

**NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
NATIONAL LIBRARIANS (CENL)
2007**

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Management of the library

The National and University Library (NUL) is a public institution. Its founder is the Republic of Slovenia, the founding rights and obligations are performed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. NUL performs the functions of the Slovenian national library, acting as the University of Ljubljana library as well, the national library system development centre, and the central research library in Slovenia. NUL is also the national depository organization for all publications, deposited under current legal deposit legislation (so-called »slovenica«). The NUL operation system is based on six divisions, each of them consisting of several departments, centres or services. Senior management is represented by the Managing Director and three Deputy Directors with specific responsibilities (library programmes; university library system; general administration and finance). There are two supervisory bodies, the *Administrative Council*, supervising the legality of operation, along with monitoring, analysing and evaluating the operation of the library, and the *Advisory Council*, which monitors and evaluates the work of the library on behalf of the library founder.

Priorities in terms of programming guidelines have been specified by the *Resolution on the National Programme for Culture*, passed by the Parliament of the Republic of Slovenia, whereas the library's strategic goals have been determined by the *2004-2008 Strategic Plan* which defines the following priority strategic goals:

- Conservation and preservation of the national written cultural heritage,
- Provision of free access to information and publications,
- Development of hybrid and creation of a digital library, and
- Strategic partnerships with NUL's environment.

Annual priorities were defined in the 2007 Work Programme. The library has been monitoring effectiveness and efficiency of the operation through performance measurement, based on annual library plans, and by using a set of performance indicators defined in the Strategic Plan. Performance evaluation makes use of the BSC (Balanced Score Card) methodology. The quality of library services is being measured via user studies. Library financial management functions are supported by an automated Management Information System (MIS), which allows for an efficient management of allocated finance, earmark spending control and a tighter control of expenses during the year. The MIS has been used

to measure the level of effectiveness by selected indicators, related to finance and completion of several internal processes. Effectiveness and efficiency of the staff have been monitored through individual performance plans and reports, whereby various activities of the employees are being expressed in FTE (full-time equivalent) terms.

In terms of quantity, the majority of the 2007 programme objectives were achieved or even exceeded the planned figures. However some of the planned objectives were not thoroughly accomplished, in particular in the intake and distribution of legal deposit copies (decrease of 35 %, compared to 2006), in spite of growing efforts to address the problem, following the new 2006 Legal Deposit Act stipulations (the number of copies, retained by NUL, had been reduced from 4 to 2). Due to higher prices of periodical publications, coupled with additional taxes on acquisition of foreign-language literature the number of titles purchased by NUL also declined, when compared to 2006. The field of investments (maintenance and renovation of the building, equipment) experienced negative trends as well.

Due to limited amount of budgetary resources, an important activity can be seen in applying for and managing finance, received mainly through co-operation of the library in the so-called European projects. On the other hand, the »Adopt a Book« Programme, aimed at raising funds to preserve and restore the most precious items from the holdings, has been continued. With regard to the overall budget, labour cost share in 2007 was significantly lower than in some comparable libraries, representing 51 % of the overall budget. Overall library costs per active library member and visitor increased, but when remote users are taken into account, they actually decreased. Costs per newly created bibliographic record and costs per loaned item also increased. The analysis of data, covering the last decade, clearly shows that NUL has been continually increasing the degree of efficiency when it comes to the use of inputs, it has carefully planned the improvement of various working processes, along with an increase in the range and quality of services and products, in spite of a real terms decrease in the budgetary share of the overall spending and the number of budget-financed library staff which have gone up only by 2 FTE. Compared to previous years, the amount of traditional library services (physical visits, items loaned for home reading) fell in 2007 for the first time. On the other hand, newly introduced electronic services and considerably upgraded offer of full-text library material in digital form within the dLib.si (Digital Library of Slovenia portal) led to a notable increase in the number of the so-called virtual users and visitors which were using library information resources and services via remote access.

