



**Raport  
de activitate 2009**

**Activity Report 2009**

**Biblioteca  
Națională  
a României**

**The National  
Library  
of Romania**

**2009**

**Editura Bibliotecii Naționale a României  
București, 2010**

## The National Library of Romania in 2009

For the National Library of Romania, 2009 was the year of institutional strengthening, a year which focused on the confirmation of patrimonial function, hence ensuring, in accordance with the principles of modern librarianship, the creation, processing, preservation, conservation and valuing the national documentary heritage.

Information and digitization infrastructure development, an initiative started in 2008 and continued in 2009, enabled the upgrading of activities, specific products and services and provided optimum support for the library projects and programs.

Professional cooperation and partnerships with institutions from Romania and abroad have allowed the institution to involve in scientific and cultural projects having as the main objective the promotion of the national cultural heritage.

In Europe, the National Library of Romania collaborated as a partner in three major projects for digital content creation, relevant to European cultural memory. Consequently, we provided representation of Romanian documentary heritage in **The European Library - TEL**, **ENRICH - Manuscriptorium** and **Rediscover** projects

The National Library of Romania cultural and scientific agenda expressed our involvement in supporting, promoting and enhancing the national written heritage, our openness to interculturalism, to express cultural messages in various forms of documentary and artistic representation. Our partnerships with museums, arts institutions, cultural associations and media, materialized in exhibitions, shows, cultural programs, scientific events, are a testimony in this regard.

Cultural events, conferences, virtual exhibitions and participation in book fairs have helped NLR to achieve a consistent and convincing visibility in the community, in cultural and information media.

The financial crisis deeply affected our institution in 2009, the economical context did not allow us to make essential investments and development projects.

However, it was an important year for upgrading specific activities and services by developing work procedures, by training and by involving all our staff in activities related to the construction of the new NLR building.

The Activity Report describes the institutional course of the National Library of Romania in 2009, through which, despite budgetary difficulties and their implications, our institution has maintained and enhanced its ascending track.

**dr. Elena Tîrziman**  
General director



## **The Mission of the National Library of Romania**

The National Library of Romania has the mission to identify, collect, organize, research, develop, preserve and promote the national heritage and the Română collection of printed and other types of documents published abroad, referring to Romania, Romanian people and Romanian culture, works of Romanian authors published in any language, Romanian-language publications of foreign authors published abroad.

Organize Legal Deposit, the main documentary source regarding knowledge of Romanian culture and civilization.

Provides quality access to its collections, for the contemporary generation, as well as for the future ones, with the purpose of research, study or informing.



## **The Vision of the National Library of Romania**

Fundamental institution for the national heritage, the National Library of Romania conserves, manages and promotes an important part of the national heritage and participate in building a modern, dynamic and well informed society, integrating at national level, its documentation and information resources, creating a path through general knowledge, especially for Romanian culture and spirituality.

A real national information center, the National Library of Romania is serving education and scientific research, for the social, cultural and economical development of Romania.

### **The hour of literature in the National Library of Romania**

The event takes place regularly for the students from Bucharest, by the literary critic Alex Stefanescu. The hour of literature aims to supplement the school Romanian literature classes and to persuade students to rediscover the pleasure of reading. In 2009 were presented, from an unconventional perspective, Nichita Stanescu, Ana Blandiana and Nicolae Breban. The events were accompanied by exhibitions of books, photographs, well as short readings from the works of the authors.

### **The Guitar Estival: looking for the lost beauty**

Between 28 June to 6 August, the National Library of Romania, in partnership with the Chitarodia cultural association and with the National Cultural Fund Administration, organized a Guitar Estival under the title Looking for the lost beauty. Thus, for eight weeks, every Thursday evening, music lovers could enjoy the interpretations of talented musicians. Each evening was devoted to special themes, from Latin and Slavonic music to Celtic and Irish music, passing through tango and flamenco, Renaissance and Baroque music. The musical moments were punctuated by moments of dance and well-chosen reading, in keeping with the theme of the evening.

### **The New Website of the National Library of Romania**

At the beginning of the year 2009 the new website of the library was launched. The working group analyzed the weak points of the old site, both in terms of the promotion of the institution and the fulfillment of its mission as well as in terms of responsiveness to the users' needs. Following this analysis the structure and the functionality of the new site were established. Thus the website is the library's virtual image in the world, helping to increase its visibility, and in the same time it is a knowledge portal for its users, providing services meant to cover and satisfy their needs. The National Library on the Internet is a library open to anyone anytime. Its website presents the traditional library and its expertise in the field of information science, adding all types of user-oriented services, sustained by the new technologies.

