

# SEA-EU Library Staff Week 2025

## *University of Malta*

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### General information

Hosting Institution	University of Malta Library
Staff Week Title	<b>SEA-EU Library Staff Week: Libraries - Pioneers of Innovation and Inspiration</b>
Abstract: (few lines describing the staff week that SEA-EU partners can use for dissemination)	<p>In the digital era, academic libraries continue to play a vital role as pioneers of innovation and hubs of inspiration. This Staff Week will explore how academic libraries are evolving from traditional repositories of knowledge to dynamic, technology-driven spaces that foster creativity, collaboration and lifelong learning. By embracing digital resources, cutting-edge technologies and a blend of study spaces, academic libraries are transforming into inclusive environments where all library stakeholders can access information, develop skills and pursue innovative ideas.</p> <p>The objectives of the sessions will demonstrate how academic libraries are spearheading initiatives in digital literacy, visibility and dissemination of research and cultural preservation. The libraries' future as a catalyst for societal growth, empowerment and intellectual discovery will be explored. Participants will gain insights into how academic libraries are adapting to new challenges and inspiring the next generation of learners, creators and leaders.</p>
Application details and deadline	<p>Please register <b>by 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b> (end of the day). To apply please contact your local SEA-EU office/ International Office.</p> <p>If you need a Mobility Agreement signed by UM in order to apply for an ERASMUS<sup>+</sup> Staff Mobility grant, please contact <a href="mailto:kevin.j.ellul@um.edu.mt">kevin.j.ellul@um.edu.mt</a> or <a href="mailto:josianne.vella@um.edu.mt">josianne.vella@um.edu.mt</a></p>
Dates of the staff week	<b>From 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b>
Number of participants	Each SEA-EU 2.0 University can propose up to 2 participants.

Mobility costs	Participation is free of charge. Travel expenses and accommodation can be covered through the ERASMUS <sup>+</sup> Staff Mobility.
Contacts	Mr Kevin J. Ellul - Director Library Services ( <a href="mailto:kevin.j.ellul@um.edu.mt">kevin.j.ellul@um.edu.mt</a> ) Ms Josianne Camilleri Vella - Deputy Director Library Services ( <a href="mailto:josianne.vella@um.edu.mt">josianne.vella@um.edu.mt</a> ) SEA-EU Office ( <a href="mailto:sea-eu@um.edu.mt">sea-eu@um.edu.mt</a> )

## Programme

Target group / Expected profile of participants	Librarians, information professionals, technical and administrative staff working within SEA-EU Libraries
Requirements	English B1
<b>Agenda</b>	<p><b>Day 1 – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b></p> <p><b>09:30 – Registration of participants</b></p> <p><b>10:00 – Welcome session (Rector, Rector’s Delegate - SEA-EU)</b></p> <p><b>10:15 – Tour of the UM (Marketing, Communications and Alumni Office)</b></p> <p><b>11:00 – Coffee-break</b></p> <p><b>11:30 – Presentation and Visit to the UM Main Library</b></p> <p><b>12:30 – Lunch</b></p> <p><b>13:30 – Introduction of participants and their libraries</b></p> <p>Participants are invited to introduce themselves. A concise presentation on each respective SEA-EU University Library will be delivered.</p> <p><b>15:00 – Visits to the Faculty of Arts Library, and Laws &amp; Theology Library</b></p> <p><b>16:00 – Flavours of the SEA-EU: A Culinary Journey Through Tradition</b></p> <p>Delegates are invited to bring a traditional dish/delight (salty or sweet) of their country which will be shared amongst participants. Delegates will be asked to explain the origin story of the speciality before being shared.</p>

## Day 2 – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025

### 10:00 – User Experience and Reconfiguration of Library Spaces

This session focuses on how academic libraries are providing user-centred services which cater for students and researchers emerging needs and expectations, offering personalised assistance, resources and technologies. Additionally, the session highlights the importance of reconfiguring study spaces to offer a blend of silent and group-work study areas which improve user experience and promote an environment which is conducive to innovation and creativity, and which stimulates teaching, learning, study and research, both individually and collaboratively.

### 10:30 - Redefining Access: How Digital Transformation is Reshaping Academic Libraries

Digital transformation is reshaping academic libraries by improving access to resources, enabling remote services and enhancing user experience. This session explores the digital transformation of academic libraries, emphasising the transition from print to digital formats through digital libraries and institutional repositories. It highlights the integration of advanced technologies such as AI, machine learning, and data analytics to improve user experience and management of electronic resources.

### 11:00 – Coffee Break

### 11:30 – Academic Libraries: Their Role in Showcasing and Preserving National Culture, Heritage and Identity

This session highlights the crucial role academic libraries play in showcasing and preserving national culture, heritage and identity. It covers digital preservation strategies that ensure long-term access to scholarly works, focusing on the challenges and solutions for maintaining digital content. The session also explores efforts to preserve prestigious and historical collections, many of which are being digitised.

### 12:00 – The Transparent and Open Science Game

An interactive session which focuses on the principles of Open Science, including Open Access, Open Data, collaboration and reproducibility. Participants will engage in real-world scenarios, learning to navigate ethical challenges and promote transparency, fostering a culture of collaboration and innovation in scientific research.

### 12:45 - Lunch Break

### 13:45 - Tour of the Malta National Library

### 14:45 - Valletta Tour

	<p><b>19:00 - Dinner (hosted by the UM)</b></p>
	<p><b>Day 3 – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b></p> <p><b>10:00 – User Engagement and Library Outreach</b> This presentation focuses on strategies to enhance user engagement and library outreach. It explores techniques for building stronger connections with library users through targeted programs, digital tools, community partnerships and personalised services, fostering a more inclusive, accessible and user-centred library environment.</p> <p><b>10:30 - Empowering Research: The Role of Academic Libraries in Open Science</b> Academic libraries are assuming a pivotal role in advancing Open Science. This presentation explores how libraries empower researchers by promoting Open Access to research publications, supporting Research Data Management, fostering collaboration, ensuring transparency and promoting knowledge-sharing. It also discusses strategic initiatives, challenges and the future of libraries in shaping the Open Science landscape.</p> <p><b>11:00 - Coffee Break</b></p> <p><b>11:30 - AI in academic libraries</b> This presentation highlights the integration of AI in academic libraries, focusing on how AI enhances research, resource discovery and personalised user services. It covers AI-driven tools for data management, automation, library operations and explores challenges, opportunities and future trends in academic library services.</p> <p><b>12:00 - Summary &amp; concluding remarks</b></p> <p><b>12:30 - Lunch</b></p> <p><b>13:30 - Visit to the National Archives</b></p> <p><b>15:00 - Tour of Mdina (Old Capital City)</b></p>

## Practical Information

Accommodation	<a href="#">SEA-EU Welcome to Malta, Info Pack Msida Campus .pptx.pdf</a>
Venue	University of Malta: Msida Campus and Valletta Campus