Finance and funding

In 2007 NUL received € 6,598,835 as its annual grant from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia for provision of public service (Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Higher Education and Science), a rise of 5 %, compared to 2006 (€ 6,282,031). The rise in grant funding is largely due to extra money, received from the Directorate for the Information Society, intended to support NUL's digitization efforts (260,000 EUR), along with additional funds from the Ministry of Culture (€ 27,000) to compensate for the reduction of legal deposit copies, retained by the Library. The library's own earnings (sales of goods and services) amounted to € 663,499 (2006: € 801,816), or 9 % of the gross expenditure. Compared to 2006 (11 %), this means a slight decrease due to reduced project involvement (kick-off of the vast dLib.si

project, financially endorsed by the EEA and Norwegian financial mechanisms, was delayed for several months). As the library was providing remote access to information resources and services to members of the Ljubljana university libraries without having to register with NUL, a fall in income from registration fees was also noticed. The overall library budget was € 7,262,334 (2006: € 7,083,847). The annual grant had started to fall in real terms since 2001 and that despite considerable rises in expenditure on digital library development, maintenance and replacement of information technology infrastructure, along with preservation and restoration activities to address the acid paper problem.

In 2007 the labour costs amounted to 51 % of the library budget (€ 3,709,450). € 463,417 – 7 % of the overall expenditure - were spent on acquisition of information resources, thus remaining at the same level as in 2006. Electronic resources represent 38 % of the amount spent on information resources. € 784,148 (2006: 855,930) were spent on investments and maintenance of the building; NUL spent € 2,453,168 (2006: € 2,639,234) on operational expenditure (general costs, programme and project costs). Fees for use of a second library site amounted to € 644,004 (2006: € 645,752).

Overall library costs per active library user (member) amounted to € 546 (2006: € 511), but taking into account virtual library members, then the costs come to € 352 (2006: € 368). The overall costs per physical visit amounted to € 34 (2006: € 31) and € 2,3 (2006: € 4) with virtual visits included. The overall library costs per loaned item amounted to € 22,3 (2006: € 19,9).

In pursuing the programme the library did not achieve all planned objectives within the framework of information resources acquisition, preservation of library materials, and investments and maintenance. In 2007 NUL spent € 412,472 (2006: € 270,994) on digitization of library materials, far below the figures specified in the strategic documents of dLib.si, and also substantially insufficient to follow the current practice of European national libraries in their wide-ranging response to user needs in the area.

Legislation

Following the new 2006 Legal Deposit Act, in 2007 NUL has prepared two sets of rules, namely *Rules on Types and Selection of Legal Deposit Copies for Electronic Publications*, and *Rules on Preservation, Usage and Withdrawal of Legal Deposit Copies*. In 2007 there were no significant developments in the legislation which would alter the library's position and its operation. A number of implementing regulations stipulated by the 2001 Library Act have yet to be adopted (for instance, redefinition of professional qualifications required to enter the profession, along with later promotion in career development), together with the legislation to determine public servants salary scale.

Buildings and plant

In 2007 the already known problems related to library buildings continued to mar the library performance: operation on two separate locations and hardly functional premises make it difficult to offer open access to library materials and modern information services to users. A long-term solution to the lack of space in the library can be seen in a new library building, the construction of which has not yet begun. The building project has been led by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, whereas NUL has been assigned the task to modernize and update the all too long existing plans in terms of the programme's aims and

priorities. The main efforts in 2007 can be seen in further acquisition of the land to enable the beginning of the first phase, together with a review of construction document phase. However, financial support from the national budget to cover the 2006-08 time span was not provided.

The Manuscript Collection premises were completely renovated and a group study room, dedicated to group work, was put up. Due to scarce finance, some projects in the field had to be postponed: the Main Reading Room refurbishment, users computing facilities improvement in the Information Centre, and enhancement of the building access system to facilitate and control movement within the library.

