



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Facultat de Biblioteconomia
i Documentació



OBSERVATORI
DE BIBLIOTEQUES,
LLIBRES I LECTURA

ANUARI DE L'OBSERVATORI DE BIBLIOTEQUES, LLIBRES I LECTURA 2016

Editors

Lluís Agustí
Maite Comalat





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INTRODUCTION



Welcome once again to a new volume of the Anuari de l'Observatori de Biblioteques, Llibres i Lectura. As in previous years, our goal in this fourth edition will be to describe the state of play in our sector and review the Observatory's various activities during the last two-year period, 2014 and 2015. Also in the tradition of our journal, this fourth volume goes slightly further afield to incorporate new content into the core areas of the Observatory, as well as complementing its analysis with articles on such subjects as heritage libraries or reading in digital formats.

As our readers will remember, the publication of the third edition was accompanied by a new method of distribution in which the journal was published by sections on a weekly basis, with an open number of ongoing projects. That is something we have sought to maintain and so articles will continue to be published regularly until the completion of the Anuari at the end of the year. This allows us to concentrate on making our articles available to readers at the [Observatory](#)'s webpage, strengthening our presence in the social networks, with our [Facebook](#) page, and improving our outreach in general.

As for the articles themselves, we will continue to use the system of posting these to the webpage as they arrive and waiting until the complete version of the Anuari is published, at the end of the year, to give them an overall order. There, as readers have seen, the articles are organized according to the core themes of the Observatory's centres of interest: history, books and publishing, libraries and reading.

As in previous editions, the articles in this fourth edition are the work of professionals and researchers in the sector, which contributes to guaranteeing the quality and consistency of the data they present. While a certain thematic overlap is inevitable, they are also written as free-standing texts that provide differentiated points of view and analyses catering to the various stakeholders in our sector, from publishers and editors to librarians and researchers, and to professionals in all kinds of working environments, from institutional libraries to commercial bookshops.

The complete collection of all the articles will eventually be organized into four blocks.

- The first block will address history, with contributions that analyze the history of printing and publishing, the history of reading and the history of libraries and archives.
- The second block will focus on books and publishing, with contributions on how publishers and libraries work together, reviews on literature for children and young adults (including fiction and learning materials), and reports on publishing and reading habits, easy reading, periodicals, electronic publishing and the book trade.
- The third block will examine libraries, providing a more in-depth analysis of heritage centres and research libraries and continuing to include reports on public and school libraries, as in previous editions.
- The fourth block will look at the activity of reading, with articles on the most important sectors of the reading public (children and young adults, university students), articles on reading in digital formats and reports on reading and the promotion of reading in public libraries and schools.

Finally, as always, this edition of the Anuari closes with a collection of the most important references from each block and we also offer a summary of the two-year period in question.

We sincerely hope that you find the contents of this fourth edition interesting and that you decide to share them with your colleagues and contacts in the social networks.

Lluís Agustí
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Barcelona, April 27th, 2016



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