

CODE OF ETHICS OF LIBRARIANS IN LATVIA

Preamble

The Code affirms the values and basic principles of the librarian profession, which must be observed by every representative of the profession. The purpose of the Code is to encourage on ethical conduct in the profession, promoting the development of libraries and the prestige of the profession. In the Code, the librarian profession is understood to mean employees in all types of libraries and those who are working in the library sector. The Code expresses the commitment of librarians in Latvia to respect everyone's human rights and fundamental rights, to stand up for freedom of expression and access to information, and to provide high-quality library services, affirming the importance of libraries in the development of a democratic and sustainable society. The Code can be used in discussions on ethical issues and in seeking specific solutions within community of librarians in Latvia.

Profession

1. Librarians shall treat their profession with honour and dignity and be aware of its value and necessity in public and state processes.
2. In their professional activity and behaviour, librarians shall promote the development and prestige of the profession, and maintain a professional image in both real and virtual environments.
3. Librarians shall actively promote the development of library work, take care of the improvement of their professional qualifications and competence, share their experience and knowledge with colleagues, support and participate in professional organizations.
4. Librarians shall promote the advancement of the profession, support and motivate the entry of the new colleagues into work environment.

Services

5. Librarians shall perform their work duties in good faith, responsibly and selflessly; librarians' personal views must not affect the performance of their professional duties.
6. Librarians shall support freedom of expression and contribute free and equal access to information.
7. Librarians shall provide quality and diverse library services, relevant and current to the needs of the society, promote their use and development.
8. Librarians shall manage library information resources in a professional manner, provide access to them and advertise them.
9. Librarians shall manage and provide information, by taking into consideration a neutrality, without censorship or discrimination.
10. Librarians shall not use the information sources and technical resources available to them for selfish purposes, do not permit conflicts of interest to arise.

Society

11. Librarians shall be loyal to their community and institution.
12. Librarians shall observe generally accepted ethical norms and treat library visitors, colleagues and other members of society with respect and tolerance, are kind with everybody.
13. Librarians shall have good knowledge of and comply with intellectual property rights and the principles of personal data protection.
14. Librarians shall stand for the rights and interests of their library, its users, other libraries and librarians, if these do not contradict the rights and interests of other persons.
15. Librarians shall implement co-operative communication, promote trust and achievement of common goals for the sustainability of society, cultural and scientific development.