



НАЦИОНАЛНА БИБЛИОТЕКА „СВ. СВ. КИРИЛ И МЕТОДИЙ“

ST. ST. CYRIL AND METHODIUS NATIONAL LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

To the Conference of the European National Librarians (CENL) 2008

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1. Management of the library: performance indicators, planning, decision-making, evaluation, mission statement

An independent structure – *Sector “Special collections”* – was founded in the National Library. Its foundation is a part of the general reform, which is being carried out in the National Library in connection with the introduction of a new technological scheme, new work organisation and new software. To the Sector “Special collections” were assigned national responsibility tasks. These tasks are related with ensuring the organisation of the conservation and the preservation of the Bulgarian printed and other types of editions, which have been received in the sectors with archival functions regarding the Bulgarian cultural heritage. Such sectors are “Archive of the Bulgarian printed and other types of editions”; the collections of musical editions and maps; the deposited official editions of several international organisations; the literature on librarianship in Bulgaria.

During 2008 the *National agency for ISMN* has been founded in Bulgaria for the first time, a contract with the International agency in Berlin has been signed, instructional and advertising materials have been prepared and the number award has begun.

2. Funding

During 2008 the National Library has received 2 274 404 leva (1 163 378 euros) subsidy the whole funding, including 1 580 084 leva (808 227 euros) regular subsidy and 513 332 leva (262 573 euros) centralized paid social and health insurances. In addition to this the National Library has received also grants in aid for determined actions – several editions, conferences holding etc. and means from two scientific projects.

During 2008 the National Library has realized 289 496 leva (148 079 euros) own incomes, which have been reduced with 3 234 leva (1 654 euros) of transference according article 205 of the Law for Corporative income tax. The realized own incomes are in such correlation: 53,22 incomes from activities, 35,08 incomes from rent, 7,70 incomes from donation and sponsorship, 2,13 incomes from projects and 1,87 other incomes.

During 2008 the National Library has received donations from Bulgarian juridical and physics persons, which have been applied to the will of the contributors.

During 2008 the expenditure have been 2 559 101 leva (1 309 003 euros) and they have been covered in such correlation: 88,82 from subsidy and 11,18 from own incomes. That is to say that the part of the expenses, ensured from subsidy has increased by 1,93 per cent regarding the previous year. This is on the cheap of a diminution of the own incomes part. This is generally due to the fact that during the year under review the National Library has received a bigger amount grants in aids.

All the staff salaries were paid from the regular subsidy and in the end of the year under review the National Library doesn't have any unpaid duties to the staff, the National Social Security Institute and the National Health Insurance Fund.

5 272 leva (2 696 euros) were paid to the staff on extra labour employee relationship for assigned tasks on civil contracts: for preparing exhibition posters, for depositories guard in the villages Osoitsa, Benkovski, Bogdanlia and Podgorie and for a honorarium for legal services.

The National Library paid also 4 858 leva (2 484 euros) participation taxes for non-trade organizations.

During 2008 1 483 633 leva (758 891 euros) have been paid for staff salaries and other remunerations, including the awards for the regular staff on labour legal relations. During the year have been paid also 60 889 leva (31 145 euros) to the irregular staff on labour legal relations, 3 280 leva (1 677 euros) have been paid from the Fund Social and Public and Cultural Service as remuneration to the staff. These remunerations are; social assistances to 8 library employees, that have been fallen ill, 18 852 leva (9 642 euros) have been paid as compensations to 44 library employees according to the Labour code, 6 325 leva (3 235 euros) have been paid for illness compensations for 294 days on the cheap of the National Library and 5 272 leva (2 696 euros) for reward to the staff on extra labour legal relations (to 7 employees on civil contracts and to another one for a honorarium for a legal service). During the year under review the average annual salary of one employee has been 5 485 leva (2 805 euros).

3. Buildings

The National Library ensured from its own incomes 36 567 leva (18 704 euros) for a current repair. 16 511 leva (8 445 euros) of this sum were paid for a repair of a roof part of the west side of the building. 17 908 leva (9 160 euros) were paid for several other repairs: of the Reading room № 6 and of the vestibule of the Sector Laboratory for Conservation and Restoration; of water-main damage; of one office automobile; of a bookbinding knife, several offset print machines and etc.

4. Staffing matters

During 2008 the library staff has been reduced from 277 to 255 employees. This number has not been increased during the year. All the necessary dismissals have been made in the beginning of the year.

During 2008 19 persons have gone to work in the National Library, 37 employees have left. 3 of them have resigned, 5 because of staff dismissals, 2 according article 331 of the Labour code and the others at their free will or because of the end of their agreements.