Staffing matters

Compared to the previous year, the number of employees financed from the State Budget (Ministry of Culture) in 2007 increased by 2 FTE: on December 31 2007 the NUL staff numbered 138 employees (137,5 FTE) equalling a total of 144 employees (5 people employed as replacement for illness leave, 1 person taking the position of two 0,5 FTE). Another 10,75 FTE employees (2006: 9,2 FTE) were financed from extrabudgetary sources (national and European projects). In order to cope with the increased amount of work and to ensure that the opening times stay within the present limits NUL had to resort to outsourcing (complementary recruitment) and other collaborators were also hired on contractual basis, together with students. Some library activities (for instance, digitisation of library materials) were based entirely on contracts with external service providers.

Amongst employees, financed by the Ministry of Culture, 64,7 % held at least a university degree, thus 8 (5,7 %) with PhD degrees, 14 (9,7 %) with MA or MSc degrees, and 71 (49,7 %) with university degrees. As to further formal education, 28 employees were active at various levels of higher education (4 at doctoral level, 15 at MA or MSc level, 8 at graduate level and 1 at secondary level). PhD degree was taken by 1 employee, MA/MSc degrees were taken by 2 employees, and 1 employee successfully completed graduate studies.

The library staff regularly attended various forms of continuing education and training (courses, seminars, lectures, meetings, presentations etc.), both nationally (322 participants, increase of 38 %, compared to 2006) and internationally (118 participants). 10 employees took initial professional qualifications to enter the profession, whereas another 9 were promoted to higher professional degrees and ranks as a part of their career development.

Information technology and networks

In the light of finance available the most important objective in 2007 was nevertheless achieved and that can be seen in smooth operation of the infrastructure needed to support all services intended for library users, especially the development and maintenance of the network and servers which support the business information system and the digital library.

In 2007 hardware and software needs required to do the job substantially increased when compared to previous year. On the one hand, this is due to a greater range of electronic services and update of working processes. On the other, there has been an increase in the offer of library-created digital collections, while NUL has also set about the digital archive to store electronic publications on a long-term basis.

65 computer workstations were acquired, along with 3 portable computers, 3 powerful printers and 20 Windows computer terminals to enhance the Information Centre computing facilities.

61 CRT monitors were replaced by LCD monitors. Several obsolete servers were also replaced and software and network solutions improved. Investments in the IT field were only partly carried out: the extension of the Computing Centre infrastructure, along with an additional storage array facility, had to be postponed. Safe data storage in terms of long-term access to digital objects still need to be taken care of (a second trusted and off-site location to be set up). In addition, the complexity and extent of tasks to be carried out will call for competent experts in the field of computing sciences.

The digital library

[The Digital Library of Slovenia Development Strategy: dLib.si 2007-2010](#) is an all-embracing strategic document, completed and published by NUL, with the aim to devise a strategy leading to creation of a comprehensive national digital library. In 2007 the library's planned annual objectives were met and some of them even substantially exceeded our expectations. Nevertheless the amount of on-going activities continued to lag behind the current requirements both in the extent and range of digital library collections, which was due to the already mentioned insufficient staff and finance resources.

It is strategically important that the Digital Library of Slovenia project has found its way into two essential national documents, thus *Strategy of the Republic of Slovenia in the Information Society si2010* and *National Programme for Culture 2008-2011*. Simultaneously, the Digital Library of Slovenia has been recognized as a relevant solution also internationally. In March 2007 the »Digital Library of Slovenia – dLib.si" was successful in obtaining financial support from Norwegian and EEA financial mechanisms, thus opening new horizons in the development of the portal. The development strategy of dLib.si was also translated into [English](#).

The digital library portal development - dLib.si (<http://www.dlib.si/>) was taking place at four levels: content management, legal issues, technological development, and digital library marketing and promotion. Three new collections were started from scratch, thus *Sheet music, Books, and Higher Education Publications* (theses and dissertations), and a number of other libraries and institutions started contributing their digital content as well. By the end of 2007 the portal was enabling access to nine digital collections containing older and current scientific articles, monographs, photographs, posters, music manuscripts, maps, sound recordings, and higher education publications, created at the University of Ljubljana. A marked increase in both the extent and range of digital collections was made possible by grants from the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology – Directorate for the Information Society, and from European projects. The number of bibliographic records available rose four times, from 42,000 at the end of 2006 to reach 171,538 by the end of 2007. A total of 764,264 titles were digitized (representing 762,432 articles), together with 409,445 scans. Older periodical titles, such as *Sodobnost*, *Slovenski gospodar*, *Kmetijske in rokodelske novice*, were among digitized items, along with 197 maps of Slovenian territory from the Austro-Hungarian period, sheet music by most significant Slovenian composers, works by Valvasor etc.

