Libraries for Citizenship: More Necessary than Ever

THE PRACTICE OF "INTERCULTURAL LIBRARIES" IN ANDALUSIA



F. Javier Álvarez García. Library of Andalusia. Granada

1. Libraries facing the crisis: based in the results of the Congress held in Murcia, Spain, February 2010



Social function

 The libraries always perform a social function and educational support to individuals and communities. But, particularly, they can be a key resource for promoting social inclusion, when the economic crisis increases the number of unemployed people, job insecurity and precariousness, vulnerability or social exclusion;

Cooperation and collaboration

 The performance and accomplishment of services and job training projects by libraries must be carried out in collaboration and partnership with all agencies and organizations to promote employment and social integration, as well as by all civil society associations concerned with social inclusion;

Opportunities for the people

• There are a lot of projects, experiences and best practices in library services, which aim at acquiring basic skills, job training and lifelong learning support. This way, the library demonstrates its power to promote and generate opportunities for people;

Professional training

• The formation of library staff is essential, as a mediator of learning processes. This kind of training must be present both in the initial training of university graduates in Librarianship and Information Science as in the plans for training of professional librarians;

Deontology

• The library professionals have the ethical commitment to contribute to access, use and communication of the information by all, according to the declarations of human rights and its advocacy and educational role, and they must help in making possible the actual exercise of these rights;

Training as mediators

• The formation of library staff is essential, as a mediator of learning processes. This kind of training must be present both in the initial training of university graduates in Librarianship and Information Science as in the plans for training of professional librarians;

Explaining the role of libraries

• We must convey and make society aware of the role of the library as an institution of learning, social inclusion and gateway to the information society for all;

Lifelong learning

 We think that lifelong learning is a need for all citizens, and therefore should be considered a core service of public libraries;

Attention to minorities

 The library must pay special attention to the particular inclusive and educational needs of individuals and groups most vulnerable in the context in which they are located: children, uneducated people, minorities, immigrants, people with disabilities, people without resources, unemployed, elderly, and so on. This helps to compensate for social inequalities to access knowledge and information;

Facing the finantial crisis

 Strategic planning and anticipation of needs and social problems must be practical for library professionals to respond to and cope with economic difficulties. This economic crisis may turn into an opportunity to increase their usefulness and maximize the recognition of its informative, educational, cultural and social labor;

2. Intercultural Libraries in Andalusia

 One of the most relevant aspects of current society is its multicultural character as a consequence of the migratory movements that have taken place during recent years. Nowadays, in any of our cities, it is clear that the presence of people original from Africa, Asia or America is a demographic reality that has such an importance in our everyday lives that we may not deny it.

General principle

• In order to contribute to the enrichment and the encounter of the different cultures that are in contact, it is necessary to promote communication and respect for the difference that exists between immigrant minorities and national majorities. In this sense, the main premise must be to contribute to the integration of the minority in the society, preserving and developing at the same time its own cultural identity and promoting and contributing to the exchange of cultures and their elements and therefore creating more open, rich and plural societies.

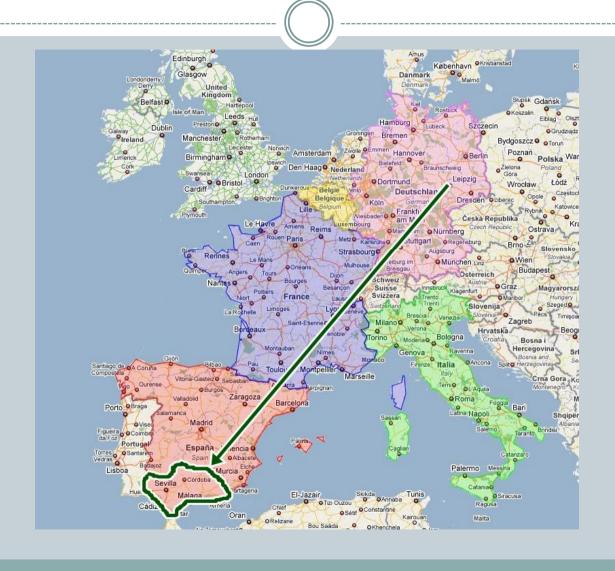
Role of Public Libraries (IFLA)

