



# CONNECTING AND ACTING: CROATIAN ACADEMY AND LIBRARY PRACTITIONERS HELPING USERS TO BE EFFECTIVE INFORMATION CONSUMERS

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## GOAL

to investigate the existing information and media literacy education programs across public libraries in Croatia

## RESEARCH QUESTION

What types of educational programs do Croatian public libraries offer?

## METHODOLOGY

content analysis method for analysing public libraries' websites

## RESULTS

### AIMS OF THE LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- only 3/4 of the selected libraries have been organizing some type of activities directed toward enhancing information literacy skills of their users

- to empower users to be effective information consumers and librarians to be effective information educators

- to increase users' media and information literacy skills, including the ability to
  - successfully and safely navigate the digital information environment
  - seek, find, evaluate, and use information
  - recognise fake news
  - create and share information responsibly
  - critically use media and information
- to increase visibility and accessibility of quality information sources

### THEMES

- digital information environment challenges, effective information seeking, evaluation and use, internet safety (cyberbullying, hate speech, digital trace, and privacy issues), fake news, critical attitude towards media, social media and online information

### TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

- the most common form of activity is a workshop ( 10 libraries); lectures were held in 5 libraries; other forms of activity are presentations of books and picture books on the topic of media and information literacy, brochures and links to quality sources, web content on available informative materials and web pages that are dedicated to media and information literacy

### FORMS OF ACTIVITIES

- activities were held live and online; some of the activities were carried out live in cases when the epidemiological measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic allowed

### DURATION OF ACTIVITIES

- the online activities are available permanently, while the workshops were done once or periodically, i.e. depending on the user's interest

### TARGET USER GROUPS

- the largest number of activities is aimed at children and young adults

### CREATORS AND PERFORMERS

- most active content creators and performers are librarians, the most common collaborators are teachers

### CONCLUSION

- public libraries in the Republic of Croatia have not sufficiently developed information and media literacy education programs
- libraries do not pay enough attention to MIL-related activities and programs
- most of the activities related to MIL take place within Media Literacy Day

