FEP WINTER MEETING

Online, 14 & 15 February 2022
Day 1

FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN PUBLISHERS
FÉDÉRATION DES ÉDITEURS EUROPÉENS

Agenda

14 February from 15:00 to 18:00

- Opening words by FEP President
- Recommendations and follow-up of the Board meeting
- Guest speaker: Marco Giorello, Head of Unit Copyright – DG Cnect, European Commission
- Statistics
- Selected reports on the files being on the table of European Union institutions:
  - Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act
  - General Products Safety Regulation
  - Pilot project on E-lending
  - Accessibility
- Culture
- DAG TCA
- Consultations: Media Freedom, VAT in the digital age, Counterfeiting and Piracy Watch List
- Young Publishing Professionals in Brussels
- EU Projects:
  - EUDICOM (Distributing digital comics)
  - SIDT Books (Sustaining and Innovating cultural Diversity in literary Translation)
  - CreativeShift (imagine models for tomorrow)
  - EUPL

15 February from 10:00 to 13:00

- IPA Report
- Tour de table
- Moebius (Prosumers in the book world) – Interactive session
- Crisis of paper supply
- STM Report
- Free “podium” for colleagues to make special interventions
- Closing words and next meetings

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Opening by FEP President Peter Kraus vom Cleff

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Recommendations of the Board

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Copyright

Guest speaker
Marco Giorello

Head of Unit copyright at DG Cnect

European Commission

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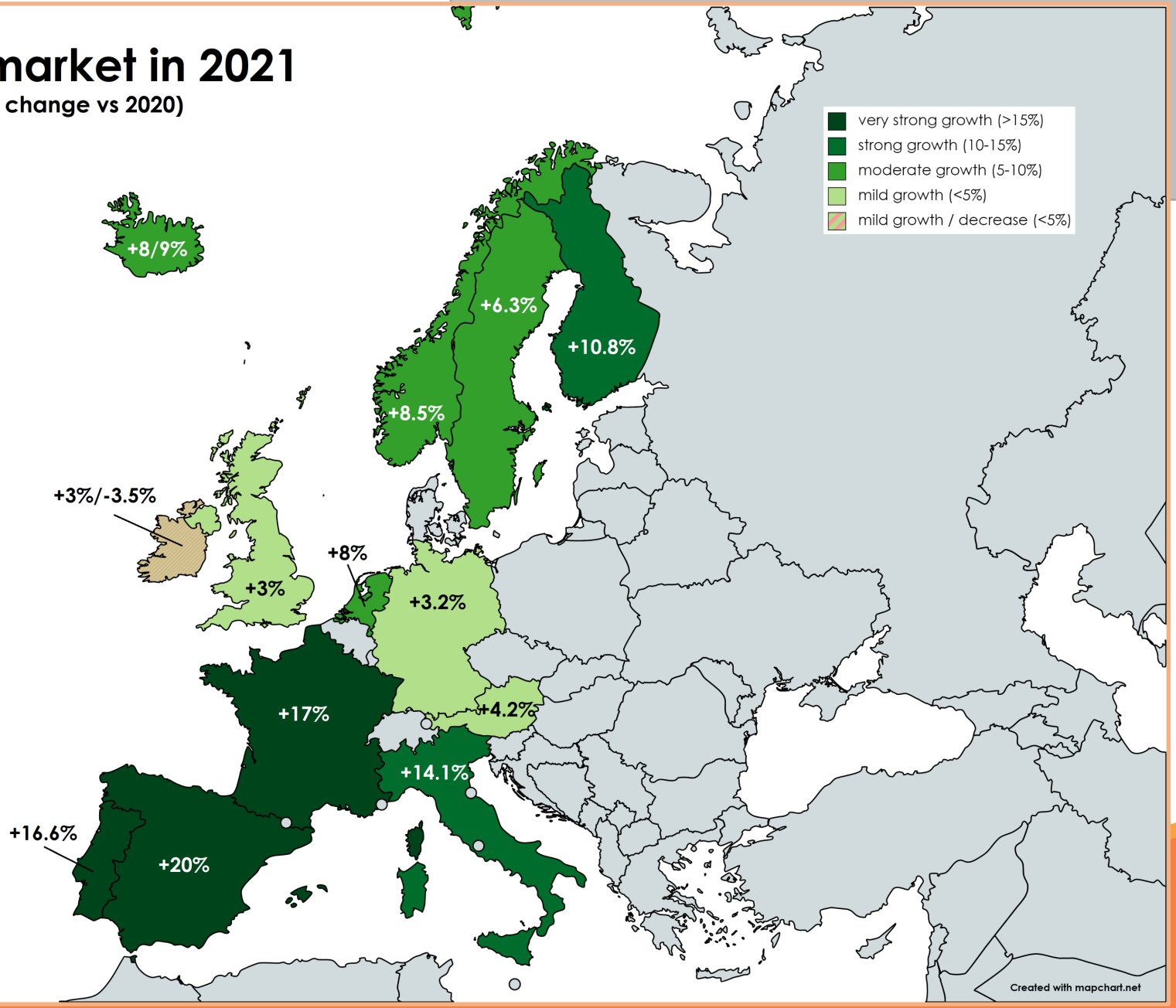
Statistics