A need for additional education and training in the field was apparent, so several courses were organized for librarians with an emphasis on copyright issues in the digital environment and efficient use of the dLib.si portal.

Technologically speaking, search functionalities of the portal were enhanced and new modules built to handle the data input and update procedures, dissemination activities, web user survey etc. A mini-search portal engine was developed, along with the URN generator,

URN resolver, and an application to convert the HTML files, resulting from the OCR process, into a more user-friendly form. A business and technological model to support deposit of electronic material was also developed, together with the SVAROG safe archiving system, intended for those who have legal obligation or volunteer to send deposit copies of their e-publications.

Acquisition of electronic materials, combined with building and provision of free access to digital collections called for an adequate legal framework in terms of acquiring permission to include and publish digital contents within dLib.si. In 2007 major efforts were going on to establish new agreements on co-operation with publishers of current professional and scientific periodicals (49 agreements signed) as well as with authors (2 agreements signed). Digitization of copyrighted material was hindered by copyright protection regulations, so the bulk of materials selected to be digitized was copyright-free, resulting in major additions to the collections of older newspaper articles, manuscript, cartographic and music materials.

In addition, special attention was given to promotional activities, aimed at several groups, such as individual library users, libraries, publishers, editorial boards of scientific periodicals, government agencies etc.), along with creation of various partnerships. A weekly user survey was published on the portal, bringing information about user needs and requirements. Various activities were carried out to raise the number of visitors to the portal, such as linking programmes, development of a mini-search engine, creation of dLib.si e-newsletter (bimonthly, distributed to 1,500 addresses), promotion presentations of the portal throughout Slovenia (24 presentations), and press releases and articles (altogether 23). Some statistics: in 2007 there were 142,917 visits to the portal, made by 86,502 different users; 56,037 searches on various topics were made and 885,747 pages browsed.

The dLib.si portal received the Bronze Award in the Media and Information Portals category of the NETKO 2007 national awards from among 122 applicants. NETKO 2007 Awards for the best business and management web sites in Slovenia are presented by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia.

At the end of 2006 the library installed Heritrix web crawler, version 1.6, later upgraded to 1.10, together with Web Curator Tool (WCT), developed by the National Library of New Zealand and the British Library. The library became the first in the world to use it under Windows environment, thus contributing a WCT Installation Guide for Windows which can be accessed at <http://webcurator.sourceforge.net/>. In 2007 our main efforts were concerned with the development and upgrade of Web Curator Tool 1.2.7. The testing phase focused on more than 20 web sites that were subject to legal deposit of e-publications.

As The European Library member, NUL continued to actively participate in the development of the portal and digital content offer. The Library was a partner of the EDL project (working towards the integration of digital collections of several Europe's national libraries into The European Library). NUL also co-operated in the TEL-ME-MOR project (completed on January 31 2007), while digitization on demand service was successfully introduced through co-operation in the DoD (Digitisation on Demand) project.

Legal deposit of materials

In October 2006 the new Legal Deposit Act came into effect, thus introducing a number of significant changes, the most important being: the new act extends legal deposit to electronic publications of all kinds, at the same time requiring their long-term preservation in the digital repository; reduction of the number of required copies from 16 to 4 for publications which are not publicly financed or co-financed; a decrease in number of copies, retained by NUL (from 4

to 2). In 2007 the legal deposit intake for NUL fell from 91,296 items in 2006 to 58,843. As NUL was no longer receiving legal deposit copies, intended for circulation and international exchange of publications, there was a notable decrease in both circulation figures and extent of international exchange. The share of copies intended to be distributed among other libraries within the system dropped from 209,416 in 2006 to 156,796 items. Owing to the transfer of legal deposit liability from printers to publishers the number of depositors has steeply risen from a few hundred to more than 5,000, thus causing a drastic increase in the amount of administrative tasks, such as maintaining registries of depositors and claiming service.

