

Background

Background about the bidder, including evidence of their ability to perform this work.

The Swedish Library Association is a non-profit and politically independent association with institutions, organizations and individual members. Their aim is to promote libraries of the highest quality and work on their members' behalf to increase awareness of libraries' tasks and functions and to strengthen libraries' conditions and opportunities.

Wikimedia Sverige (WMSE) is a non-profit association that works to ensure that all people have access to free knowledge. Wikimedia Sverige the official Wikimedia chapter in Sweden acts as the local, legally independent support association for the Wikimedia Foundation, which operates some of the world's largest platforms for free knowledge such as Wikipedia, Wikidata and Wikimedia Commons. We collaborate with libraries, museums, UN agencies, educational and research institutions, governmental agencies and many others in our mission to make knowledge free.

Wikimedia Sverige and Swedish Library Association have been two of the strongest voices for legislation compatible with text and data mining (TDM) and AI for research purposes. In the summer of 2023, the two organizations jointly organized a seminar on legal challenges remaining for TDM researchers, and both have worked actively in the process to review and modernize the exceptions and limitations in Swedish copyright law to make sure that hurdles for TDM are removed, especially when it comes to remote access, cross border activities and communication of protected works among researchers and to the general public. The research communities involved in TDM and AI have had close conversations with the two organizations, making them two of the most important representatives of research uses in a copyright context.

Description of activities

A description of the activity that you plan to undertake, as well as expected outputs and outcomes as well as timings.

This project concerns the organization of a seminar on TDM and AI, and the risks with the EU falling behind in the global development. The seminar will showcase the importance of open norms, and how the EU interpretation of the three-step test actively undermines EU related AI projects. It will discuss the importance of both research and commercial AI projects, and the challenges with clearcut separations between the two. Additionally, it will cover the important role of research libraries in the development of AI and the impact on those libraries of open norms, or lack thereof. Importantly, it will highlight good examples and practices of AI development, at a time where the risks are discussed intensively but seldom the benefits.

To maximize impact, the session will be livestreamed and recorded. We have previously worked with the public service company *Utbildningsradion*, who have recorded our seminars for free, released them under CC licenses and also aired them on public service TV channels. We hope and expect that they will be interested in recording this seminar as well.

Prior to the seminar, we will invite speakers and important law- and policy makers to a private lunch, for a brief high-level conversation on these issues. While the seminar aims at informing a larger and more general audience, this lunch will be important to ensure that lawmakers understand the importance of open norms and refer to it in their later work, such as through motions for amendments in the parliament (though motions are written first in September 2024).

The target group will be lawmakers, policymakers and scholars.

KR21 policy goal alignment

An indication how they fit with KR21 policy goals.

This will be an important forum in Sweden to discuss open norms, and the importance of open norms for research and innovation. While fair use, or any similar open norm that allows for innovative and dynamic (though limited) use of copyrighted works for the purpose of research, might be difficult to envision given the EU legal framework, it is important that lawmakers and policymakers understand the benefits of open norms in a rapidly changing environment, and why the lack of open norms might make the EU fall behind. It is our aim to make sure that this seminar will make it clear for Swedish law- and policy makers why the Swedish and EU interpretation of 3-step-test and open norms is detrimental for technological research and innovation in the EU. Especially in a context where the three-step test is increasingly interpreted in a way that all technical innovation should benefit the rightsholder rather than the user.

Timeline of activities

An indication of how you plan to carry out this activity, including a budget.

November–May: The project team from Wikimedia Sverige and Swedish Library Association meet bi-weekly to discuss the organization of the seminar.

December–April: Invitations to seminar speakers and panelists are sent out.

February: Early communication about the seminar is shared.

April–May: Detailed communication about the seminar is shared.

June 2024: The seminar will take place before the summer holidays starts in Sweden.

Budget

Staff costs for Wikimedia Sverige: 6,000 euro

Travel costs for seminar participants: 3,000 euro

Venue, catering costs and gifts to speakers for seminar: 2,000 euro

Venue and catering costs for high level conversation: 1,000

Communication/invitations, live-streaming, video post production and misc: 3,000 euro

Self-funding:

Swedish Library Association funds 1 month FTE internally.

TOTAL: 15,000 euro

Why funding is needed

An indication of how this work would not be possible without this funding.

Both Wikimedia Sverige and Swedish Library Association are small NGOs with limited funding available for policy and advocacy activities. This grant would make it possible to prepare a more ambitious event that can attract the needed attention and interest to promote open norms, especially in relation to research, innovation and AI.

To be able to create some buzz and interest around the seminar there is a strong need to engage people with high impact, knowledge and experience within the area of TDM and AI amongst the seminar speakers – this takes a lot of planning and preparation and also comes with direct costs such as travel.

To reach the target groups we need to actively communicate about the event which takes both time and money (for targeted ads).

Indicators of success

Suggested indicators of success.

- Representatives from at least 10 unique research libraries participate in the seminar.
- A total of 50 people participate in the seminar, of which 50 % are librarians.
- In the follow-up survey more than 80% of respondents review the event favorably.
- The main conclusions from the seminar are reported in at least one media publication.
- Our aim is that this event leads to motions for amendments in the parliament and other official and political remarks on the matter. As the Swedish Parliament is closed for summer soon after the event, and motions for amendments can only be written in September and early October, we will however only know of such remarks after the project has finished.

Risk assessment

An assessment of risks, and how these will be managed including any data protection risks.

Some of the key risks identified are:

1. **Financial constraints limit in-person participation.** Because of the economic situation for many libraries, it is hard to get librarians from many parts of Sweden to participate

in-person. They cannot afford the logistics. Live-streaming the seminar is one way of making it possible for librarians to take part notwithstanding the economic situation.

2. **Personal data is incorrectly processed or shared.** The lists of e.g. event participants and seminar presenters must be handled with great care to avoid any unintentional sharing of the personal data. The survey etc. will limit personal data collection to a minimum. Wikimedia Sverige has a detailed policy and processes in place which we will follow:

<https://se.wikimedia.org/wiki/Integritetspolicy>