



НАЦИОНАЛНА БИБЛИОТЕКА „СВ. СВ. КИРИЛ И МЕТОДИЙ“

ST. ST. CYRIL AND METHODIUS NATIONAL LIBRARY

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ANNUAL REPORT

**To the Conference of the European National Librarians (CENL)
2010**

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Management of the library: Performance indicators, planning, decision-making, evaluation, mission statement

We started using the new e-catalog in the National library in the beginning of the year. This was possible through the successful implementation of the project “Virtual Library - Bulgaria”. (Building a National library information system).

On 26 October 2010 Agreement for applying the system COOBISS was sign in Sofia, Bulgaria. With this act the beginning of COOBISS system in Bulgaria was officially started.

Simultaneously that act was symbolical ending to the preparation process of joining the system which continued more than four year. The new e-catalog of the Library is based to the COBISS software and includes more than 820 000 bibliographic records.

In relation with development on the project “Virtual Library Bulgarian” few structural changes were

realized –a new “COBBIS Center” and new structures units in the field Acquisition of Collections Division, Cataloguing Division, Bulgarian National Bibliography Division, Automation Department were created.

Funding

Due to lack of funds and reduced budget the National Library didn't carry out all priorities set in the program and finished the year with financial commitments to local suppliers. Despite of the difficulties and reduced funding of the budget and thanks to active participation in the in the projects and programs the National Library extra financing for three big projects was received: Project BG0046 “Digitalizing and preserving the written legacy of Bulgaria” period 2009-2011; Project “Manuscripts and Documents from Bulgaria from XIII to XVII century “ – second stage of implementation of this project, which is financed by “Scientific researches” fund of Ministry of education and science and Project **IMPAC** financed by Seven stage program of EU for period 2010-2011.

Buildings

Significant repair actions was made with funds from Project BG0046 “Digitalizing and preserving the written legacy of Bulgaria”. A repair in the premises of digital center was made. The electrical grid is fully renovated and reinforced, the workplaces are furnish and equipped with air conditioning.

A current repair of the book depository and work places was made.

Staffing matters

During 2010 by the ordinance of Ministry of Culture reduction to the stuff from 255 to 250 positions was made. There are 31 new employees of the Library and 24 employees have left.

To be possible the work with the software under copyright to IZUM from April, Center COBBISS have conducted several training courses of the COBISS3 modules: Implementation of COBISS3 software: Cataloguing– basic course; Cataloguing– advanced course; Records transfer and fond information; Fond – Supporting resources.

The conduction of the courses was monitored by IZUM representatives. 99 people were trained and received certificates after completing the courses.

More than 30 employees participated in different by kind training programs.

Information technology and networks

Number of database on the National bibliography are edited and converted for COMARC format and to the National ISBN Agency for implementation into the new edition on Bulgarian “Books and Print”.

For development of new technologies on European and national project new equipment were bought and installed– scanning, photographic and computer equipment. Part of the network device was replaced. Optical trace for Digital center needs was created.

Update of version on the system was made and technical settings of the program product Docu Ware, which manage archiving database in the Digital Library.

The digital library

Contemporary Digital center of Project BG0046 was created and successful started working: “Digitalizing and preserving written legacy of Bulgaria”, Supported by a grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Financial Mechanism.

The total number of documents, digitized in the framework of the project, is 214 in 51 350 files. They are presented as image copies in two formats –JPEG for search of users and TIFF for creating a long – lasting archives.

All the scanned documents are equipped with very detailed metadata in Bulgarian and a part of them is presented also in English. Text files with additional information about the documents are attached to a part of them according to a proposal of the specialists. The originals were scanned in high quality and their metadata are very complete.

The scanning and presentation of documents from this period will continue after the end of the project, because of the collection’s importance which stipulates the great interest to it paid by scholars and users.

The documents could be used and found on the webpage of the National Library www.nationallibrary.bg in the “Digital library” rubric and following sections: The Bulgarian Fourteenth Century; Sijills and United Bulgaria.

The National Library signed agreement for its participant on in the project “IMPACT” (Improving Access to Text). Its engagement during the year was related to providing, treatment and testing of around 3 300 files from digital collection of documents on Bulgarian language.

The National Library proposed to include in the World Digital Library (*on the so-called project*) 21 digitalised documents from our Digital Library. These documents were approved to be included. They are mainly Slavonic manuscripts and also Greek manuscripts, oriental documents and old printed books and Slavonic Cyrillic printed books.

The National Library participates with 21 documents in the project *Reading Europe*.

