

**Resolution to Repeal the USA Patriot Act**

Whereas the ALA Council passed a resolution noting dangers to constitutional rights in sections of the USA Patriot Act at its Midwinter Meeting in January 2003 (2002-2003 CD #20.1),

And whereas several bills are pending in the US Congress to repeal sections of the USA Patriot Act,

And whereas at its August 2003 meeting in Berlin, IFLA passed a much stronger resolution condemning national security legislation "...which violates fundamental human rights to privacy and unhampered access to information in the name of national security, and calls for the repeal or amendment of all such legislation in order to protect these rights." (Resolution 3 attached)

And whereas the IFLA resolution requests all national library associations to respond on this matter to the IFLA Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) Office,

Therefore be it resolved that ALA calls for the repeal of the USA Patriot Act,

And resolved that this resolution be sent to the IFLA FAIFE Office for further distribution.

Introduced by Al Kagan  
Seconded by Mitch Freedman

**IFLA Resolution 3, passed in Berlin, August 2003**

"Whereas IFLA understands the need for appropriate national legislation consistent with international conventions to fight terrorism,

And whereas almost all countries have ratified the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, specifically including Article 19,

And whereas IFLA has drawn attention to the consequences for libraries, librarians, and library users of the USA PATRIOT Act,

And whereas national security legislation should not infringe existing civil and privacy rights,

Therefore be it resolved that IFLA deplors the introduction by a number of countries of legislation which violates fundamental human rights to privacy and unhampered access to information in the name of national security, and calls for the repeal or amendment of all such legislation in order to protect these rights,

And be it resolved that this resolution be disseminated worldwide, and specifically sent to all national library associations with a request that they respond on this matter to the FAIFE Office of IFLA."