Two sets of regulations were subsequently prepared to control legal deposit collection and archiving of e-publications, namely rules on types and selection of legal deposit copies, stipulating obligation to submit legal deposit copies via web service. The SVAROG web service was therefore developed and it is intended for publishers and other depositors. The SVAROG portal enables depositors to submit their publications, supply statements on the conditions of use and access to e-material and provide information on new publications and editions. The development and maintenance of hardware and software support, critical to long-term preservation of digital materials, call for additional investments and an appropriate staff allocation, in 2007 still far behind the requirements.

Acquisitions

NUL's intake of library materials includes acquisition of information resources via legal deposit, purchase, exchange and gifts. In 2007 87,489 items were taken in (2006: 133,906), thus legal deposit copies represented 58,843 items (67 %), purchase 12,281 (14 %), exchange 4,270 (5 %) and gifts 12,095 items (14 %). The 2007 total intake amounted to 34,870 volumes, again a decrease when compared to the previous year (36,584 volumes). At the end of 2007 the library collections amounted to 2,530,010 volumes (2006: 2,495,140), an increase of 1,4 % compared to 2006. Monographs represented 48,6 % of the total library collection. Exchange of publications included 108 libraries (2006: 145) and other organizations from all over the world.

When it comes to acquisition of electronic information resources the library gives priority to purchase through library consortia. Electronic resources were acquired mainly within the framework of the COSEC national library consortium, a member of the international eIFL.net consortium. In 2007 the library purchased altogether 33 licensed electronic databases (2006: 41), 27 of which via consortia (18 with national and another 9 with university licence). Thus NUL provided access to 14,504 licensed full-text electronic journals. Remote access to information resources was provided to members of the Ljubljana university libraries without having to register with NUL. Figures on use of the remote access service again show steep rise from the last year.

Preservation and conservation

NUL is by law required to operate as the national conservation and preservation centre for library materials and is thus responsible for long-term preservation of the national written cultural heritage, including both library materials on analogue carriers and digital material. Activities in the field of library material preservation are carried out and co-ordinated by the Conservation and Preservation Centre, consisting of a restoration centre, binding service and

a cultural heritage laboratory which employs researchers participating in a number of international projects within the area.

In 2007 major attention was given to prevention of further decay and damage (the moves of library materials to a separated site with optimum storage conditions continued, together with renovation of storage areas at the main site) and physical protection of volumes (acid-free book jackets and envelopes, folders and purpose-made boxes; special treatment of archival copies; preservation equipment to store most precious items). Compared to 2006 the amount of conservation and preservation activities substantially increased, especially in the Manuscript, Map & Pictorial, Music and other collections. The Centre continued to systematically review the state of NUL's collections, with focus on the Serials Collection, thus coming up with plans to preserve the items (microfilming, digitization). The transition to make microfilm shots from digital copies of library materials was carried out.

The number of staff and amount of finance available for long-term preservation of publications (both analogue and digital) unfortunately do not meet the needs. As far as printed library materials are concerned, careful analysis have shown that over the next 25-year time span 85 % of holdings published between 1850-1910 will be endangered as a result of acidity. Therefore migration to other information carriers is imperative (microfilm and digital copy) to ease the use of these holdings. On the other hand, long-term preservation of holdings that have not become brittle yet, will have to rely on mass deacidification treatment. In 2007 134,564 microfilm shots of serial publications (older newspapers and magazines) were prepared, and several hundred thousand scans were made through digitization of various materials. Unfortunately, the amount of finance available to spend on long-term preservation was insufficient to talk about a systematic approach to prevention of decay.