## ► ENRICH Project

The ENRICH project (December 1st, 2007 to November 30, 2009) was funded under eContent+ programme, involved 18 partners and 100 associated partners and was coordinated by the Czech National Library. Its purpose was to provide seamless access to digital images of documents from various European cultural institutions, by creating a virtual research environment dedicated to the study of manuscripts, incunabula, old and rare printed books and other historical documents.

Manuscriptorium ([www.manuscriptorium.com](http://www.manuscriptorium.com)) is the largest resource of digital manuscripts in Europe, providing to those interested more than one million pages in electronic form. ENRICH project continues Manuscriptorium and integrates data from digital libraries in Europe. Metadata for the central database is collected using OAI-PMH protocol (Open Archives Initiative) and provide links to digital objects stored in digital repositories of the participating libraries.

The National Library of Romania is partner in Enrich project since April, 2008 and contributes to the portal with 109 Romanian books from XVI-th – XVIII-th centuries, documents of great cultural, historical and artistic value, and 123 valuable manuscripts from the Batthyaneum Branch collections.

### **ENRICH project results are outstanding:**

- developing of the portal of European digital library of manuscripts Manuscriptorium
- developing a work platform (Manuscriptorium) and setting up a collaborative working way, simple and effective, independent of the local applications of participating libraries
- creating specific free tools for the participating libraries
- standardization of data and metadata
- cooperation in the international projects: TEL and Europeana
- promoting of best practices in digitizing.

European Digital Library of manuscripts is integrates in the portal of the European national libraries (The European Library) and the European Digital Library (Europeana).

By participating in this project, the National Library of Romania has contributed to the dissemination of the national cultural heritage in the world, offering free access to valuable documents of its collections, anytime and anywhere.

### ► TELplus Project

TELplus Project (October, 2007 - December 30, 2009) was funded by the European Commission under the eContent+ programme, involved 27 partners and was coordinated by the Estonian National Library.

TELplus had as a main objective the development and improvement of the services of The European Library portal in terms of content, usability and accessibility. It represents an important step towards Europeana – the European Digital Library –, and ensures the creation of valuable information for the citizens of the world, and for the national libraries in Europe.

The European Library Portal [www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org](http://www.TheEuropeanLibrary.org), is a single point of access to resources of national libraries in Europe.

TELplus project results for the National Library of Romania are:

- best practices in international collaboration projects of interoperability
- full membership in The European Library
- integration of the National Library collections in the [www.theeuropeanlibrary.org](http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org) portal.

### ► European Cultural Project - Rediscover (2009-2010)

The National Library of Romania participates in the project initiated by the Czech National Library, "REDISCOVER" (Reunion of Dispersed Content: Virtual Evaluation and Reconstruction), project funded under the European cooperation program, Culture Programme 2007 – 2013.

The Polish National Library, the National Library of Lithuania and the National Library of Romania were invited to join in this program based on specific objectives such as providing support to the transnational circulation of cultural works and goods and promoting intercultural dialogue.

This project aims to gather, to virtually rebuild and make accessible the collections dispersed in the late Middle Age and early modern era, especially during the 30 years war (1618 to 1648), a period of extensive destruction in the Germanic space and in the whole area known today as Central Europe.

The project stages are: selection of the documents, their digitization and integration into a digital library on the Manuscriptorium.com platform. Each participating country will organize an exhibition and a workshop to illustrate the concept of gathering the selected documents.

National Library of Romania has selected from the collection of foreign incunabula and rare books of the Special Collections Department, a total of 306 volumes covering the time period from 1477 to 1620. Our selection was based on the following criteria: conservation status, period, geographical area, bibliophile values. The selection reflects the main themes and topics of the European culture of that period: texts of classical Greek and Latin authors, the fundamental texts of Christianity, various editions of the Bible, works of the Church Fathers, religious works both catholic and protestant, scientific works reflecting fundamental changes brought by the Renaissance and Humanism in the natural sciences, geography and history.

## The digital Bible

**The Bible in Latin** was the first monumental work printed by Johannes Gutenberg in Mainz, around 1454/1455. This first printed Bible is known as “The 42-line Bible”, or the “Gutenberg Bible.”

In the incunabula collections of Romania there are 2 copies of this edition of the Bible printed in Venice by Leonhard Wild in 1478: one copy is in the National Library collections, the other in the collections of the Szekely Museum of Ciuc, Miercurea Ciuc.

