



MARTYNAS MAŽVYDAS NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LITHUANIA
ANNUAL REPORT
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GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The **reconstruction of the main library building** remained one of the main priorities in 2011. On 20 June 2011, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, following the Law on the Procedure for the Restoration of the Rights of Religious Communities to the Existing Real Property, adopted Resolution on the restitution of the National Library's building which at present serves as the premises for the Archive of Printed Documents of the National Archival Fund of Published Documents to the Vilnius Archdiocese. By the end of the next few years, the National Library is obliged to return this building, where over 2 million documents are preserved, to the Archdiocese. Therefore we need to urgently find speeding measures for financing the reconstruction of the main building as well as make plans for the construction of new repositories for the National Library's collections.

In 2011 the National Library focused its efforts on the following areas of activity - **improvement and development of electronic services, improvement of accessibility to information and digital content and development of library staff competences and users' information literacy skills.** The National Centre for Digitisation and the Virtual Electronic Heritage System, which was established in 2011, has become the leader in coordination and realisation of projects within the virtual electronic heritage system throughout Lithuania. Updated Lithuanian Integrated Library Information System LIBIS enabled further development and implementation of electronic services. The Library has also undertaken consistent realisation of the human resources development policy and system. A new board of the National Library's Scientific Council has been appointed, it includes the representatives from Lithuanian universities, the Academy of Sciences, and State institutions related to the development of the information society. In 2011 we resumed our strategic partnership and

cooperation with county public libraries. It will enable libraries to effectively implement the model of the system for the development of qualifications of the library staff.

Implementation of the national **project "Libraries for Innovation"**, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Library program and Lithuanian Government continued in 2011 and will be finished in 2012. This socially responsible project aimed at encouraging Lithuanian people to make use of information technologies in information search and communication. The project initiatives gained recognition, and in 2011 the project was awarded for promotion and usage initiatives in the field of electronic achievements.

In 2011 National library continued its national and international cooperation programs, maintained international contacts with European national libraries, other library institutions and organizations. Participation in activities of **Bibliotheca Baltica** and in the development of **Europeana** were the strategic priorities in 2012. The National Library has further developed existing collaborations in digital delivery and preservation areas, cultural activities and research projects.

KEY FIGURES IN 2011

Collections:

Books and bound periodicals	4 881 003
Manuscripts	75 991
Microforms	81 540
Audiovisual materials	82 537
Cartography	12 515
Other materials (including printed music, broadsheets, etc.)	1 327 713
Total holdings	
- in items	6 679 975
- in titles	1 762 305
Registered users	13 751
Number of visits	129 865
Number of virtual visits to the catalogues, databases	390 698
Number of documents borrowed	1 332 994
Number of working places for users	253
Library staff	497 (359 out of them professional librarians)
Total operating budget	
-Incomes (thousand LT/EUR)	43 919,4 / 12 720,0
-Expenditures (thousand LT/EUR)	40 030,8 / 11 593,7

PERFORMING THE FUNCTIONS OF A PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY

2011 marked twenty years from the National Library starting to perform parliamentary library functions. In 1991 the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania adopted a resolution which expanded the National Library's functions and gave it the status of a parliamentary library. This document was the first National Library related legal act of the independent Lithuania. For performing the new function, the Parliamentary Information Department was established with the prime responsibility to provide reference and information services for the governing bodies of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, members of the Seimas, their advisers and public servants. During the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the parliamentary library, the

exhibition "The National Library: the first decades of the development of the parliamentary library" was opened at the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. It presented documents illustrating the development of the parliamentary library in 1991–2011. During the two decades of performing its functions of a parliamentary library, the National Library accomplished and refined services for Lithuanian parliamentarians and members of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. Since 2004 the National Library has been issuing the periodical scientific research publication *Parlamento studijos* ("Parliamentary Studies") presenting material related to the issues of the expression of democratic processes, history, law, political sciences, language and dissemination of information.

COLLECTIONS AND ACQUISITIONS

Legal deposit and donations remain the main source of acquisition of documents for the National Library collections and the National Archival Fund of Published Documents. The legal deposit copies constituted 91% of documents acquired (against 50.8% in 2010). Since 2009, funding of the Acquisition Programme had been suffering steady reduction. In 2011, acquisitions funding amounted to 28% of that in 2010, and only to 11% of that in 2009.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATING AND BUILDING DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Organization of digitization activities in Lithuania and funding of these activities were defined in the *Strategy on Digitization of Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access* and its *implementation framework in 2007-2013*. The Lithuanian Government adopted these important documents in 2009. In 2010 the National Library with the partners from nine Lithuanian cultural institutions started implementing the project "*Development of the Virtual Electronic Heritage System*" for the creation of cultural heritage content. The project is intended to expand the system's functionality and support effective search. The infrastructure is being developed, regional digitisation centres have been established in project partners' institutions and equipped with digitisation hardware and software, and teams of qualified digitisation professionals have been recruited. These centres will ensure analysis and coordination of digitisation on the national level, preservation and dissemination of the cultural heritage as well as providing possibilities for new projects integrating cultural heritage into educational and cultural tourism programmes. The National Library undertook the task of creating a system for monitoring of digitisation activities assigned to it by the Council for Digitisation of Lithuanian Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania. A feasibility study and technical project for the creation of software for the system of monitoring of digitisation have been prepared.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

