



Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)

Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)

Estonia, report 2008

In August 2007 a delegation of 28 Estonian music librarians took part in the Second Baltic-Nordic music Library Meeting, *Music – Politics – Libraries*, held in Helsinki. There were also two presentations from Estonia: Kaie Viigipuu told about the current copyright situation in terms of lending sound recordings and videos from libraries and Kadri Steinbach introduced the project of integrating Naxos Music Library records into OPAC.

In October there was a small training course on making home pages. The larger aim was to prepare for redesigning our Branch's homepage. Preparations for our new home page structure and design began in November and we hope to launch our new site this autumn.

In past few years we have reported about our continuing struggle with neighbouring rights holders about the right to lend sound and video recordings from libraries. It has been like a roller coaster ride with several ups and downs.

Last spring the Ministry of Culture prepared a draft of amendments to the Copyright Act which looked very promising. We were also asked for comment and approval. By August it has changed dramatically – obviously "thanks" to the lobby of rightholders there was proposed one-year embargo period both for home lending and in-house-use! Well, the struggle started all over again.

We wrote a protest letter to the Minister of Culture and before the draft went to Parliament, we contacted Culture Commission of the Parliament and all political parties represented in the Parliament. As a result of that, we were asked to meet representatives of the leading Parliament party and participated in two meetings of the Culture Commission to explain our concerns and propose solutions.

Finally we reached to a compromise with music rightholders and the commission accepted that compromise.

In 9th of April the amendment was approved by the Parliament with following results:

- in-library-use of sound recordings and videos is allowed without permission and remuneration
- home lending of sound recordings is allowed after 4 months from release and rightholders are entitled for remuneration, resources for which come from state budget
- home lending of sound recordings and videos is without restriction from libraries of music and audiovisual art teaching institutions (e.g., Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, Baltic Film and Media School of the Tallinn University etc.)



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Unfortunately we were not able to reach to a compromise with film producers therefore there is no change in home lending of video recordings from general libraries – libraries still need to get permission from each film producer.

But this is still a good platform to move forward from here - try to get rid of 4-month lending embargo for sound recordings and to reach to some more practical solution with video recordings.

At the end of the April 2008, a festive event took place in National Library of Estonia where Danish Kingdom handed over to Estonian Republic 151 metal matrices recorded in 1939 and which were then lost for nearly 70 years. This was part of the project “Estonian Sound Recording 1939” which is a cooperation project between Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, Estonian National Library and Danish National Sound Archive. The project has been in the works for 4 years and we hope to report some prominent outcome next year.

Aurika Gergeležiū

President, IAML (Estonia)