The National Library’s copy is complete (456 pages in 2°), very well preserved; in the 4 corners of the first and last pages there are traces of metallic cabochons from an older binding. Its value is enhanced by the hand-made decoration: full gold double frame, enclosing Renaissance ornamental motifs (watercolor in five colours, each colour in two shades), engraved initials, and illumination. The binding is in parchment, the book cuts were dyed blue. The volume has an ex-libris: “*Ion Bratianu Library (engraver Titu Dan Elian)*”. The incunabulum was included in the collections of the National Library of Romania 1956, from the collections of the “*People’s Revolutionary Struggle*” Library.

## A Space for the National Cultural Community: The New Building of the National Library of Romania

Elaborated by Carpați Project Company, in collaboration with specialists from the National Library of Romania, the architectural design project of the new building of NLR is meant to sustain its role of promoting Romania’s culture in the country and all over the world.

The edifice - one of the largest in Bucharest - will be finished in 2011, 25 years after the works started (1986).

The building of the National Library of Romania is the property of the Romanian state and the project is managed by the Ministry of Culture, in its quality of contracting and credit release authority.

The first floors are reserved for the public and include conference and exhibition rooms, bookshops, antique shops, multimedia rooms, entertainment area, kindergarten, reading rooms for different fields of knowledge – social sciences, art and music, history, geography –, bookstores and a lecture hall with 400 seats in the Aula.

The upper floors include specific areas for a national library – storage areas for general collections, legal deposit collections, special collections; collection processing area; laboratory for conservation and restoration of publications etc.

The entire composition is structured around a large atrium, which will be the functional and aesthetical pole of the building. There will be panoramic elevators and escalators leading to the reading rooms.

The public spaces, both inside and outside the building, will be designed with water basins, ornamental plants, art objects and decorative lighting. The area surrounding the building will include terraces, platforms, alleys and gardens, flower exhibitions. A seasonal outdoor library with a hemispherical dome and small pavilions in wood and glass will be laid out.

The entire collection of the National Library of Romania: **12.547.975 u.b.**

In 2009, the National Library of Romania has enriched its collections with a number of 90650 bibliographic units from which 44830 units accessible to users and 45850 bibliographic units for the legal deposit collection, in accordance with the legal deposit law.

### **National Library's new integrated system ALEPH 500 v. 18**

In October 2008, after the acquisition of an integrated library system with three components:

- a. library documents management application (Aleph 500 v. 18)
- b. heterogeneous resource management portal (Metalib)
- c. digital library application (DigiTool) the process of implementation began, with the collaboration of all library departments involved in the workflow.

During October-November 2008 the dedicated servers were installed and configured and continuously monitored.

Between November 2008 and February 2009 several training sessions for library staff were organized, for every component, especially for the library documents management application, Aleph 500 v. 18, for all modules: cataloging, authority files, acquisitions/control serials, circulation, OPAC, system administration. The client applications on user's computers were installed and configured.

Data conversion was done by the supplier company, and in June 2009 the conversion was accepted by the customer (library), after analyzing the accuracy and integrity of the records.

During June-September 2009, the TIC department centralized the technical specifications for all reports to be made based on data from ALEPH (for legal deposit statistics, inventory numbers, national bibliography, other dedicated reports).

From July, 15th to September, 1st tests were made for all the application modules and the old database converted, was uploaded in the new system.

In September 2009 we started to use effectively the new library software, Aleph.

Emphasis was put on accuracy, consistency and integrity of the database (from the way the database was converted from TINLIB, to the way of inputting data into the new system, ALEPH) and on the basic settings for the proper functioning of the system.

In the next period, we will focus on the optimization of the retrieval system, on the configuration of various ways of displaying data (for librarians, for users, etc.), on the development of new types of reports and on the configuration of various types of users.



## **Conservation and Restoration of the National Library of Romania Collections in 2009**

Considering its tasks, the National Center for Pathology and Restoration of Documents (CNPRD) cooperates directly with all the library departments that are responsible for the conservation status of the library collections: Special collections, Legal deposit, Deposits, Binding, National Book Reserve, Collection development.

During 2009 a monitoring program for the special collections and for the contemporary collections was implemented.

The training program of the experts in restoration has continued, under CNPRD supervision.

NLR continued its cooperation with the Centre of Professional Training in Culture (CPPC) in the frame of national programs and specialized training for librarians, conservators and restorers, by teaching courses in preventive conservation at the CPPC, by organizing professional visits at the CNPRD etc.

NLR provided professional assistance, by request, to other Romanian institutions, in the field of physic-chemical and biological investigations of the patrimony books.

### **Collection Conservation and Preservation at the Batthyaneum Branch**

In order to improve the collections preservation, the Batthyaneum branch has reorganized the deposits containing artifacts, archeological objects and library internal archive from the XIX-XXI centuries.

