

# European**T**oy**L**ibraries

## Documentation for Toy Libraries

*These texts have been prepared by ETL for people who wish to consult reference documents about toy libraries.*

Title: Documentation for Toy Libraries

Text: European Toy Libraries Group

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By European Toy Libraries Group (ETL)

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## DOCUMENTATION FOR TOY LIBRARIES

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## 8. TRAINING IN EUROPE



### *Questionnaire about training for toy librarians in Europe*

#### **18 countries participated:**

Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

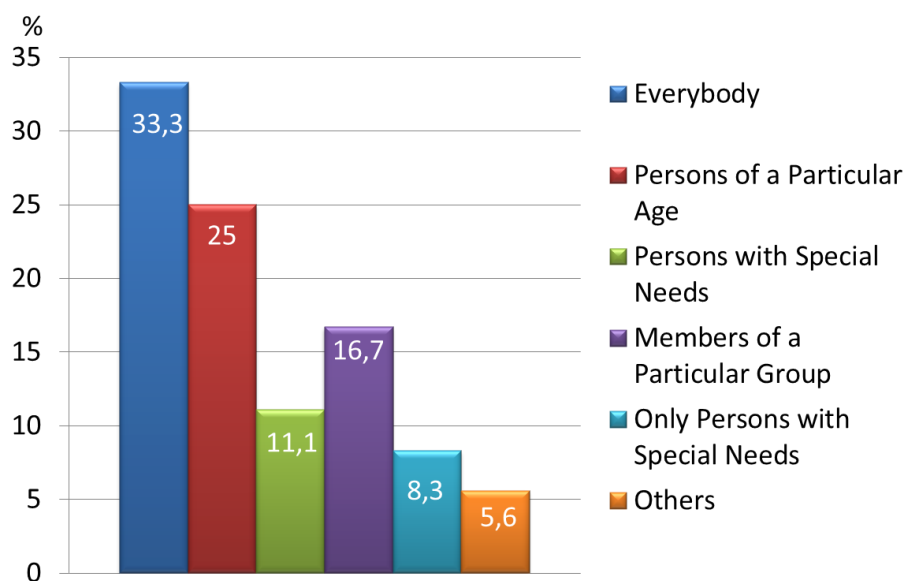
#### **1. How many toy libraries exist in your country?**

In the above mentioned countries there are 5300 toy libraries.

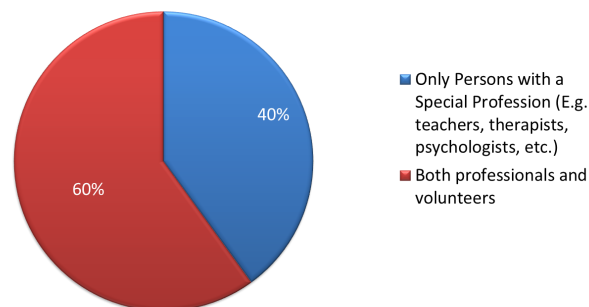
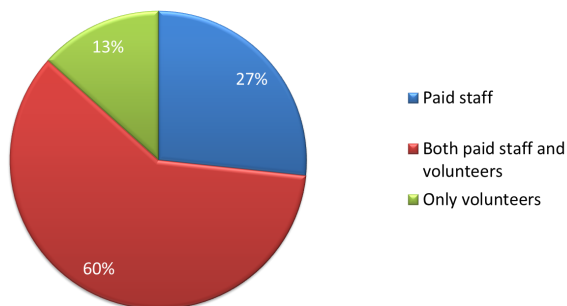
#### **2. Is there a national organization for toy libraries in your country?**

10 countries have a national organisation, 8 do not have one.

#### **3. What is the target group of the toy libraries in your country, who are the customers?**

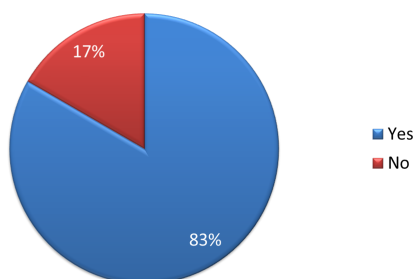


#### 4. Persons working in the toy libraries of your country:



#### Information about Training

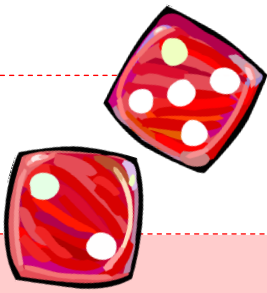
##### 1. Do you have special training programs for toy librarians?