- Quick survey on last year's market (12 replies, keep contributing)
- New questionnaire to be launched in April/May, deadline 1 July
- Aim to present 2021 figures and an overview of 2022 in Frankfurt
- Still 13 missing responses for data 2020

Statistics

The book market in 2021

(total turnover, trade, change vs 2020)



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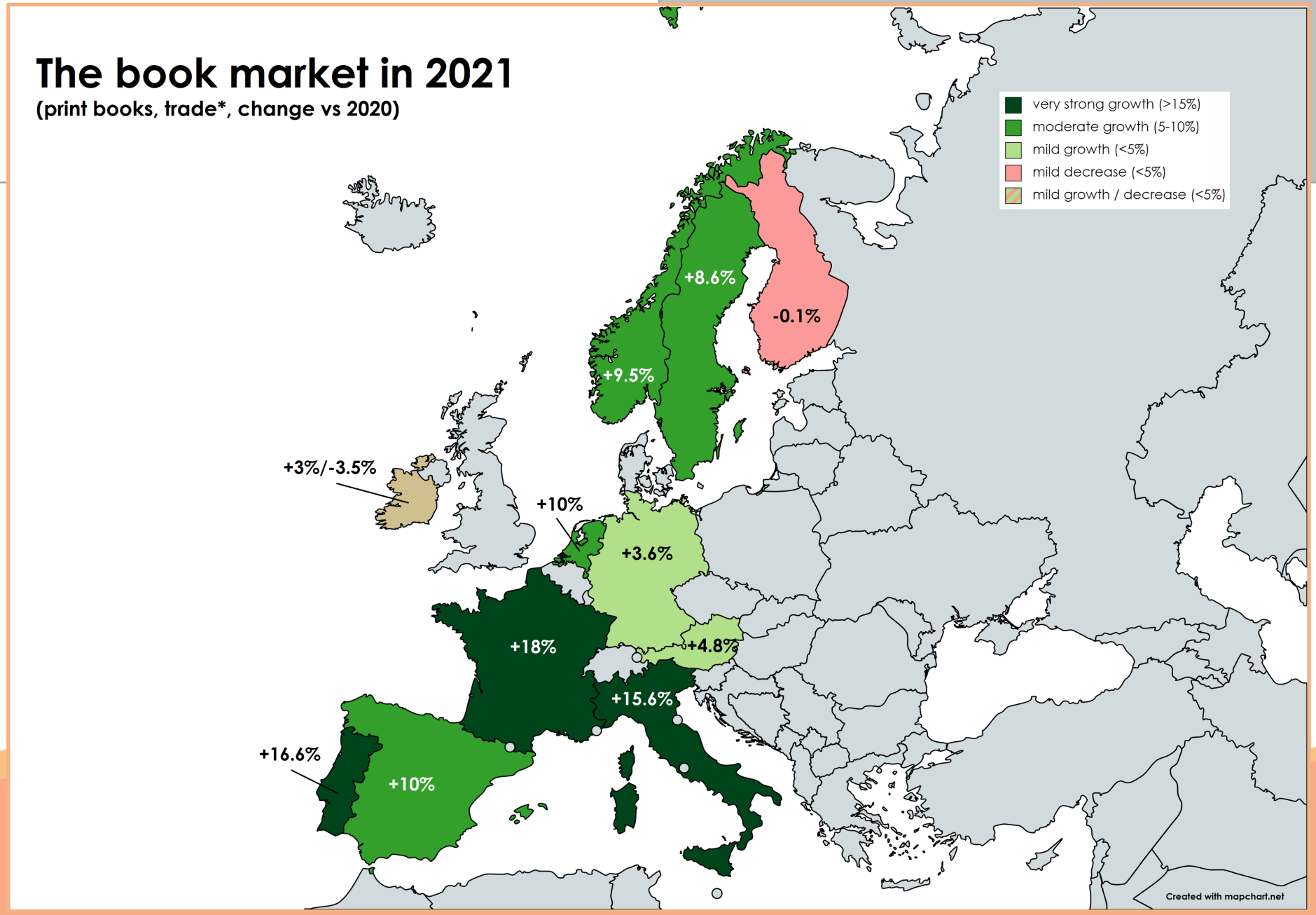
Statistics



