

Title: ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2009
Name of country: ESTONIA
Name of library or equivalent national-level organisation: National Library of Estonia (NLE)
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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ESTONIA ANNUAL REPORT 2008

1. General overview of recent major developments

* In September 2008 the library's Supervisory Board elected Ms Janne Andresoo as new Director General for 2008-2013. Ms Andresoo has been working at the NLE since 1994, her last position was Head of Collections Management Department.

* The beginning economic recession forced the Estonian Government to adopt a negative supplementary State Budget in spring 2008 which reduced the NLE budget by 3%. As a result the NLE had to make some difficult decisions: 57 positions were reduced (saving 14% of staff costs in 2009), resources for celebrating the library's 90th anniversary were cut, the renovation plan was reviewed and limited accordingly, the library's opening hours were shortened, purchases of information and communication technology were reduced.

* Major developments related to in-house and outward communication: the library's Intranet was updated with new software and is now accessible with password also outside the library premises. New innovative channels were involved to improve public awareness of the NLE activities: the NLE news are now disseminated at the library's website through RSS, eight NLE-related videos were put up in YouTube, articles on the NLE in the Wikipedia were updated.

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

The National Library of Estonia is a legal entity in public law, operating pursuant to the National Library of Estonia Act (adopted in 1998, amended in 2002, 2006 and 2008) and its Statutes. The Library's collegial decision-making body is the Supervisory Board, appointed by the *Riigikogu* (Parliament).

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

The library was established in 1918 as a parliamentary library and is currently fulfilling a dual function of a national and parliamentary library, being also a research library for the humanities and social sciences, a library research and development centre and a cultural centre.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Staff | 409 |
| Total operating budget | € 6 912 158.00 |
| Floor space | 51 447 m ² |

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Reading rooms | 18 |
| Reader seats | 571 |
| Visits in 2008 (incl. e-visits) | 671 530 |
| Registered users | 46 380 |
| Collection on physical carriers | 3 365 685 documents |
| E-collection | 41 345 documents |
| DIGAR (digital archive of national imprint) | 6 598 documents |
| DEA (digitised Estonian periodicals from 1821-1944) | 198 titles |

4. New developments in creating and building collections.

Acquisitions for the collection of national imprint amounted to 13 619 books and 2054 annual sets of periodicals. Foreign collection was supplemented by nearly 11 000 documents. A special donation was received from Denmark - 151 matrices with Estonian music recorded in 1939, previously believed to be lost.

- Creating and building digital and e-collections

- * The NLE continued to develop the information portal for its e-library in order to improve access to the digital resources and create a joint search possibility that would cover all the library's databases. For that purpose the first version of the MetaLib/SFX based software was installed, the interface was translated and the system was tested. Until the opening of the portal, e-services are accessed via the library's website.

- * Preparations began to launch the collecting and home lending of foreign e-books. E-collections were notably supplemented by systematic scanning and archiving in DIGAR, digital archive of national imprint.

- * The Estonian microfilms register EMIFIR was opened on the web, containing entries of microfilmed national documents and archival records (altogether 3920 film rolls).

- * The archiving of periodical online publications and collecting of preprint files received special attention.

5. New developments in managing collections.

- * A new development plan for preserving the collection of national documents was drafted for the period 2009-2013.

- * Special focus was given to the digitisation of endangered national publications – a new scanner Zeutschel OS12000C was purchased and digitation management regulations were updated.

6. New developments in providing access to collections.

- * A new service was launched – readers can now order digital copies of documents not subject to copyright.

- * In 2008 a special working group started to discuss possibilities to extend the home lending of basic collection to all library users.

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

- * Under the European Commission project TELplus (ends in December 2009) where the NLE acts as coordinator among 26 partners, nearly 86 000 pages of digitised documents underwent OCR (Optical Character Recognition).

* The NLE represents Estonian memory institutions in the project EDLnet preparing the *Europeana* portal

* Two international projects ended in 2008:

- the seven partners of DIGMAP created a virtual library DIGMAP containing cartographic and geographical material and offering online access to international catalogue of digitised historical maps, a multi-language European geographical thesaurus and international database of cartographers;

- under DoD (Digitisation on Demand) 13 European libraries developed the EoD (E-book on Demand), an ordering system for digital copies of books.

* The Consortium of the Estonian Libraries Network (consisting of major Estonian research and public libraries) replaced the two servers of the electronic catalogue with more powerful ones.

* The NLE continued to act as the national ISBN, ISMN and ISSN centre.

* In co-operation with other memory institutions the NLE compiled a virtual exhibition “Our Parliament and time: facts, events, documents, people” (<http://www.nlib.ee/81534>) celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Estonian *Riigikogu* (parliament). The Estonian Librarians Association awarded this exhibition with the prize “Deed of the Year 2008”.

8. The NLE as professional research centre and cultural centre

* Two collections of scientific articles were published: “*Aetas historicorum*” (articles related to history writing from the 16th-18th centuries) as an issue of the NLE Transactions, and “Ownership Marks in Old Books” (studies in provenance of Estonian and foreign historical book collections, and reconstruction of former private and family libraries).

* New software was developed for the database of library terms. The database contains over 5000 terms approved by the Terminology Working Group of the Estonian Librarians Association and is publicly accessible via the NLE website.

* Despite reduced finances the library’s 90th anniversary celebrations still featured a number of exhibitions introducing the NLE collections, a day of discussions and lectures open for the wide public, and an *ex libris* competition for school students that enjoyed nearly 900 participants.

* In cooperation with the State Chancellery a permanent gallery was opened displaying the state decorations of the Republic of Estonia.

* Major events worth mentioning were the Christmas Book Market and the literature forum “The Library of Babel”.