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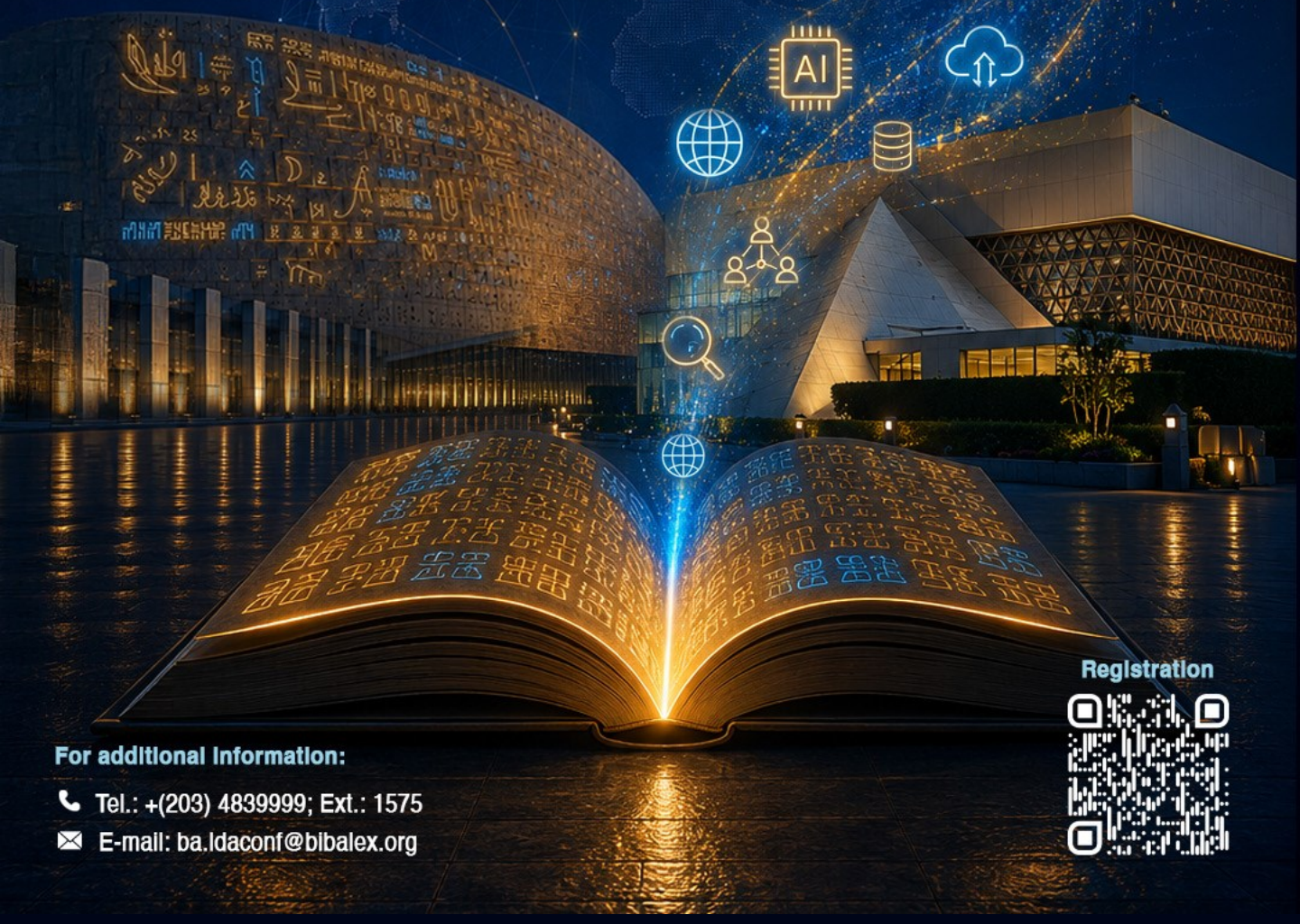
The International Conference for Libraries in the Digital Age – First Edition, 2026

Library Development and Its Role in Enlightenment and Cultural Dialogue

Tuesday and Wednesday, 10-11 November 2026

Bibliotheca Alexandrina Conference Center, Small Theater

The conference supports Egypt's Vision 2030 by connecting information, culture, technology, and education to build a knowledge society, highlighting libraries as key drivers of this integration.



