

## Annual General Meeting 2027

### Action required:

- The EC is asked to agree on the host for the AGM 2027

The Annual General Meeting is a unique opportunity for the Directors of Europe's National Libraries to meet, discuss, collaborate and share experiences. It is an essential part of the life of CENL, where we also have to fulfil our legal obligations.

The host for 2026 will be the National Library of Luxembourg. In the first days of February 2025 the Secretariat sent out a call for applications to host the AGM 2027. The call was open until 31 March 2025.

By this day, the Secretariat received seven applications to host the AGM in 2027: from the National Library of Armenia, the National and University Library in Zagreb, the National Library of the Czech Republic (1998), the National Library of Estonia (1999), the National Széchényi Library of Hungary (2002), the National Library of Slovenia and the National Library of Sweden.

We thank all our members in these countries for their expression of interest to host the CENL meeting. In principle all these national libraries would be wonderful hosts for the meeting, but CENL can accept only one of them for 2027.

Three of the applicants are members of the Executive Committee, four of the applying national libraries have hosted the CENL AGM in the past: Croatia in 2008, Czech Republic in 1998, Estonia in 1999 and Hungary in 2002. Although in three cases this was more than 20 years ago, and in one case almost 20 years ago, the Secretariat recommends to accept one of the applications where CENL members have not been before. This leaves Armenia, Slovenia and Sweden.

Again, all of these would be more than suitable to host the meeting. And from a cultural and regional point of view, the National Library of Armenia would probably be a good choice. Nevertheless, we realised that the journey to Armenia would be a long one and for many members it would involve transfers, which would lead to even longer travel times. This narrows the choice down to two National Libraries, the National Library of Sweden and the National Library of Slovenia.

CENL strives for a regional balance in the choice of venues for the AGM. The 2026 AGM will be held in Luxembourg, which is in Central Europe. As Slovenia is in Central Europe - as is our 2024 host Poland - the Secretariat recommends that the EC accept the application of the National Library of Sweden to host the 2027 AGM.

Note: If the EC does not wish to follow this line of argument, the discussion should be held without the three applicants concerned.

### Proposed decision:

The EC agrees with the recommendation of the Secretariat and selects the National Library of Sweden as host for the AGM 2027.