- •Guarantee access to the public library (a basic service), applying the same conditions that are applied to national population, for the immigrant population in Andalusia and for ethnic, linguistic and cultural minorities
- •Promote the use of the public library among the immigrant population as a place to meet others and as a place of cultural exchange, trying to create services that will cover their needs and contribute to their social integration
- •Promote the acquisition and creation of documentary resources (forms, electronic and audiovisual documents) that will cover the information, educational and cultural needs of multicultural populations
- •Raise social awareness about the positive values of multiculturalism, avoiding all forms of racism and xenophobia

Concrete actions of the project

- Definition of the geographical areas for action
- Study of the users in the selected areas
- Training of the heads of the libraries
- Formation of the documentary collection including all types of supports, both for the libraries that take part in the program and for the mobile book unit of the Library of Andalusia
- Creation of a web page about information resources for ethnic, cultural and linguistic minorities in Andalusia
- Cultural activities and activities to promote reading, such as reading workshops, training courses for users, guided visits to the library, courses of Spanish language, etc.
- Follow-up and assessment of the service, including statistics about the use of the service and proposals for acquisitions and activities

Andalusía (Location)



ANDALUCÍA (Provinces division)



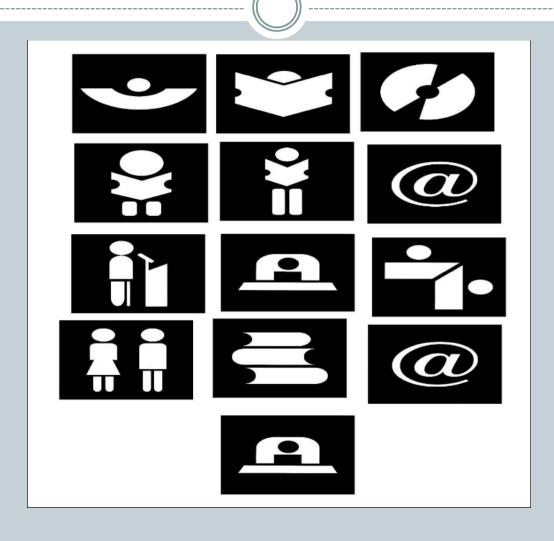
Andalusía: Traditionally Inmigration (V.g. Deutschland) Nowadays Inmigration

- •8,039,399 inhabitants
- Second Spanish Autonomous Community in extension and first in population
- •Fourth Spanish autonomous community with greater presence of foreigners resident in a regularized way
- •526,942 foreign-born population
- 6.55% of total foreign population
- •3.13% from the EU
- •3.42% from outside the EU

External signposting



Internal Signage



Website: Links



Website: Useful information (V.g. Jobs)



Website: www.juntadeandalucia.es/cultura/ba/c





Consejería de Cultura

Andalucia Entreculturas



Español | English | <u>F</u>rançais | <u>D</u>eutsch | Русский | <u>R</u>omână | Język <u>P</u>olski | 汉语 | Български | لغة عربية

Informationen für ethnische, sprachliche und kulturelle Minderheiten in Andalusien

suchen von Text



Hilfe

Arbeit

Arbeits- und Aufenthaltserlaubnis Arbeitsmarktsituation in Spanien Frauen Nationales Institut für Arbeit Stellenmarkt

Bildung

Bildungspolitik
Erwachsenenbildung
Fernunterricht
Nicht-universitäre Ausbildung
Spanisch für Ausländer
Stipendien und Hilfen
Universitäten
Zentren für multikulturelle Forschungen

Gesellschaft und Politik Botschaften und Konsulate

Informationen aus anderen Ländern

Juristische Betreuung Gültige gesetzliche Regelungen Notwendige Unterlagen Rechtsberatung

Kultur

Musik

Sport

Religion

Archive
Bibliotheken und Dokumentationszentren
Fremde Kulturen
Identität, Bräuche, Feste
Interkulturelle Bibliotheken
Kommunikationsmedien
Kulturelle Aktivitäten
Museen

DANKE SCHÖN!

Organisationen, Verbände und Gruppen für Immigrationshilfe

Allgemein In Andalusien

Sozialversicherung

Gesundheitswesen Konsum und Verbrauch Wohnen

Spanien kennenlernen

Andalusien kennenlemen Karten Spanien in Daten und Statistiken