



## PRESS RELEASE

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## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE SHAPING THE FUTURE WITH BOOKS 2026 CONFERENCE

Intergraf, in partnership with Smithers, is pleased to invite professionals from the European book, printing, and publishing value chain to register for the Shaping the Future with Books conference, taking place on 19 February 2026 in Brussels, Belgium, at the Cardo Brussels Hotel.

This conference will bring together industry leaders, researchers, policymakers, and innovators to discuss key trends, challenges, and opportunities in the rapidly evolving book ecosystem, while also providing networking opportunities in an informal and engaging setting.

Participants can expect a comprehensive overview of the sector, including insights into the state of the European book market, changing consumer behaviour and reading habits, the strategic importance of print in a digital age, EU policies affecting books, education and cultural access, sustainable book production, new distribution and localisation models, as well as innovation in book design and engagement. The programme will feature contributions from Smithers, major European publishers and printers, leading academics, online book influencers and a representative of the European Commission. The full-day event will be preceded by a welcome cocktail on Wednesday 18 February and followed by a networking dinner on Thursday 19 February.

All attendees will receive the European Book Market Report prepared by Smithers. This exclusive publication offers a comprehensive analysis of current data and trends influencing the books segment of the printing industry and is included in the conference package.

## Register here.

Want to sponsor this event? For more details on sponsorship packages, reach out to Sergejs Mikaeljans at <a href="mailto:smikaeljans@intergraf.eu">smikaeljans@intergraf.eu</a> for more information.

Register <u>here</u> now and join the conversation on the future of books. Keep an eye on our <u>website</u> to see all the programme and speaker updates.

Intergraf has secured a block of rooms at the Cardo Brussels Hotel at a special rate for conference participants. Half of the reserved rooms will be released on 18 December 2025, and all remaining rooms will be released on 18 January 2026. Early booking is strongly encouraged to ensure availability and benefit from the preferential rate. Book your room <a href="here">here</a>.

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## Notes to editor

The **European graphical sector** is made up of some 100,000 printing companies (95% SMEs), which employ 600,000 people, and generate a combined turnover of €80 billion (EU27 + UK, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland).

Intergraf (www.intergraf.eu) is the European printing industry association, representing employers in the graphical sector. We are a Brussels-based umbrella federation with 22 members from 21 countries and 14 Associate Members from across Europe. Our primary goal is to represent and advocate for Europe's printing industry, working with European Union to support the sector's competitiveness through advocacy, information-sharing, networking, social dialogue, and European projects.

Contact Sergejs Mikaeljans, Communications & Events Officer, for more information: <a href="mailto:smikaeljans@intergraf.eu">smikaeljans@intergraf.eu</a>