The library professionals have made a report regarding the conditions in the deposits, the conservation status of the Batthyaneum Library collections, and have elaborated other two important documents: The building conservation datasheet and The conservation status of museum objects.

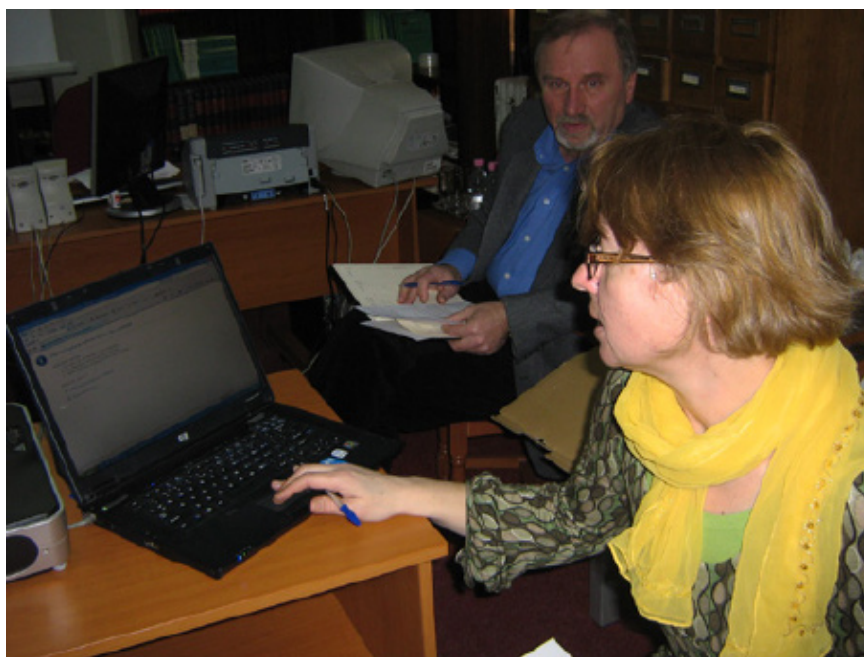


## Digitization Activity

In 2009 the National Library of Romania continued the process of creating digital content, accessible to the users through the digital library interface. The digitized documents from the National Library collections are integrated in international portals, created in international projects like TEL-Plus and Manuscriptorium.

The National Virtual Library department adds a new dimension to the national library functions, that is the conservation and preservation of the national patrimony through digitization and providing better access to its collections, offering new possibilities for research and promotion of the national patrimony. To achieve these goals, the Romanian National Library acquired in late 2008 a digital library application, DigiTool. DigiTool is a specialized application that offers solutions for archiving, retrieval, management and distribution of all types of digital documents. The software enables creation, management and preservation of digital collections, facilitating the integration of digital collections with institutional portals, e-learning systems, other products and services.

Digital objects and associated metadata are treated, stored, classified, managed and promoted in DigiTool digital repository. The digital library interface for the users offers multiple criteria for searching, a variety of formats for displaying, and different other online services.



In the implementation process the following stages were completed:

The five modules (Deposit, Ingest, Meditor, Collection Management, Resource Discovery) have been configured in accordance with the volume of documents to be digitized in the next period; collections to be published and made available on web have been structured, metadata structures associated with digital collections were produced; procedures were developed to describe digital objects and associated metadata; tests were made and 16,700 pages (old books, ex libris, photos) were; uploaded in the digital library; the Aleph-DigiTool synchronization was tested.

## **Elaboration of the Digitization Guide**

In 2009, National Library of Romania elaborated the first version of the “Digitization Guide - thematic pillar “Libraries” in collaboration with important libraries of the National Libraries System, owning digital collections and/or cultural heritage documents, such as: Central University Library Eugen Todoran” from Timisoara, Central University Library “Lucian Blaga” from Cluj-Napoca, Central University Library “Mihai Eminescu” Iasi, Central University Library “Carol I” Bucharest, the National Association of Public Libraries from Romania, Romanian Academy Library. The guide is based also on the international experience in this field. The work covers the theoretical aspects of digitization activities, technical issues and provides recommendations for the preparation and handling of patrimony documents in the scanning process.

The guide was published on the website of the National Library, and it will be continuously updated and completed.

## **Cooperation within the National Libraries System**

One of the National Library’s responsibilities in the National Libraries System is to centralize the achievements in the digitization process, in order to recover and promote them and to avoid duplication of work in the system.