Ebooks

- France -8%
- Norway -2.8%
- Finland +22.6%
- Netherlands -5%
- Spain +5%
- Italy -11.3%

Audiobooks

- Finland +47.4%
- Spain +0.3%
- Italy +37.1%

Ebooks + audiobooks

- Sweden +16.2%

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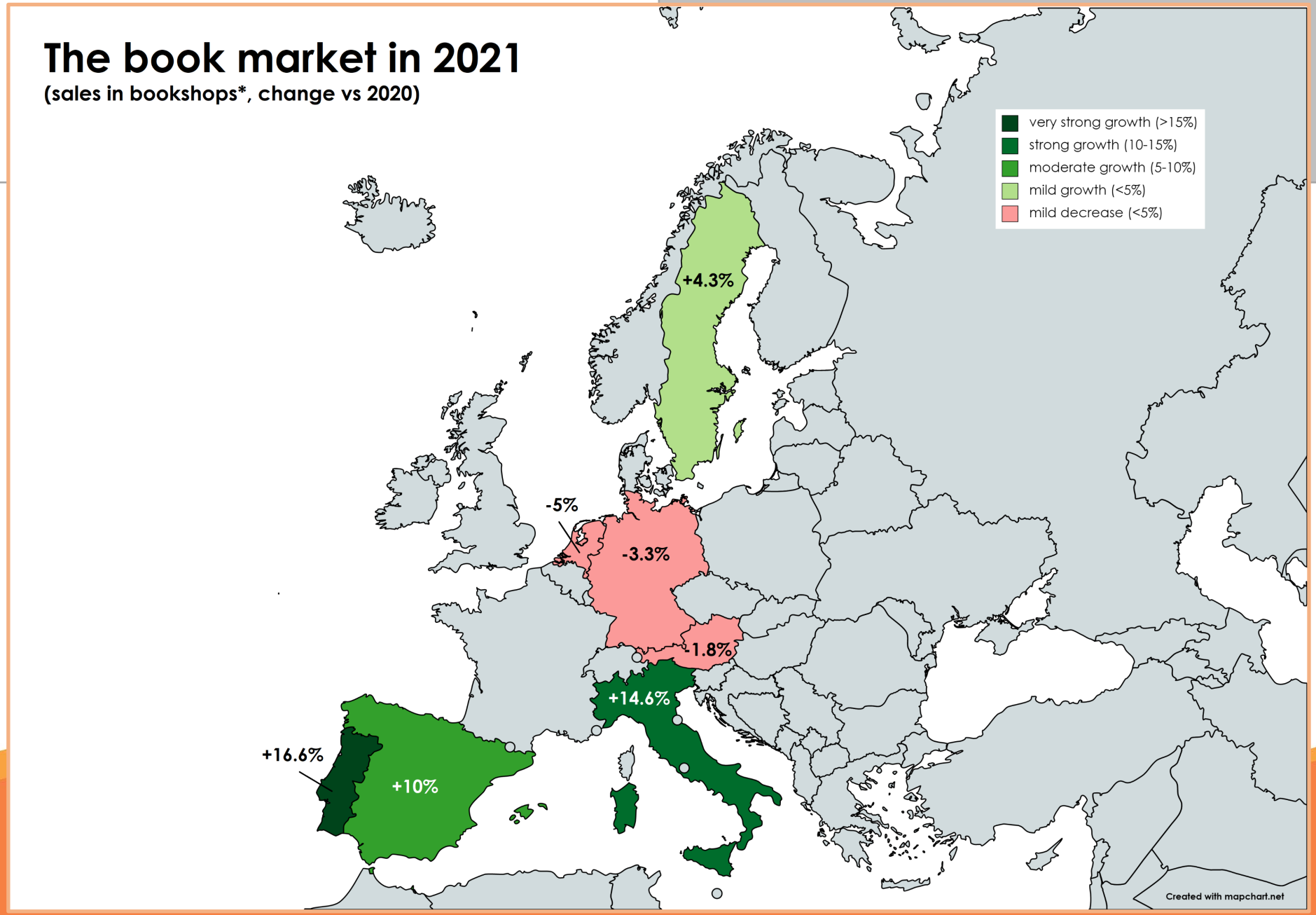
Statistics



