



29th January 2026

To: The German Consulate of Thessaloniki

Attn: Ms. Monika Frank

Subject: Proposal for Collaboration between the "Network of 8" and the German Consulate of Thessaloniki

Esteemed Ms Frank,

The "Network of 8" has the honor to submit a formal proposal for cooperation with the German Consulate General in Thessaloniki, with the aim of jointly promoting reading culture and intercultural education. The principal objective of this proposal is to introduce children and young people to German literature and contemporary German culture.

About the "Network of 8"

The "Network of 8" was established in 2024 as a dynamic collaboration among libraries from different communities of Greece (Konitsa, Kalyvia, Filothei–Psychiko, Kalamaria, Kifissia, Velvento, Rapsani). Its mission is to foster consistent and high-quality reading habits through the methodology of "reading pathways," which accompany and supports children's developmental journey at every stage of growth.

To date, the Network has successfully implemented eight joint educational programs and is currently planning its ninth, reflecting both the continuity and the strong collaborative foundation of this initiative.

A. Proposal for Cooperation

"German Literature for Children and Young Adults"

An educational program co-designed by both parties would introduce young readers to the work of leading German authors of children's and young adult literature, including Erich Kästner, Otfried Preußler, Andreas Steinhöfel, Walter Moers, Ingo Siegner, and Jürgen Banscheraus.

Indicative activities may include:

- **Thematic Reading Clubs:** Workshops implemented within the Network's libraries, where literature serves as a bridge to understanding German culture, values, and contemporary social realities.
- **Meet the Author:** The organization of online meetings with distinguished authors, such as Jürgen Banscheraus and Ingo Siegner, in cooperation with publishing houses and translators, offering children a rare opportunity for direct engagement with literary creators.

B. Exchange of Expertise and International Networking

Furthermore, the Network would welcome the extension of this cooperation to include professional development and international networking, through the establishment of ties with the International Youth Library in Munich (Internationale Jugendbibliothek).



Indicative areas of collaboration could include:

- the establishment of an international collaboration between the Munich Library and the heads of the Network and their libraries with the goals of
 - exchanging our best practices for developing from a young age reading as a lifelong habit and growing the collections within our libraries especially in the young readers sections and
 - strengthening professional ties for future work together.
- A mutual program between representatives from the Munich Library and the Heads of the Network and their libraries to exchange best practices implement action for the Greek expatriate community in Germany (possibly in collaboration with the Greek Consulate) and to strengthen our professional ties via a series of visits.

The above proposal constitutes an initial framework which the Network would be pleased to further develop with the German Consulate General while remaining fully open to any suggestions or recommendations deemed appropriate.

It would be a special honor for us to discuss the prospects of this collaboration in a meeting with you at a mutually convenient time.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Eirini Vokotopoulou (Children's & Young Adult Library of Velvento)

Alkmini Pitsiladi (Children's & Young Adult Library of Velvento)

Katerina Frouzaki (SEARCH Children's Library of Kifisia)

Angeliki Fournari (Municipal Library of Filothei-Psychiko)

Petra Voltsi (Children's Library of Karabournaki District, Municipality of Kalamaria)

Glykeria Antoniadou (Daidios Children's Library, Municipality of Kalamaria)

Lydia Alagianni (Municipal Library of Kalyvia, Municipality of Saronikos)

Chaido Pantazi (Municipal Library of Rapsani)

Persefoni Ntoulia (Central Public Library of Konitsa)

On behalf of the "Network of 8"