The National Virtual Library Department has collected data from all the libraries in the country and permanently updated the list of digitization projects and digitized documents. In 2009, the National Virtual Library Department developed the methodology for updating the Inventory List and sent it to all the libraries of the National Libraries System. 67 county and university libraries have provided information and 282 updates were made in the inventory list of digitized documents. On 12/31/2009 total number of digitized documents in Romanian libraries was 10,173.

## **Collections communication**

The collections communication represented in 2009 approximately 20% of the overall activity of the National Library.

The collections communication in the National Library of Romania was done traditionally, through the catalogs room, where it provides expert guidance as well as through the reading rooms.

An important role in the communication activity, directly or remotely, is represented by the providing of the bibliographic references by request and the developing of information and documentation published works: Cultural Anniversaries, ABSI. Abstracts in Library and information science, Librarianship: Synthesis, translations, methodologies.

The National Library of Romania website is an important communication medium of collections, offering to the visitors useful information in real time.

In 2009, the National Library of Romania website [www.bibnat.ro](http://www.bibnat.ro) had a total of 55,706 visitors, 84,628 visits and 331,483 page views.

### **Collections Communication at the Batthyaneum Branch**

In 2009, 27 researchers have studied 2753 items, including 70 manuscripts, 223 prints, 2394 archival documents.

The library was visited by 46 groups (520 people).





## Cultural agenda

The National Library of Romania continued to put into practice the policy of promoting its image, increasing its reputation and visibility among the public (media, public, scientific and cultural environment from Romania and abroad, etc.). The scientific and cultural activities included in the annual agenda contributed to create and strengthen the message and the identity of the library, to establish and maintain the dialogue with the society.

The main vision of the cultural and professional agenda of the library is to put forward the institution as a whole and to promote culture.

Promotional activity in 2009 had two main directions: continuity and innovation. The library continued a series of events that have already created a tradition, attracting an audience that is ever growing and diversified (as, for example, the annual event The Days of the National Library of Romania, XII-th edition) and initiated new events such as: The hour of literature in the National Library of Romania, with the participation of literary critic Alex Stefanescu, and the Guitar Estival: looking for the lost beauty.

It should be pointed out the involvement of the Special Collections Department in the promotional activities, setting a richer cultural agenda than in the previous years, organizing a series of cultural events to promote the most valuable collections of the library – photographs, manuscripts, prints, ex libris, flyers, etc. Moreover, the Special Collections Department have contributed to establish new cultural agreements and have organized interesting exhibitions in collaboration with cultural institutions from Bucharest (The Romanian National Archives, Cotroceni National Museum and the District 2 Bucharest City Hall).

It also worth mentioning the promotional activities of the Omnia Branch, in Craiova, in accordance with its specific cultural profile (promoting French culture and French-Romanian relations, especially among students): book launches, book readings to promote Romanian contemporary literature, art exhibitions.



Despite its low budget, the National Library of Romania continued to participate in book fairs like the Gaudemus International Fair - Educational Books in November 2009.

## Publishing Activity

Reconfigured by the new Regulation on Organization and Functioning approved in 2009, the Editorial and Promotional departments are meant to implement the editorial and the cultural policy of the National Library of Romania, by: publishing monographs and periodicals, coordinating events and exhibitions which promote Romanian culture in the country and abroad and sustain Romanian specialized education.

The publishing activity of 2009 had two main purposes: to ensure the unity and the continuity of the various publications of the library, coordinated by different departments, and, secondly, to edit new publications, such as Romanian Journal of Book Preservation and Restoration.

Launched in December 2009, on the occasion of the XIIth edition of the National Library Days, the Romanian Journal of Book Preservation and Restoration renew the themes of the old publication „Issues in book pathology: collection of documentary material”, coordinated by the Laboratory of Book Pathology and Restoration (today, the National Center of Pathology and Restoration). The new publication rejoins papers and studies of the professionals in the field, from all over the country (libraries, museums, archives, research institutes).

Another new publication is Library Journal: Journal of Librarianship and information science; included in the editorial portfolio of the National Library of Romania in March 2009, the prestigious publication, which celebrated the 61-th anniversary, aims to reflect the activities of the Romanian public libraries and to highlight the methodological role of National Library of Romania.

As for the existing publications, we should note the publication Librarianship: synthesis, methodologies, translations has reconfigured and updated the content, providing a generous space for the methodologies developed by the National Library of Romania, aiming to publish thematic issues; the publication Information and Documentation has been transformed from a monography to a serial annual publication (the issue of this year contains the papers of the students undertaiking master's degree and doctoral studies from the Faculty of Letters, Librarianship and Information Science Department - University of Bucharest); the publication The Journal of the National Library of Romania aims to promote the collections, the products, the services and the NLR functions, but also other major themes of the national and European culture.