The library professionals participated in several qualification courses, organized by the COBISS center of the National Library in connection with the introduction of COBISS in Bulgaria. *The library staff was educated for the future work* – for text formatting in COBISS/B and all staff passed a preliminary course on the COMARC/B format.

Library employees participated in different forums in order to raise their qualifications – the seminars “Good library practices” and “Day of the technologies”, organized by the Bulgarian Information Consortium; the seminar attending the conference “Globalization and management of the information resources”, Sofia 2008, which aim was to present the European Digital Library and the open access to the information; the seminar, organized by Elsevir, which aim is to present Scopus and Science Direct.

5. Information technology and networks

Priority task for the National Library was the realization of the project “Virtual library-Bulgaria. I stage” (Building an Unite national library-information system). At this stage the general work is related with the convert of the National union catalogue.

The participation in the TELplus project gave the National Library the opportunity to work on the National catalogue of the Bulgarian literature and on the Digital Library of the European Library.

Part of the cables and several local system network devices were changed. The National Library was provided with 6 new work stations HP and Lenovo. A new sever was installed for the Virtual Library Bulgaria. The local network was enlarged and the automated reading places were increased.

An archive copy was made of the whole server, which handle all the computers working with data bases. The server, ensuring the Internet connection in the National Library was reinstalled. The new servers for the office emails were installed and adjusted.

Two It specialists came to work in the COBISS Center.

During the year the general task has been connected with the problems in converting the national data bases in order to create the National union catalogue of the Bulgarian literary production:

1. *The transfer of the existing bibliographic and control records in the COMARC/B and COMARC/A formats.* This work is important in connection with the creation of a shared catalogue data base:

- all the general tables for converting the data bases according the types of documents were created (Bulgarian books; foreign books; Bulgarian articles from journals and summaries; Bulgarian articles from newspapers; control files)
- the data bases were edited for preparing the transfer in COMARC format (this was a big part of the transfer to the new system COBISS.)
- the converted data bases, which have been indicated in the first stage was provided for testing.

2. *Preparing the documentation for the system:*

- the basic documents: COMARC/B (basic part and part of the applications); COMARC/H; COMARC/A; COBISS 3 Interface; Tables of the codes in the COBISS system; Tables of messages in the COBISS system; Entrance screens for using the system COBISS; Tables of the statistic data, transferred from the National Library to the National Statistic Institute and the possibilities for their extracting from the COBISS system; Nomenclature of the National Statistic Institute; General guidance; Guidance for the module “Application management”; Guidance for the module “Supplying the funds”; Guidance for the module “Fund”; Guidance for the module “Journals”; COBISS Dict – basic terms
- other documents: Instruction for preparing the RETRO bases for transferring in COMARC/B format; Methodological notes for preparing the data bases for transferring; Notes to Methodology for creating a name control record of a person with an intellectual responsibility; Instruction for the route of the non-printed documents (notes records, audio recordings etc.), which have been deposited in the National Library till the introduction of the COBISS system; A shortened version of the classification scheme (Universal Decimal Classification) for indexing and searching in the shared data base COBIB.BG (Application G to COMARC/B).

3. *Staff education for the future work*

- An education for text formatting in the COMARC/B format was organized
- A program of the preliminary course on the COMARC/B format was made.

6. The digital library

The number of the digital copies has been vastly increased by the hard work in the Digital center. 13170 files have been scanned, processed and saved during the year. That includes manuscripts, archives, pictures and portraits from the Manuscript and Documental center; maps, albums and graphics from the Maps and Graphics Department and also readers' orders digital copies. All exhibitions, book promotions, lectures, readings, musical events

and others – about 59 events were digitally filmed (3995 files) and saved and some of them were presented to the media and institutions in 2008.

Separately 12 167 digital copies of documents were taken by the Project Digital Archives and Documents: Promotion, Research, Preservation that ended on 31st December 2008. It included:

- manuscript on parchment from 10th to 14th centuries – 2 154 frames, including Enina Apostolos (11th c.), Dobreisho Gospels, Four Gospel from 14th c., Argirov Triodion 13th c. etc.
- manuscript on paper from 13th to 14th - 1133 frames
- old-printed books – 2 953 frames
- Bulgarian National Revival newspapers – 4 454 frames (Bulgarian periodicals from 1844 to 1878);
- Ottoman Turkish documents – 605 frames
- Arabian manuscript
- Old-printed Persian and Ottoman Turkish books – 274 frames
- Arabian newspapers – 30 frames.

Access to the digital copies from the Project and Internet is provided by two computers in the Prof. Marin Drinov Reading room № 1.