##### 2. Details of the training program

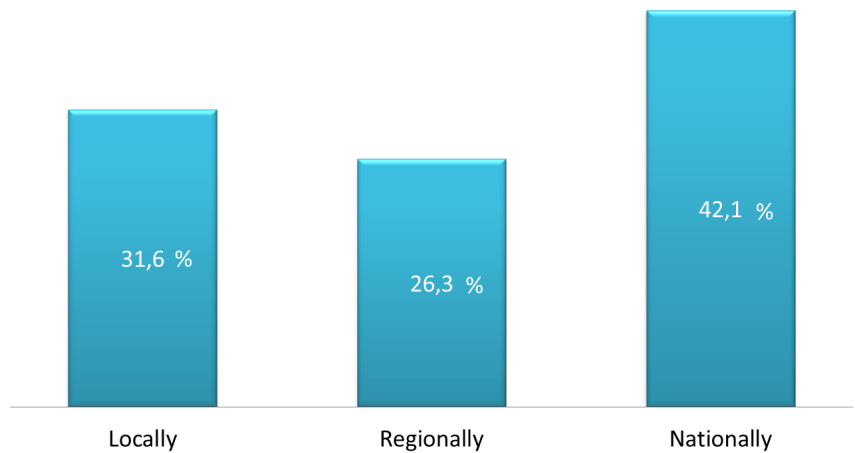
Countries	Brief details of content	Length hours, days	Number of courses per year	Number of participants per year
<b>Austria</b>	2 moduls Different subjects	10 weekends each	1	40
<b>Cyprus</b>	Basic training	2 days	1	
<b>Denmark</b>	2 moduls with different themes like communication and development Conductive pedagogy	3 days each	1	28
<b>France</b>	University and practice  Different courses Summer university	350-600 hours  1 – 3 days	1-3 times 1	25 25 a day 60
<b>Greece</b>	Basic training	2 days	1	20
<b>Italy</b>	Various offers e.g. basic training with stages	600 hours	1	
<b>Lithuania</b>	Basic training	4 hours	1	
<b>Netherlands</b>	Different subjects Regional meetings	1 day	1	
<b>Portugal</b>	Different courses, different subjects  Training workshop	2-3 days  5 months	1  1	20  25
<b>Spain</b>	Course with different subjects	20-40 hours	1	15-20
<b>Sweden</b>	Course with different subjects	2 days	1	100
<b>Switzerland</b>	Basic training	11 days	1	40
<b>(always in the German and French speaking part)</b>	Management in non-profit organisations	6 days	Every 2 years	20
	Courses with different subjects	1 day	12	240
	Regional meetings	1 day	13	600
	National symposium	1 day	Every 2 years	100
	Conference of directors of Toy Libraries	1 day	Every 2 years	180
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Different courses with different subjects	1 day	1	

