

Oslo, May 26th 2025

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Norwegian library sector, we wish to express our deep concern regarding recent actions taken against libraries in the United States.

Libraries are essential pillars of democracy. They serve as open and inclusive spaces for learning, dialogue, and access to knowledge. Efforts to undermine their independence, restrict access to information, or impose censorship are deeply troubling—not only within a national context, but as a challenge to shared democratic values around the world.

We stand in strong solidarity with our American colleagues and with the American Library Association. Alongside library associations across Europe and beyond, we uphold the core principles of intellectual freedom and freedom of expression, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Please find enclosed a letter of support, which the Norwegian Library Association fully endorses.

Sincerely,

Helene Voldner

President, Norwegian Library Association