Online

- Sweden +2.9%
- Netherlands +20%
- Spain +30%
- Italy +16.9%

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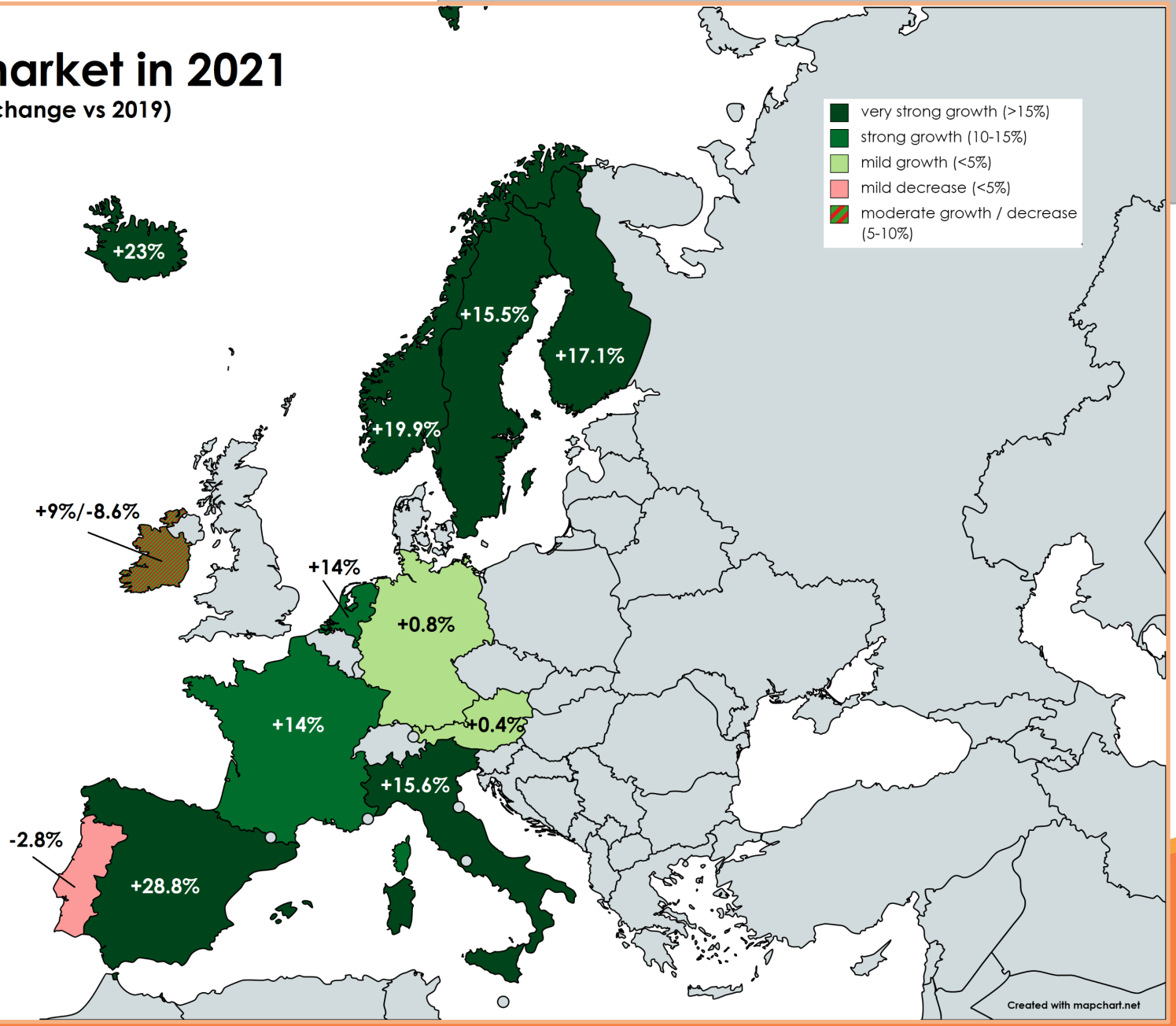
Statistics

The book market in 2021

(total turnover, trade, change vs 2019)



