



Welcome to the December 2018 IPA newsletter

This year's final IPA newsletter includes big copyright stories like the very concerning reform underway in South Africa which risks having a devastating negative impact on South African publishers. We also report on events at WIPO in Geneva, Sharjah International Book Fair and Guadalajara International Book Fair. On Freedom to Publish, IPA has joined other NGOs in raising concern about the condition of Mauritanian blogger Mohamed Mkhaitir. We also launched the call for nominations for the 2019 IPA Prix Voltaire. Please help us spread the word about the Prix Voltaire.

That brings us nicely on to the subject of nominations:

Before you read any further, who are you going to nominate for the [International Excellence Awards at London Book Fair](#)? Nominations close on 21 December and include, among others, the awards for accessible publishing initiatives support by WIPO's Accessible Books Consortium. Go on, get your nominations in quick. See below for details.

After that, the next deadline for nominations is Bologna Children's Book Fair's BOP – Children's Publisher of the Year. Nominations close on 30 January and more information is below.

Finally, if you think we've missed something or you have a story that should be in our newsletter then let me know at taylor@internationalpublishers.org. All of us at IPA would like to wish our readers an excellent end to the year and all the best for a happy and prosperous 2019.



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Copyright: South Africa Copyright Reform Bill

South Africa has been attracting a lot of international attention for its copyright reform bill with IPA and other international organisations expressing concern. [Read more.](#)



IPA launches call for nominations for Prix Voltaire 2019

The nomination process for the IPA 2019 Prix Voltaire is now open. Find out more about how you can spread the word and submit nominations.

[Read more.](#)



IPA joins 31 NGOs in calling for release of blogger Mkhaitir

Mauritanian blogger Mohamed Mkhaitir remains in detention despite a court ruling granting him freedom. IPA condemns this situation and call on Mauritanian authorities to safely release him. [Read more.](#)

London Book Fair Excellence Awards

Nominations for The London Book Fair's [International Excellence Awards](#) are now open! If you want to recognise publishing excellence worldwide, then enter or nominate today. The awards celebrate publishing success in 16 categories, representing the best publishing ambassadors, innovative publishing, and ground-breaking initiatives in the industry. Companies or individuals can nominate either themselves or others whom they feel deserve to be recognised for outstanding achievement this year. To be in with a chance, enter the [International Excellence Awards before 21st December.](#)



[Nominate Now](#)

Sharjah International Book Fair looks at freedom to publish and educational publishing



Sharjah International Book Fair featured keynotes from IPA's President and President-elect, alongside panels on freedom to publish and educational publishing. Hugo Setzer's message was that local, regional and international cooperation are essential to the future of our industry. [Read more.](#)

Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publishers of the Year

Nominations for Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publishers of the Year (BOP Prize) are open. You can nominate your candidates by filling in the form ([English](#), [Italian](#)) and sending it by email to BOP@bolognafiere.it by 30 January 2019.



BOP
BOLOGNA PRIZE
Best Children's
Publishers
of the Year



IPA keeping an eye on WIPO Committees

IPA brought a 10-strong delegation to WIPO's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) in November but other WIPO committees are working too. [Read more.](#)



Freedom to publish in the spotlight in Guadalajara

While IPA President Michiel Kolman was in Geneva for SCCR, IPA President-elect, Hugo Setzer, was at Guadalajara Book Fair speaking about freedom to publish among other things. [Read more.](#)

Accessible Books Consortium International Excellence Awards

The Accessible Books Consortium International Excellence Award recognizes outstanding leadership and achievements in advancing the accessibility of commercial e-books or other digital publications for persons who are print disabled. Two awards will be presented, one to a publisher and one for an initiative. [Find out more](#) about the criteria and how to nominate.

Deadline: 10 January 2019





Accessibility round-up: ABC Global Book Service going from strength to strength

Alongside announcing great progress for the ABC Global Book Service with 42,000 additions to the catalogue, IPA VP-elect Bodour Al Qasimi signed an agreement with WIPO for accessibility training in the UAE and IPA President-elect, Hugo Setzer, stars in a short film explaining his support for accessible publishing. [Read more.](#)



Educational Publishing: Successful collaboration in Serbia

With the Serbian Ministry of Education wanting to bring new technologies into the classroom it collaborated with teachers and publishers to bring blended teaching to the reformed 1st and 5th grade in Serbian primary and lower secondary schools. How did they manage? [Read more.](#)



Access Copyright looks to blockchain for innovation

Access Copyright, Canada's Reproduction Rights Organization outside Quebec, has launched Prescient, its innovation lab. Prescient is exploring the future of rights management and content monetization through emerging technologies such as blockchain and AI. They tell us more about it and where they see risks and opportunities for publishers. [Read more.](#)

IPA in the news

[Publishing Perspectives](#) picked up on a number of sessions at Sharjah International Book Fair and IPA's support for [Mauritanian blogger Mohamed Mkhaitir](#). French publication, [Livres Hebdo](#), had a detailed look at the Prix Voltaire as we launched our call for nominations which was also widely relayed in a number of languages ([Arabic](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Spanish](#), [English](#)).

The IPA's statement on South Africa was [picked up](#) and IPA EC member Brian Wafawarowa had an [opinion piece](#) in [The Daily Maverick](#) which is well worth a read. That article came out as IPA attended WIPO's SCCR meeting in Geneva where some of our delegation also had the

opportunity to talk to [IP Watch](#) about the reality of publishing in their own markets.