## **Activity of the scientific committee**

In 2009, in the Scientific committee of the National Library of Romania were developed and approved relevant documents for the library activity as: legal deposit implementation guidelines, the collections policy, retrospective acquisition in the National Library of Romania, etc.

### **Attendances at International Conferences in 2009**

**March, 26 - 27:** Vilnius University Library hosted a meeting dedicated to ENRICH project (European Networking Resources and Information Concerning Cultural Heritage), supported by the European Union eContentplus program and coordinated by the Czech National Library. The representatives of the National Library of Romania presented the paper National Library of Romania involvement in ENRICH project.

**March, 26- 27:** Meeting of TelPlus project working group in The Hague for exchanging experiences and discuss implementation plan.

**May, 26:** Digital Access to Cultural Heritage - international conference in Prague on the theme of digitization of cultural heritage, attended by the most relevant representatives of digitization projects in Europe, digitization professionals, directors of national libraries as well and most important institutions and organizations actively involved in the digitization process at European level

**August, 31-September, 3:** From August, 31 to September, 3, in Chişinău, the Council of Europe Information Office, the Publishers Association of Moldova in cooperation with the National Library of Romania and the County Library Gheorghe Asachi from Iasi organized the eighteenth edition of the International Book Exhibition dedicated to the memory of Grigore Vieru. The program included several activities aimed to promote the written culture.

**September, 3-6:** Czech National Library, Prague - Rediscover project kick-off meeting. Attended by representatives of the four partners in the project: Czech Republic (coordinator: Czech National Library), Lithuania, Poland and Romania. Rediscover project (Reunion of dispersed Content: Virtual Reconstruction and Evaluation) is a cooperation project under the Culture Programme 2007-2013. Project coordinators presented the project objectives and activities. Project milestones and responsibilities of each partner have been established.

**September, 7-9:** The IV-th Conference IgeLU was held in Helsinki and gathered 464 members from 200 organizations in 31 countries. IGeLU is an organization that was funded in 2006 by 165 libraries in 26 countries.

**September, 23-25:** National Library of Spain, Madrid. The CENL Conference was attended by representatives from 46 national libraries. The main topics of discussions were: activity report 2008-2009, 2009-2011 strategic plan, aspects of digitization and participation of the European national libraries in Europeana project.

**November, 5-6:** National Library of Spain, Madrid. ENRICH Project Final Conference was attended by over 70 representatives of project beneficiaries and partners. ENRICH project results and developments were presented, and also there were discussed the latest trends in digital libraries, especially those containing manuscripts and early prints.

**December, 15-16:** Florence, Italy, "CULTURAL HERITAGE online. Empowering users: an active role for user Communities: 2nd International Conference organized by Digital Rinascimento Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Heritage and Culture (Italy) and Library of Congress. The main topics of the conference were: analyzing user needs and expectations, finding ways to involve them in the process of creating and sharing digital resources. In 2009, at the 2nd edition, the foundation focuses on promoting the ability of the user's adaptability to technological changes, by driving innovation, becoming content producers and pushing cultural institutions to adapt to changes.

### **Scientific Activity at Batthyaneum Branch**

One of the field of excellency of the Batthyaneum Branch is that of scientific activity of its librarians. Researches, studies and papers on the most valuable library collections were presented and published in important specialized national and international publications.





## **The National Library of Romania in the International Environment**

NLR member of CENL [Conference of the European National Libraries]

CENL is the main body which brings together the national libraries of Europe that enables European national libraries to open up a world of information and knowledge and safeguard Europe's memory and cultural heritage. CENL has participated in several international cooperation projects as an independent organization – Europeana (European Digital Library), TEL (The European Library) etc. The National Library of Romania is a member of CENL since 1997.

CENL members are the European national libraries. At the annual Conference of Librarians from the National European Libraries, the main topics are:

- collections digitization, aiming at digitizing the traditional collections to create Europeana (the European digital library)
- a priority for the European national libraries and the main direction of the European Commission's strategy to develop the information society and to promote the European cultural heritage;
- responsibility for each European country to promote the national cultural heritage, as part of the European cultural heritage;

The active participation of CENL members (contributing with financial resources – annual fee payment, human, technical and documentary resources) to its projects and actions is essential.

The 23rd meeting of CENL was held in Madrid on September 24-25, 2009 and was hosted by the National Library of Spain. Main topics:

- financial report for 2008
- the audit report for 2008
- projected budget for 2009-2010
- strategic plan for 2009-2011.