## 8. TRAINING IN EUROPE (CONT.)

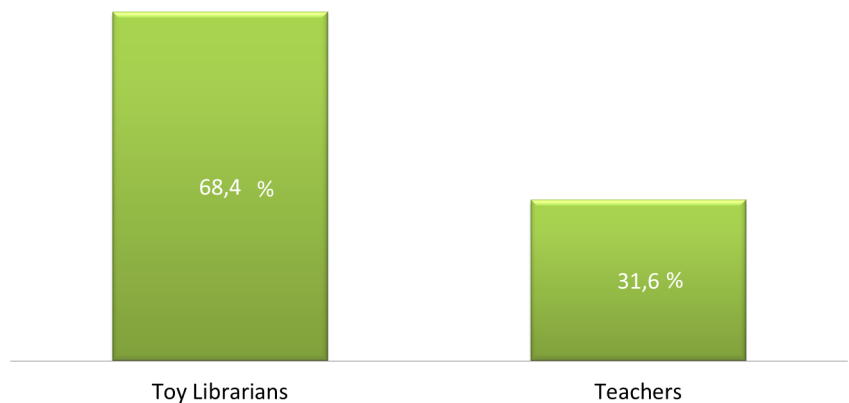


### Questionnaire about training for toy librarians in Europe

#### 3. How are the training courses organized in your country?



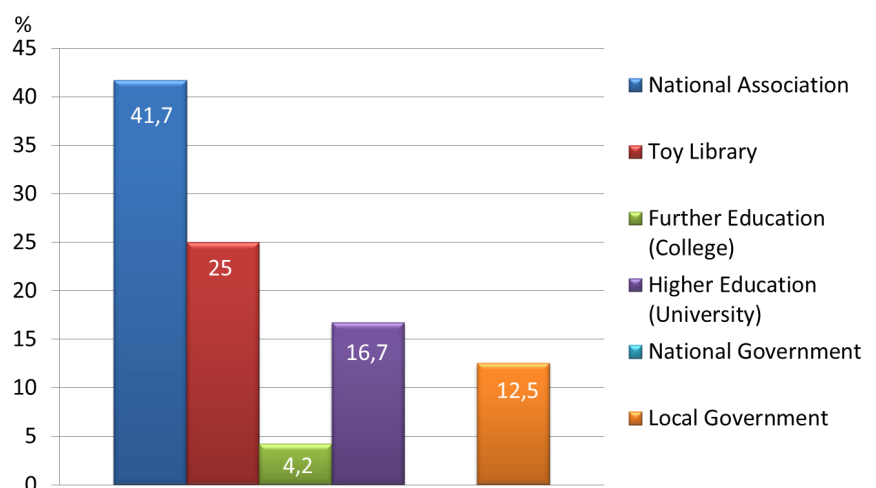
#### 4 Target audience? Who can attend?



##### 4.1 Who else? (please specify):

Animators, volunteers, early development workers, family center staff, day-care center staff, anybody.

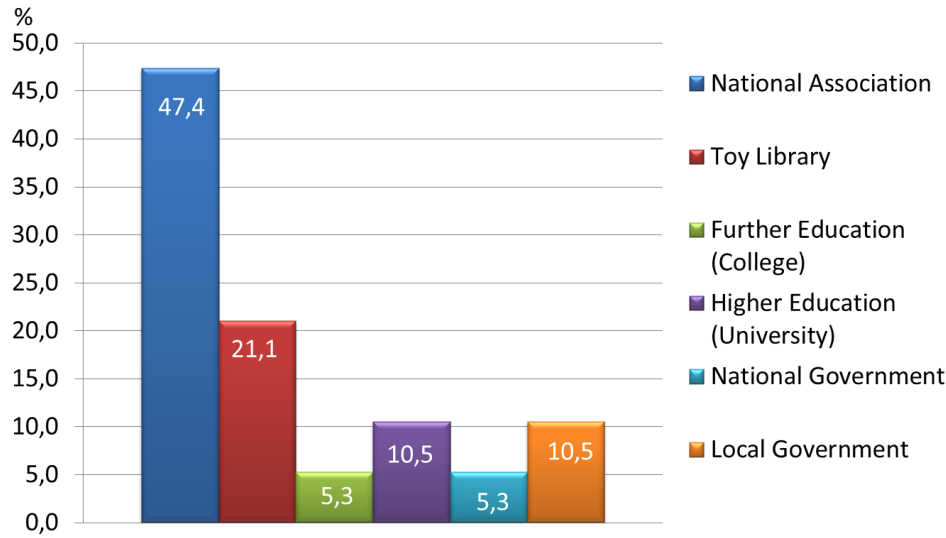
#### 5. Who provides the training?



5.1 Others? (please specify)

School for librarians, regional association., child support institute, play activity center.

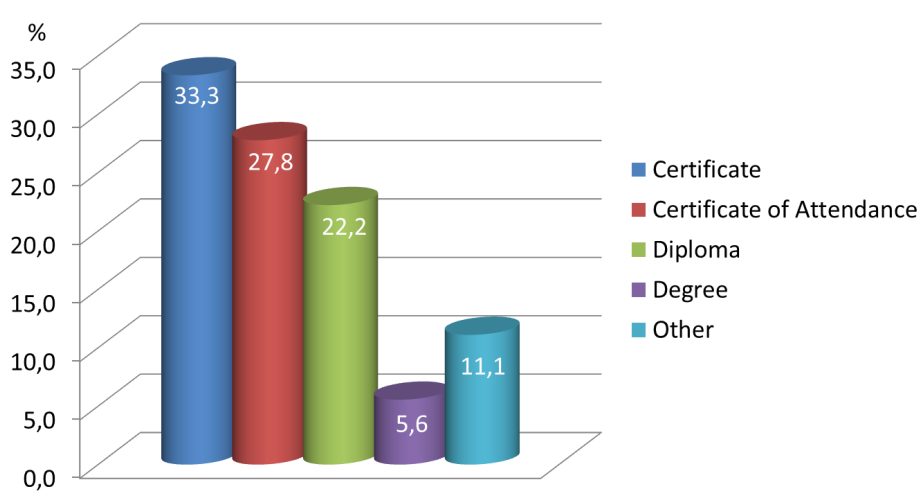
6. Who is responsible for the training?