A couple of our Freedom to Publish Committee members have also been covered with Louise Adler doing an [interview](#) for the Australian Publishers Association newsletter and Trasvin Jittidecharak being quoted in [Publishers Weekly](#).

IPA President Michiel Kolman is the subject of this [excellent interview by Ollatoun Gabi-Williams](#) in Borders. He talks about his two years as IPA President and what stood out for him the most. Former IPA Presidents are also getting some coverage with Richard Charkin's regular articles in Publishing Perspectives ([1](#), [2](#)) and [YS Chi featuring in the Scholarly Kitchen](#) after an appearance at ITHAKA's Next Wave conference. Going back a few Presidents further, [Alain Gründ](#) looked back at his career in Publishing Perspectives.

IPA Blog

Azadeh Parsapour: [The Endangered Joy of Reading in Iran](#) (you can also read her interview in Publishing Perspectives [here](#).)

SCCR Posts:

- Day 1: [Dynamic Constructivism or Steady as She Goes?](#)
- Day 2: [Keeping Things Informal \(again\)](#)
- Day 3: [Don't Take Exception](#)
- Day 4: [Racing toward the finish line](#)
- Day 5: [The End of the Affair](#)

In case you missed it:

Industry news:

Publishing Perspectives: [UK Trade Associations Call for Professional Behavior in a Diverse Industry](#)

Copyright

Books and Publishing: [Publishers, authors welcome NZ Copyright Act review](#)

Chemistry World: [Sci-Hub blocked in Russia following ruling by Moscow court](#)

TNPS: [Piracy costs Egypt's publishers \\$16.8 million a year](#)

Euractiv: [How YouTube makes users lobby in-house against copyright directive](#)

Forbes: [European Commission Calls Out Worst-Offending Pirate Sites](#)

Freedom to Publish

TNPS: [Kurdistan's 13th Erbil Int. Book Fair reminds us censorship is a balancing act, not a line in the sand](#)

SCMP: [Artistic freedom in Hong Kong: self-censorship, culture of fear growing, creatives say](#)

The Guardian: [A chapter closes: last Hong Kong bookshop selling titles banned in China shuts](#)

Statistics

TNPS: [95.6% of Algerians like reading. 52% read fiction. Arabic, French and English the preferred languages. 90% prefer print to ebooks and Ebooks sales up 21% in Mexico as print sales slump](#)

WIPO: [World Intellectual Property Indicators](#)

Books and Publishing: [Book sales in Iceland dropped 43% from 2010 to 2017 and 61% of Canadian publishers are producing audiobooks, up from 16% in 2015](#)

Aldus: [European Book Fairs. Facts and Figures 2018](#)

Publishing Perspectives: [In Montréal, Concern About Teen Reading Amid New Statistics](#)

VAT

The Guardian: ['Axe the reading tax': book industry demands end to VAT on ebooks](#)

Educational Publishing

The Bookseller: [Amazon takes on textbook counterfeiting in 'sting operation'](#)

Publishing Perspectives: [A Member of Slovakia's Parliament Calls for a Competitive Textbook Market](#)

EdWeek: [Digital Tools Are Everywhere—and Largely Unused—in Many Schools, New Analysis Shows](#)

Inclusivity

The Bookseller: [Hachette calls on rivals to disclose 'transparent' gender pay gap numbers](#)

Markets

Associated Press: [German antitrust agency opens Amazon investigation](#)

The Conversation: [Digital platforms. Why the ACCC's proposals for Google and Facebook matter big time](#)

The Guardian: [Brazilian booksellers face wave of closures that leave sector in crisis](#)

Libraries

Citi Newsroom: [Ghana Book Publishers Association to deepen partnership with Ghana Library Authority](#)

Fellowships

Seoul International Book Fair fellowship program [open for registration](#) (deadline 25 January 2019)

Publishing Scotland Fellowship Programme [applications are open](#) (deadline 25 January 2019)

Other

Publishing Perspectives: ['Giving Tuesday': Penguin Random House Supports Worldreader, Ingram Supports Binc](#)

To Come

The IPA Office will be closed for the end of year festivities but we will back on 2 January with a [new President and Vice-President](#) and celebrating World Braille Day on 4 January.

Deadlines for nominations for the awards mentioned above.

- [London Book Fair Excellence Awards](#) – 21 December 2018
- [ABC Awards](#) – 10 January 2018
- [BOP Awards](#) – 31 January 2019
- [Prix Voltaire 2019](#) – 20 February 2019

Get nominating!

Oh, and save the date:



Nairobi
14/15 JUNE
2019 | International Publishers
Association Seminar

SAVE THE DATE

14th and 15th June 2019

*"Africa Rising: Realising Africa's Potential
as a Global Publishing Leader in the
21st Century"*

Join us for the second edition of the International
Publishers Association seminar in Africa at the
Mövenpick Hotel & Residences, Nairobi



About the IPA

Established in 1896, the International Publishers Association (IPA) is the world's largest federation of publishers associations. The IPA is an industry body with a human rights mandate, whose mission is to promote and protect publishing and raise awareness of publishing as a force for economic, cultural and social development. Working in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and other supranational bodies, the IPA champions the interests of book and journal publishing at national and supranational level. Internationally, the IPA actively opposes censorship and promotes copyright, freedom to publish (including through the *IPA Prix Voltaire*), and literacy.

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