7. Legal deposit of materials

The National Library also continued having problems to control the legal deposit of materials in 2008. They are due to the imperfections of the legislative system in Bulgaria – the deposit inspector are allowed to find out some of the titles, that were not deposit in the National Library and to send letters of advice and prepare the statements. But finishing the deed is responsibility of the municipality to whom the given documents are sent.

There were made Amendments for changing the Law of deposit in 2008.

8. Acquisitions

During the year 64 790 new registered units have entered the National Library: 17 063 books, 37 804 journals, 568 graphics, 164 maps, 1 manuscript, 9 old-printed books, 4476 archive documents, 590 electronic resources and other audiovisual materials, dissertations, standards and patents, microforms, Brielle editions etc.

The National Library received a huge donation of 40 827 documents from Mr. Teodor Dimitrov – a great Bulgarian patriot who worked many years in the UN Library in Geneva. The donation was received in March 2008 and it included books, graphics and albums and over 5000 gramophone records.

During the National Program “Libraries – modern reading and information centers”, ruled over by the Ministry of Culture, the National Library supplied documents not only for its collections but also for book exchange with our foreign partners in 2008.

During the year a new program for acquisition of documents in Bulgarian was established to support the needs of the book exchange with foreign libraries.

9. Preservation & Conservation

A number of documents were restored and conserved in the framework of the Project Digital Archives and Documents: Promotion, Research, and Preservation. The total amount of the restored documents in 2008 was 12 335 leaves. Those included Ottoman documents, old-printed books, Bulgarian Historical Archives documents, Arabian manuscript. All the documents were restored for a longer preservation. They were put in new wrapping paper with lower pH. All of them were newly classified and put on their places.

In 2008 the National Library received a huge donation (over 40 000 items) of the eminent Bulgarian Teodor Dimitrov. Those documents were restored and preserved before entering the Library depository.

A new dryer equipment was supplied for the Conservation, Restoration and Preservation department.

Also in the end of the 2008 the National Library was granted by the Science Researches Fund of the Ministry of Education and Science for its Project Manuscript and Documental Records from Bulgarian lands 13th - 14th centuries. There were done work-plan and some preparations within the Project.

10. Services to readers

Despite the new technologies' development and the new information carriers and the pessimistic theories about the future of the paper carrier, it is still adopted as the most reliable source in the research work.

One of the most important factors for the presence of a basic kernel of professional – 52, 71 % of all readers and the enlarged number of users through the last year is the equipment of the reading rooms with a larger number of computers, which increased the possibilities for easier access to the Internet and the local databases. The other reason is the faster processing and classification of the books and journals in Library.

As a result of the Digital Program the creation of the digital resources provides different opportunities for usage of digital journals whose paper originals can not be used by the readers. It also contributes to the preservation of library items such as valuable historic and archive documents.

We could have more achievements if there are greater possibilities:

- For journal binding, because the use of unbound periodicals forms the last years lead to the loss of some issues, to the tearing off pages and difficulties in preservation.
- For augmented subscription of foreign periodicals in traditional and electronic format as a preferred information resource.

Most important is the problem with the supplement of new depositories for the National Library and the improving of the available ones and the repairs of the inner depository lifts.

Enlarging the electronic resources has extended the transformation of the resources structure. Also the wider use of information and communication technologies has led to the changes in the users' structures. Thus there was augmentation of the readers using long distance access not only for information and documents but also for bibliographical services.

The main efforts were directed toward work in virtual environment and the main target group were:

- Readers – there were made different information products of which the main part were topical references;
- Government and research organization - information research on different projects;
- Distant users whose information needs were answered by different virtual reference services.

11. Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

During the year 26 exhibitions were held in the National Library, four of them were of national importance – National Exhibition “Truth is Sacred, Freedom is Dear. Hristo Botev. 160 Years From His Birth”, National exhibition “The Donation”, presenting Teodor Dimitrov’s donation to Bulgaria, National exhibition “The Age of Tsar Ferdinand I. Bulgaria’s return in Europe”, National Exhibition “250 Years Istorija Slavyanobulgarska (Slavonic-Bulgarian History) of father Paissiy of Chilendar”. Two of them – “The Donation” and “250 Years Istorija Slavyanobulgarska (Slavonic-Bulgarian History) of father Paissiy of Chilendar” were not enlisted in the Plan 2008.

Two national round-table talks were organized together with the Ministry of Culture – National Round-table, dedicated to the 100 Anniversary of Declaration of Independence of Bulgaria and National Round-table “Society, Reading, Book”, held in the national Palace of Culture during the 27th International Book Fair.

Nowadays the National Library of Bulgaria is desired place for book promotions, for organization of conferences, round-tables, meetings etc.

The visits on the occasion of the Library events were over 11 000 in 2008 and over 2000 invitations, cards and personal letters of invitation were sent.