

THE SLOVAK NATIONAL LIBRARY
(SLOVENSKÁ NÁRODNÁ KNIŽNICA)

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
NATIONAL LIBRARIANS – CENL

2013 – 2014

Name of Country: Slovakia

Name of Library: Slovak National Library

Form of management: state budget organisation

Date of establishment: July 1st, 2000

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E-mail: literarne.museum@snk.sk

Slavic A. S. Pushkin museum in Brodzany

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1.General overview of recent major developments

Introductory word from the General Director Dr.Katarína Krištofová

„Annual report of the Slovak National Library for the year 2013 offers a summary of the results of its activity in the previous year and the indicators of filling the tasks set out by the law.

The year 2013 was a year of changes and consolidation for the Slovak National Library. It was entered with a new organizational structure that was continuously optimized to meet the challenges that are waiting for it in the coming years in a better and more effective way. At the same time implementation of the national project Digital Library and Digital Archives proceeded vigorously, whose activities connected to the mass digitisation of the written cultural heritage related to Slovak region or peoples shift the National library towards digital future. Equally important are also activities related to the national project in the field of conservation and protection of physical collections. Implementation of the project influences significantly also the bibliographical activity of the library, possibilities of its technological infrastructure, human resources of the library and other areas that have therefore undergone changes in the past year.

Innovative features were implemented also in the other traditional activities of the national library that has stepped onto a path of

„cultural institution“ of the past towards a modern institution of the future.“

In the field of complex tackling of accessing the copyright protected digital content the representatives of the SNL became members of the Interim working group for recodification of the copyright in the Slovak Republic and of the Interim working group for the protection of the copyrights in the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the Government Council for Culture of the Slovak republic. At the same time intensive discussions were held with the relevant organisations of the collective administration of rights, where a significant positive shift has been made which will be reflected in the legislative changes in 2014.

A very positively assessed activity was „Europeana Collection Days“ where objects from the World War I were collected from the citizens in Bratislava, Martin and Košice, under the initiative Europeana 1914-1918, and where approx. 1200 objects were digitised and can be accessed together with thousands of others from the other European countries on www.europeana1914-1918.eu. Success of this national campaign has been highly rated at a European level, too. At the same time, the SNK became an associated partner of the project Europeana Collections 1914-1918, under which it will provide more than 2 200 digitised book documents from its collections from the period of the WWI. In 2013 the SNL became a member of the World Digital Library, within which the most precious and the most significant documents from the history of mankind are made available. It is an important step in the field of presenting the Slovak cultural heritage at a global level. A very important result in this area is also a more effective production line ‘aquisition – catalogisation – bibliography’ in such a way that the new coming documents are processed within 5 working days, and which resulted in processing

more than 30 000 documents that had not been processed properly and in time in terms of catalogisation and bibliography in the previous years. Other important conceptual and strategic activities (especially in the field of standardisation) that were previously neglected were carried out in a coordinated way. The SNL achieved national EBSCO licence for all libraries in Slovakia for access to electronic information sources (with an increase in the number of available databases) and provided (also distant) access to another external information sources.

Within the strategic priority Development of partnerships and increasing cooperation the SNL in cooperation with the partner libraries of the library system of the Slovak republic developed the concept of cooperative catalogisation within KIS3G that after completion and independent opponency further streamlines catalogisation processing of the book documents on a national level. In cooperation with small and medium libraries of the Slovak Republic additional priorities were set for the development of library information system KISMaSK that is provided to them by the SNK. The necessary research and analytical activities were carried out in cooperation with the Slovak libraries which will result in improvement of providing methodological, advisory, coordinating and educational activities for the library system of the Slovak Republic by the SNL. Newly formulated strategy will help to develop the provision of these services by the SNL. The implementation of the national project Information of the Libraries – Public Internet in the Slovak Libraries (including the period of sustainability) was succesfully terminated, with the servicing and system support of the 110 participtaing libraries ensured by the SNL till the end of the year 2013.

In the field of integration of passive and active protection of collections the priority is to create conditions for a better storage of

the SNL collections. A very significant step has been made in this regard – obtaining building permits for a complex reconstruction and renovation of the first historical building of the Matica slovenská which is a seat of the Literary Museum, and including this public activity into programming of the structural funds for years 2014 - 2020. Within a complex change of the national project Digital Library and Digital Archives a realization project of the building of the conservation centre of the SNL in Vrutky was elaborated and conservation technologies for the materials of written cultural heritage that will be located here were purchased. In the field of conservation science and restoration of the paper works the SNL established cooperation with a renowned subjects in the Slovak republic and abroad as well.

Within the strategic priority Result - oriented Progressive Management intra-institutional processes were made more effective in the most areas of the SNL activity – optimisation of organizational structure of the institution was made, creation of a new system of internal legislation had begun, and strategic objectives of development of organisational units were prepared together with the documents necessary for its implementation and planning for the next years, a system of planning of expenditures in the medium term was introduced and after years of uncertainty, steps were taken to harmonize the real and the legal status in relation to the real estate property of the SNK.

