

**International Committee of
Independent Publishers
(ICIP) meeting**

***with representatives from 6 European
independent publishers collectives***

**15-17 October 2016
Paris (France)**



Background

The International Committee of independent publishers (ICIP) is made of the coordinators from the six language networks of the Alliance. Since 2011, ICIP is an essential governance organ for the Alliance, representing the voices of all publisher members. ICIP meets in person once a year, together with members of the Board of the Alliance, and the team of the Alliance. The agenda is built on the requirements and objectives of the Alliance, taking into consideration the needs and expectations conveyed by publishers.

During the International Assembly of independent publishers, held between 2012 and 2014, publishers outlined the Alliance's 2015-2018 directions – one of which being strengthening the presence of European publishers within the Alliance.

This aim meets 3 main objectives:

- Political and social: given current societal issues (migrations, religious and social tensions, increase of extremism, attacks on freedom...), closer relations with European independent publishers are crucial for interrogating the role and place of independent publishers. The need to make other voices heard, to circulate texts *via* translations and copublishings, is undisputable in this context: on-going changes from an ecological, political and social point of view have direct impacts on the role of contents, in the world and between cultures. It is the publishers' responsibility to increasingly unite to enlighten, inform but also develop imaginaries – thus participating to citizens' emancipation.
- Cultural: the idea is to strengthen dialogue and 'North-South' partnerships through sharing (meetings, workshops, copublishings, translations) between publishers from Africa, Latin America, Asia and European publishers. In the current structure of the Alliance, these partnerships are essentially formed within a language zone (French, Belgian and Swiss publishers and Francophone African publishers, for example). Membership of publishers from European countries not represented within the Alliance would therefore enable new professional exchanges, which are at present very few, both in terms of experience sharing and upcoming projects (youth literature, humanities, social sciences, etc.).
- Partnerships: in strategic terms, an opening towards Europe would allow a better identification and recognition of the Alliance among European partners, and the European Union, enabling the Alliance to address European bodies, opening ways for potential European funding.

We are therefore very pleased to be able to convene, this year, 6 representatives from European collectives as well as ICIP and members of the Board of the Alliance. We thank our partners, and foremost the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation, through whom this project is becoming a reality. This meeting's objectives is to learn to know each other, share professional issues, discuss partnerships, and built foundations for future relations. We are convinced – and wish – that this meeting is only the first step towards strengthening an independent publishing open to the world, supporting bibliodiversity. We thank you in advance for your presence in Paris... let the exchanges begin!

Hélène Kloeckner, Chairwoman of the Alliance
Clémence Hedde, Matthieu Joulin and Laurence Hugues, permanent team of the Alliance

Programme

Friday 14 October 2016

Participants' arrival

[Hôtel Ibis Paris Bastille](#) (15, rue Bréguet, 75011 Paris) / [Map](#)

Saturday 15 October 2016

9h00 - 17h30

Venue: Relais Culture Europe

With ICIP (composed of 6 coordinators from the Alliance language networks), European collectives representatives, French publishers and members of the Board of the Alliance.

Morning (9h00 - 13h00)

Overview of meeting by Héléne Kloeckner, Chairwoman of the Alliance, and the team
Roundtable

The Alliance, outline in 30 minutes!

- Presentation of the Alliance: creation of the association, composition, governance and operations, characteristic of an international network such as the Alliance, by Laurence Hugues, director of the Alliance
- Definition of 'made in Alliance' for independent publishing and bibliodiversity, by Müge Gursoy Sokmen (Metis Publishers, Turkey), coordinator of the English language network of the Alliance
- Presentation of background and issues of this meeting, by Serge D. Kouam (Presses universitaires d'Afrique, Cameroon), coordinator of the French language network of the Alliance

Presentation of European collectives (10 minutes per collective, followed with discussions)

The collectives' representatives have sent a presentation of their association ahead of the meeting, which is attached to the programme. We hereby ask participants to do a 10-minute presentation of their collectives, by answering the following questions (as a guide only):

- How was each collective created?
- How is it composed? What are the membership criteria?
- What are the collective's main objectives and activities?
- How is it operated and governed?
- What is the average size, rate of publication, main editorial genres of the publishing houses member of the collective?

Each presentation will be followed by a Q&A session with other participants.

What French dynamics? (10 minutes per intervention)

- Liana Lévi, independent publishers representative at the Syndicat national de l'Édition française (SNE)
- L'Autre livre (testimony from a publisher member, Isabelle Pivert)

Each presentation will be followed with a Q&A session with other participants.

Lunch (13h00 - 14h30)

Aux cèdres du Nord, 153 rue la Fayette, 75010 Paris

Afternoon (14h30 - 17h30)

Issues/ concerns of European collectives (part 1/2)

What major issues, topics and challenges are currently addressed by, and mobilise the European collective? How can a European and/or international network accompany on going mobilisations?

To draft this section, we built on participants' expectations, consulted ahead of the meeting. We outline recurring and priority themes coming out of this consultation: this could be amended and adapted as discussions unfold.

