

The United Nations Office at Geneva

18 October 2017

The Future of Libraries in the Knowledge Society

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Wednesday, 18 October 2017, 12:00 - 13:30

UNOG Library Events Room B. 135

Palais des Nations, Geneva

Donation Ceremony

Donation of the facsimile edition of Francysk Skaryna's books

On the occasion of 500 years of Belarusian book-printing, a unique facsimile edition of 25 books assembling the work of **Francysk Skaryna** – a Belarusian and European cultural figure, a humanist and educator – has been released in Belarus. In August 1517 in Prague, Skaryna published the first book in Belarussian language and became the first East Slavic printer and publisher. Skaryna's heritage and creativity encouraged and introduced new spiritual horizons, promoted the expansion of connections and created links between nations and people.

Library Talk

The Future of Libraries in the Knowledge Society

The dichotomy between libraries and digital information is a perception of the past: the irreplaceable role of libraries through the history of humankind will remain that of transforming people for their intellectual elevation. Yet as our societies change due to technology and ever accelerating information highways, so do libraries. A global knowledge society with unlimited access to information is forming under our eyes, which paradoxically is in need of libraries more than ever before. While people's attention span shrinks progressively and the life-span of information becomes shorter, libraries seem stuck in the business of forever, or are they? In fact, the role of libraries in the age of knowledge may be as essential as knowledge itself.

On the occasion of **International Print Day** join us for a conversation with eminent librarians and information experts to find out what's in waiting for us in the knowledge era and why libraries are an investment rather than a cost.

A Discussion with

Roman Motulski, Director, National Library Belarus

Renaldas Gudauskas, Director General, National Library Lithuania

Francesco Pisano, Director, UN Library

Gitanjali Sah, Coordinator, World Summit on the Information Society, International Telecommunication Union

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IMPORTANT

For those without an access badge, registration for this event is obligatory. Interested participants are invited to [register](#) before 18 October 2017.