9  
Journalism Audio-visual services, Film and MIL in Europe: new projects  
Moderator: Ms Mari Sol Pérez Guevara, Policy Officer responsible for media literacy, European Commission (C)  
Description:  
This session focus on media literacy practise related to audiovisual activities. It covers two separate themes. Firstly, it will provide an overview of significant practices and actions in EU-28 Member States as well as initiatives in other European countries, |
The competencies (knowledge, skills and attitude) of media and information literacy depend on the individual’s needs and habits of information, media and technology use, as well as on the social group to which he/she belongs. We face a challenge to find the optimal theoretical and practical approaches to develop media and information literacy among the population at large and at the same time addressing to differentiated audiences with their specific characteristics. Teenage audience may perceive hate speech or sexting as a self-presentation or sign of courage or rebelliousness. Some of student audience do not use traditional media, only the Internet and mobile applications. As well internet usage by seniors is on the rise. This is a relatively new audience that ought to be well versed in critical media and technology usages. Discussion is necessary on which methods and approaches would give the best results to develop media and information literacy among young people and new publics and what are examples of best practices, including contribution of informal education, the outreach of libraries as well as public service media. During this session the following questions will be raised: What are the barriers to acquiring media and information literacy by young audiences and how to overcome them? How can a teenager’s or youngster’s community and circle of friends help to develop his or her media and information literacy? What impact can this have on the representation and perception of marginalized youth? And conversely, how to overcome the risk that the community to which the teenager belongs makes him or her more radical and encourages hate speech? How can parents with insufficient media and information literacy participate in its promotion in their families? What are the most effective ways of developing media and information literacy in the audience of pre-school children? Is it enough for them to understand the difference and relationships between reality and representation in information and media?

Mr Viktors Freibergs, Head of Communication Studies Department, University of Latvia
Ms Maja Cappello, European Audiovisual Observatory (Council of Europe)
Ms Dita Rietuma, Director, National Film Centre of Latvia, topic: Film literacy: Experience and projects of Latvia

The second theme is film literacy, which is a subset of media literacy. The participants of the workshop will share their country experiences and will discuss study programmes, training courses, study aids and other materials that have already been developed or are to be designed to promote media literacy in the audiovisual sector. The speakers will discuss on and raise such questions as: What is the role of public service broadcasters in media literacy? Who are the other relevant actors in the promotion of media literacy in the audiovisual sector? Concerning film literacy, the questions are: Has the digital technology (specific software, CGIs etc.) changed the nature of the film language? What are the expectations of the native digital and the digital inmigrants concerning audio-visual services and film? How are libraries being used in film education, the production of films and archiving of films and related information? Add some audio-visual elements

Ms Liva Brice, Research Assistant EU Kids Online, University of Latvia, Department of Communication Studies (C)
Ms Sirku Kotilainen, Professor, Ph.D., School of Communication, Media and Theatre & School of Education, University of Tampere, Finland (C)

Ms Dita Rietuma, Director, National Film Centre of Latvia, topic: Film literacy: Experience and projects of Latvia
### Closing Plenary/ Adoption of Riga Recommendations on Media and Information Literacy

**Description:**
The closing session will be devoted to the presentation by the Rapporteurs on the main results of each of the Plenary Session and the thematic Round Tables. The General Rapporteur will also provide an overview of the main issues and actions to be taken towards promoting MIL and the development of its policies.

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