National report to the International Development in Europe Committee –
June 2014

Name of Association: “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Lesen und Schreiben. e.V.“
(German Society for Reading and Writing)
Website: www.dgls.de

Person submitting the report:
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About the DGLS
The German Society for Reading and Writing was founded in 1968. It has about 400 members. Its main aims are:
- to stimulate and promote interest in literacy
- to sponsor conferences and workshops related to literacy development
- to disseminate knowledge helpful to the solution of literacy problems.

Major activities in the time period of report: November 2013 – June 2014

Election of new board:
At the member assembly in Berlin, April 26, 2014, a new directory was elected: Prof. Dr. Alfons Welling (president), Dr. Florian Dietz (vice-president), Gerd Peter Wind (treasurer), Erika Huth (general secretary) and 3 other board members: Hartmut Lange, Prof. Dr. Ada Sasse and Prof. Dr. Renate Valtin.

Publication:
Volume 16 of the series „Beiträge der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Lesen und Schreiben“ with the title Lesekompetenz nachhaltig stärken – Evidenzbasierte Maßnahmen und Programme (How to achieve sustainable improvement of reading competence – evidence based measures and programs) was published.

Conference:
April 26, 2014, November 15/16, 2013, a conference was organized in Berlin, in cooperation with Humboldt University. Prof. Dr. Agi Schründer-Lenzen gave a lecture „Wie kann Schriftspracherwerb gelingen? Ein kritischer Blick auf aktuelle didaktische Ansätze“ (Successful acquisition of literacy. A critical review of current didactic approaches). The presentation is posted on our website.

International projects run by DGLS members:
DGLS together with 78 partners of 29 European countries had applied successfully for a EU-project “Literacy network in Europe” in close cooperation with FELA and other institutions. The project with the name “Elinet” has started in February with a meeting in Vienna. Coordinator is Christine Garbe, University of Cologne. Leader of team 2 (childhood) is Renate Valtin. The internet site will soon be available (http://www.eli-net.eu/).