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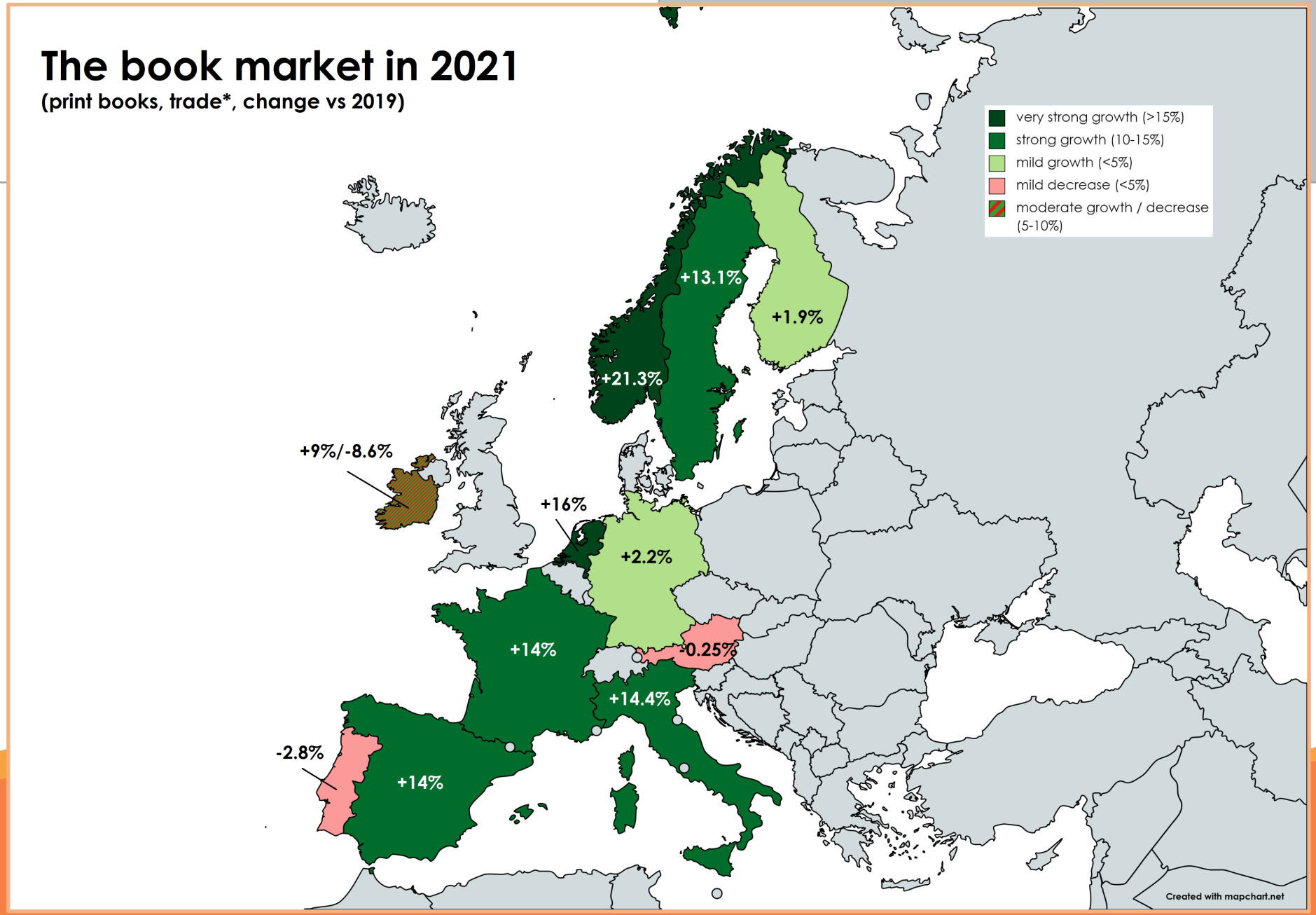
Statistics



Ebooks

- France +16%
- Norway +11.6%
- Finland +124.1%
- Netherlands +2%
- Spain +10%
- Italy +21.1%

