

CODE OF ETHICS OF CZECH LIBRARIANS

Association of Library and Information Professionals of the Czech Republic

Libraries are public, democratic institutions that collect, store and deliver information to all members of society. By providing and making available documents and information for the benefit of education, research, and cultural standard of the members of the public, they support the economic and social development of society, serving local communities and being an important cultural and educational centre of the town, municipality, or region where they work. They promote the development and enrichment of life of both the individual and the whole society.

The Librarians

- always uphold the basic right of the individual to information. They provide for unlimited, equal, and free access to information and information sources in library collections. They do so irrespective of political, ideological and religious views and without any censorship, save for the exceptions stipulated by legislation. However, they bear no responsibility for the consequences of the use of information obtained from documents or in the library
- strive for broad accessibility of information contained in documents, regardless of the place of their storage,
- provide services to users irrespective of their nationality, race, religion, gender and social status,
- respect the rights of authors and treat their intellectual property in compliance with legislation,
- respect the rights of users to privacy and anonymity, basing their contact with them on respect for user personalities and information needs. They protect user personal data and user activities,
- contribute through their professional performance and loyal conduct to the goodwill of the library.
- are aware of their affiliation to the professional community, respect colleagues from libraries of different types, keeping in close touch with them, and cooperate with colleagues from a wide network of memory institutions,
- keep themselves well-informed with developments in their profession, striving for life-long education and professional advancement,
- support with words and deeds those colleagues who have found themselves in difficulties due to their observance of the principles of this Code of Ethics.

Adopted by the General Assembly of the Association of Library and Information Professionals on 25th June 2004 at Jindrichuv Hradec (South Bohemia, Czech Republic).