Services to readers

Provision of quality user services can be considered as one of the NUL's essential strategic priorities. According to public sector regulations, valid for librarianship as well, basic library services are free of charge. Over the last years the library has made considerable efforts in terms of providing to its users as many electronic information resources and services as possible to compensate for the lack of modern premises and facilities. Remote access to electronic resources (free of charge for users from the University of Ljubljana) was already introduced in 2004, along with the possibility to place orders for the books to borrow, using OPAC and the nation-wide virtual reference service, called »Ask a Librarian«. »Ask NUL« is another library-based reference service, established in 2007. NUL provides wireless access to the Internet, users are regularly informed about newly available information resources and services, and they can choose from a wide range of training courses to be able use them. The interlibrary loan service boasts some new services in terms of electronic document supply. Digital copying and scanning equipment was improved to enhance the level of reproduction services. In 2007 the library was open six days in a week (total of 298 days), reading rooms 65 hours per week and circulation desk 50 hours per week. There were 264 seats available in several reading rooms, together with 57 working stations (52 allowing access to the Internet).

In 2007 the introduction of sophisticated electronic services and digital collections - along with provision of remote access - had remarkable impact on the number of the so-called »physical« library members and visits made to the library. Compared to 2006, the

number of active members (13,258) decreased for 4 %, the bulk of which were students (9,722, 73 %), the great majority (91 %) coming from the University of Ljubljana. The library was visited by 211,802 visitors, a decrease of 6 % over the previous year, but at the same time there was a notable increase of 93 % in virtual visits (in 2007 NUL's web pages were accessed 2,886,774 times, compared to 1,493,548 in 2006). Library premises were visited by daily average of 710 visitors. In circulation (324,609 volumes), counting both in-house use and the number of items issued for home reading, there was a decrease of 7 %. The number of loaned items per active member also decreased, when compared to 2006 (from 26,4 to 24,5), but the availability indicator for library materials went up (from 98,2 to 98,5 %). The interlibrary loan service provided 12,565 documents, with efficiency indicator at 95,7 %. The amount of document delivery in electronic form increased again.

The library received 64,607 information queries (2006: 58,545), an increase of 10 %, 96 % of which were successfully dealt with. 71,433 complex information searches were carried out, a rise of 8 % over the previous year.

315 users took part in 32 education and training programmes on information search and retrieval; a decrease of 17 % compared to 2006, due to systematic user education, improvement of e-services and to variety of e-resources that can be accessed remotely. The »Ask a Librarian« national online reference service dealt with 238 reference questions and another 481 were successfully answered within the »Ask NUL« service. The use of remote access to electronic resources within the University of Ljubljana library system increased by as much as 67 % (72,002 logins from members of other libraries). In 2007 the service was used by 7,317 users, compared to 5,087 the year before.

3,004 visitors (2006: 2,863) visited the library in 140 guided tours and another 1,971 (2006: 1,652) took part in various presentations of special collections and other departments. During summer opening times NUL organized library tours intended for tourists visiting Ljubljana, who were mainly interested to see the building, a masterpiece by the architect Jože Plečnik.

Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

The main goal of library exhibitions in 2007 can be seen again in promotion of the national written cultural heritage, together with presentations of milestones in the national cultural history. NUL's Exhibition Room was the place to host 9 exhibitions, exhibitions on various topics were put up in the Plečnik passage, and one exhibition was co-organized in another location. Several exhibitions were met with wide response, thus *Plečnik's Vision of Ljubljana*; *Translations of the Holy Bible into Slovenian*; *Graphic Design of Personal Documents: Slovenia and Some European Nations*. Another interesting exhibition, entitled *The Role of Translation in the Development of the Slovenian Language and Literature* was prepared in co-operation with the Faculty of Arts (Ljubljana) and the event coincided with the congress of the European Society for Translation Studies, taking place in Ljubljana.

Promotional activities of the library were carried out through advertising in mass media, co-operation with television, radio and printed media, along with participation of the staff in a number of expert meetings, conferences, presentations etc. The library had its stand at the Ljubljana Book Fair and also co-operated in the International Museum Day; several literary and scientific writers were invited to take part in a series of conversations related to the book and scientific and artistic creation which all took place in the Main Reading Room. A press

conference on library's Adopt a Book programme was organized to mark the World Book Day. NUL was also present at Student Arena, Slovenia's largest educational event and youth fair.