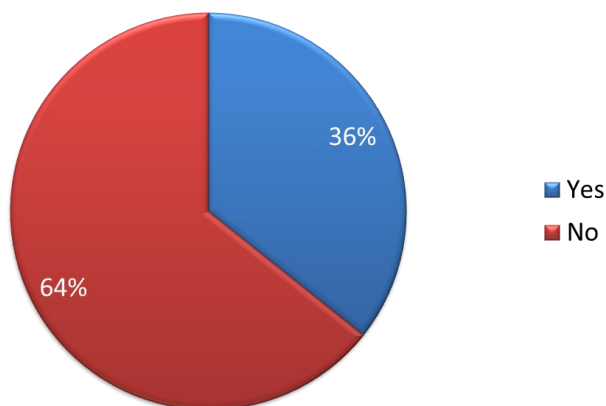
6.1 Others? (please specify)

Various organisations, school for librarians , Coordinator of Play Activity Department.

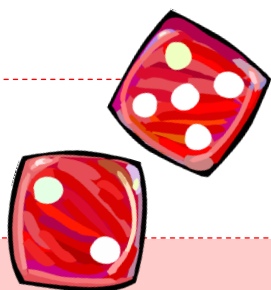
7. What is awarded at the end of the training?



8. Is the qualification recognised?



## 8. TRAINING IN EUROPE (CONT.)



### Questionnaire about training for toy librarians in Europe

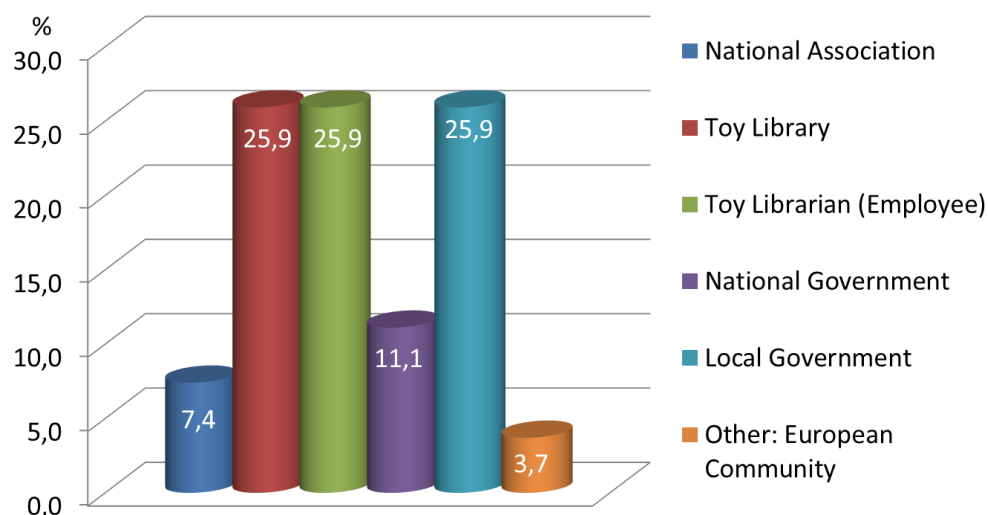
#### 8.1 If yes by whom:

By toy libraries, Youth Board, as a graduation in institutions, local government if they have toy libraries, employees.