The recent social changes, rapid development of ICT and tremendously increasing flow of knowledge and information offered new possibilities for the National Library step into new levels of performance, make essential improvements in operational processes, and ensure establishment and development of services provided on the basis of new information technologies. Purposeful efforts of the National Library in creation and development of the

national information infrastructure, digital content and e-services make a positive impact on the quality of information services to the society as well as the whole economic, social and cultural life of the country. This is also proved by the last year's positive changes in statistical indicators of provision of e-services by the National Library. The infrastructure created during implementation of projects financed from EU and other sources will be further used for the development of new information services and will strengthen the role of the National Library as a service provider for the society and the Lithuanian library system. In 2012 it is intended to start a new investment project "Implementing Presentation of Electronic Publications to the Reader and Electronic Search Within Library Catalogues" for expanding electronic catalogue, instruction and other popular services via mobile devices as well as creation of new reader services and increasing the attraction of the traditional ones. The project financed from the EU Structural Funds "Presenting Classical Works of Lithuanian Literature Online" aiming to develop new electronic services for the access to classical works of Lithuanian literature in electronic form is intended to be performed in 2012.

There was further implementation of *Lithuanian Integrated Library Information System LIBIS*. In 2009–2012 the National Library implemented the investment project "Development of Interactive Electronic Services for Ordering and Receiving Publications at Public Libraries" financed from the European Structural Funds. The following results were achieved in 2011:

- installation of public library self-service systems enabling self-service return of publications by library customers on a 24/7 basis in 46 Lithuanian libraries for the first time. Radio-frequency identification (RFID) and Electromagnetic (EM) technologies for self-service were installed accordingly in 6 and 5 libraries.
- Development of a system for automatic informing of users, development and installation of software in Lithuanian public libraries for performing interactive e-services.

Accomplishment of the project "Development of Interactive Electronic Services for Ordering and Receiving Publications at Public Libraries" resulted in the establishment of the portal www.ibiblioteka.lt, where library users can get the following e-services: ordering the reader's card, using an automatic reference system and personally administer the time for receiving documents, ordering and receiving full-text documents, document copies or their digitised parts, and make payments for them. There is a possibility for subscribing news about the National Library and other public libraries, services provided or available documents.

PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION

The following tasks for the long-term preservation of documents were accomplished by the Document Conservation and Restoration Centre: 29,356 conditional pages of documents and 91 binding restored; 1,451 documents cleaned and disinfected; 526 periodicals bound; 3,710 individual protective wrappers and boxes produced; 77,811 frames of Lituania periodicals microfilmed. Within the framework of its functions as a national research and methodical centre for preservation, conservation and restoration of library collections, the National Library

constantly provides consultations for libraries and other institutions on issues of long-term preservation of documents, performs research and prepares various methodical materials. In 2011 a methodical tool for the evaluation of conservation/restoration expenses for conservation/restoration of the National Library documents having the status of movable cultural property resulting in fundamental improvement of their state was developed. Investigation in the feasibility for stabilisation of paper containing green copper pigment was performed. Self-training workshops on weaving book headbands, stitching up of book sheets and conservation of manuscripts written with ink containing metal ions were organised.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The project "Libraries for Innovation" that is being implemented by the National Library of Lithuania together with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will be finished in 2012. In order to retain innovation and results achieved by public libraries during the project implementation, the following activities ensuring continuity of library services and initiatives after the project's accomplishment have been scheduled: updating of infrastructure, ensuring librarians' participation in extended trainings, supporting tools for public relations activities and motivation of people, and impact assessment. An important role in ensuring continuity of training activities could be played by county and municipal public libraries with training centres operating within them. To achieve sustained consolidation and coordination of certain activities, the National Library undertakes responsibility in the following areas: centralised support and maintenance of information systems; updating of qualifications of public library staff; national-scale monitoring, exploring and analysis of the situation; and promotion of public library activities.

Considering the fact that the Centre for Professional Improvement of Lithuanian Cultural Workers terminated its work on 1 January 2012, the National Library prepared a new model for the improvement of librarian's qualifications. The proposed model provides for the following hierarchy for organising training processes: the National Library is responsible for training its own staff and that of county public libraries, whereas the county libraries organise and/or implement library staff training in their regions. The key goal of the training model is achieving a new quality of library development and ensuring sustainable future for libraries through development of the staff's personal and professional competences.