



## Candidate for the position of Chair

**Mr Kai EKHOLM**  
**Director**  
**National Library of Finland**

**Mr. Kai Ekholm** has been the director of the National Library of Finland since 2001. He has long been concerned to make library resources and services as widely available as possible. Under his leadership, the National Library of Finland has embarked on an extensive newspaper digitization programme to ensure widespread access to over seven million pages. He has championed the Finna search service supporting cooperation between the national library and the wider library sector, seeing this as an emblem of the future service philosophy of memory institutions.

Kai Ekholm is an active IFLA member and has served as Chair of the IFLA FAIFE (Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) Committee from 2009-2011 and 2011-2013.1Ka

Kai Ekholm has lectured on censorship and the freedom of speech for over twenty years. His online publications include *Kielletyt kirjat* (Banned Books, 1997). In his doctoral thesis (2000) he treated political censorship in Finnish libraries from 1944 to 1946.

He has also published a detective novel!: *Niiden kirjojen mukaan teidät on tuomittava* / [By Those Books You Will Be Judged]. Helsinki: Atena, 2013. The title has been inspired by the Last Judgement fresco of the Albi Cathedral whose concept is based on the Book of Revelation.

These facets of his career and experience – promoting access to information, digitization, freedom of expression and combating censorship, and close cooperation with IFLA – are all key points of interest for the CDNL, its mission and its vision for a global digital library.

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