Audiobooks

- Finland +200%
- Spain +2%
- Italy +166.7%

Ebooks + audiobooks

- Sweden +45.5%

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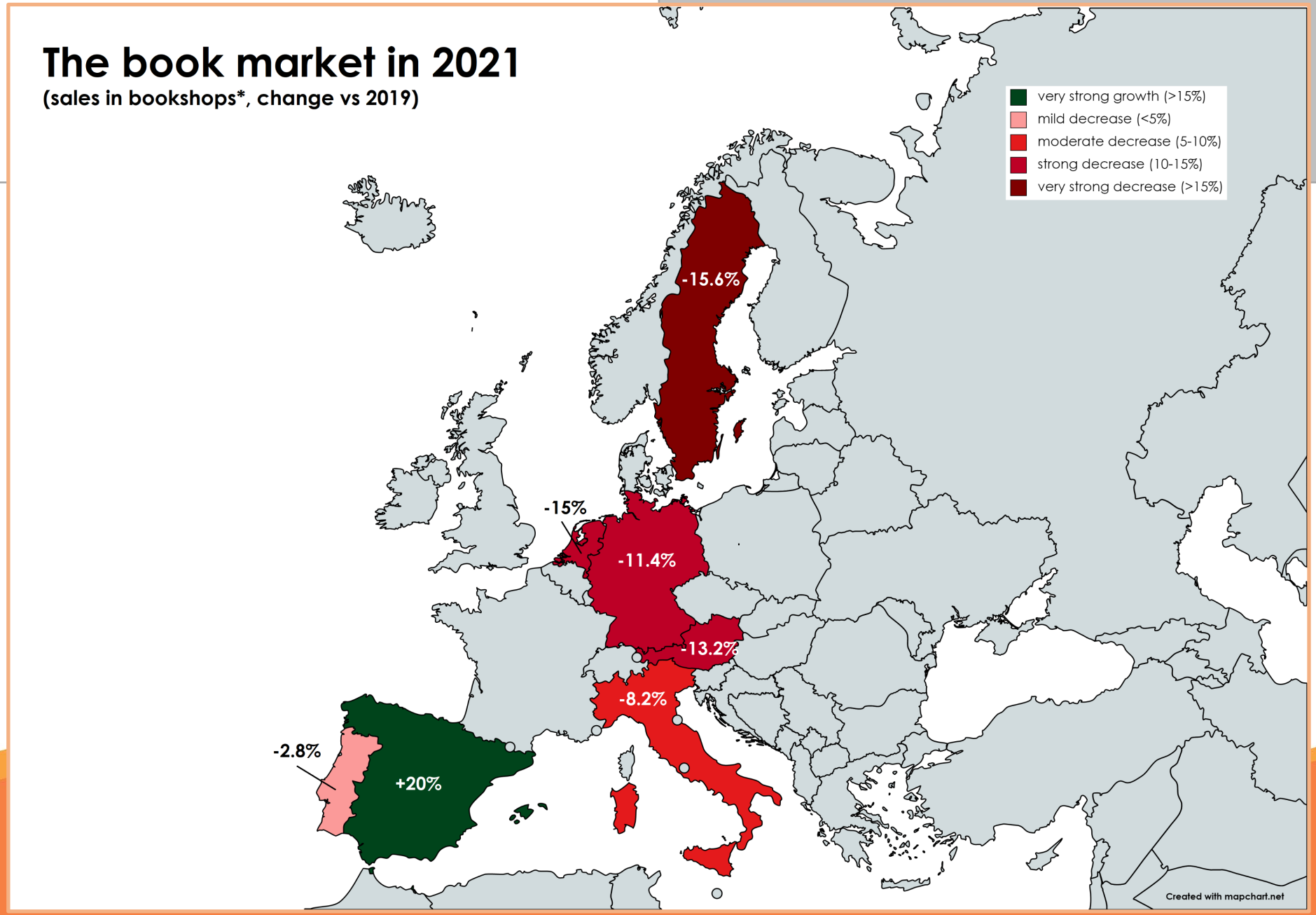
Statistics



Online

- Sweden +22.5%
- Netherlands +55%
- Spain +40%
- Italy +68.1%

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Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act

Selected reports on EU files

DSA State of play

- Council adopted its position in November 2021, Parliament in January 2022.
- Both texts are disappointing and could end up making the DSA worse than E-Commerce.
- Trilogue started, aiming to finish at the end of April.

FEP action

- Coordinating with the other rightholders organisations to push back against the most dangerous parts of the text.
- Focus on search engines, stay-up, general monitoring, KYBC and exemptions.

DMA State of play

- Parliament and Council adopted their position end of 2021.
- Limited progress in both texts on FEP's priorities.
- Trilogue started, aiming to finish at the end of March.

FEP action

- Coordinating with EIBF and part of the AV sector.
- Meetings with the co-legislators and the Commission to explain our requests and suggest wording.

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General Products Safety Regulation (GPSR)

Selected reports on EU files

- The European Commission (DG JUST) has proposed an amendment to the General Product Safety Directive, which includes turning it into a Regulation.
- The GPSD/GPSR applies also to books. It covers all products not already subject to harmonised legislation (children's books covered by the Toy Safety Directive).
- The GPSR increases the obligations for manufacturers:
  - *draw up technical documentation of the product*
  - *keep the technical documentation for a period of ten years [...] and make it available to the market surveillance authorities, upon request*
  - *ensure that their products bear a type, batch or serial number or other element allowing the identification of the product which is easily visible and legible for consumers.*
- FEP position: the GPSR should recognise the existence of a series of products that are inherently safe (such as print media), for which the level of obligations should remain the same as it is currently under the GPSD. This would not reduce protection for consumers.

