

# Thought leaders in Latvia: libraries and e-books

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“It might have been tempting to argue that e-books are no different from printed books, but we recognized where the legal fault lines lay, that are international. So we decided to prepare the ground at national level, while case law and legal opinion **develops on issues such as “digital exhaustion” in the EU and beyond.**”

-ULDIS ZARINS, PROJECT MANAGER

## Objectives

- Raise awareness of the legal aspects of e-book lending in libraries among all stakeholders.
- Develop agreement on best practice principles for e-book acquisition and lending in libraries.
- Draft proposals for legislative change to enable e-lending in the public interest.

## Achievements

- ✓ Increased knowledge of legal e-book issues by librarians and publishers.
- ✓ Agreement among libraries on principles for e-book lending.
- ✓ A proposal for a pilot project to test the e-lending principles in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by a major Latvian publisher - an unexpected and welcome result.
- ✓ Certainty about the current legal framework for e-books in Latvia to enable clear, strategic forward planning.
- ✓ Libraries were recognized by the general public as progressive institutions embracing technological progress, thanks to widespread media coverage.

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Read the case study: <http://www.eifl.net/case-study-libraries-and-ebooks-in-latvia>



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