

25th Annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture

**RIGHT TO ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION
FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**

UNESCO's Programme for Persons with Disabilities

DR. IRMGARDA KASINSKAITE-BUDDEBERG
PROGRAMME SPECIALIST, UNESCO

Americans with Disabilities Act

**25
YEARS**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH
4:00 PM**

*Room 126,
Graduate School for Library and
Information Science Building*



MORTENSON CENTER

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PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Welcome and Introduction

Clara M. Chu, Director and Mortenson Distinguished Professor, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs

Memorial Tribute to Dr. Ekaterina Genieva

Marianna Tax Choldin, Founding Mortenson Center Director and Mortenson Distinguished Professor



Dr. Ekaterina Genieva (April 1, 1946 - July 9, 2015), former Director General of Margarita Rudomino All-Russia State Library for Foreign Literature, 10th Annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecturer, and longterm Mortenson Center partner.

Lecture: *Right to Accessible Information for Global Citizenship: UNESCO's Programme for Persons with Disabilities*

Dr. Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg
Programme Specialist
Knowledge Societies Division,
Communication and Information
Sector, UNESCO

Q & A Session

Thank you and Invitation to Reception

Clara M. Chu

Reception in Lobby

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Special Thanks to the UNESCO Center for Global Citizenship

THE RIGHT TO ACCESS

For several decades, UNESCO has been promoting Education for All (EFA) which aims to provide education for all students regardless of their abilities, ethnicity, age, background or gender. Recently, several important research and assessment reports concluded that a number of countries fail to achieve The Millennium Development Goals (MDG), particularly on education, due the limited inclusion of children and students with disabilities in education.

The growing number of ratifications of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN-CRPD, 2006) and other normative instruments show that countries are committed to ensure and promote full exercise of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities as well as make adequate changes in national legislation, policy and strategies in order to establish a favorable and enabling environment for the targeted interventions of various stakeholders.

As a part of UNESCO's contribution to the implementation of the UNCRPD, UNESCO recognizes a need to promote the right to information through inclusive and accessible Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The Organization acknowledges the role and impact of ICT in accessing, creating and sharing information and knowledge.

As one of the leading United Nations system organizations, the goal of the presentation is to provide insight into the concrete actions taken by UNESCO to ensure that the right to accessible information for persons with disabilities is respected around the world and to contribute to the full empowerment of persons with disabilities. The presentation will also include introduction of key initiatives, research results, policy and capacity building tools developed by UNESCO as well as future plans within the context of building inclusive knowledge societies.

ABOUT THE LECTURER

Dr. Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg
Programme Specialist

*Knowledge Societies Division, Communication and Information Sector,
UNESCO*

Dr. Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg is a programme specialist working at United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France. She coordinates UNESCO's projects related to access to information and knowledge for Persons with Disabilities as contribution to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

She also works on the implementation of the UNESCO's Communication and Information Strategy on Media and Information Literacy, and multilingualism in cyberspace, particularly on the promotion and implementation of the normative instrument "UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace" and development of UNESCO's World Atlas of Languages.





Through a generous endowment from C. Walter and Gerda B. Mortenson, the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs was established in 1991 to strengthen international ties among libraries and librarians worldwide for the promotion of international education, understanding, and peace. An earlier gift of \$2 million by the Mortensons created the Mortenson Distinguished Professorship to spearhead the initiatives associated with this mission.

A CLOSED-CAPTION RECORDING OF THE LECTURE
WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON OUR WEBSITE:

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VISIT US ONLINE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
THE MORTENSON CENTER'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION AND EVENTS IN 2016



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