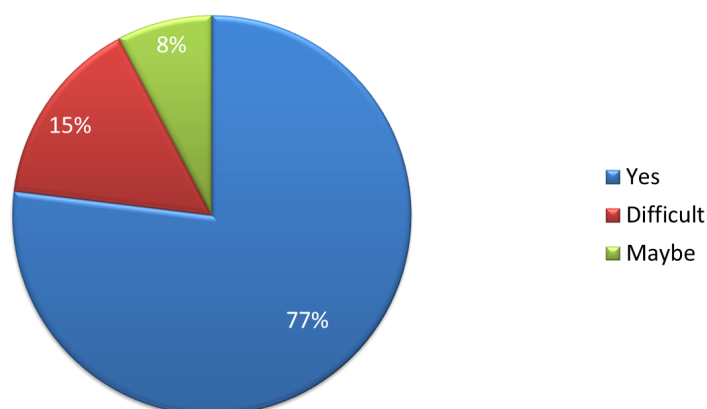
#### 9. What is the cost of training in €?

A wide range of prices from free to 6000 €, depending of the length and the recognition of the training.

#### 10. Who finances the training?



#### 11. Do you think that there should be some coordination at the European level?



Helpful for countries like Romania, without obligation, information, common training, exchange, language could be a problema. Training first on national level, difficulties because of different types of TL. Recognition by European Comission.



## 12. How could this be handled?

Mailing, blogs, network, at European meetings, workshops at European level, through European Toy Libraries (ETL) with annual conventions, exchanging programs, training in English as a point to start, training modul, European standard, lobbying at European Comission and National level, exchange of personal of Toy Libraries, through European Comission.

## 13. Remarks

Here there were different comments regarding the national training programs.

### Themes treated

First steps to run a toy library, management of a toy library, classification, toy and games, board games, creating a playful environment.

Psychology, play therapy, pedagogy, cultural approach, communication and team development.

Work with persons with special needs.

Public relation and work with medias.

### Comment

In most of the countries the toy libraries are open to everybody. Just three countries are just open for persons with special needs.

In most of the countries both paid staff and volunteers work together in toy libraries.

The questionnaires were filled out very seriously and it give a good overview of the training offers in Europe.

The situation is different. The length varies from 4 to 600 hours.

There are 2 countries who offer training at University level, France and Italy, France with a diploma.

Most of the countries have different recognitions, 2 have none.

A coordination in Europe is desired. The demands reach from just information to a program defined by the European Comission.

## 9. WORLD PLAY DAY

While the founder of World Play Day, Dr Freda Kim, was walking up a steep hill in Zurich in 1996, having just become the President of ITLA at the 7th ITLA International Toy Library Conference in Switzerland, she was thinking, "What shall I do? Surely a president must do something!"

Then the idea shot into her head! "START A WORLD PLAY DAY" So that's what she did!

Play is so important to all of us, especially to children. And, it tends to be one of the most neglected of all of the rights of a child.

Thinking that a World Play Day could be put on the UN calendar (after all many other events and days are there) ITLA started enthusiastically on what was to be a very long journey; and after 17 years (1996 – 2013) that journey still continues.

The promotion of World Play Day (WPD) as an ITLA activity was formally agreed to by the members at the General Assembly, 8th ITLA International Toy Library Conference - Tokyo, Japan in 1999.

The chosen date was May 28th which was the day in 1987 on which, at the 4th International Toy Library Conference in Toronto, it was decided to form the International Toy Library Association.

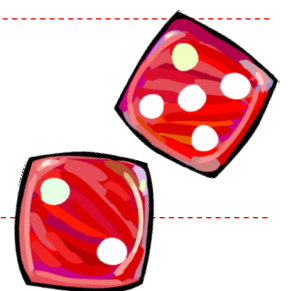
A World Play Day song was developed with the words and melody written by Dr Freda Kim. The song was recorded in the Seoul Anglican Cathedral by the 11 a.m. choir with piano accompaniment by Prof. Lee Kon Yong, one time President of Seoul Arts University. You can listen to the song below.

So far, in addition to English, the song has been translated into Greek, Japanese, Korean, Spanish and Hebrew. If you know of other translations please tell ITLA so that your country can be added to this list.

The first two World Play Days took place in 2000 - in France and in Korea. Switzerland celebrated a National Play Day in 1993 and 1996 at the end of the 7th conference in Zurich and like France converted it to WPD in line with ITLA.



*World Play is celebrated in almost all European countries*



## 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Toy Museum in Istanbul



Toy Library in Lisbon

*This documentation has been worked out by members from countries across Europe, bringing each country experiences and knowledge to a common ground.*



## 11. ETL ANNUAL NEWSLETTERS

