

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Innovation and value co-creation for a new generation of libraries



May 22-23,
2025

Alcalá de Henares
(Madrid), Spain

www.librariancongress2025.com

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstract submission: January 14th - February 22nd, 2025

Decisions on abstracts: 10 days after submission

Registration: January 14th - April 10th, 2025



With the support of:





BACKGROUND



In today's world, libraries are evolving to address some of the most pressing societal challenges. No longer limited to their traditional roles centered on books and readership, a new generation of libraries is emerging as dynamic hubs of community engagement, identity building, and societal well-being. These modern libraries foster citizen participation, meet the needs of vulnerable populations, preserve cultural heritage, and contribute to sustainable development and growth at local, regional, and national levels.

Libraries have the potential to act as catalysts for service innovation, tackling 21st-century European challenges such as aging populations, migration, and social inclusion. By offering high-quality, forward-thinking services, libraries are becoming vital players in addressing societal demands. Technology plays a pivotal role in this transformation, leveraging digital advancements and innovative tools like artificial intelligence to deliver impactful solutions.

The foundation of innovation in libraries lies in a new paradigm of service provision. This paradigm prioritizes:

- Co-creation and active user engagement.
- Multi-agent collaboration, bringing together diverse stakeholders.
- Technological and organizational transformations, complementing each other to create synergy.
- An open innovation culture that fosters collaborative skills, advanced managerial models, and robust policy support.

Researchers, practitioners, publishers, authors, and policymakers have a unique opportunity to collaborate and transform libraries into engines of economic, social, cultural, and public value creation. Through joint efforts, this new generation of libraries can unlock their immense potential to shape a brighter future.

The upcoming international conference builds on the groundbreaking work of the Horizon Europe project LibrarIN (<https://librarin.eu/>), focusing on value co-creation and social innovation in libraries. Together, let's reimagine libraries as key players in addressing societal challenges and creating lasting impact.



TOPICS OF THE CONFERENCE



- Innovation and co-creation in libraries: theoretical frameworks and practice experiences.
- Digital transformation, technological advances, and artificial intelligence for libraries.
- Preservation of cultural heritage for libraries.
- Relationships between public-private-third sector innovation networks and libraries.
- Living labs in libraries, service design and user engagement.
- Social inclusion and services to vulnerable communities.
- Entrepreneurship and support for entrepreneurs.
- Particularities of innovation in public, municipal, academic and national libraries.
- New managerial models and tools for libraries.
- Service quality, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Challenges for publishers, authors and Althors, students, library staff.
- Library impacts in culture, urban and regional growth, and socioeconomic transformations.
- Innovation and co-creation metrics in libraries.
- Policies for promoting innovation in libraries.



TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE CONFERENCE



RESEARCHERS in different academic disciplines and fields: library and information sciences, innovation, services, management, business, economics, geography, engineering and computer science, social sciences and humanities.

LIBRARY PRACTITIONERS (special track for sharing case stories), managers and service providers.

POLICYMAKERS in charge of libraries, culture, education and innovation policies.

PUBLISHERS AND USERS: authors, Authors, communities of readers and library users.



RESEARCH TRACKS



TRACK 1: **TECHNOLOGIES**, digital transformation, and artificial intelligence in libraries

TRACK 2: **NEW LIBRARY SERVICES**, service innovation and innovation ecosystems in libraries

TRACK 3: **VALUE CO-CREATION**, living labs, service design, and user engagement

TRACK 4: **SOCIAL INCLUSION**, networks and entrepreneurship

TRACK 5: **SERVICE QUALITY** and service management in libraries

TRACK 6: **METRICS**, measuring transformations and collaboration in libraries

TRACK 7: **LIBRARY IMPACTS** in culture, cities and regions and socio-economic transformations



PRACTITIONERS TRACKS



TRACK 8: **CASE STORIES** on transformations and collaborations in libraries

TRACK 9: **CHALLENGES** for policymakers, library staff, publishers, authors, Authors, students...



SUBMISSION FOR PRESENTING A PAPER OR A CASE STORY



To Research Tracks. This international conference does not require full papers. Instead, participants are asked to submit a 1-2 pages abstract that includes Author(s), Title, and Abstract detailing rationale, goal, methodology, and expected outcomes.

To Practitioners Tracks. Papers are not required. Participants are invited to submit a concise summary (half a page to one page) of their case story, which should include: Author(s), Title and Summary.

