

**21st CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN NATIONAL LIBRARIANS
(CENL), HELSINKI, FINLAND, 27—29 SEPTEMBER 2007**

Name of Country: Russian Federation

Name of Library: Russian State Library (RSL), Moscow

Name of Chief Executive: Victor Fedorov, RSL Director General

ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2007

The most important results of 2006

RSL opened new possibilities for its users:

- A collection of library-information resources of universal coverage — «Electronic Leninka» was made accessible. Besides books this collection includes copies of documents of various types and content: digital copies of journals, newspapers, dissertations autoabstracts, manuscripts materials, music, maps, posters and other types of graphic publications, records;
- A digital collection «State Symbols of Russia. History and Reality» was created;
- The electronic library collection became 1.5 times bigger than last year and corresponds to 0.4% of the total RSL stock (in 2005 — 0.25%);
- Nearly twice as big was the number of titles within networked remote resources available to RSL users;
- Pilot project on implementation of virtual reference service (Question Point) was successfully finished that enabled to broaden the scope of RSL reference service;
- Each fifth visitor used RSL electronic resources.

The scope and geography of distant library users broadened

During 2006 56 new virtual reading rooms of digital theses library were opened, including in the State Duma of the Russian Federation and largest libraries and universities.

By the end of 2006 more than 200 virtual reading rooms provided services in 56 cities of the Russian Federation and in two capitals of CIS countries.

In 2006 RSL initiated the establishment of the Public Committee on Libraries Development Assistance

The Committee consists of MPs, heads of a number of the subject the Russian Federation, ministries, federal agencies, mass media, representatives of scientific, creative and library communities.

The chair of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly B.V. Gryslov was elected as a chair of the Public Committee and the RSL Director V.V. Fedorov works as an executive secretary.

A number of scientific-practical conferences organised in 2006 had a very strong social impact. Among them:

- International Conference «Rumyantsev Readings 2007» (April, Moscow) on the theme «Publishers – Libraries – Readers in the scientific communication system. Challenges of Internet age», which took place within the «Year of Russian language and reading». (It should be mentioned that the previous International Conference «Rumyantsev Readings 2006» on the theme «Libraries, museums and archives creating information and intellectual space» (in cooperation with State Tretyakov Gallery, April 2006) was included in CDNL RSL Annual Report 2006);
- 5th international conference «Digital Age of Culture — 2006» (September 2006) was held in Kamchatka regional research library named after S.P. Krashennnikov in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky under the aegis of UNESCO
- All-Russian annual conference of Directors of federal and regional libraries on the theme «Libraries under Reforms. Problems and Ways of Solutions» (November 2006);
- Public hearings on the actual topic «Counteraction to Xenophobia, Extremism and Neofascism» (March 2006).

Research Publications of three staff members of the RSL were named as the best ones in All-Russian Research Works on Library Science, Bibliography and Book Science Competition

In 2006 1 Doctoral Thesis and 3 Candidates Dissertations were defended at the Dissertation Council of the RSL.

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