

## IASL

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### **Subject: Proposal of Croatia as hosting country for IASL conference 2019**

Dear President,

In the behalf of the Croatian Association of School Librarians I am sending you proposal for Croatia as the hosting Country for the IASL conference in 2019.

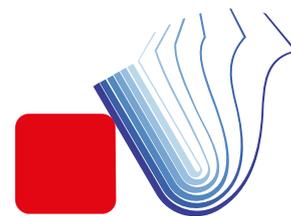
We offer two terms for the Conference, one is from 7th to 11th October and the second one is from 21st to 25th October 2019 in Dubrovnik at the Hotel/Conference centre 'Valamar Lacroma' (<http://www.valamar.com/best-hotels-in-dubrovnik>). Organising costs are the same, the difference is just in accommodation price for the attenders. In both options transport costs form the airport and back, welcome cocktail, coffee breaks, conference hall, technique and technicians are included in the conference fee. Also, a free accommodation for the IASL president is a part of all arrangements, as well as exclusive offer for the IASL executive board and speakers.

Even though Croatia is a rather small country, our librarians' community made a substantial contribution towards developing an extensive librarian network.

Our outstanding Eva Verona (first European lady receiving Margaret Mann Citation in Cataloguing & Classification award) or one from the younger generation, Mihaela Banek Zorica (IASL 2010 award), are to me mentioned in this place.

Although our work was severely disrupted through the war atrocities in the early nineties, based on long tradition and joint efforts we could reach our goal so that every school in Croatia presently has its own school library.

## HRVATSKA UDRUGA ŠKOLSKIH KNJIŽNIČARA



Furthermore, approximately 93 percent of employed school librarians are academic degree holders i. e. M.A. level in librarianship or information science. High visitation index to our IASL web site confirms a high involvement of school communities with our infrastructure.

Hrvatska udruga  
školskih knjižničara  
Croatian Association  
of School Librarians  
Zagreb  
OIB 48408930033  
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The decision for Dubrovnik as location for the IASL conference is made both for practical and symbolic reasons.

Dubrovnik has had a long history of conference tourism, airport is very near to the city, climate is mild during the year, Valamar Lacroma Hotel offers one of the biggest conference halls in the country and all accompanying facilities for having a successful event.

Dubrovnik's looks back to the long history as a free republic during the turbulent times of the wars for domination between Orient and Occident. Through capable diplomatic action Dubrovnik managed to stay independent, in good relations with everyone, trading with all but always staying free. With its rich and long-lasting tradition, Dubrovnik has been giving a great contribution to the development of culture and science.

Famous for his wild and proud beauty, we find this Mediterranean Pearl to be a perfect symbolic place for holding a school librarian conference – school librarians sometimes need to have almost same diplomatic skills to find ways for complete their mission.

And, last but not the least importance, Croatians are known for their hospitality.

The application form is attached, also accommodation and congress venue details.

We applied for the 2019 year just for practical reasons, we are interested also in some future IASL conferences, but it is difficult to predict what would happen in a few years ahead regarding political options and potential partners.

Please contact us for any further information or detail.

Kind regards,

*Vanja Jurilj*

*President of Croatian Association of School Librarians*