There were presented the reports of the working groups for electronic publications, the creation of the database of digitization activities, updates in the EUROPEANA, performance indicators.

A special point on the agenda of the Madrid meeting was the project The European Library: Strategic Plan 2010-2012, the budget for 2010, products and services plan, evaluation criteria and the CENL strategy in relation with The European Library and Europeana.

### **National Library of Romania and LIBER (The League of the European Research Libraries)**

Since 2007, the National Library of Romania has intensified the collaboration with LIBER, the League of the European Research Libraries, organization that is under the auspices of the Council of Europe.

Founded in 1971, LIBER is a professional association of major academic and specialized libraries in Europe.

In the European context, LIBER aims to promote the interests of research libraries and performs the following functions:

- represents the research interests of libraries in Europe, particularly national and academic libraries
- supports the library research by organizing meetings, seminars, working groups and publications,
- promotes standardization in vital areas for the interlibrary cooperation and library automation,
- has an active role in defining a long term vision on the development of the European research libraries network.

In 2009, the National Library of Romania actively participated in the research studies developed by LIBER, focusing on the theme of the public loan rights and the libraries.

IFLA: In 2009, at the request of the Cataloguing Commission of IFLA, which prepared a new edition of the volume “Names of Persons: National Usages for Entry in Catalogues”, the National Authority Files Department, in cooperation with the Collection Processing Department, updated the information regarding the names of persons in Romanian language.

### **Cooperation Agreements With Similar Institutions**

National Library of Romania focused on the ongoing institutional partnerships with the National Library of Hungary, Moldova, Bulgaria and Russia aiming to support, promote and develop the written national heritage by specific professional means in an international context.

### **IT Infrastructure**

The IT system currently consists of 260 computers, 80 printers, 1 barcode printer, 4 barcode readers, 8 scanners (A4 and A3), active network equipment (switches, hubs), 2 routers and 13 servers. The library computers work on Windows XP and Microsoft Office software using licenses provided by the Ministry of Culture. Other software used: QuarkExpress and Adobe Photoshop (Editorial), CorelDraw, Macromedia Studio8, and many other free tools.

At the end of 2008 the following IT equipment and software were purchased: 1 2xA3 professional scanner for old books and manuscripts (Book-eye3); 1 integrated library system (Aleph, DigiTool, Metalib); 10 A4 mono, network printers.

All this equipment was put into operation in 2009 and the training of users (scanning procedure, archiving and organizing digital content) was provided.

### Financial Report

**Total budget: 11131.63 [lei]**

#### Type of expenses:

Staff expenses	[lei] 9686.93
Maintenance Expenditure	[lei] 1008.6
Purchasing IT equipment	[lei] 32.84
Acquisition of publications	[lei] 67.73
Other expenditures	[lei] 335.53

### Human Resources

On 31.12.2009, National Library employed **267** staff members:

Specialized staff = 178 persons

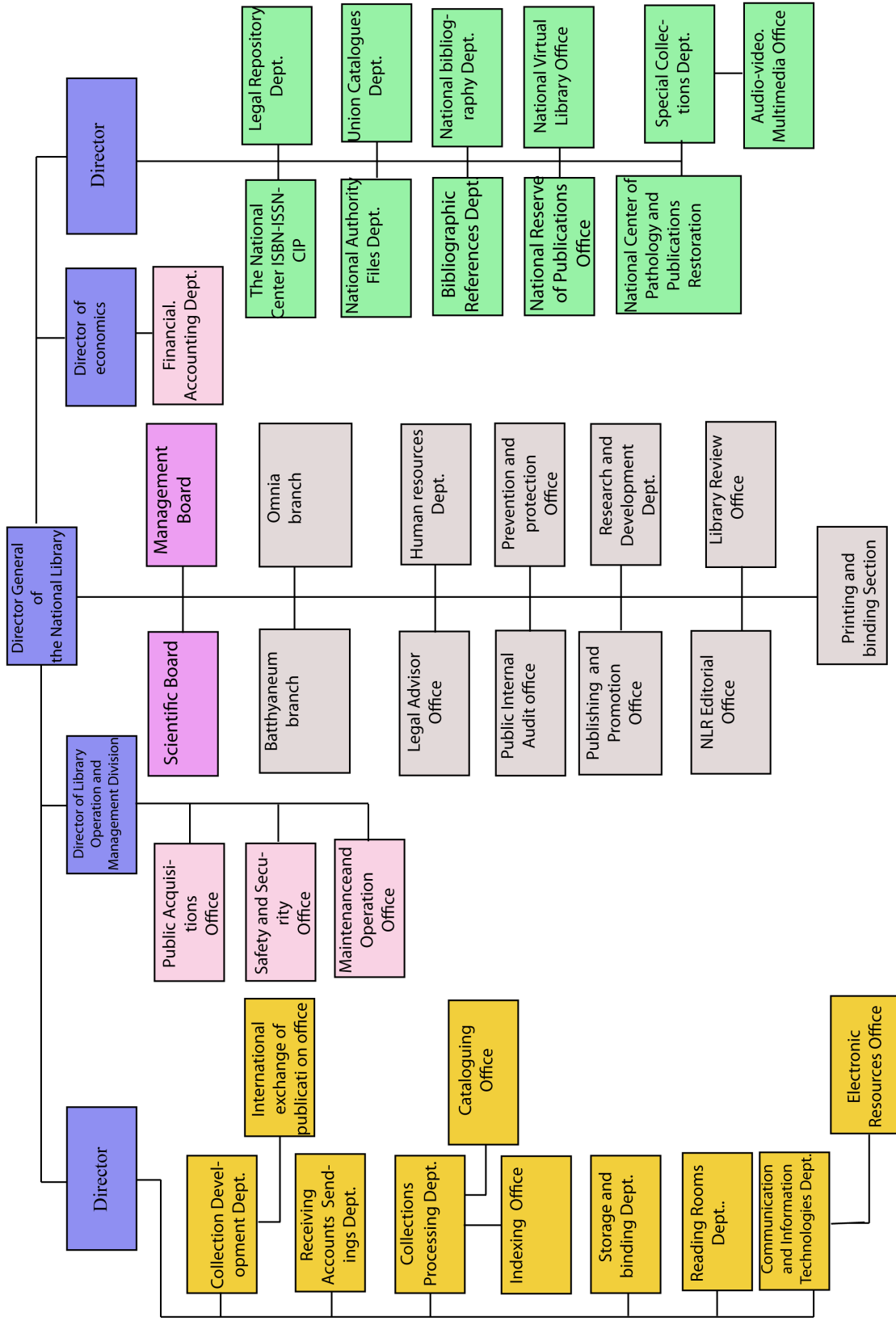
Auxiliary staff: administrative and maintenance = 89 persons

The continuous training of the employees in the National Library of Romania ensures the quality of its services to the users. Nowadays all the library staff is specialized and trained to carry on activities with a certain degree of complexity. The professional education of the staff is continuously completed and improved by training programs. In 2009, the continuous education program included: a. internal training courses - scanning, integrated library software Aleph, Metalib, DigiTool; managing library projects; b. external training courses (University of Bucharest: librarianship postgraduate studies, master and doctoral studies).

In the same time, National Library of Romania sustains the continuous education program in the field of the information science at national level, by elaborating specialized tools (guides, methodologies etc.), publications (**Abstracts in Library and Information Science, Library Synthesis and Translations, National Library Journal, Library Journal, Information and Documentation**, etc.), organizing training programs in the field of conservation and restoration of documents, but also through professional meetings on various topics of interest.

### Quality management system in the National Library in 2009

Completion of specific work procedures (including activities);  
 Redefining informational flow;  
 Redefining the library documents workflow;  
 Redefining the institution documents workflow.







Fragment dintr-o carte-obiect, lucrare a artistului Ion Bițan (1924-1997), expusă în cadrul evenimentului *Biblioteca în jurul lui Eugen Schileru*, organizat în data de 19 februarie 2009 de Biblioteca Națională a României în parteneriat cu Primăria Sectorului 2. Galeria Dialog, din strada Chiristigiilor - București.

Biblioteca Națională a României a expus, cu această ocazie, câteva lucrări ale artistului Ion Alin Gheorghiu (1929-2001) aflate în colecțiile sale.

Aceste lucrări fac parte din celebra serie *În jurul lui Arcimboldo*, donate Bibliotecii Naționale de către soția artistului, Ana-Maria Smigelschi, în anul 2002.

Excerpt from a book-object, a work of the artist Ion Bițan (1924-1997), exposed at the event The Library Around Eugen Schileru, organized on February 19, 2009 by the National Library of Romania in partnership with the District 2 of Bucharest hall City. Dialog Gallery, Chiristigiilor Street - Bucharest.

On this occasion, the National Library of Romania has set out several works of the artist Ion Alin Gheorghiu (1929-2001) from its collections, . These works are part of the famous series Around Arcimboldo, donated to the National Library by the artist's wife Ana-Maria Smigelschi, in 2002.