Legal deposit of materials

325 121 free of charge copies were deposited and after that distributed in the National Library in 2010. 76 595 are in the library’s collections, 248 526 – were sent in the other deposit libraries in the country. Some of the publications were acquired according the control over the Law of legal deposit – 7 978 (books – 3 856, serials – 3 994, maps – 1, electronic editions – 15, audio recordings – 32 etc.).

There were several problems, related to the legal deposit and they are caused by the following reasons: publishing houses do not always observe and also break the Law of legal deposit; the National Library could not control the law’s observation because of the lack of personnel; delay of the technological renovation in the library – change of the software product and new technical equipment.

Acquisitions

There were several problems with the ILL service, due to the expensive post costs. Because of the financial crisis many other irregular options were chosen in order to transport the books and serials. Private persons and institutions also helped to transfer 734 parcels with Bulgarian editions to our partner libraries.

In 2010 for the manuscript and archival collections were bought the following materials – a fragment from a manuscript about rituals and prayers in Ottoman Turkish; a contemporary old printed book (only its 28 pages are preserved); 255 documents and photos, related to the work of famous Bulgarian diplomats, writers and painters. There were made donations of documents, which had been stored in the Ottoman Archive in Ankara, and donations of documents and photos, which had been stored in private collections.

Preservation & Conservation

25 628 sheets from the Slavonic manuscript collection; old printed books; documents from the Bulgarian Historical Archive; oriental documents, periodicals, graphic editions etc. were restored.

400 leaves of manuscripts were restored according to the project *Manuscripts and Documents from Bulgaria from XIII to XVII century*.

Different collections of the book stores and also reading rooms are checked every year.

Services to readers

During the last years the total number of the registered readers (that physically visit the National Library) has decreased. We think that this is normal, because people have began using the library's services more and more online. We have created a good electronic catalogue-data base COBIB.BG. We are also continuing creating digital resources and providing access to them. The documents are available and could be found on the website of the National Library www.nationallibrary.bg in the section *Digital Library*.

The number of the references, based on the electronic data bases, also increased as well as the total number of the written subject references. Our specialists offer more often to the readers not only bibliographical information, but also full-text or paper data.

The reference and information service of the National Library tries to support the users' independent work by broadening the scope of different resource materials.

Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

Last year we presented 28 exhibitions and 3 of them are national – *The Exarchate is the Homeland*, *The Calligraphic and Literary School of Etropole from the XVII century* and *The Photographic Heritage of the Karastoyanovi Brothers*. The National Library was a guest in the European Parliament and presented there its exhibition *Paisius of Hilendar. Istoria Slavianobolgarskaja*. Two big exhibitions were organised together with foreign embassies in Bulgaria. The exhibition *South Africa Week in the National Library of Bulgaria* was presented jointly with the South African Embassy. It was officially opened by Mr. John Tsebe – National Librarian of the Republic of South Africa. The exhibition *Real and Imaginary Journeys* was organised with the Embassy of Italy in Sofia and the Italian Cultural Institute. This exhibition consisted of works of the sculptor Mrs. Alba Gonzales and the photographer Mr. Luca Bracali.

In 2010 in the National Library were presented two exhibitions from the country: *Rare and Valuable Books from the Collection of the National Chitalishte Zora – 1860*, Sliven and *Library Rodina in three centuries*, National Chitalishte Rodina – one of the oldest libraries in Bulgaria and the oldest in the district of Stara Zagora.

The National Library affirmed its leading position as a place for presentations of new books, organisation of different conferences, round tables, meetings, press conferences etc. – over 86 events.

During 2010 the National Library hosted 7 scientific sessions and conferences.

The National Library works very actively with Bulgarian and foreign embassies, cultural centers and institutes. The following persons and delegations visited the National Library in 2010: cardinal Farina, Director of the Vatican Library; the minister plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Morocco; a delegation of Ireland writers; Croatian writers; lecturers and students from the National University of Odessa; a Norwegian delegation. Our guests were also: Mrs. Ingibjorg Sverrisdottir - Director Landsbókasafn Íslands – Háskólabókasafn; Roger Josevold - Deputy Librarian Nasjonalbiblioteket Norway. They took part in the official presentation of the project *BG0046: Digitalisation and Preservation of the Written Legacy of Bulgaria* and saw the work of our new Digital Centre. Our guests made presentations about the work on digitalization in the national libraries of Norway and Iceland and after that they participated in a meeting of the professional librarian specialists. At this meeting were discussed several problems, related to the project's realisation and problems in the field of the digitalisation of the book heritage.

The National Library published 10 books.

Library co-operation

The agreements on cooperation with our partners – the national libraries of the Czech Republic and South Africa were renewed.

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