General Products Safety Regulation (GPSR)

Selected reports on EU files

- The file is under consideration by the co-legislators – FEP replied to a consultation on the proposed text
- Main players in the EP: IMCO Committee
  - Rapporteur: Dita Charanzova (Renew, Czechia)
  - Shadow rapporteur: Marion Walsmann (EPP, Germany)
  - Shadow rapporteur: René Ripasi (S&D, Germany)
  - Shadow rapporteur: Kim Van Sparrentak (Greens/EFA, Netherlands)
  - Shadow rapporteur: Anne-Sophie Pelletier (The Left, France)
- Draft report IMCO: rapporteur took on board our suggestions on technical documentation (briefed by Czech PA)
- Good amendments by EPP group in IMCO and JURI on technical documentation
- Next steps:
  - Vote JURI opinion 28/02
  - Consideration AM IMCO 28/02
  - Consideration compromise AM IMCO 16-17/03
  - Vote IMCO report 28/03
  - **Time to lobby**

Pilot project on E-lending

Selected reports on EU files

Context and procedure

- German Pirate MEP Patrick Breyer, with the support of Felix Reda, sneaked a pilot-project on “The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Education, Research and Library institutions: the role of copyright laws in facilitating distance education and research”.
- It uses Covid as an excuse to push for a reopening of the e-lending issue through a de facto impact assessment (likely made by copyleft-friendly people).
- It will be pre-assessed and graded by the Commission by the end of June.
- Pilot-projects that do not receive a good grade are not taken on board by the Parliament for the budget negotiations.

FEP action

- FEP will coordinate with other rightholders organisations to find a way to quietly pushback against this pilot-project.
- Alerting the Commission on the unjustified character of the pilot-project, the risks associated to it and the attempt to circumvent the Commission and the co-legislator.
- The E-lending study we are doing may provide timely data to show the Commission that there is no need for this pilot-project.
- Ideally, the Commission would give the pilot-project a bad grade, preventing it from ever becoming reality.

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Accessibility

Selected reports on EU files

- European Commission's report on the consultation on the possible extension of the scope of the Marrakesh Treaty is expected soon
  - On other works than printed ones
  - For other disabilities

- European Accessibility Act
  - Few Member States have implemented the Act (they have until June 2022)
  - There should be no mandate for a standardisation body for ebooks meaning that ePUB3 has been accepted as a technical requirement
  - Key issues – backlist, liability of the retailers, training of the publishers, awareness of the other stakeholders
  - FEP accessibility working group's next meeting 29 April from 11.00 to 13.00

Culture

Selected reports on EU files

Creative Europe new calls for tender

- The European Commission launched on 8 February a call for proposals for 3 categories under the Culture Strand of the Creative Europe Programme to support European Cooperation Projects.
- The action integrates cross-cutting issues of **inclusiveness**, protection of the environment and gender equality as well as thematic priorities relevant to the New European Bauhaus.
- Deadline 31 March 2022

- Report of the Open Method of Coordination of the Council
  - Translators on the cover

EU-UK DAG under the TCA

Selected reports on EU files

- The EU-UK Domestic Advisory Group on the Trade and Cooperation Agreement: a group composed of civil society organisations' representatives to advise the Commission on implementation of the TCA.
- Composition: 30 seats in total, 24 from civil society organisations and six from the EESC. The 24 seats are divided in 3 sub-groups: business, trade unions and NGOs; the business section is further divided into more sub-groups, one of which is for industry. FEP has a seat in the DAG in the industry section, representing the cultural and creative industries.
- We have raised issues related to trade disruption, regulatory divergence and problems with mobility of professionals as a consequence of Brexit. However, **we need to know from the members about specific problems with the EU-UK relations**.

Consultations: Media Freedom, VAT in the digital age, etc.

Selected reports on EU files

- Safeguarding Media Freedom in the EU
  - Aim: to improve legal certainty and eliminate internal market obstacles, to increase the transparency, independence and accountability of actions affecting media markets, freedom and pluralism within the EU
  - We plan to take the opportunity to suggest the same to apply to educational, academic and scientific publishing
  - Draft replies in preparation, will involve educational publishing and OA WGs – **deadline 21/03**
- VAT in the Digital Age
  - Covers: VAT reporting obligations and e-invoicing; VAT treatment of the platform economy; single EU VAT registration
  - No reply planned
- EU Toolbox against Counterfeiting
  - Aim: to clarify the roles & responsibilities of right holders, intermediaries (e.g. online platforms, payment and transport services, domain name registries/registrars) and public authorities
  - No reply planned – possible joint remarks with copyright group of EUIPO Observatory
- Counterfeiting and Piracy Watch List
  - Reply submitted on 14/02

Young Publishing Professionals in Brussels

14 and 15 June 2022

We're open for applications!

