



### **IBBY endorses the Ljubljana Manifesto on the Importance of Higher-Level Reading**

The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) announces its support to the [Ljubljana Manifesto on the Importance of Higher-Level Reading](#), which was published today 10 October 2023, to address the decline of reading skills as one of the urgent challenges that now confront society.

The Ljubljana Manifesto defends that higher-level reading is our most powerful tool for developing analytic and critical thinking. It exercises metacognition and cognitive patience, expands our conceptual capacities, trains cognitive empathy and perspective-taking – social skills which are indispensable for informed citizens in a democratic society. Signatories of this manifesto call to acknowledge the permanent significance of higher-level reading in the digital era.

The Ljubljana Manifesto was written by four reading and publishing researchers (André Schüller-Zwierlein, University of Regensburg, Germany; Anne Mangen, University of Stavanger, Norway; Adriaan van der Weel, Leiden University, Netherlands; and Miha Kovač, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia). The Manifesto is supported by the German Academy of Language and Poetry, the International Publishers Association (IPA), the Federation of European Publishers (FEP), PEN International, the International Board of Books for Young People (IBBY), the consortium of European reading promotion organizations (EURead) and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). In Slovenia, it is supported by the Slovenian Book Agency.

The Frankfurt Book Fair Guest of Honour programme dedicated to Slovenia will enhance the Ljubljana Manifesto message with a two-day [professional programme](#), in which experts from around the world will discuss the attention crisis, the spread of English reading in continental Europe, writing and AI, and innovativeness in markets with small returns.

For more information, please visit the [Manifesto's official website](#).