- **National public policies:** what are the demands carried by your collective over to public authorities? What struggles were won? What struggles are on going?
- **European policies and copyrights reform in Europe:** do you have activities within your collective regarding public policies of the European Union (taxes, copyrights)? If so, what are these activities and how are they implemented?

For each of these points, European collective representatives will be asked to speak or share experiences; these interventions will be punctuated with questions and discussions with other participants.

Welcome dinner (20h00)

Petit Bain (restaurant on a barge), 7 Port de la Gare, 75013 Paris

Sunday 16 October 2016 9h30 - 17h30

Venue: Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer

With ICIP, European collectives representatives, members of the Board of the Alliance.

Morning (9h30 - 13h00)

Issues/ concerns of European collectives (part 2/2)

What sharing within collectives? What strategies and practical activities?

- **Diffusion and distribution:** how do you work with independent booksellers and other distribution channels in your country? What are the strategies implemented by your collectives to strengthen commercialisation of books by your publishers?
- **Presence and visibility of independent publishers on international markets:** how do you organise within your collective to be present at international book fairs? What collaboration perspectives between independent publishers from various countries are possible?
- **Digital publishing:** does your collective support the development and strengthening of members' digital tools? Do you have common strategies within your collective (online platform, book digitalisation, etc.)?

For each of these points, European collective representatives will be asked to speak or share experiences; these interventions will be punctuated with questions and discussions with other participants.

Lunch (13h00 - 14h30)

Le Tabarin, 3, rue du Pasteur Wagner, 75011 Paris

Afternoon (14h30 - 17h30)

Europe, Latin America, Africa, Asia... same struggles?

What synergies and exchanges must be implanted? What expectations from European collectives towards the Alliance, and vice-versa? How can we work together, share and federate?

- **Freedom of publishing**, various forms of censorship: how do they manifest themselves in your country? How do you address them? How do you respond collectively?
- **How can editorial partnerships** (transfer of copyrights, translations, copublishings) work between European and international publishers?
- **Feedback on collaboration potentials** from prior discussions: presence at international fairs, digital, etc.

Conclusions

Summary and reminder of decisions taken over these two days

Monday 17 October 2016

9h30 - 17h30

Venue: Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer

With ICIP, European collectives representatives, members of the Board of the Alliance.

Morning (9h30 - 13h00)

Focus on the Alliance's 2016-2017 crosscutting projects

- **Bibliodiversity Observatory** and post-Assembly working groups: a review. Towards a "mini-Assembly" in 2018?
- **Alliance Lab** (www.alliance-lab.org/en): activities, impacts in the networks

Focus on the language networks' projects in 2016

- **"Being feminist"**, a new co-publishing from the network, followed with a launch at a meeting convening women publishers of the Alliance / **English language network** (Ritu Menon, vice-coordinator of the English language network, Women Unlimited, India – via Skype)
- **Frankfurt 2017** and French and French language invitation / **French language network** (Serge D. Kouam, PUA, Cameroon)
- **Bibliodiversity ambassadors in Rio de Janeiro** in the context of the Primavera and Primavera dos livros/ **Portuguese language network** (Araken Gomes Ribeiro, Contra Capa, Brazil and Carla Oliveira, vice-coordinator of the Portuguese language network, Orfeu Negro, Portugal – via Skype)
- **Mapping public book policies in the Arab world** / **Arabic language network** (Nouri Abid, Med Ali, Tunisia)
- **Partnership with CERLALC; NuevoBarrio** (space dedicated to independent publishers at the Buenos Aires Book Fair, following negotiations with the Fair) / **Spanish language network** (Guido Indij, la marca editora, Argentina)
- **Persian Publishers Book Fair "without censorship"** in London / **Persian language network** (Tinouche Nazmjou, Naakojaa, France/Iran)

Lunch (13h00 - 14h30)

OUI LUNCH !, caterer

Afternoon (14h30 - 17h30)

Departure of representatives of the European collectives. With ICIP, members of the Board of the Alliance

Review of meeting with representatives of the European collectives / decisions

Governance/ operation

- Membership to IPA (International Publishers Association)?
- Membership or support of national collectives of publishers in French language Africa to the Alliance?
- New memberships in the networks, why such a slow start in some networks? Why are there no new memberships (young generations), given the emergence of new publishing houses in the country?

- Place of local and national languages publishers within the language networks of the Alliance

Conclusions / decisions

Tuesday, 18 October 2016
9h30 - 12h30

Individual meetings between coordinators and the permanent team

The members of the team will directly communicate appointments to the coordinators.

