



Memorandum of Understanding between LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche) and ECSA (the European Citizen Science Association)

Preamble

The aim of the LIBER Foundation is to represent the interests of the research libraries of Europe, their universities and researchers. LIBER's mission is in particular:

- To provide an information infrastructure to enable research in LIBER Institutions to be world-class;
- To enhance the experience of users in LIBER Institutions, which is enriched by the facilities and services which LIBER can offer;
- To promote and advocate for European libraries in all European and national fora where the voice of LIBER needs to be heard;
- To develop library and information professionals who are innovative and can offer leadership to LIBER and to the national/international library community.

The European Citizen Science Association (ECSA) was set up to encourage the growth of citizen science in Europe, and to support the participation of the general public in research processes – acrossscience, social science, humanities and the arts.

ECSA is a membership association that brings together researchers, practitioners and citizens who want to increase the democratization of knowledge production. ECSA is coordinating citizen science projects, performing research on citizen science, and exchanging experiences and capacity-building. Most ECSA activities are led by members, and often organized through thematic working groups. In addition to these activities, ECSA engages in research and coordination projects and acts as a communications hub for citizen science in Europe. These tasks are led by the ECSA team, which has its headquarters in Berlin, generously provided by the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin and satellite offices in Brussels and Leiden.

Vision

LIBER and ECSA will work together to:

- Develop, promote, or facilitate citizen science-related support services at research libraries in Europe.
- Collaborate on an EU-centered guide for librarians based on the US-version titled "The Library and Community Guide to Citizen Science", which is aimed

at public libraries.

- Co-host a series of public and professional online events and professional development webinars to connect communities on both continents.

Governance

- The partnership will be overseen by the Boards of both LIBER and ECSA.
- A planning committee with bi-yearly meetings will be set up, with membership from both LIBER and the ECSA.
- The agreement will be implemented by a joint effort between LIBER Citizen Science Working Group and ECSA's Citizen Science and Universities Working Group (or any other following format of experts grouping of both organizations).

Resources

- Each organization will cover their own costs that occur during this partnership.
- If ECSA and LIBER undertake joint projects or events, the costs –subject to the approval of the Financial Committees of each organization– should be split evenly between both organizations.
- Where possible, external funding will be sought to increase the ability of the partners to produce tangible outputs for research libraries in the Citizen Science landscape.

Timeline

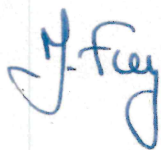
This Memorandum of Understanding will have a duration of three years from the time of signature. It can be renewed should both parties choose to do so.

Scope

- Addenda can be added to this Memorandum of Understanding.
- A separate, detailed appendix will be signed by the LIBER Citizen Science Working Group (or any other following format of experts grouping) and ECSA for each joint activity or project.

This Memorandum of Understanding was approved by both the LIBER and ECSA Executive Boards.

Signed on behalf of LIBER:



date: **January 20, 2022**
Jeannette Frey
President LIBER

Signed on behalf of ECSA:



date: 18.01.2022
Dorte Riemenschneider
Managing Director