In the field of scientific research implementation of the project Memory of Slovakia – National center of Excellency of Research, Protection and Providing Access to the National Cultural and Scientific Heritage of Slovakia was successfully terminated on behalf of the SNL.

An elevator for immobile visitors was built in the seat building of the SNL, the long-term damage of the roof in the north-west side of the building was repaired, a realisation project of revitalization of access stairway to the seat building was elaborated, repair and renovation of the damaged memorials and gravesites administered by the SNL on the National Cemetery and an increased protection of the book funds of the SNL were secured by installation of radiofrequency system. The presentation of the SNL in public has been improved and intensified significantly.

In the framework of the strategic priority Adaptation for the Digital Future digitisation of the substantial part of the SNL collections is the aim. This goal is fulfilled through the implementation of the National project Digital Library and Digital Archives, co-funded from the resources of the European Regional Development Fund within the Priority Axis 2 of the Operational Programme Information Society, that was approved and has been implemented since 2012. There has been a significant shift in realisation of all the project activities especially a new modern Data Centre in the seat building of the Slovak National Library has been completed and it serves for the needs of digitisation and administration of the digital content, and in which one of the localities of the Central Data Archive is stored. A significant expansion of scanning capacities in the Digitisation Centre in Vrútky was achieved, and a two-shift operation of digitisation was launched that enabled a massive rise in production of digitised objects as a main measurable indicator of success of the project implementation, 91 new employees were hired (a total number of 120 employees have been involved in the project in 2013). Within the implementation of the National Project a number of changes have been proposed and agreed by the Governing body of the OPIS, from which the most

significant was a complex change of the project, approved in November 2013.

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 SNL main activities are defined in the Library Act no. 183/2000 and in the Memorandum of the SNL. The SNL was established on July 1, 2000 after the separation from the Matica slovenská. The headquarters is in Martin. The Literary Museum and the Slavic Museum of A. S. Puškin in Brodzany form an inseparable part of the SNL.

The Slovak National Library is a top state cultural, information and educational institution that fulfills the tasks set out by the Library Act no. 183/2000 and its constitutive charter.

The Slovak National Library is a state budget organisation. The main source of financing its activity is the state budget, whereas a significant proportion of funds was gained from extrabudgetary resources, especially from the non-repayable grant for the implementation of National Project Digital Library and Digital Archives.

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

Collections	4 986 652
Circulations	166 947

Users + visitors	11 537 + 95 030
Conservation + restoration	1 084 books, 46 716 documents + 344 items
Staff	322
Budget	5,7 mil. €

4. New developments in creating and building collections

Library collections are built via library budget and an extra budget allocated by the Ministry of Culture on the base of submitted priority projects. The SNL prepares a project on Acquisitions of Library Materials every year. The Ministry of culture approved financial means assigned for the year 2013 for this purpose in the sum of 47 000€. The Library funds of the Slovak National Library were complemented by the usual acquisition means: legal deposits, domestic purchase, foreign purchase, gifts, international exchange. This amount was fully depleted for the purchase of rare incunabula and prints of the 16th century. The SNL cooperated with 159 exchange partners all over the world and contacts were established with three new partners. 547 units were acquired by foreign purchase which are represented mostly by encyclopaedic, dictionary and librarian publications as well as titles from the Czech production. 992 titles - predominantly foreign Slovak-subject documents were gained through international exchange of documents. Within the retroactive supplementation numerous precious documents (such as incunabula, postincunabula, 16th century prints, bibliophile – Proglas and Masterpiece song) were gained through purchase from antiquarian bookshops, in the total value of 184 415,33 €. The growth of the National Library's Collections amounted to 31 149 units.

5. New developments in providing access to collections

Within the strategic priority Connecting users with the content a technological part of the portal solution www.snk.sk was prepared, that will be a modern way of presentation of the SNL in the virtual space. Publication of chosen works digitized within the national project was met with exceptionally positive response. The SNK consolidated and strengthened its presence on the most significant social networks which are an important communication channel with its users.

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

The Slovak National Library was an active member of many international organizations: IFLA, CENL, CDNL, CERL, IAML, ICOM, UNSECO, ISBN and ISMN.

The SNL participated at the activities of the Conference of the Directors of the National Libraries (CENL), International Federation of the Library Associations (IFLA), Czech and Slovak Library Information Network (CASLIN) and partner libraries abroad. At the same time the SNL was actively participating on the building of TEL and Europeana through the mentioned projects Europeana 1914-1918 (as a part of Europeana Awareness Project) and Europeana Collections 1914-1918.

The Literary Museum of the SNL prepared and presented numerous exhibition projects within the cooperation with the Slovaks living abroad. An exhibition of the Kovačica's naïve art painter was presented on the occasion of his 35-years of creative activity under

the name: "Kovačica by the heart and colours of Pavel Cicka". At the opening of the exhibition pieces of literary works of the other Slovaks living abroad were presented together with the poetry of Pavel Cicka.

Bilateral cooperation with national libraries remained an important issue for the SNL and was further widened by signing a Memorandum of understanding with the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina.