

## **ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2011**

Name of country: **Russian Federation**

Name of library: **Federal State Budget Institution «The National Library of Russia» (NLR), St. Petersburg**

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### **1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.**

- V.R. Firsov, NLR Deputy Research Director, was elected President of the Russian Library Association.
- The NLR participated in strategic development programs, namely LIBNET and new work in the National Collections Preservation Program
- There was a convention in the NLR of the 3<sup>rd</sup> All-Russian Public Libraries Forum, a major professional event for municipal libraries.
- The Annual meeting of senior executives of central libraries in Russian Federal entities also occurred. The meeting discussed practical and theoretical issues from every entity and librarians from almost all professional communities reported on their research.
- The NLR Press won the *Best Books of the Year* prize in “Best publication contributing to cultural interaction” for the *First Album of Fr. Hyacinthus (N.Ya. Bichurin)* in 2 vols.
- The NLR acted as the principal organizer of conferences on *Electronic resources from publishers to reading communities*, the *150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Voltaire Library, Book production and trade in Russia in the 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Brazhnikov Lectures*, etc.
- The Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, Garegin II, visited the NLR (on a pastoral visit to Saint Petersburg), and an Exhibition on *Russian and Armenian spiritual liaisons* was mounted on this occasion.

### **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.**

- According to a new law taking effect 01 January 2012, the NLR will have a new budget model. The government will now finance the Library based on performance, or on contracts completed.

- The NLR formulated and promoted proposals for the revision of Part 4, of the Russian Federation General Code of Laws, for improved information availability in libraries. As a result of the NLR’s persistence, these proposals were brought to the attention of the Federation Council, the State Duma, the Social Assistance Committee, etc., and incorporated into official legislation.

Proposals submitted by the NLR resulted in amendments to the working Federal *Government Purchases Act*, allowing purchases up to 400,000 rubles without concomitant special procedures. Proposals were also formulated for a draft Federal *Culture Act*.

- Theoretical monographs are being created to analyze state library policies between 2001 and 2010, and the role of libraries in civil society.

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

- As of 1 January 2012, the NLR collections contain 36,475,000 documents. Annual acquisitions amounted to 448,300 copies, including 19,000 foreign documents. Legal deposit of 335,000 still provides the main source for collection development.
- Attendance was 966,000, i.e. 41,000 less than in 2010. Reading room visits, and circulation of 6.3 million, including interlibrary loans of 28,500 (900 less than in the previous year) continue to show declines.
- Readership increased by 27,800, with 204,500 current NLR cards an increase of 63,000-, including 136,600 high-school graduates, and 4,900 elementary school students. As before, most of registered readers are younger than 35 years of age. Classical scholars continue to use the library collections.
- Annual NLR website visits amounted to 4.6 million with 56.7 million pages viewed, including 4.3 million in the NLR's electronic library.
- Annual use of person to person bibliographic reference is 343,500, of which 233,900 used the electronic library. Bibliographical surveys amounted to 6,000.
- In 2011, the NLR acted as the main sponsor for 31 All-Russian or international conferences.
- Total staff amounted to 1,805 FTE.
- The total operating budget was 986,371,000 rubles

### **4. New developments in creating and building collections.**

- All Library units classified 160,400 documents, with subject classification covering 126,126,800 printed works, and 33,600 citations. The 258,200 new entries in the NLR's electronic catalogue include 157,000 for Russian and 5,300 for foreign books, and 95,900 for serials.
- 10 million rubles were assigned for retrospective conversion of card catalogues.
- Much work was done in verifying collections and on their arrangement. Documentary verification covered 1,355,426 items, and shelf-reading was done for 13,163,356 items. A total of 796,900 copies were relocated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> shelving area of the New building. The Fine Print collections were also relocated.
- A decision concerning modernization of the automated library system was made in 2011 to comply with current world library standards. Consequently, several modules were purchased late in 2011 for the new automated library information service ALEPH to provide the basis for an advanced approach to library automation in the NLR.

### **5. New developments in managing collections.**

- The main project of the NLR was automation of management processes and the comprehensive adoption of an integrated automated system in Collection Management. Restoration services were provided by the NLR's Federal Conservation and Preservation Centre.

### **New developments in providing access to collections.**

- The Electronic Delivery Service filled 7,023 requests, i.e. 391 less than in 2010. EDS subscribers received 46,171 e-pages.
- Responding to user needs, the NLR has been deeply involved in the development of an internal resource base, the Electronic Library (EL). In order to avoid randomness and lack of method, the Bibliography & Reference Service Department appointed the Council of EL content experts in 2011 as part of the Information Service Council.
- 42,100 documents were digitized in 2011. The total size of the electronic library is 404,600 documents.

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

- In 2011, the NLR took part in the following major All-Russian and City celebrations: *Scotland Culture Days*, 11th *Japan Spring* festival, Kazakhstan Republic *Cultural Heritage* State Program, *Sweden Days* in Saint Petersburg; and *Nordic Week* in Saint Petersburg.
- The NLR also collaborated with relevant Consulates General and municipal authorities for the *Russia-Italy* and *Russia-Spain* cross-year festivals. In particular, four exhibitions in *Russia-Italy* context, and two exhibitions and an international genealogy conference were organized for the *Russia-Spain* year.
- The NLR negotiated 25 contracts with foreign libraries and other institutions. Agreements were most actively implemented with national libraries of Poland (reconstruction of Zalusski library), Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan's Documentary Memory), and Finland (Finno-Ugric Digital Project).