As regards NUL publishing activities, altogether 22 publication titles were published in 2007, 3 of which in electronic form only. The *Slovenian National Bibliography* which has been published without interruption since 1945, periodically and in a number of series, was published both in printed and electronic version. The following periodicals were regularly published: *Knjižničarske novice* (Library News), aimed at professional public, and the bilingual *Novice NUK/NUL Newsletter* to cover the needs of wider national and international public. Several catalogues and leaflets were also published to shed light on the exhibitions. In 2007 the library became co-publisher of the main Slovenian scientific periodical in the library and information science field, *Knjižnica* (The Library), published both in printed and electronic versions.

A selective 2007 bibliography of professional and scientific contributions of the library staff counts 96 bibliographic units.

Library co-operation

Nationally, NUL has been co-operating with libraries and other organizations in the fields of culture, education and science. NUL has been working together with the Institute of Information Science (IZUM) in Maribor for two decades now: they have been working jointly on the development and operation of the national shared bibliographic system, called COBISS. In 2007 the co-operation consisted mainly of monitoring the competence of library professionals to actively participate in the data input to the union catalogue (procedures to obtain the COBISS licence), focus was also on education and training of both librarians and users, testing of newly introduced modules and other programming solutions, along with co-operation in the nation-wide »Ask A Librarian« reference service.

Co-operation with the Slovenian archives and museums was mainly focused on the development and use of various methods for conservation, preservation and restoration of material, but it also included the common organization of exhibitions. Within the framework of NUL's university function the library co-operated with the University of Ljubljana, its libraries and also contributed to the work of the University Library Council. The Library was taking care of the remote access service to e-resources, it was a partner to establish and start building the [University of Ljubljana Digital Library](#), together with co-operation in the DIZZIS project (creation and update of the higher education digital collection, comprising theses and doctoral dissertations).

Internationally, NUL co-operates with a great many libraries from abroad, international associations and organizations. International exchange of professionals has been going on with the Czech, Hungarian and Slovak national libraries, and agreements on bilateral co-operation has been also signed with national libraries from Croatia, Hungary, Macedonia, Slovakia, and Serbia.

NUL co-operates with international libraries (especially national ones) within international associations and organizations, e.g. CENL (Conference of European National Librarians), CDNL (Conference of Directors of National Libraries) and IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Organizations) where NUL participates actively in the work of a number of standing committees. NUL was also involved in the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme to include the library's most ancient manuscript (Codex

Suprasliensis) into this distinguished list. NUL is a founding member of *The European Library* and in 2007 actively participated in the work of its Governing Board. NUL also collaborates with other libraries on several international projects.

NUL is a member of many other international organizations and associations (for example, ELAG, LIBER, Aslib, IASA, NAPLE etc.), and it co-operates in the work of international agencies for bibliographic control (ISSN, ISBN, ISMN). The library regularly contributes bibliographic information to the international UNESCO-based bibliography of translations, *Index Translationum*, and to the OCLC catalogue (bibliographic records about the Slovenian publications).

