

## ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2010

Name of country: **The Russian Federation**

Name of library: **The National Library of Russia, St. Petersburg**

Name of Chief Executive: **Dr. Anton Likhomanov, Director General**

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### 1. General Overview of Recent Major Developments at the Reporting Library.

In October 2010, the NLR Director General, Vladimir N. Zaitsev, passed away. The new Director General, Anton V. Likhomanov, was appointed by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation. Previously, Dr. Anton V. Likhomanov worked as a Deputy Director General for Managerial Activities.

#### Major developments and events in 2010:

The first phase of the national program “The Russian Classical Literature” was completed. The NLR collaborated in it with the State Library of Russia in Moscow. The newly created open access digital library contains 12 000 literary works by 86 Russian writers.

A large-scale shelf-reading was completed covering 1,353,814 items in the main library collections.

In 2010 the new Reference and Electronic Resources Center was opened for public. Two new stack rooms were completed providing additional shelf space for the growing collections. In 2010 the new Reference and Electronic Resources Center was opened for public.

The NLR organized the International Bibliographic Congress hosting 440 delegates from 13 countries. And it was the main organizer of the Annual Conference of the Russian Library Association.

The Library developed two projects with the CIS (former USSR republics): The Memory of Kazakhstan in the Collections of the NLR, and the Exhibition of Rare Armenian manuscripts and books which was attended by the President of Armenia Sergey Sargsian and representatives of the Armenian Diaspora in St. Petersburg.

The year 2010 being the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War, an NLR memorial website was established. The subsection *In Memory of the Fallen and Glory to the Living: for the 65<sup>th</sup> Victory Day* was revised completely. All contemporary members of GPB were identified, including front line and defense fighters. The website presents 282 wartime photographs and 117 documents.

The international exhibit of the poet Joseph Brodsky’s drawings and sketches commemorated his 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The drawings from the Joseph Brodsky’s archives in Russia and the United States were exhibited for the first time, and raised great interest in the city and the country. The exhibition was prepared in collaboration with the Beinecke Library, Yale University (New Haven, CT, USA) for the Poet’s 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

The Year 2010 was announced “The Year of Elsevier at the NLR”, bringing several professional events (conferences, seminars, exhibitions) organized by the two partners: the NLR and Elsevier.

**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.**

The NLR was granted the status of the national library by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation (1992). The two Federal laws directly affect library development and activities: «The Library Law» (1994), and the «Federal Legal Deposit Law» (1994). Very important for current library operations is “The Copyright Law” (2006).

In 2010 the project *Librarianship and Civil Society* initiated and led by the NLR. Its intermediate results were presented in the Civil Council of the Russian Federation. The role of libraries and their relations with the government authorities were discussed at number of conferences and seminars.

The NLR submitted several proposals and amendments to the existing legislation to the Council of the Federation, the State Duma, the Ministry of Culture, the Presidential Council on Culture.

Significant consideration was given to analysis of the Federal Law 83-FZ, which regulate materials acquisition and purchasing practice.

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

As per 1 January 2011, NLR collections amounted to 36 million 27 thousand items, with annual acquisitions of 461.8 thousand copies or 309 thousand copies adjusted for allowances.

NLR attendance was estimated at 1.007 million, which means 95 thousand registered visits less than in 2009. Both Reading Room attendance of 7.2 million, and circulation including 31.3 thousand via interlibrary loan (1 million or 13% less than in the previous year) demonstrate an obvious downward trend. The Electronic Document Delivery Service filled 7.417 requests in 2010, i.e. one thousand more than in 2009.

Library cards were issued to 34 thousand patrons amounting the total number to 178,700 (of that number 88,500 are persons 14 to 24 years of age).

Website attendance also increased in 2010: 4.6 million visits, 66.2 million pages viewed.

Reference Service numbers are the following: 363000 reference questions answered in the library. Electronic Reference Service completed received 217.400 bibliographic inquiries, and prepared 63 bibliographic reviews.

The total number of exhibitions in 2010 was 1 330. In 2010, the NLR held 19 conferences, workshops, seminars.

As of January 16 2011, the Library staff included 1,795 members.

The Library budget in 2010 was 6 671 264 thousand rubles, 4% less than in 2009.

**4. New developments in Acquisitions and Collections Building.**

In 2010, 461,800 items were added to the Library collections of which: 339,000 were received as legal deposits, 56,500 national and 21,000 foreign acquisitions through purchasing. 11,500 items were received as gifts and donations.

The NLR continued its retrospective conversion program: 450,000 records in the Russian language and 240,000 in the foreign languages were added to the OPAC.

Restoration and stabilizing projects in 2010 involved 131,000 documents, including individual (hand) restoration of over 3,000 items, disinfection and dusting of 538,000, and de-

acidification of 17 tons of paper-based documents. Offsite binding projects involved 53,000 titles. The Copying Center produced 700 thousand images and 246 thousand digital files.

Another important collection development event in 2010 was the digitizing of NLR's collections. This involved 1,500 Russian classics (the *Russian Classics* project in collaboration with the State Library in Moscow), 49,000 theses, 1,356 maps and atlases, 797 Saint-Petersburg studies, and a complete digital copy of *Otechestvennye zapiski* the major Russian journal - a total 2.8 million pages or 4,500 documents. This work is of great importance for access to the library collections and for their preservation.

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6. **New developments in Collections Management.**

The main project of the NLR was automation of management processes and the comprehensive adoption of an integrated automated system in Collections Management.

The NLR has in its structure the Federal Center for Conservation and Restoration which serves not only the NLR, but also all libraries, archived and museums in Russia. The Center has an extensive mass de-acidification program.

7. **New developments in Collection Accessibility.**

Free access to the content of the NLR Digital Library is provided via the Internet and in the reading rooms. The NLR is also a partner in the projects of the National Digital Library, the European Library and the World Digital Library that increases access to its collections.

Experts of the Department of Automation developed a new platform and interface for the digital collection - *Dokusfera* [docusphere].

The OAI protocol was purchased and adopted, which allowed the NLR to participate more fully in the European Library.

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

NLR librarians took part in preparing and organizing the International Association of Music Libraries Congress, and the 7<sup>th</sup> International Book Forum.

The year 2010 was proclaimed as The Year *Russia – France*. The NLR took part in the Exhibition “The Saint Russia” at the Louvre (Paris) along with many other libraries and museums. At the Library in collaboration with the French Institute, the Consulate General of France, The Academy of Bordeaux Wine a nign research and cultural events took place. In included the presentation made by Carrere D’Encausse, the Secretary of the French Academy on the relations between France and Russia in the 18-19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the exhibition of the French Wine Tradition, which was attended by the Mayor of Bordeaux, Alain Juppe. The NLR took part in the exhibition *Lenin, Stalin and Music* in Paris (Music of October). NLR also hosted the International research conference *Voltaire and Russian 18<sup>th</sup>-century historiography*.

Phase 1 of The Zalusky Library Project was successfully completed by the NLR and its partner – the National Library of Poland. The aim of the project is to reconstruct the perished during the World War II catalog of the Zalusky Brothers’ Library.

Collaboration with the National Library of Kazakhstan resulted in the digital collection of the old Kazakh books which was given by the NLR to the NL of Kazakhstan, and a returning gift – the Gold Collection of Kazakhstan given to the NLR by its partner.

The NLR retains its membership in all international organizations: IFLA, CDNL, LIBER, The Library Association Eurasia, Biblioteca Baltica, IAML. Library delegates attended the IFLA Annual Conference in Gothenburg.