The submission deadline is **February 22nd, 2025**. Available on the conference website www.librariancongress2025.com



LANGUAGE



English



ATTENDEES



This international conference is also open to attendees who do not have a paper or case story to present



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE



- Ada Scupola**, *Roskilde Universitet Center*
Alberto Peralta, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Andrej Vrčon, *Library and Information Science Research*
Anna Triantafyllou, *Athens Technology Center S.A.*
Anne Vorre Hansen, *Roskilde Universitet Center*
Anthony Arundel, *Maastricht University*
Antoine Henry, *Université de Lille*
Barbara van der Vaart, *Library and Information Science Research*
Benoît Desmarchelier, *Université de Lille*
Carsten Schmidt, *University of Konstanz*
Christine Liefoghe, *Université de Lille*
Dana Wasserbacher, *AIT Austrian Institute of Technology*
David Gago, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Doris Schartinger, *AIT Austrian Institute of Technology*
Elena Silvestrini, *The Lisbon Council*
Ernesto Solano, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Fabio Moscoso, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Faïz Gallouj, *Université de Lille*
Francesco Molinari, *The Lisbon Council*
Francesco Mureddu, *The Lisbon Council*
Garifalia Sebou, *Athens Technology Center S.A.*
Ines Mergel, *University of Konstanz*
Isabelle Liotard, *Université de Lille*
Kirsi-Maria Hyytinen, *VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland*
Lars Fuglsang, *Roskilde Universitet Center*
Luis Rubalcaba, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Marieke Willems, *The Lisbon Council*
Marta Anducas, *The Lisbon Council*
Nordine Es-Sadki, *Maastricht University*
Nuria Madueño, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Olivier Hersperger, *Library and Information Science Research*
Paul Windrum, *VTT and University of Nottingham*
Stefan Thorbjørnsen, *Roskilde Universitet Center*
Cristina Suárez Gálvez, *Universidad de Alcalá*
Tiina Tuominen, *VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland*
Varun Gupta, *Universidad de Alcalá*



PRACTITIONERS COMMITTEE



Members of the LibrarIN stakeholders panel: <https://librarin.eu/who-we-are/stakeholders/>



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (UAH team)



Luis Rubalcaba (president), Alberto Peralta, Alejandra Suárez de Cepeda, Cristina Suárez, David Gago, Ernesto Solano, Fabio Moscoso, María Dolores Ballesteros, Nuria Madueño, Varun Gupta



VENUE



Universidad de Alcalá (UAH)
Plaza San Diego, s/n
28801 Alcalá de Henares (Madrid)



UNESCO World Heritage University and historical site of Alcalá de Henares

The University of Alcalá, situated in the charming city of Alcalá de Henares (Madrid, Spain)—the birthplace of Cervantes—is conveniently just 20 minutes by car or taxi from Madrid's international airport, ensuring easy accessibility. Public transportation also offers a seamless connection from the airport to this historic and culturally rich university town.



REGISTRATION FEES & COSTS



This international conference is **FREE** to attend, with no registration fees. However, optional services, such as attendance at the gala dinner, may have a cost.



CONTACT DETAILS



Web page: www.librariancongress2025.com

Email Secretariat: librariancongress2025@fgua.es



THURSDAY 22nd

14.30 Arrival and registration

15.00 Welcome and Opening Session

15.30 **Keynote: The future of Library Services: Innovation, Technology, and Value Co-creation**

Chair: **Luis Rubalcaba**, *University of Alcalá*

- **Stuart Snyderman**, *Harvard University*
- **Paul Windrum**, *University of Nottingham*

16.45 Coffee Break

17.15 **Parallel Sessions.** Paper presentations - Research tracks 1-7

Parallel Special Session: Engage with Leadership from Professional Associations

Chair: **Marieke Willems**, *Lisbon Council. Tentative representatives (tbc):*

Ilona Kish (*PL2030*); **Helen Mandl** (*IFLA*); **Stuart Hamilton** (*NAPLE*); **Andrew Cranfield** (*EBLIDA*), **Julian Roche** (*LIBER*)

19.30 Guided tour of the University of Alcalá's World Heritage buildings and libraries

20.30 Gala dinner

FRIDAY 23rd

08.00 **Parallel Sessions.** Research and practitioners tracks 1-8

09.30 **Plenary Session: New evidence from the EU LibrarIN project in selected library topics**

Chair: **Anna Triantafyllou**, *Athens Technology Center*

- **Ines Mergel**, *University of Konstanz*, «Digital transformation and AI»
- **Benoît Desmarchelier**, *University of Lille*, «Public-private networks and social innovation»
- **Lars Fuglsang**, *Roskilde University*, «Living Labs, co-creation and co-innovation»
- **Anthony Arundel**. *Merit- Maastricht University*, *innovation metrics in libraries*

11.00 **Parallel Sessions.** Research and practitioners tracks 1-8

Parallel Special Session: Connect with Leading Publishers and Journal Editors in the Field of Libraries.

Chair: **Faiz Gallouj**, *Lille University. Publishers and journals (tbc)*

Parallel Special Session: Preservation of Cultural Heritage for Libraries

Jacobo Vera (*Libnova*), **Stuart Snyderman** (*Harvard*), **Laura Guindal** (*Spanish Ministry of Culture*)

13.00 Lunch

14.00 **Parallel Sessions.** Research and practitioners tracks 1-8

Parallel Session: The LibrarIN Project and other EU sister projects (tbc)

15.30 **Policy Session: Reimagining Libraries: Actions towards Sparking Collaboration & Innovation.**

Chair: **Francesco Mureddu**, *Lisbon Council. Representatives of the EU Commission (tbc)*

16.30 Closing Session