Anniversaries and events

- 200th anniversary of legal deposit: On 2 April 1807, the first decree on legal deposit was passed in the Austrian Empire and it was used in all Slovenian countries belonging to the Empire. NUL took this opportunity to present the first legal deposit copies in Slovenian, French and German languages, the original and translation of the decree and the translation of the regulation from the period of the so-called Illyrian Provinces (under the French rule, 1809-13);
- In 2007, the UNESCO's Committee for the Memory of the World Programme included Codex Suprasliensis in the Memory of the World Register as the first document owned by a Slovenian institution. This was the result of a joint nomination submitted by the three owners of the manuscript, i.e. the National Library in Warsaw, Poland (151 folios), the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg (16 folios) and the National and University Library in Ljubljana, Slovenia (118 folios). The manuscript which originates from the first half of the 11th century in eastern Bulgaria is the largest among just a few surviving manuscripts in Old Church Slavonic and the main source for studying this language, writing and culture;
- A two-day meeting of the IFLA Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations was held at NUL on 26-27 February 2007. Besides technical issues, the participants concentrated on the creation of the Multicultural Library Manifesto and the definition on cultural diversity and multiculturalism;
- In September 2007 NUL started working on a 30-month project, dLib.si – The Digital Library of Slovenia, in the framework of EEA and Norwegian financial mechanism. The purpose of the project is to collect and preserve the written cultural heritage, and to provide public access to published works according to the principle of the open access paradigm in knowledge society;
- The dLib.si portal received the Bronze Award in the Media and information portals category of the NETKO 2007 awards;
- In June 2007 a bilateral agreement on co-operation and exchange of professionals was signed the Slovak National Library;
- In November 2007 NUK was visited by Ms Ingrid Parent from the Library and Archives Canada, who was chairing the IFLA National Libraries Section;
- At the end of the year, we hosted the Director of FEP (Federation of European Publishers) Ms Anne Bergman-Tahon and her colleague Ms Celine d'Ambrosio. During the discussion, developments in the digital library field were presented,

whereas the Director reported on recent FEP activities on copyright and other legislative issues;

- NUL was visited by the following distinguished personalities: the Dutch Crown Prince Willem-Alexander and his spouse Princess Maxima (september 2007), Ms Flavia Prodi, spouse of Mr Romano Prodi, then President of the Council of Ministers of Italy (september 2007), Mr Elchin Afandiev, Vice-President of the Government of Azerbaidjan;

Other notable information

In 2007 NUL co-operated, either as leader or partner, in 14 research projects, mainly financed from the EU funds (dLib.si – The Digital Library of Slovenia, PaperVOC, Digitization on Demand (DoD), EDL - European Digital Library, EDLnet, Driver II, PaperTreat, SurveNIR, TEL-ME-MOR, TELplus, ASO, Deutch-Slowenisch / Kroatische Übersetzungen 1848-1918 Balkankommission). Another two projects gained national financial support: the development of KAMRA Regional Portal, involving libraries, archives and museums at the local level with an emphasis put on e-local studies, together with access to digital content; and DIZZIS (developing a digital collection of scientific and research publications which will be available through the Digital Library of Slovenia portal, www.dlib.si).

NUL takes on responsibilities for the development of the national library and information system. Thus the library offers a wide range of continuing education and training programmes intended for both library professionals and users, and in 2007 1,688 librarians (compared to 1,425 in 2006) and users participated in the courses. The library also takes care of the process of acquiring beginner and advanced library degrees, together with the system of promotion in obtaining senior degrees as a part of career development. In co-operation with the Institute of Information Science, Maribor, NUL shares the responsibility of developing the national bibliographic system, and at the same time monitors and promotes the development of the Slovenian libraries (collection of data on the national library system statistics – in 2007 an online system to collect and process statistical data was developed; analysis on the degree of development of libraries and library networks, preparation of the national library registry, embracing institutions which perform public service in the field of librarianship, co-ordination of activities in the field of central regional libraries, along with advisory activities).

Organization chart

In 2007 there were no changes in the organizational structure of the library. Beside the *Senior Management*, the library operation system is based on six divisions (cf. Appendix): the *General Administration and Finance* Division (brings under the same roof various working areas, such as Advisory Services Office, Accounting Services, Building and Facilities, together with IT Services); the *Acquisitions and Cataloguing* Division (encompasses departments working on acquisition and bibliographic data processing); the *User Services* Division (embraces storage and lending services, interlibrary loan and document supply services, and provision of information services); the *Research and Development* Division (covers activities related to library professionals and user education and training, and also includes the development of libraries at the national level, conservation and preservation of library holdings, along with research in the field); the *Special Collections* Division (comprises

all special collections, thus the Manuscript Collection, Music Collection, Map and Pictorial Collection etc.); the *Digital Library Development and Strategy* Division (includes the following three departments: E-library creation, management and maintenance; Digital information infrastructure and preservation; Centre for co-ordination of the digitization of library materials).

Appendix 1: Organization chart of the National and University Library