Registration

For additional information:

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Program

Day 1: Tuesday, 10 November 2026, Small Theater

9:00 – 10:00 (60 minutes)	**REGISTRATION**
10:00 – 10:05 (5 minutes)	**WELCOME REMARKS**
10:05 – 10:40 (35 minutes)	**KEYNOTE SPEECHES** **PROF. AHMED A. ZAYED** Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina **LIBRARIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE** (Documentary Video) **MR. ERTUĞRUL ÇIMEN** Library Director, MEF University, Turkey Chair Regional Council and Governing Board Member, IFLA **PROF. EMAD EISSA SALEH** President of the Arab Federation of Libraries and Information (AFLI), Egypt
10:45 – 12:15 (90 minutes)	**PANEL 1:** **LIBRARIES, AND SOCIAL AND CULTURAL TRANSFORMATIONS** **MODERATOR** **PROF. AHMED A. ZAYED** Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina **SPEAKERS** **PROF. OSSAMA TALAAT** CEO of the Egyptian National Library and Archives, Egypt **PROF. GILLES PÉCOUT** President of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France (BnF), France (*Online Participation*) **MS. SAMIRA ELMALIZI** Director General of the National Library of the Kingdom of Morocco, Morocco
12:15 – 12:30 (15 minutes)	**GROUP PHOTO** (B1 Level - Open Area)
12:30 – 13:45 (75 minutes)	**COFFEE BREAK**



13:45 – 15:30 (105 minutes)	**PANEL 2:** **KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERMENT AND INFORMATION LITERACY: FIGHTING FAKE NEWS AND MISINFORMATION** **MODERATOR** **MR. MOHAMED ELHAWARY** Executive Director and Editor-in-Chief of Al-Fanar Media Representative of the Arab States on the UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Alliance's Global Board **SPEAKERS** **DR. ALBERTO MANGUEL** Writer, Translator, Editor and Critic Former Director of Argentina National Library, Argentina **PROF. RASHA SAAD SHARAF** Secretary General of the Educational Development Fund Professor of International Education and Educational Administration at Capital University (formerly Helwan University), Egypt **DR. ASHRAF SHETA** CEO of AS for Consultancy and Training, Egypt
15:35 – 17:05 (90 minutes)	**PANEL 3:** **USER EXPERIENCE AND MODERN LIBRARY SERVICES** **MODERATOR** **PROF. OSSAMA TALAAT** CEO of the Egyptian National Library and Archives, Egypt **SPEAKERS** **MS. DINA YOUSSEF** Head of the Library Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina **DR. ESSRAA NAWAR** Assistant Dean for Library Engagement and Program Initiatives Chair of the Artificial Intelligence Committee at Leatherby Libraries, Chapman University, CA, USA **PROF. KHALED EL HALABY** Professor of Library Information Science, Cairo University, Egypt Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Knowledge Management Foundation
17:05 – 18:05 (60 minutes)	**BREAK**
18:30 – 20:30 (120 minutes)	**CULTURAL NIGHT CONCERT** (Great Hall)



Day 2: Wednesday, 11 November 2026, Small Theater

10:00 – 11:00 (60 minutes)	**REGISTRATION**
11:00 – 11:05 (5 minutes)	**WELCOME REMARKS**
11:10 – 12:00 (50 minutes)	**PANEL 1:** **NEW TECHNOLOGY ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE** **MODERATOR** **MS. DINA YOUSSEF** Head of the Library Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina **SPEAKERS** **MR. FIRASS DARABAH** Director General of the National Library of Jordan, Jordan **PROF. AHMED ELMAHDY** Dean of the School of Information Technology and Computer Science (ITCS) at Nile University, Egypt
12:00– 13:15 (75 minutes)	**COFFEE BREAK**
13:20 – 14:35 (75 minutes)	**PANEL 2:** **THE DATA-DRIVEN LIBRARY ECOSYSTEM** **MODERATOR** **DR. MOHAMED EL ZALABANY** Library Systems Consultant, Founder of Egyptian Prime Vision, Egypt **SPEAKERS** **DR. HEBA SALEH** Director of Information Technology Institute (ITI), Egypt **MS. TAN HUISM** Executive Director of Qatar National Library, Qatar **DR. AHMED MOHAMED ALI** Assistant Professor of Information Studies, Faculty of Arts, Minia University, Egypt



14:40 – 15:55 (75 minutes)	**PANEL 3:** **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND DIGITAL INDUSTRY** **MODERATOR** **PROF. KHALED EL HALABY** Professor of Library Information Science, Cairo University, Egypt Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Knowledge Management Foundation **SPEAKERS** **DR. ABDULLAH MAJED AL ALI** Director General of the United Arab Emirates National Library and Archives, United Arab Emirates **MS. HANNAH SOMMERS** Associate Librarian for Researcher and Collections Services at the Library of Congress, United States of America **MS. MARIE GRÉGOIRE** CEO of the Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec, Canada (*Online Participation*)
16:00 – 16:15 (15 minutes)	**CLOSING REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** **MS. DINA YOUSSEF** Head of the Library Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Last updated: 5 November 2026, 10:20 (EET)