



Association genevoise des bibliothécaires diplômés
Case postale 3494, CH - 1211 Genève 3.

(Geneva Association of Qualified Librarians)

RESOLUTION

In their general assembly of 20 March 2003, the members of the *Geneva Association of Qualified Librarians (AGBD)* give their support to their American colleagues of the *American Library Association (ALA)* in their opposition to the possibility given to the FBI, through the *USA Patriot Act*, to consult library files in order to know who consults or borrows what.

Indeed, such a measure is contrary to the deontological code of Geneva librarians, adopted in 1998 by the AGBD¹, which stipulates, in the chapter "Responsibility": "**[The librarian] guarantees the confidentiality of the information he has concerning library users and the nature of their requests.**"

Though they understand the need to fight terrorism, Geneva librarians regret that such measures, which are incompatible with individual liberties, should be taken in a country generally considered, as is their own, Switzerland, to be one of the cradles of democracy.

¹ This code was also adopted, in the same year, on the national level by the Association of Swiss Libraries and Librarians (BBS)