Participants

International Committee of Independent Publishers / ciei@alliance-editeurs.org

- Nouri ABID, Tunisia (Med Ali publishers), coordinator of Arabic language network / caeu@edition-medali.com
- Serge DONTCHUENG KOUAM, Cameroon (Presses universitaires d'Afrique), coordinator of the French language network / dg@aes-pua.com
- Araken GOMES RIBEIRO, Brazil (Contra Capa publishers), coordinator of the Portuguese language network / araken@contracapa.com.br
- Guido INDIJ, Argentina (la marca editora/interZona), coordinator of the Spanish language network / gindij@alliance-editeurs.org
- Anahita MEDHIPOUR, Germany/Iran (Forough Publications), vice-coordinator of the Persian language network / a.mehdipor@gmail.com
- Tinouche NAZMJOU, France/Iran (Naakojaa), coordinator of the Persian language network / tinouche@gmail.com
- Isabelle PIVERT, France (du Sextant publishers), vice-coordinator of the French language network / editions.sextant@wanadoo.fr
- Müge SOKMEN, Metis Publishers (Turkey), coordinator of the English language network / mugesokmen@metiskitap.com

Representatives of European independent publishers collectives

- Ursi Anna AESCHBACHER (Swiss Independent publishers, Switzerland) / aeschbacher@diebrotsuppe.ch / www.swips.ch
- Mikhail KOTOMIN (Russian Alliance of Independent Publishers, Russia) / mk@admarginem.ru
- Anita MOLINO (FIDARE, Italy) / amolino@fidare.it / www.fidare.it
- Juan Diego Ramírez Blandón (Conscious publishers, Poland) / jdr@claroscuro.pl
- Alfonso SERRANO (Contrabandos, Spain) / serranosimarro@yahoo.es / www.contrabandos.org
- Joerg SUNDERMEIER (Kurt Wolff Foundation, Germany) / joerg.sundermeier@gmail.com / www.kurt-wolff-stiftung.de
- Dorota HARTWICH, Format Publishing, Poland / d.hartwich@wydawnictwoformat.pl

French independent publishers and publisher collectives

- Gilles COLLEU (Vents d'ailleurs) / gcolleu@ventsdailleurs.com / www.ventsdailleurs.fr
- Aline JABLONKA and Isabelle YAFIL (Charles Léopold Mayer publishers) / aline.jablonka@eclm.fr / isabelle.yafil@eclm.fr / www.eclm.fr
- Liana LEVI (Liana Lévi publishing) / editions@lianalevi.fr / www.lianalevi.fr

Partners

- Juliette DECOSTER, Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer

Academics

- Bella OSTROMOOUKHOVA, senior lecturer in Russian, Paris-Sorbonne University

Members of the Board of the Alliance / bureauequipe@alliance-editeurs.org

- Laura AUFRERE
- Annie GOGAT
- Hélène KLOECKNER
- Georges LORY
- Luc PINHAS

Members of the team of the Alliance / equipe@alliance-editeurs.org

- Clémence HEDDE
- Laurence HUGUES
- Matthieu JOULIN

Volunteer

- Céline ANFOSSI

Practical information

Useful addresses

Hôtel Ibis Bastille

15, rue Bréguet – 75011 Paris
Subway: line 5, Bréguet-Sabin stop
Tel: +33 (0)1 49 29 20 20

International Alliance of independent publishers

38, rue Saint-Sabin – 75011 Paris
Subway: line 5, Bréguet-Sabin stop or line 8, Chemin Vert stop
Tel: +33 (0)1 43 14 73 66
Mobile Laurence HUGUES: +33 (0)6 20 89 69 67
Mobile Clémence HEDDE: +33 (0)6 20 12 28 25
Mobile Matthieu JOULIN: +33 (0)6 24 54 00 54
www.alliance-editeurs.org

Relais Culture Europe

132, rue du Faubourg Saint-Denis - 75010 Paris
Subway: line 5, gare de l'Est stop
Tel: + 33 (0)1 53 40 95 10
www.relais-culture-europe.eu

Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation

38, rue Saint-Sabin – 75011 Paris
Subway: line 5, Bréguet-Sabin stop or line 8, Chemin Vert stop
Tel: + 33 (0)1 43 14 75 75
www.fph.ch

Travelling expenses

During this meeting, the Alliance will cover the costs for:

- **plane or train ticket to Paris;** please bring support documents for timeous reimbursement (invoices and plane tickets);
- **4 nights at the hotel (on bed and breakfast basis)** at the Ibis Bastille hotel, between 14 and 17 October included; all additional nights and extras will be at the participants' expense;
- **4 meals:** 3 lunches between 15 and 17 October, and one dinner on the evening of 15 October, all other meals are at the participants' expense.

Acknowledgments



The Alliance gratefully acknowledges the **Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer**, for the support provided for the realization of this meeting, enabling us to invite representatives from six European collectives in Paris.

Relais

Culture Europe

The Alliance thanks **Relais Culture Europe** for graciously allowing us to use their venue for the first day of this meeting.

The Alliance also thanks **all participants**, who each contributed to the drafting and strengthening of the meeting programme.

Finally, we thank **members of the Board**, for their support and involvement as volunteers in the project of the Alliance.



A network of 400 publishing houses from 46 countries,
in support of bibliodiversity

www.alliance-editeurs.org

Follow the Alliance on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

Contact: equipe@alliance-editeurs.org