ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2016

Name of Country:	Austria
Name of Library :	Austrian National Library (ANL) / Österreichische Nationalbibliothek
Name of Chief Executive:	Director General Dr. Johanna Rachinger
Contact International Matters:	Doris Pommerening
Address :	Josefsplatz 1, A-1015 Vienna
Telephone:	+43 1 534 10
Fax:	+43 1 534 10 / 280
Web address:	http://www.onb.ac.at/
E-mail:	onb@onb.ac.at

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(1) General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library

While the strategic period 2012–16 came to an end in 2016, the goals for the subsequent strategic period 2017–21 were established. During the strategic period 2012–16, crucial decisions for the library's future were reached and realised as planned. The goals envisaged ranged from a unification of online databases and the implementation of a standardised machine-based search interface to planning the continuation of major large-scale digitization projects for newspapers and magazines (ANNO), historical legal texts (ALEX), historical printed books (ABO), and the portal of historical postcards (AKON), including measures directed at the improvement of IT infrastructure. The development of full-text search for both ABO and ANNO, which has substantially contributed to the improvement of search functions, can be seen as a major step. Further important measures comprised the entrance into Linked Open Data, the enhanced coordination and visibility of the Austrian National Library's research activities, and its successful adjustment to social media, such as the installation of an online chat group, the virtual librarian and informant Hugo Blotius, and a Facebook account, in addition to the adaptation of the ANL website to mobile Internet access. All of the projects envisaged in the strategic plan 2012–16 were implemented on time and in line with the budgets. At the same time, the new strategic plan for the upcoming period 2017–21 was put in place.

The ANL's website underwent a complete relaunch in 2016.

In 2016, the ANL opened the following temporary exhibitions:

- *The Eternal Emperor. Franz Joseph I, 1830–1916,* 11 March – 27 November 2016, State Hall
- *Under Bethlehem's Star. 24 Precious Manuscripts from the Middle Ages,* 7 December 2016 – 15 January 2017, State Hall
- *Hieroglyphs and Alphabets. 2500 Years of Education in Ancient Egypt,* 16 June 2016 – 8 January 2017, Papyrus Museum
- *Pencil, Book & Laptop. 10 Items in Writing Today,* 16 April 2016 – 12 February 2017, Literature Museum

(2) Note of the reporting library's relationship to government, citation of legislation which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations

The Austrian National Library acts as an autonomous legal body pursuant to the 2002 Federal Museums Act, by which it has been assigned the legal status of a scientific federal institution according to public law. A section providing for the installation of the "House of Austrian History", the administration of which will fall under the responsibility of the Austrian National Library, was added in 2016 in the form of a milestone amendment. The focus of this new museum will be on recent and contemporary Austrian history.

Provisions regulating legal deposits of printed and electronic media to be delivered to the Austrian National Library are contained in the currently applicable version of the Media Act.

(3) Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc.)

	2016	**2015**
holdings (as of 31 Dec.)	11,814,339	11,598,774
total acquisitions	211,073	516,068
— of those, books and periodicals	36,030	33,835
newspapers and magazines (current subscriptions)	11,599	11,657
visitors to museums and exhibitions	355,880	288,775
visits to website	3,714,791	3,588,605
total of searches in online databases	13,313,306	11,228,935
users of reading rooms	232,426	233,599
total of documents used	435,537	430,349

(4) New developments in creating and building collections

The Austrian National Library received gifts and donations that were added to the holdings of its collections.

(5) New developments in access services

In the course of the **relaunch of the ANL website**, the homepages of the digital library were restructured and their contents revised. The concise display of the services offered ensures an improved orientation and facilitates the finding of services most frequently used. The goal of the web relaunch was to modernize the library's Internet presence, to intensify the focus on users' needs, and to improve accessibility from various mobile devices.

(6) Digital library developments e.g. collections/digitization/IT systems

Following comprehensive preparations and training, the new RDA guidelines have been employed for cataloguing since January 2016 in coordination with the Austrian Library Association.

All in all, about one million pages were added to the digital portals ANNO (newspapers) and ALEX (historical legal texts). Moreover, full-text search was implemented in order to improve search convenience.

By the end of 2016, some 135 million pages of printed objects had been digitized and prepared for full-text index.

(7) Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums)

In 2016, the project *Europeana DSI 2* (duration 2016/17) was launched, with as many as 35 partners from 13 countries participating. The project is intended to support the operation and development of *Europeana*.

In addition, the following EU projects were continued or completed during the year under report: *Ambrosia – Europeana Food and Drink* (duration 2014–16); *Europeana DSI* (duration 2015/16); *Europeana Sounds* (duration 2014–17).

Moreover, the Austrian National Library cooperated in research projects co-financed by the Austrian Science Fund FWF: *Günther Anders: Editing and Contextualization of Selected Writings from the Estate* (duration 2016–19), *Edition Project on the Diaries of Andreas Okopenkos* (duration 2015–18), together with the University of Vienna, and *SACHA,* together with the Austrian Center for Digital Humanities (ACDH) and the Austrian Academy of Sciences (duration 2015/16).

In a large-scale research project funded by the Mellon Foundation, previously unexplored early Arabic papyri are being analysed and digitized (duration 2013–18).