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EUPL 2022-2024

- **Consortium** – FEP and EIBF
- 14 countries in 2022
- 41 countries in total
- European Jury of 7 members
- Winners announced in Paris on 21 April

EU Projects

Sustaining and Innovating cultural Diversity in literary Translation (SIDT)

- In a nutshell: share market insights and pioneering business practices for training and capacity building
- Role of FEP: support research, development of curriculum and training modules; promotion and dissemination

➢ **Training modules completed – an opportunity for young publishing professionals, will be available in a repository**

Strengthen Distribution of European Digital Comics (EUDICOM)

- In a nutshell: capacity building and platform for digital comics publishers
- Role of FEP: market study, mapping of comics publishers; testing; promotion, dissemination, exploitation

➢ **Webinars completed (will be available online)**

➢ **Launch of testing phase: the project offers comics publishers the possibility to test their digital catalogue on online distribution platforms (including Izneo)**

EU Projects

CreativeShift

- In a nutshell: create a Community of Content Innovation Pioneers to work in task forces on cross-sectorial solutions to a series of challenges
- Role of FEP: help recruitment, dissemination; participation in working group on visibility; policy recommendations on innovation support

➢ **FEP working (with partners) on a visibility strategy and on policy recommendations (project ends in November)**

➢ **Final event (online) on 22/02 (10.00-11.30 a.m. CET) with MEP Ehler, the Director-General of DG EAC, and other guest speakers**

EU Projects

Aldus Up

- In a nutshell: book fair network, addressing core topics for the book industry
- Role of FEP: dissemination, exploitation
- FEP and members: broaden network, professional meetings, EUPL events at fairs, YPPiB

➢ **Piloting methodology for reading habits survey**

EfDP (ECVET for Digital Publishing)

- In a nutshell: respond to the demand for digital skills within the publishing industry by developing course curricula for a suite of new ECVET based Digital Publishing qualifications
- Role of FEP: publishing sector expertise
- Where we are: thematic units defined, completing learning outcomes and assessment criteria

FEP WINTER MEETING

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Day 2

FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN PUBLISHERS
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IPA report

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Tour de table

- Updates on the book market
- Implementation of the DSM Directive – Where does your country stand?

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EU Projects

Möbius – Video

- In a nutshell: developing methods and tools to leverage the potential of prosumers in innovation processes, promoting user-centric and user-driven perspectives in the design and delivery of new enriched media experiences
- Role of FEP: information on industry practices and insights, testing with professional users, workshops, IPR aspects; dissemination

➢ **Several publishers interviewed, work under way**

➢ **Call for manuscripts just launched for the Mobius Book**

➢ **The main aim for us: figure how to engage the readers meaningfully in the book value chain (as writers, reviewers, influencers, marketers, sources of data)**

Paper shortages

- **Publishers meet difficulties to get paper supplied**

➢Excessively quick decline of the European capacity of production of graphic paper

⇒imbalance of the supply and demand

⇒generalized shortage

➢Manufacturers fix quotas for paper delivery

But still cannot respond to recurring or occasional needs

➢No ability to meet production hazards (breakdowns, strikes, weather…) or unforeseen needs (boost of sales, exports…)

➢Badly anticipated stoppage of some paper productions

→ shifts to other types of paper (possibly limited by some quotas)

Paper shortages

- **Publishers meet difficulties to get paper supplied**

➢ No confirmation of orders with a long term perspective

➢ No respect of agreed delivery dates

➢ Too low levels of stocks

➢ Willingness of some paper manufacturers to amplify the production shift towards new markets despite this shortage period

→ even more pressure on the market

Paper shortages

- **Proposal: enter into a dialogue with the printing industry in order to discuss solutions**

➢ FEP and INTERGRAF (printing industry) could enter into a dialogue with CEPI (paper industry)

While respecting competition law

➢ A first step could be to establish an overview of the situation and the constraints of each type of operator.

STM report

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Podium

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Next Meetings

- FEP General Assembly (Spring Meeting) – 6 May near Munich at the invitation of Canon (we will be invited to Canon Future book Forum on 4-5 May)
- FEP Summer Meeting – 22-23 September, Riga at the invitation of the Latvian PA
- FEP General Assembly – 3-4 November, Brussels
- FEP Events at the Africa-Europe Week
- 15/02 – Publishing in Africa and Europe, better together? (16:00-16:45 CET)
- 17/02 – Local educational content, a building block? (14:00-15:00 CET)

Thank you!
See you soon!

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